

Deploy Cisco Tetration Virtual Appliance on Cisco HyperFlex Systems



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Note: This document contains material and data with multiple dependencies. The information may be updated as and when necessary and is subject to change without notice.

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Executive summary

The Cisco® Tetration platform is designed to address data center operational and security challenges by providing comprehensive workload protection and insights across a multcloud infrastructure. It is powered by big data technologies using unsupervised machine learning, behavior analysis, and algorithmic approaches. It provides a ready-to-use solution to accurately identify applications running in the data center and their dependencies and the underlying policies that govern the different application tiers. The platform is also designed to implement a zero-trust model using whitelist policy and segmentation, monitor the behavior of the processes running on the servers, and identify software-related vulnerabilities and exposures. With this approach, the Cisco Tetration platform provides multidimensional security across virtualized and bare-metal workloads running in a multcloud environment.

The Cisco Tetration platform has three types of deployment options: Cisco Tetration Analytics™ platform (large form factor [LFF] and small form factor [SFF]), Cisco Tetration Software as a Service (SaaS), and Cisco Tetration Virtual (Tetration-V). The virtual appliance model, Cisco Tetration-V, provides the option to run the Cisco Tetration software in on-premises VMware ESXi virtualized environments. This deployment model decouples the requirements of hardware and software, giving customers the flexibility to choose independent hardware and storage devices for running the Cisco Tetration software. It is well suited for smaller deployments such as data centers that host fewer than 1000 workloads.

Cisco HyperFlex™ systems provide an all-purpose virtualized server platform, with hypervisor hosts, network connectivity, and virtual server storage across a set of Cisco HyperFlex HX-Series x86 rack-mount servers. The platform combines the converged computing and networking capabilities provided by the Cisco Unified Computing System™ (Cisco UCS®) with next-generation hyperconverged storage software to uniquely provide the computing resources, network connectivity, storage, and hypervisor platform needed to run an entire virtual environment, all contained in a single uniform system.

Cisco HyperFlex systems deliver many enterprise-class features, such as:

- A fully distributed log-structured file system that supports thin provisioning
- High performance and low latency from the flash-friendly architecture
- In-line data optimization with deduplication and compression
- Fast and space-efficient clones through metadata operations
- The flexibility to scale out computing and storage resources separately
- Data-at-rest encryption using hardware-based self-encrypting disks (SEDs)
- Non-Volatile Memory Express (NVMe)-based solid-state disk (SSD) support
- Native replication of virtual machine snapshots

The Cisco Tetration virtual appliance on the Cisco HyperFlex HX Data Platform enables a validated data center security solution with simplified deployment; ease of day-to-day management; and integrated resources for computing, networking, and high-performance storage.

