

Cisco Unified Contact Center Enterprise 11.5

Solution Overview

Cisco® Unified Contact Center Enterprise (Unified CCE) helps businesses and organizations deliver a connected digital experience, enabling you to provide contextual, continuous, and capability-rich journeys for your customers, across time and channels.

Cisco Unified CCE segments customers, monitors resource availability, and delivers each contact to the most appropriate resource in the enterprise. The software profiles each customer contact using related data such as dialed number and calling-line ID, caller-entered digits, data submitted on a web form, and information obtained from a customer database lookup. Simultaneously, the system monitors the resources available in the contact center to meet customer needs, including agent skills, attributes and availability, interactive-voice-response (IVR) status, and queue lengths.

This combination of customer and contact center data is processed through user-defined routing scripts that graphically reflect your company's business rules, enabling Cisco Unified CCE to route each contact to the right place. Wherever an agent is based, the system delivers a rich set of call-event and customer-provided data as a contact arrives, personalizing service and increasing efficiency. Throughout the process, distributed fault tolerance helps ensure uninterrupted operation, and rich reporting provides the business intelligence necessary to effectively run your contact center.

Flexible Deployment Models

Cisco Unified Contact Center Enterprise supports a variety of deployment models. From premises-based to [hosted installations](#), you can deploy the solution with a single or multiple Cisco Unified Communications Manager clusters performing routing and reporting in a centralized, distributed, or clustered WAN configuration.

You can also deploy the Cisco Unified Contact Center solution with third-party automatic call distributors (ACDs) to deliver enterprise-level skills-based contact routing, voice self-service, computer telephony integration (CTI), and omnichannel contact management. By combining omnichannel ACD functions with IP telephony in a unified solution, Cisco Unified CCE can help your company rapidly deploy a distributed voice-over-IP (VoIP) contact center infrastructure.

Cisco Unified CCE is suitable for service providers, outsourcers, and large enterprise companies. For enterprise companies with multiple branch offices or divisions, the value is a centralized contact center infrastructure that can offer services to its various divisions or satellite offices.

Cisco also offers a predesigned and bounded deployment model of Cisco Unified Contact Center Enterprise called Packaged Contact Center Enterprise (Packaged CCE). Customers who fit within the boundaries of the Packaged CCE solution can enjoy the advantages of the simplified management interface, smaller hardware footprint, and reduced time to install, while benefiting from the rich features of Cisco Unified CCE and Cisco Unified Customer Voice Portal (Unified CVP). The solution comes packaged with Cisco Unified Intelligence Center for comprehensive reporting and Cisco Finesse® desktop software for an enhanced, next-generation desktop experience.

Table 1 lists the new features and benefits available in the latest release of Cisco Unified Contact Center Enterprise.

Table 1. Cisco Unified Contact Center Enterprise 11.5 Features and Benefits

Feature	Benefits
Solutions Benefits	
Built-in omnichannel functions	Each agent license now includes Cisco Enterprise Chat and Email (ECE), along with voice.
Task routing API	This API enables new types of interactions, such as videos, texts, and events from the Internet of Things (IoT), to be routed to the contact center.
Precision routing for nonvoice contacts	This feature extends the power and simplicity of precision routing to nonvoice channels such as web, email, and chat.
Outbound campaign management API	This API allows for more precise control over contact center outbound calling campaigns.
Virtual voice browser	This browser provides a server-based alternative to the Cisco IOS [®] Software voice browser for use with Cisco Unified Customer Voice Portal (CVP).
Single sign-on	This feature simplifies login and password management for agents and supervisors by allowing just one login for the Cisco Finesse [®] desktop and associated gadgets.
Reporting user interface refresh	This feature delivers an updated user interface to Cisco Unified Intelligence Center reporting across all Cisco contact center products.

Table 2 lists the continuing features and benefits of the product.

