

BROCADE AND FEDERAL CLOUD COMPUTING



FEDERAL

Enabling the Federal Cloud

HIGHLIGHTS

- Provides the foundation for network virtualization
- Enables tailored cloud environments to meet unique mission needs
- Creates a platform for a vendor-agnostic network

Agency leaders and the Office of Management and Budget find the business case for cloud computing simply too compelling to ignore. Frontline IT professionals, on the other hand, understand that cloud computing—like all technology investments—requires a tradeoff. There is less capital investment, but also more complexity and risk. There is less need for physical computing capacity, but also greater demand for network capacity.

Agencies also face a greater demand for network simplicity. Traditional Ethernet architectures, with their rigid, hierarchical configuration, are simply too inflexible to support virtualization and cloud computing. That's where Ethernet fabrics—flat, simplified networks that reduce latency to optimize performance and that self-heal to increase availability—come in. Implementing a simpler network foundation will set agencies on the right path to achieve cloud success.

But if that foundation doesn't include open standards, agencies are no better off. An open standards-based infrastructure allows agencies to adopt tailored cloud environments comprised of multiple vendors—better meeting unique mission needs. Brocade embraces open standards, providing interoperability with any virtualization provider an agency opts to use.

BROCADE ETHERNET FABRICS FOR VIRTUALIZATION AND THE CLOUD

- Brocade® VCS® Fabric technology provides advanced Ethernet fabric capabilities, including efficient multipathing at Layers 1 to 3:

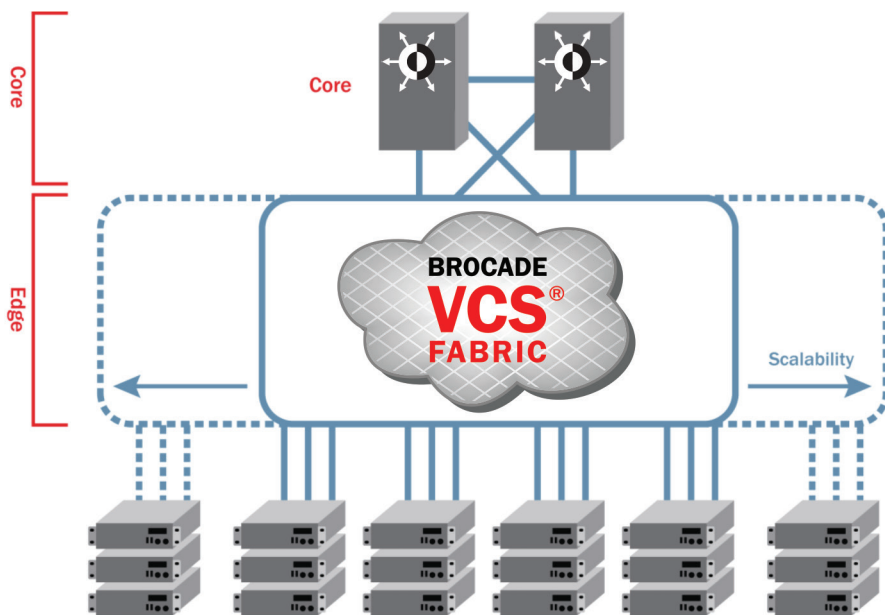


Figure 1.
An Ethernet fabric built on Brocade VCS Fabric technology.

- Multiple Layer 3 gateways, VM awareness, and network automation enable agencies to transition smoothly to elastic, cloud-optimized networks.
- VCS fabrics, delivered on Brocade VDX® switches, provide the industry's highest levels of Ethernet fabric automation, resilience, and investment protection while providing the foundation for network virtualization and Software-Defined Networking (SDN).

BROCADE: SUPPORTING GOVERNMENT INNOVATION

Brocade understands the unique IT challenges of the Federal government. That's why we are committed to making our technology:

- **Easy:** You need to focus on meeting missions. Brocade networking solutions are easy to implement and manage—because agencies should spend less time managing their IT infrastructure and more time accomplishing their mission.
- **Open:** Trying to make a square peg fit in a round hole just takes too much time. Brocade solutions are based on open industry standards and interoperability, providing compatibility with other leading vendors represented in an agency's IT infrastructure. We are also committed to vigorously testing and certifying our products to ensure we comply with the needs and requirements of Federal agencies.
- **Innovative:** Doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results will not solve the unique challenges Federal agencies face. That's why Brocade leverages years of experience to deliver innovative networking solutions that specifically address modern IT requirements, such as fabrics that have been successfully deployed in the storage world for more than 15 years. We also develop future-proof technologies designed to leverage new and emerging technologies such as SDN.
- **Value-Oriented:** Budget constraints are a reality in Federal government and beyond. Brocade places a high priority on delivering great value for cost and a strong ROI.
- **Incremental:** While incremental updates aren't always an ideal solution, budget realities and refresh cycles often make incremental innovation easier on agency budgets than rip-and-replace solutions. Brocade solutions allow agencies to update their networks in small incremental steps as needed—reducing dependence on proprietary standards with every step.

To learn how Brocade can help your agency accomplish its most critical missions, visit www.brocade.com/federal.

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