Solution overview

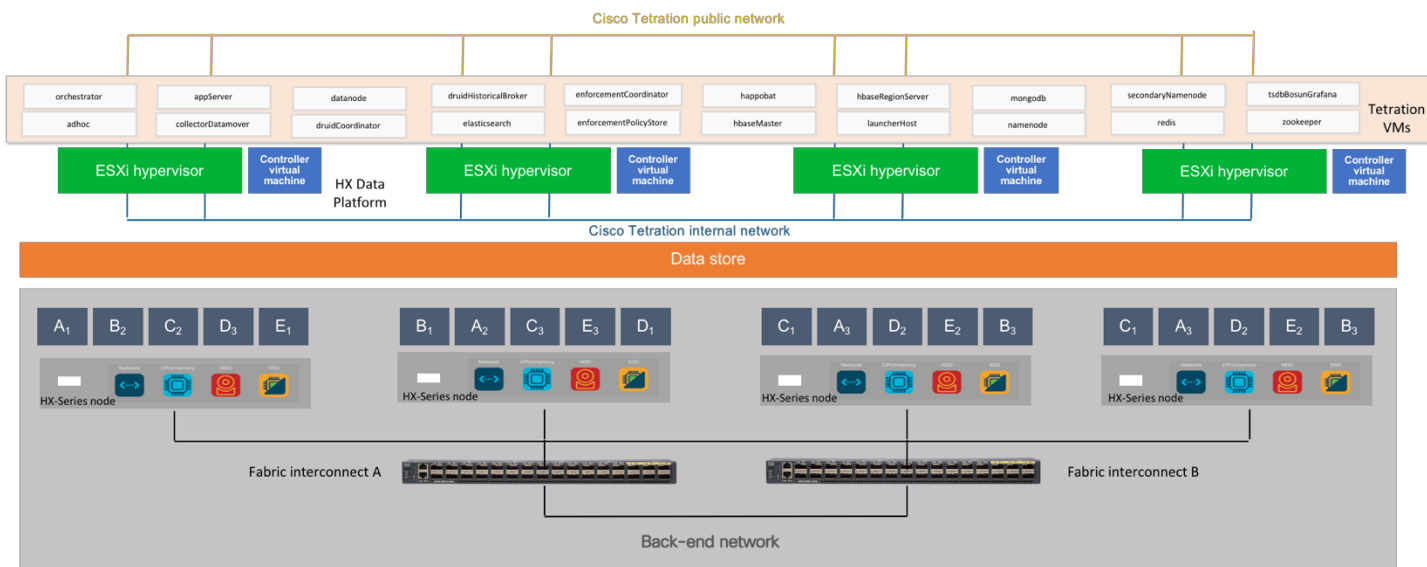
The virtual appliance deployment option of the Cisco Tetration platform lets the customer choose the underlying hardware. This choice is important because the efficiency of the infrastructure affects the efficiency of the application and the speed of data collection and processing, storage performance, and resource management.

Cisco HyperFlex systems let you unlock the full potential of hyperconvergence and adapt IT to the needs of your workloads. The systems use an end-to-end software-defined infrastructure approach that combines software-defined computing in the form of Cisco HyperFlex HX-Series nodes, software-defined storage with the powerful Cisco HX Data Platform, and software-defined networking with the Cisco UCS fabric that integrates seamlessly with Cisco Application Centric Infrastructure (Cisco ACI). These technologies together offer a single point of connectivity and management and deliver a validated and adaptable cluster with a unified pool of resources that you can quickly deploy, scale, and manage to efficiently power your applications and your business. A proven industry-leading hyperconverged platform, Cisco HyperFlex systems are an optimized choice for a Cisco Tetration-V deployment in a VMware ESXi virtual environment. By combining Cisco HyperFlex systems with Cisco Tetration data analytics software, this solution delivers an appliance-like Cisco Tetration platform with exceptional agility, quick deployment, and easy management.

This document describes how to build a Cisco Tetration virtual appliance in a dedicated Cisco HyperFlex cluster. It provides guidance about the hardware and software requirements and instructions about how to deploy Tetration-V on Cisco HyperFlex hyperconverged infrastructure.

Figure 1 provides an overview of the solution.

Figure 1. High-level solution overview



Cisco HyperFlex systems

Cisco HyperFlex systems are built on the Cisco UCS platform. They can be deployed quickly and are highly flexible and efficient, reducing risk for the customer. A main goal of the systems is simplicity of deployment and operation. They provide a hyperconverged platform that allows you to start small and grow in small increments without the need for expensive storage devices connected to computing resources through a SAN or network-attached storage (NAS).

The Cisco HyperFlex solution delivers a new generation of flexible, scalable, enterprise-class hyperconverged solutions. The solution also delivers storage efficiency features such as thin provisioning, data deduplication, and compression for greater capacity and enterprise-class performance. Additional operational efficiency is facilitated through features such as cloning and snapshots.

The complete end-to-end hyperconverged solution provides the following benefits to customers:

- **Simplicity:** The solution is designed to be deployed and managed easily and quickly through familiar tools and methods. No separate management console is required for the Cisco HyperFlex solution.
- **Centralized hardware management:** The cluster hardware is managed in a consistent manner by service profiles in Cisco UCS Manager. Cisco UCS Manager also provides a single console for solution management, including firmware management. Cisco HyperFlex HX Data Platform clusters are managed through a plug-in to VMware vCenter.
- **High availability:** Component redundancy is built in to most levels at the node. Cluster-level tolerance of node, network, and fabric interconnect failures is implemented as well.
- **Enterprise-class storage features:** Complementing the other management efficiencies are features such as thin provisioning, data deduplication, compression, cloning, and snapshots to address concerns related to overprovisioning of storage.
- **Flexibility with a “pay-as-you-grow” model:** Customers can purchase the exact amount of computing and storage they need and expand one node at a time up to the supported cluster node limit.
- **Agility to support different workloads:** Support for both hybrid and all-flash models allows customers to choose the right platform configuration for capacity-sensitive applications or performance-sensitive applications according to budget requirements.