Table 2. Features and Benefits of Cisco Unified Contact Center Enterprise

Feature	Benefits
Solutions Benefits	
Reduces long-distance toll charges and network bandwidth	Cisco Unified Contact Center Enterprise treats the entire IP network as an intelligent switch, meaning that calls can be handled at the edge of the network, thereby reducing bandwidth usage.
Reduces integration costs	Until now, businesses had to integrate numerous products from different vendors, an expensive task that postponed service introduction. Cisco Unified CCE provides ACD, private branch exchange (PBX), IVR, and web interaction. In addition, the solution supports best-in-class contact center applications such as customer relationship management (CRM), workforce management, recording and monitoring, and wallboards. By consolidating all contact center functions in a single platform, Cisco Unified CCE reduces capital expenditures and integration expenses while accelerating time to market for a complete contact center solution.
Promotes IP and Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) migration	The industry is encouraging businesses to migrate from time-division multiplexing (TDM) to IP and from H.323 to SIP to take advantage of converged voice and data services. Because Cisco Unified CCE integrates with both IP and TDM networks, it facilitates this transition. Customers can continue to take advantage of their investments in existing systems while migrating to a SIP architecture.
Centralizes services	For the large enterprise, the value is a centralized contact center operation in which the software and administration are maintained centrally. This centralized operation helps the branch offices avoid purchasing and maintaining the software, installing their own upgrades, and making staffing decisions independent of the rest of the company.
Differentiates service	By retaining "call context" as customers are transferred among agents, even between different locations and to at-home agents, a company can differentiate itself through superior customer service. For example, the information a customer has already supplied to purchase one product or service can be retrieved when the customer initiates another purchase or interaction elsewhere.
Allows control of network resources	The enterprise can control certain network resources, such as assigning agents to skill groups and defining routing based on a number called or caller-entered digits such as account numbers. In addition, you can control all functions from a single operating interface, reducing training and support requirements.
Agent Capabilities and Benefits	
Cisco Finesse desktop software	The Cisco Finesse desktop is a next-generation agent and supervisor desktop solution designed to provide easy access to the applications and information that your customer service organization needs through a customizable web-based interface. It offers your customer care representatives an intuitive, easy-to-use desktop design to help improve their performance and satisfaction, in turn enhancing their ability to provide quality customer service. For IT professionals, the Cisco Finesse application offers a thin-client agent desktop that integrates smoothly with the Cisco Collaboration portfolio. It is standards-compliant, and offers low cost of customization of the agent and supervisor desktops.

