Reduce network costs, increase agility, and lay the foundation for seamless integration of new technologies to meet business needs

As companies in all industries evolve—through mergers, acquisitions, divestitures, and revised business models—IT consolidation has emerged as an important process to help these organizations get the most from their IT infrastructures.

Through a series of steps customized to meet the needs of each customer, IT consolidation streamlines the typical distributed, over-provisioned, inefficient IT infrastructure—bringing physical resources closer together, reducing the number of servers, centralizing storage and networking, and integrating applications and databases. Ultimately, if the customer chooses, an “IT utility” model evolves in which resources are allocated dynamically to accommodate changes in server and storage demand. The result is a carefully executed consolidation that maximizes the return on IT investments and moves the company closer to becoming an Adaptive Enterprise—an organization whose business and IT are synchronized to capitalize on change.

Network challenges related to IT consolidation
The networking challenges that IT consolidation customers typically face include:

• Networking environments with a mixture of different or aging technologies
• Redundant network infrastructures with overlapping address spaces, name domains, and incompatible routing strategies
• High network maintenance/management costs due to a lack of centralized planning and control
• An inability to reconfigure the network to respond quickly to changes
• Growing operational/capital expenses combined with declining reliability and availability
• Growing security concerns related to access, data protection, legal/regulatory requirements, governance, centralized policy management, and the cost of security enforcement

Solutions for the adaptive enterprise.
The big picture: the HP approach to IT consolidation

HP’s approach to IT consolidation focuses on the IT ecosystem, including people, processes, and technology, and ranges from investment and operations to change and simplification.

HP uses the “Global Method for IT Strategy and Architecture Methodology” (HP GM for ITSA)—a proven, systematic approach that spans business, technical, functional, and implementation viewpoints to synchronize business needs and IT solutions. It addresses design, implementation, deployment, and management as well as risk and risk mitigation strategies. The flexible HP approach allows you to engage us at any point of entry. We involve business and IT stakeholders to achieve end-to-end alignment when developing and implementing your consolidation roadmap. HP can analyze either your entire IT environment or a specific subset of cost centers, depending on the scope you choose.

Along the journey, virtually every IT consolidation effort touches the network, which plays an integral role in data center interconnectivity, communications, business continuity, and security.

HP Network Consolidation as part of the IT consolidation journey

HP’s approach to network consolidation is comprehensive, leveraging our entire lifecycle of services. Specific components of the HP Network Consolidation Solution include:

- Architecting LAN and WAN solutions to support the high-performance and high-availability requirements of consolidated data center and application environments
  - LAN and WAN assessment and design services, project management, implementation, and support
- High-capacity data center interconnectivity and wide area networking
  - Optical networking/dense wavelength division multiplexing (DWDM) to provide multi-protocol, high-capacity data center interconnectivity for Layer 2/3 transport and storage area networking (SAN), to enable database synchronization, and to aggregate/consolidate WAN metro-area links
  - Consolidation of WAN lines and WAN transport providers, enabling central negotiation and administration of contracts and service-level agreements (SLAs); queuing, optimization, compression, caching to support QoS, and multi-protocol label switching (MPLS) for network traffic engineering and prioritization
  - WAN acceleration to improve LAN performance and latency over the WAN for remote/branch offices
Technical resources and subject matter experts (SMEs) to work with WAN transport providers on the overall LAN/WAN design criteria and/or as a “customer agent” for pre-implementation planning, ordering and scheduling, installation management, migration and testing, as well as integration of the enterprise LAN/WAN backbone to provide connectivity, IP routing, redundancy, and performance.

- Network security and ANA compartmentalization
  - Compartmentalize the enterprise network based on the business needs of applications or hosted services, regardless of physical location
  - Network security for information protection and privacy
  - Network procedures and policies to maximize network availability and security
- Networking requirements to support disaster recovery and business continuity
  - Robust network infrastructure with no single point of failure
  - 24x7 mission-critical network support services for network hardware and software
  - Optical networking/DWDM for high-capacity data center interconnectivity, site mirroring, and backup routes
  - Network monitoring and management for proactive problem identification and resolution

Benefits of network consolidation

- Managed costs
  - Centralized monitoring and management of networks and security
  - Consolidation of network equipment (routers and switches)
  - Centrally negotiated and administered SLAs with xSPs and network vendors
  - Convergence of voice/data onto a single QoS-enabled IP network
  - Reduced network transport costs by consolidating lines and providers
  - Reduced cost for office-to-office phone communications (with IP telephony)
- Increased quality while mitigating risk
  - Improved service levels for availability, reliability, and performance
  - Improved network security and continuous business operations
- Improved agility
  - Modular network is easily reconfigured with centralized policy management, dynamic provisioning, and modification
  - Scalable network addressing and routing design
  - Simplified network architectures

An important step for companies seeking accelerated cost savings, improved productivity, and increased agility.
Why HP Services for network consolidation?

A comprehensive network lifecycle services portfolio: The HP Network Consolidation Solution is designed to help optimize data center interconnectivity and build a consolidated network infrastructure to support online transaction/data replication, storage synchronization, and network services (e.g., HP Domain Name Services [DNS], network and system management, proxy, security, and directory services).

The Adaptive Network Architecture (ANA): ANA is HP’s proprietary methodology for evaluating business, network, and security “current state” against “future state” requirements, in conjunction with ANA compartmentalization. ANA allows HP to build network infrastructure solutions with all the traditional aspects of performance, availability, and manageability—plus greater agility.

Industry-leading partnerships: Partnering with networking leaders such as Cisco and leveraging their expertise in their respective specialties, HP Services delivers best-in-breed solutions for every aspect of network consolidation.

World-class networking credentials: HP is one of the top three network consulting and integration firms worldwide. We have over 40 years of network experience, 25 global network operations centers, and 65,000 service professionals operating in 160 countries. We are the first-ever Cisco Global Certified Partner with multinational certifications in all Cisco theaters, and have been awarded the Cisco Global Commerce Specialization, on top of over 40 Gold certifications, 79 Advanced Technology partnerships, and 179 specializations.

Unique combination of data center networking expertise: HP’s breadth and depth of experience in the data center spans infrastructure, security, middleware communication, and application data flows.

End-to-end infrastructure: HP can address the end-to-end IT infrastructure, including storage, servers, printers, desktops, and networks.

For more information
To learn more about the HP Network Consolidation Solution, please visit www.hp.com/go/networks.