A Cisco HyperFlex system is composed of the following components:

- One pair of Cisco UCS 6200 or 6300 Series Fabric Interconnects
- Cisco HyperFlex HX-Series HX220c or HX240c (M4 and M5) rack-mount servers
- Cisco HyperFlex HX Data Platform software
- VMware vSphere ESXi hypervisor
- VMware vCenter Server (supplied by the end user)

A Cisco HyperFlex cluster requires a minimum of three HX-Series nodes. Data is replicated across at least two of these nodes, and a third node is required for continuous operation in the event of a single-node failure. The HX-Series nodes combine the CPU and RAM resources for hosting guest virtual machines with a shared pool of the physical storage resources used by the HX Data Platform software. HX-Series hybrid nodes use a combination of solid-state disks (SSDs) for caching and hard-disk drives (HDDs) for the capacity layer. HX-Series all-flash nodes use SSD or NVMe storage for the caching layer and SSDs for the capacity layer.

Cisco HyperFlex HX-Series M5 servers are recommended for this solution.

Cisco HyperFlex HX240c M5SX Node

The Cisco HyperFlex HX240c M5SX Node (Figure 2) rack server is two rack units (2RU) high and can mount in an industry-standard 19-inch rack. This capacity-optimized hybrid model contains a minimum of six and up to twenty-three 1.8- or 1.2-TB SAS SFF HDDs that contribute to cluster storage, a 240-GB SSD housekeeping drive, a single 1.6-TB SSD caching drive installed in a rear hot-swappable slot, and a 240-GB M.2 form factor SSD that acts as the boot drive.

Figure 2. Cisco HyperFlex HX240c M5SX Node



Cisco HyperFlex HXAF240c M5SX All Flash Node

The Cisco HyperFlex HX240c M5SX All Flash Node (Figure 3) rack server is 2RU high and can mount in an industry-standard 19-inch rack. This capacity-optimized all-flash model contains a 240-GB M.2 form-factor SSD that acts as the boot drive; a 240-GB housekeeping SSD; a 375-GB Optane NVMe SSD, 1.6-TB NVMe SSD, or 400-GB SAS SSD write-log drive installed in a rear hot-swappable slot; and six to twenty-three 960-GB or 3.8-TB SATA SSD drives for storage capacity.

Figure 3. Cisco HyperFlex HX240c M5SX All Flash Node



Cisco HyperFlex HX220c M5SX Node

The Cisco HyperFlex HX220c M5SX Node (Figure 4) rack server is 1RU high and can mount in an industry-standard 19-inch rack. This small-footprint hybrid model contains a minimum of six, and up to eight 1.8- or 1.2-TB SAS HDDs that contribute to cluster storage capacity, a 240-GB SSD housekeeping drive, a 480- or 800-GB SSD caching drive, and a 240-GB M.2 form-factor SSD that acts as the boot drive.

Figure 4. Cisco HyperFlex HX220c M5SX Node



Cisco HyperFlex HX220c M5SX All Flash Node

The Cisco HyperFlex HX240c M5SX All Flash Node (Figure 5) rack server is 1RU high and can mount in an industry-standard 19-inch rack. This small-footprint all-flash model contains a 240-GB M.2 form-factor SSD that acts as the boot drive; a 240-GB housekeeping SSD; a 375-GB Optane NVMe SSD, 1.6-TB NVMe SSD, or 400-GB SAS SSD write-log drive; and six to eight 960-GB or 3.8-TB SATA SSDs for storage capacity.