Feature	Benefits
Cisco Finesse API	The Cisco Finesse API allows companies to develop custom Cisco Finesse desktop capabilities tailored to meet the specific needs of their contact center operations. The Cisco Finesse API provides this feature through Representational State Transfer (REST) APIs and JavaScript libraries that simplify the development and integration of value-added applications and minimize the need for detailed desktop development expertise.
Agent greeting	You can play a configurable, automated agent greeting to callers, standardizing the caller experience. The greeting helps keep the agent voices fresh because they do not have to repeat the same greeting on every call.
Agent whisper	Customers can play a configurable announcement to an agent right before they are connected, providing information about the type of call being delivered (for example, sales or tech support) and other guidance. Agents get information about the caller through their headset, speeding problem handling and improving first-call resolution.
Remote-agent support	<p>Remote-agent support extends the Cisco Unified Contact Center environment by providing CTI, contact distribution, and reporting capabilities to remote agents in branch offices or at home, through either a broadband network connection or their home telephone line. Cisco Unified Contact Center provides identical user interfaces and feature functions to agents regardless of location.</p> <p>The Cisco Unified Mobile Agent feature allows agents to choose their destination phone number during login time, and change the number as often as they want, giving the contact center the flexibility to adapt to a fast-moving mobile workforce. With work-at-home programs, agents can be given location flexibility while reducing startup costs on the part of the contact center. An additional benefit of this capability is allowing agents to be on any phone device on any third-party switch infrastructure.</p> <p>By incorporating agents outside the physical location of a contact center, Cisco Unified Contact Center helps companies better use existing and on-demand resources and fully extend CTI functions across the extended enterprise.</p>
Consumer-to-agent video	Live video interactions between agents and consumers are supported through Cisco Remote Expert.
Self-Service Capabilities and Benefits	
Self-service options	Cisco offers two options for self-service and call treatment: Cisco Unified Customer Voice Portal (Unified CVP) and Cisco Unified IP Interactive Voice Response (Unified IP IVR). Cisco Unified CCE can also integrate with third-party IVR and self-service systems through its open IVR Service Control interface.
Cisco Unified Customer Voice Portal	<p>Cisco Unified CVP operates with both TDM- and IP-based contact centers to provide a call management and treatment solution with a self-service IVR option that can use information available to customers on the corporate web server. With support for automatic-speech-recognition (ASR) and text-to-speech (TTS) capabilities, callers can obtain personalized answers to their questions and conduct business in innovative ways without the costs of interacting with a live agent.</p> <p>For example, with Cisco Unified CVP, you can pay a bill, order products and track delivery, locate a dealer, schedule a pickup, change name and address information, make travel arrangements, check payment status, receive notification of unusual activity, and request literature or product information.</p>
Cisco Unified IP IVR	<p>Cisco Unified IP IVR for Cisco Unified CCE is designed to simplify business integration, increase flexibility, and provide efficiency gains in network hosting. These features reduce business costs, and they can dramatically improve customer satisfaction. Tightly integrated with Cisco Unified Communications Manager software, Cisco Unified IP IVR offers ease of installation, configuration, and application hosting because it is constructed to exploit the power of IP-based communications.</p> <p>Cisco Unified IP IVR facilitates self-service applications, such as access to checking account information or user-directed call routing, by processing user commands through touch-tone input or speech-recognition technologies. Customers can use voice commands to retrieve the information they require without ever speaking with an agent, or to quickly navigate to the correct department or agent who can help them.</p>
Management Capabilities and Benefits	
Supervisory features	<p>Cisco Unified CCE allows supervisors to view agent states and call information, send text chat messages to agents, interrupt or intercept calls, record conversations, and silently monitor agent calls from the corporate network or through a remote dial-in connection. These features add value to the supervisor's role in the contact center and help them effectively manage their teams.</p> <p>With supervisor and agent chat capabilities, supervisors can send text messages to agents participating in a call, allowing supervisors to coach agents unobtrusively on cross- and up-sell opportunities and helping agents resolve customer situations. Supervisors can interrupt an agent's call to create a three-way conference, and then interact with both the caller and the agent to help resolve a concern. A supervisor can remove the agent from a call using the Intercept feature, allowing the supervisor and caller to complete the call on their own while the agent handles another customer request.</p> <p>Supervisors can change an agent's state from their desktop. For example, agents may forget to make themselves available to take calls after a break or neglect to log out when away from their workstations for an extended period. With Cisco Unified CCE, supervisors can easily log out missing agents or make unintentionally idle agents ready to take calls. This function is critical to highly distributed contact center deployments.</p> <p>Supervisors also can change an agent's skill profile in real time. This capability gives supervisors tactical tools to manage their agent teams and support contact center management objectives.</p>

Feature	Benefits
Administration	<p>Streamlined administration allows managers to perform all contact center administration centrally. The administrative interface in Cisco Unified CCE allows agents to be set up to handle voice, web, chat, and email contacts, depending on their assigned skill sets. The interface allows system managers, administrators, and supervisors to develop, modify, or view routing scripts; manage the system configuration; monitor contact center performance; define and request reports; and help ensure system security. This one user interface provides enterprisewide control across the single- or multisite contact center.</p> <p>Packaged CCE administrators can use a gadget on the Cisco Finesse desktop to quickly and easily manage the contact center application. Access to the contact center through the gadget can be restricted by role to prevent others from accessing the system.</p>
Departments	<p>Customers with multiple lines of business (LOBs) or departments can easily share the same instance of Unified CCE or Packaged CCE using the Departments feature. This feature allows you to assign resources including agents, skill groups, call types, and precision queues by LOB or department. When resources are assigned to a LOB or department, only the supervisor or manager of that LOB or department can view and manage those resources.</p> <p>In Cisco Unified CCE, you can manage departments through the Cisco Unified Contact Center Management Portal (Unified CCMP). In Packaged CCE the native Web Administration allows Departments management.</p> <p>Along with configuration, scripting access is also segmented when using Internet Script Editor. Finally, using the Cisco Unified Intelligence Center Collections feature, you can segment reporting to match departments.</p>
Management portal	<p>The Cisco Unified CCMP provides a simple-to-use web-based user interface to streamline the day-to-day provisioning and configuration operations that contact center managers, team leads, or administrators perform, such as moves; adds; or modifications of phones, agents, skill groups, teams, and other common contact center administrative functions. Agents with appropriate permission are also provided a unique interface on the Cisco Unified Contact Center Management Portal on which they can make changes to their profile and work assignment. The unified configuration of the management portal is designed to simplify administration of both the applicable IP-based contact center elements and the Cisco Unified Communications Manager components. The Cisco Unified CCMP is a partitioned system that can support multiple business units with complete autonomy, and it offers hierarchical administration to support multiple business-level users with specific roles and responsibilities. Finally, to help administrators and managers keep track of contact center modifications, it provides audit-trail reports detailing all configuration changes and usage of the management portal.</p>
System Capabilities and Benefits	
Open systems	<p>Cisco Unified CCE software takes full advantage of industry-standard hardware platforms, giving you the benefits of many software functions at a modest hardware cost. The open architecture of the system, which includes an Open Database Connectivity (ODBC)-compliant database, as well as Java, COM, and NET interfaces for CTI applications, can integrate with existing contact center solutions, preserving investments in traditional systems and providing a platform for future applications.</p>
Operating systems	<p>Cisco Unified CCE supports Windows 2012, SQL 2014, and VMWare ESXi 6.0.</p>
Scalability	<p>Cisco Unified CCE scales from small, single-site deployments of tens of agents up to large enterprise and hosted, distributed deployments that support thousands. Because the Cisco Unified CCE architecture is software-based, the system scales easily without causing obsolescence of any components. Cisco Unified CCE is designed to accommodate changing contact center environments.</p>
Distributed fault tolerance	<p>From the network to the desktop, all Cisco Unified CCE components and external application links provide carrier-class, distributed fault tolerance at both the hardware and software levels, with real-time application failover capabilities. Self-diagnostics and self-healing features allow the system to automatically take advantage of redundant components when required; the system is resilient to hardware component failures, communications network failures, and asynchronous software errors.</p>
Contact Director	<p>The Contact Director deployment model uses contact sharing technology to enable customers who have two Cisco Unified CCE systems to distribute calls across those systems, thus increasing overall agent and call-handling capacity. Contact sharing uses live data to learn about current conditions at those sites and can base routing decisions on factors such as number of calls in queue, agent availability, average handle time, or custom calculations.</p>
Network management	<p>Both enterprise and hosted contact centers require applications that provide management information and a single point of performance monitoring and troubleshooting. As you face the challenges of deploying, upgrading, and managing contact centers with integrated software, you may incur setup and ongoing operational and maintenance costs that affect your ability to provide your end users a cost-effective solution. Cisco Unified CCE software provides a Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP) interface for integration into centralized network management systems. It also provides integration into a broader unified communications management infrastructure, bundled with Cisco Unified Communications Manager. It provides new levels of availability and manageability during deployments and upgrades, as well as during normal contact center operations.</p>
Cisco Prime[®] Collaboration Contact Center Assurance	<p>Cisco Prime Collaboration supports Cisco Unified CCE, and provides efficient, integrated service-assurance management through a single, consolidated view of the Cisco voice and video collaboration environment. This management includes continuous, real-time monitoring and advanced troubleshooting tools for the Cisco Unified Communications ecosystem. Cisco Prime Collaboration provides actionable information to IT managers, planners, and executives both onscreen and through scheduled email messages. This information simplifies the long-term planning process, informs ongoing technology investment decisions, and helps optimize the network configuration to improve end-user quality of experience.</p>
Security	<p>Cisco Unified CCE supports the latest in security and data integrity features and solutions. Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) is available on all web-based applications, and Transport Layer Security (TLS) and IP Security (IPsec) support is available for sockets-based communications to secure data in transit across trusted and untrusted networks.</p>