Figure 5. Cisco HyperFlex HX220c M5SX All Flash Node



Cisco HyperFlex HX Data Platform software

The Cisco HyperFlex HX Data Platform is a purpose-built, high-performance, distributed file system with a wide range of enterprise-class data management services. The data platform's innovations redefine distributed storage technology, exceeding the boundaries of first-generation hyperconverged infrastructures. The data platform simplifies operations and helps ensure data availability with many enterprise-class storage features.

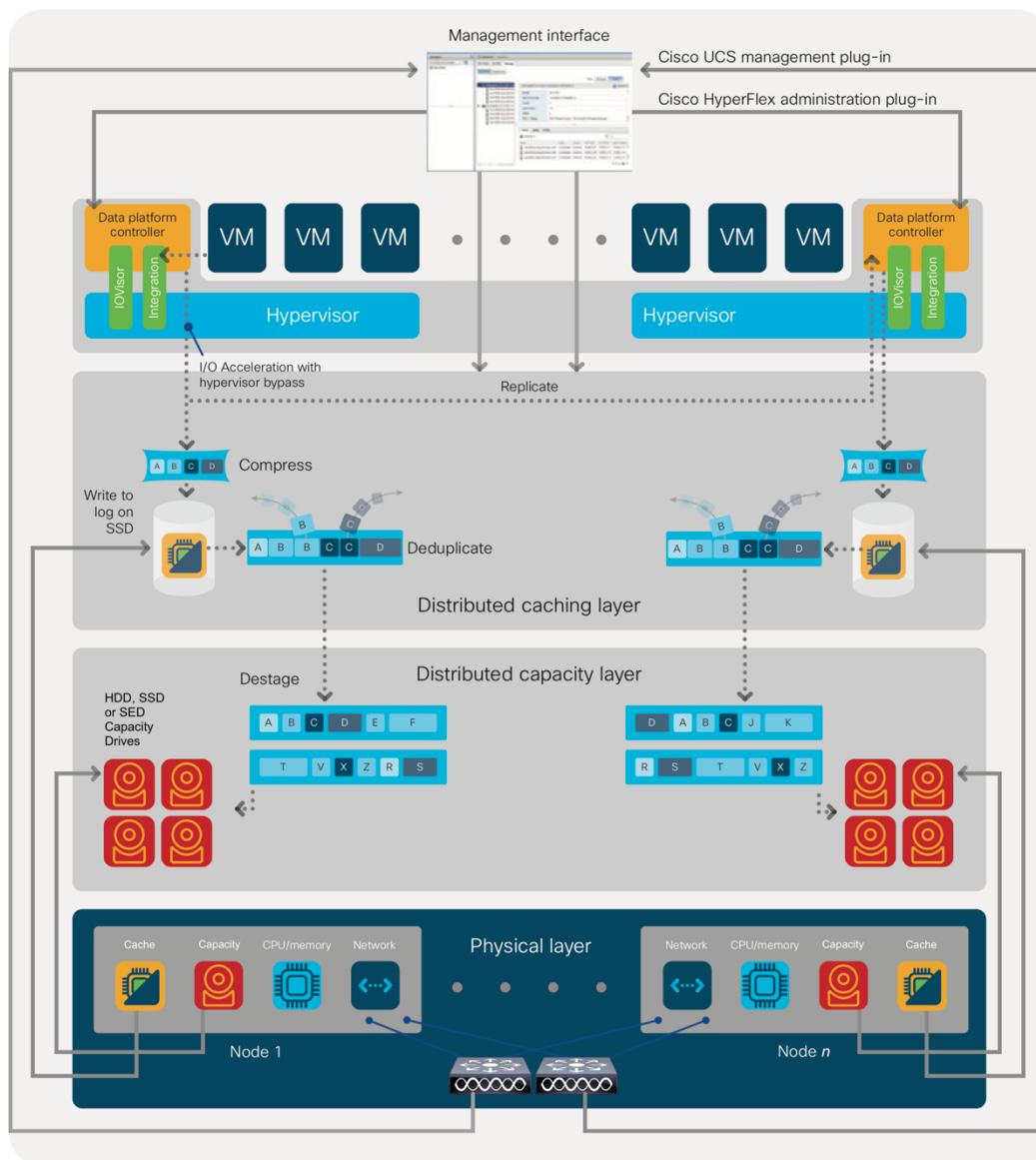
The HX Data Platform can be administered through a VMware vSphere web client plug-in or through the HTML5-based native Cisco HyperFlex Connect management tool. In addition, since HX Data Platform Release 2.6, Cisco HyperFlex systems also can be managed remotely by the Cisco Intersight™ cloud-based management platform. Through the centralized point of control for the cluster, administrators can create data stores, monitor the data platform health, and manage resource use.

An HX Data Platform controller resides on each node and implements the Cisco HyperFlex HX Distributed File System. The storage controller runs in user space within a virtual machine, intercepting and handling all I/O requests from guest virtual machines. The storage controller virtual machine uses the VMDirectPath I/O feature to provide PCI pass-through control of the physical server's SAS disk controller. This approach gives the controller virtual machine full control of the physical disk resources. The controller integrates the data platform into VMware software through three preinstalled VMware ESXi vSphere Installation Bundles (VIBs): the VMware API for Array Integration (VAAI), a customized IOvisor agent that acts as a stateless Network File System (NFS) proxy, and a customized stHypervisorSvc agent for Cisco HyperFlex data protection and virtual machine replication.

The HX Data Platform controllers handle all read and write requests from the guest virtual machines to the virtual machine disks (VMDKs) stored in the distributed data stores in the cluster. The data platform distributes the data across multiple nodes of the cluster and across multiple capacity disks in each node according to the replication-level policy selected during cluster setup. The replication-level policy is defined by the replication factor (RF) parameter. When RF = 3, a total of three copies of the blocks are written and distributed to separate locations for every I/O write committed to the storage layer; when RF = 2, a total of two copies of the blocks are written and distributed.

Figure 6 shows the movement of data in the HX Data Platform.

Figure 6. Cisco HyperFlex HX Data Platform data movement



For each write operation, the data is intercepted by the IO Visor module on the node on which the virtual machine is running, a primary node is determined for that particular operation through a hashing algorithm, and the data is then sent to the primary node. The primary node compresses the data in real time and writes the compressed data to its caching SSD, and replica copies of that compressed data are written to the caching SSD of the remote nodes in the cluster, according to the replication factor setting. Because the virtual disk contents have been divided and spread out through the hashing algorithm, the result of this method is that all write operations are spread across all nodes, avoiding problems related to data locality and helping prevent “noisy” virtual machines from consuming all the I/O capacity of a single node. The write operation will not be acknowledged until all three copies are written to the caching-layer SSDs. Written data is also cached in a write log area resident in memory in the controller virtual machine, along with the write log on the caching SSDs. This process speeds up read requests when read operations are requested on data that has recently been written.

The HX Data Platform constructs multiple write caching segments on the caching SSDs of each node in the distributed cluster. As write-cache segments become full, and based on policies accounting for I/O load and access patterns, those write-cache segments are locked, and new write operations roll over to a new write-cache segment. The data in the now-locked cache segment is destaged to the HDD capacity layer of the nodes for a hybrid system or to the SDD capacity layer of the nodes for an all-flash system. During the destaging process, data is deduplicated before being written to the capacity storage layer, and the resulting data can now be written to the HDDs or SDDs of the server. On hybrid systems, the now deduplicated and compressed data is also written to the dedicated read-cache area of the caching SSD, which speeds up read requests for data that has recently been written. When the data is destaged to an HDD, it is written in a single sequential operation, avoiding disk-head seek thrashing on the spinning disks and accomplishing the task in a minimal amount of time. Deduplication, compression, and destaging take place with no delays or I/O penalties for the guest virtual machines making requests to read or write data, which benefits both the HDD and SDD configurations.

For data read operations, data may be read from multiple locations. For data that was very recently written, the data is likely to still exist in the write log of the local platform controller memory or in the write log of the local caching-layer disk. If local write logs do not contain the data, the distributed file system metadata will be queried to see if the data is cached elsewhere, either in write logs of remote nodes or in the dedicated read-cache area of the local and remote caching SSDs of hybrid nodes. Finally, if the data has not been accessed in a significant amount of time, the file system will retrieve the requested data from the distributed capacity layer. As requests for read operations are made to the distributed file system and the data is retrieved from the capacity layer, the caching SSDs of hybrid nodes populate their dedicated read-cache area to speed up subsequent requests for the same data. All-flash configurations, however, do not employ a dedicated read cache because such caching does not provide any performance benefit; the persistent data copy already resides on high-performance SSDs.