Feature	Benefits
Cisco ASR 1000 Aggregation Services Router support	The Cisco ASR 1000 consolidates the Cisco Unified CVP Voice Browser with other network functions on a single server, reducing hardware and support requirements.
IPv6 dual mode	Cisco Unified CCE and Cisco Unified Customer Voice Portal support dual-network mode for IPv6 endpoints, enabling easier migration from IPv4.
Product Functions	
Routing functions	Precision routing, a feature of Cisco Unified CCE, sends the contact to the best available resource, based on information about the caller and the attributes of the agent. By delivering the contact effectively, your company can reduce overall handle time, decrease the need for multiple transfers, and increase customer satisfaction with the experience.
Cisco Pre-Routing and Post-Routing functions	<p>The Cisco Pre-Routing function makes routing decisions for each call while it is still in the carrier's network, enabling the Cisco platform to effectively segment customers, balance calls across the enterprise, and deliver each contact to the best enterprise resource the first time.</p> <p>The Cisco Post-Routing function provides the intelligent distribution of contacts already connected to a peripheral in your network, whether it is an ACD, PBX, IVR, or web or email server. When a contact requires redirection, Cisco Unified CCE applies business logic, instructing the peripheral to send the contact to the best available enterprise resource.</p>
Customer profile routing	<p>Cisco Unified CCE extends the sources of data available for making contact routing decisions and populating agent desktop applications. For instance, Cisco Unified CCE can perform a lookup in your customer database during routing to guide its decisions. You can also use information from CRM applications to match customers with agents and expand the data available to screen pop applications.</p> <p>Wherever an agent is based, the system delivers context-call event and customer-profile data, as a contact arrives, allowing the agent or application to personalize service and help maximize efficiency.</p>
Cisco Enterprise Chat and Email (ECE)	Cisco ECE offers multichannel capabilities with chat, email, and web callback. ECE can help your business manage customer emails and chats by automatically routing the chat or email to the correct resource, based upon information in the request and agent availability. With Web collaboration, customers can chat with agents live over the web, with agents able to handle multiple chat sessions simultaneously. The email feature can help your business manage large volumes of customer email inquiries by sending automated replies and routing the email to the right resource. With the web callback feature, customers can request a callback from a contact center when the right agent is available. ECE also provides reporting and monitoring tools to more effectively manage your contact center.
Context Service	Cisco Unified CCE includes Context Service, a cloud-based omnichannel service that provides storage, tagging, and management of the data from interactions between businesses or organizations and their customers. The context and history information that the service provides helps customer care agents better understand and respond to the needs of customers.
Agent request API	The agent request API enables businesses to add voice callback as a feature to their custom-developed applications for the web and for mobile applications. Businesses can present callback as one of the ways or channels their customers can contact them, allowing customers to choose the channel of communication that works best for them.
Reporting	<p>Cisco Unified CCE provides real-time and historical data necessary for mission-critical contact center reporting across all media types. The solution provides accurate and timely reports on contact center activity, helping managers make informed decisions regarding staffing levels and contact handling procedures.</p> <p>Standard reporting is provided by the Cisco Unified Intelligence Center, which offers numerous report templates intended to meet common reporting needs. With the availability of the underlying data model and schema, you can easily develop custom reports to extend the solution to meet specific reporting needs. Furthermore, Cisco Unified CCE allows for the export of reporting data to external data warehouse environments for extended storage.</p> <p>Live Data provides a real-time architecture with significant refresh-rate improvements through actionable real-time contact center information. Reports available from Cisco Unified Intelligence Center and reporting gadgets available on the Cisco Finesse desktop take advantage of this next-generation architecture.</p>
Task routing	Cisco Unified CCE coordinates an agent's ability to work on multiple tasks from various channels while allowing the agent to be interrupted with high-priority tasks as required. For instance, an agent who is assisting a customer using text chat could handle another chat request at the same time, increasing the agent's productivity. Agents also can be delivered a task of a different channel type from their active task. For example, an agent responding to a customer's email message can be sent a voice call, allowing the agent to handle the real-time voice call and then return to the email message. In this way, Cisco Unified CCE can optimize your agents' activities, helping ensure the highest level of customer service with the resources available.