Cisco Tetration Analytics platform

Applications are among the most critical entities in a data center. Organizations cannot always easily provide a secure infrastructure for applications without compromising agility. Today challenge is even more difficult to address because data centers are getting bigger and more complex, with hundreds or thousands of interdependent applications running in virtualized or containerized multicloud environments.

The Cisco Tetration Analytics platform addresses this operation and security challenge in a comprehensive way with multidimensional workload protection and application segmentation. It is a single platform that performs advanced analytics using an algorithmic approach and enforces a consistent whitelist policy for applications. This algorithmic approach includes unsupervised machine-learning techniques and behavioral analysis.

Cisco Tetration use cases

The Cisco Tetration platform provides a ready-to-use solution supporting the following use cases:

- Application behavior insight: Identify application components and their in-depth dependencies.
- Automated whitelist policy generation: Generate consistent whitelist policy based on application dependencies.
- Automated application segmentation: Provide effective application segmentation to enable efficient and secure zero-trust deployment. In addition, users can augment policies to limit application access based on users, user groups, and workload context.
- Automated policy enforcement: Provide consistent policy enforcement in a heterogeneous environment across on-premises data centers and private and public clouds.
- Policy compliance detection: Detect policy deviation in minutes and help ensure application-policy compliance.
- Server process behavior baseline and deviation reporting: Collect the complete process inventory along with process hash information, determine the baseline for the behavior, and identify deviations.

- Software inventory and vulnerability detection: Identify all the software packages and versions installed on the servers. Using the Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures (CVE) database, identify any associated vulnerabilities or exposures.
- Neighborhood graphing: Search for a specific application workspace and see a two-hops view of its communication with other servers within the data center.
- Forensic analysis: Use long-term data retention, with full details, for forensic analysis. (This capability is now extended to virtual desktop infrastructure [VDI] desktop virtual machines.)

Cisco Tetration sensors

To achieve these capabilities, Cisco Tetration uses a variety of sensors to collect telemetry data and communicate the flow information to the Cisco Tetration Analytics platform in real time. The telemetry data is collected from both servers and Cisco Nexus® switches. Table 1 lists the supported Cisco Tetration sensor types for a Tetration-V deployment.

Table 1. Cisco Tetration sensor types

Sensor type	Description	Where to install	When to apply	Supported by Tetration-V?
Software sensors	Software sensors are installed on the servers and collect telemetry data from every packet and every flow, process data, and the software packages installed. They also act as policy-enforcement points when enforcement is turned on.	The sensors are installed on the end servers (bare-metal servers, virtual machines, and containers). They are available for major distributions of Linux, Microsoft Windows servers, and Microsoft desktops (VDI use case only).	The use of these sensors is always the first option.	Yes
Cisco Encapsulated Remote Switched Port Analyzer (ERSPAN) sensors	These out-of-band sensors are designed to generate Cisco Tetration telemetry data using copies of the network packets. These sensors, when receiving ERSPAN packets, strip the ERSPAN header and generate Cisco Tetration telemetry data.	The copied network packets are delivered to out-of-band virtual machines running these sensors.	This approach can be used in parts of the network in which software and hardware sensors are not feasible.	Yes
F5 and Citrix sensors	These out-of-band sensors are designed to generate Cisco Tetration telemetry data using IPFIX from F5 and Citrix load balancers. Using this IPFIX telemetry, Tetration platform is able to stitch the client connections to specific servers when the request goes through the load balancers.	The IPFIX data is delivered to out-of-band virtual machines running these sensors.	This approach can be used to augment telemetry to get additional context and visualization.	Yes
Cisco AnyConnect® network visibility module (NVM) proxy sensor	The sensors collect telemetry data from the Cisco AnyConnect client, enabling the NVM to provide visibility into network-connected devices and user behaviors. Workload protection can be enforced on the collected user and user group information.	These sensors are on endpoint devices such as laptops, desktops, and smartphones on which the Cisco AnyConnect NVM agent is running.	Use this approach when a Cisco AnyConnect client is installed so that the NVM module can be enabled with no additional agent.	Yes

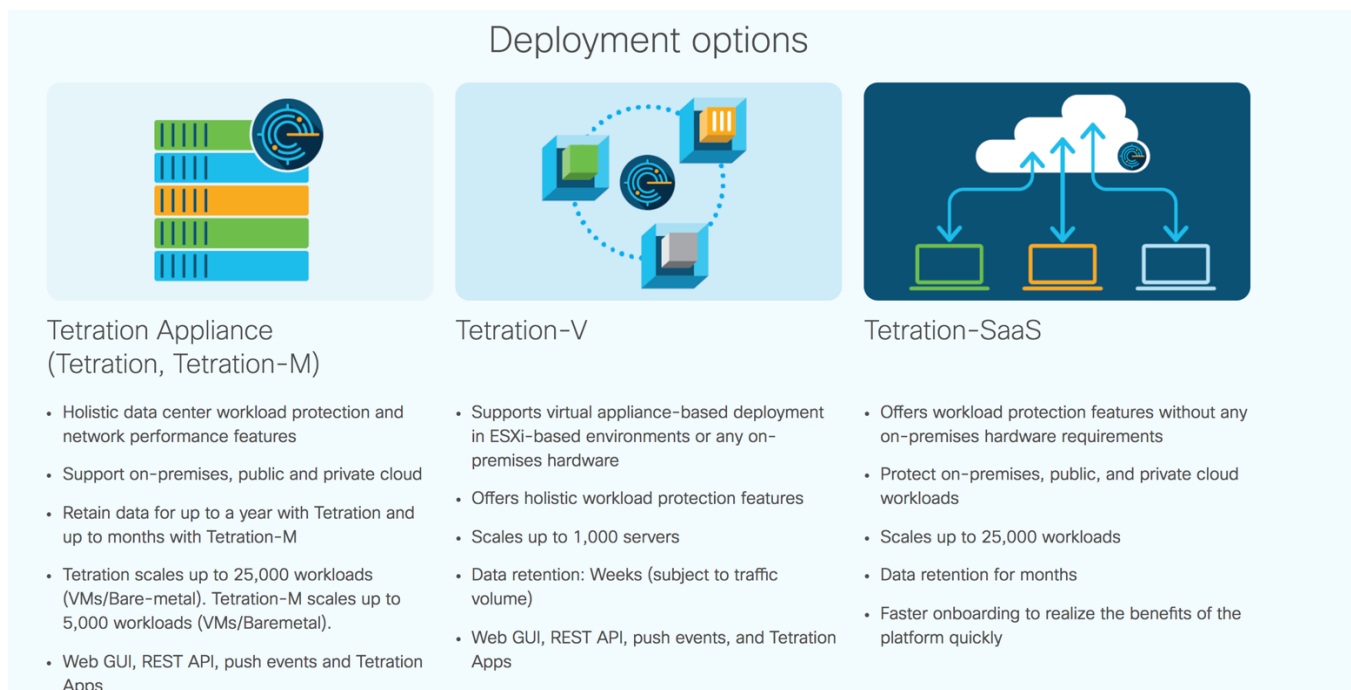
Note: Refer to the [Cisco Tetration Platform data sheet](#) for a full list of supported sensors and the operating systems for the software sensors.

Cisco Tetration deployment options

The Cisco Tetration platform provides an appliance-like experience. It provides flexible deployment options based on the data center size and whether the customer wants a deployment based on on-premises hardware or a public cloud. Three deployment options currently are available (Figure 7):

- Cisco Tetration Analytics platform (LFF) option and Cisco Tetration-M (SFF) option
- Cisco Tetration SaaS option
- Cisco Tetration Virtual (Tetration-V) option

Figure 7. Cisco Tetration platform deployment options



The Tetration-V option allows you to deploy the Cisco Tetration platform on your premises using the hardware of your choice. The Tetration-V version with VMware ESXi is well-suited for small-scale deployments and for data centers that host fewer than 1000 workloads (virtual machines or bare-metal servers). The solution validated in this document is for Cisco Tetration-V with VMware ESXi installed on Cisco HyperFlex systems.