Cisco Unified CCE options are described in Table 3.

Table 3. Cisco Unified Contact Center Enterprise Options

Option	Description
Social media customer care	<p>Cisco SocialMiner[®] software provides a social media customer care solution for Cisco Unified Contact Center Enterprise that enables your company to proactively respond to customers and prospects communicating through public social media networks such as Twitter and Facebook or other compatible public forum or blogging sites. By providing social media monitoring, queuing, and workflow to organize customer posts on social media networks and delivering them to your social media customer care team, your company can respond to customers in real time through the same social network they use to communicate.</p> <p>This innovative capability is enabled by Cisco SocialMiner software, which searches multiple social networks to capture public customer postings, and then organizes, filters, and prioritizes these postings and presents them to your customer care team for response. Your customer service representatives could respond to a customer service problem or reach out to new customers looking for information about your products or services.</p> <p>Cisco SocialMiner software combined with Cisco Unified CCE can help your company enhance customer service, improve customer loyalty, add new customers, and protect your brand.</p>
Cisco Outbound Option	<p>The Cisco Outbound Option, with its combination of outbound dialing modes, complements the powerful inbound call-handling capability of the Cisco Unified CCE platform. You can build campaigns to use predictive, progressive, or preview dialing, which is integrated with inbound calls and compliant with contact center service levels to offer a powerful blended solution. You can allocate agents to handle only inbound, only outbound, or both inbound and outbound contacts, offering an effective way to increase agent usage in a contact center.</p> <p>Call-process analysis (CPA) (aka answering-machine detection) is enabled for the Cisco UCCE Outbound Dialer when using Cisco Unified Border Element (CUBE).</p>

Ordering Information

To place an order, visit the [Cisco Ordering Home Page](#) and refer to Table 4. Detailed ordering information is available in the Cisco Customer Care Solutions [Ordering Guide](#) (requires Cisco.com login).

Table 4. Ordering Information

Product Name	Part Number
Cisco Unified Contact Center Enterprise Solution	IPCE-BUNDLE
Cisco Packaged Contact Center Enterprise Solution	CCE-PAC-BUNDLE

Upgrades

Upgrades from prior releases require a Cisco Software Support Service (SWSS) subscription.

Cisco Services

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For more information about Cisco Unified Contact Center Services, please visit:

<http://www.cisco.com/go/uccservices>.

Summary

Cisco Unified Contact Center Enterprise provides a state-of-the-art contact center solution that allows you to integrate inbound and outbound voice applications with Internet applications, including real-time chat, web collaboration, email messaging, and social media. This integration allows for unified capabilities, helping a single agent support multiple interactions simultaneously, regardless of the communications channel the customer chooses. Because each interaction is unique and may require individualized service, Cisco provides contact center solutions to manage each interaction based on virtually any contact attribute.

Furthermore, Cisco can bridge the gap between TDM and IP infrastructures, integrating voice, chat, email, and web collaboration applications over both technology platforms. Thus your company can preserve the value of existing current investments in call center products such as ACDs, IVRs, and PBXs and take advantage of the wide range of Cisco solutions to support the same contact center requirements in a converged network environment, leading to increased customer satisfaction and continuing the evolution toward true customer collaboration.

Cisco Capital

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For More Information

For more information about Cisco Unified Contact Center Enterprise, please visit <http://www.cisco.com/go/ipcc>.



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