Cisco Tetration-V on Cisco HyperFlex systems

The Cisco Tetration platform is powered by big-data technologies to support data center scale. It can process comprehensive telemetry information received from sensors in near-real time. The platform can enforce consistent policy across many applications running on thousands of servers in the data center. It is designed for long-term data retention, and it can search all the telemetry records from its data lake and return actionable insights in seconds. Although the Tetration-V on ESXi model is designed for smaller-scale deployments, the underlying storage infrastructure still must meet rigorous requirements to run Tetration-V in a sufficient and efficient way.

Cisco Tetration-V for VMware ESXi requirements

Table 2 lists the requirements for deploying the Cisco Tetration virtual appliance in an ESXi environment.

Table 2. Prerequisites for running the Cisco Tetration-V appliance

Components	Prerequisites		Notes
Software	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VMware cluster running VMware vSphere 6.5 Capability to access the VMware vSphere Flash Player GUI Cisco Tetration Analytics software-only orchestrator appliance .ova file Cisco Tetration Analytics mother Red Hat Package Manager (RPM), adhoc RPM, and rpminstall RPM 		
Hardware	CPU	Minimum 128 cores	Note that the requirement is cores, not hyperthreads.
	RAM	Minimum 2 TB	Some virtual machines need up to 128 GB of memory.
	Storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum 18.1-TB capacity Single durable data store Capability to handle 5000 I/O operations per second (IOPs) 	The single storage data store must be accessible from all nodes in the cluster.
Network	Minimum 10-Gbps connectivity between the virtual machines		
	Three virtual networks are required for deployment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public network: Dedicated or shared public network for external cluster traffic that must be reachable from sensors and clients; this network is used for Cisco Tetration Analytics GUI access Private network: Dedicated nonroutable private network for internal cluster communication Configuration network: Temporary network for a bootstrapping cluster that must be reachable from the user who is performing the deployment and that must have access to VMware vCenter; this network is used for Cisco Tetration Analytics setup GUI access 		The configuration network should be a separate subnet from the public subnet and should be shut down after the deployment is complete.

Reference Cisco HyperFlex configuration

Cisco HyperFlex systems consolidate computing, networking, and storage resources in one easy-to-consume unit that enables an appliance-like Tetration-V platform to be built. Using Cisco HyperFlex software innovations, Cisco HyperFlex systems deliver a simplified solution with industry-leading performance, independent scaling, continuous storage optimization, and complete hyperconvergence in one system. Cisco HyperFlex systems enable multicloud IT support for any application of any scale. With a carefully selected Cisco HyperFlex configuration, Cisco Tetration virtual appliance bundles provide powerful data analytics and communication capabilities with a blend of deep storage and efficient data retrieval speed. Figure 8 lists the minimum Cisco HyperFlex M5 configuration that meets Tetration-V hardware requirements.

Figure 8. Minimum Cisco HyperFlex M5 configuration for Cisco Tetration-V

Hybrid		All Flash	
HX220c M5 cluster	HX240c M5 cluster	HXAF220c M5 All Flash cluster	HXAF240c M5 All Flash cluster
*20.0 TiB	*20.0 TiB	*25.4 TiB	*25.4 TiB
Smaller footprint(7RU) 5-node cluster	Most cost-effective option 4-node cluster	Smallest footprint (6RU) 4-node cluster	Performing nodes 4-node cluster
Per node 2 x 2.1-GHz Intel Xeon processor 4116 CPUs, 12 cores 12 x 32 GB plus 12 x 16 GB RAM (576 GB) 1 x 480-GB Enterprise Performance cache SSD 8 x 1.8-TB 12-Gbps 10,000-rpm capacity HDDs	Per node 2 x 2.1-GHz Intel Xeon processor 6130 CPUs, 16 cores 12 x 32 GB plus 12 x 16 GB RAM (576 GB) 1 x 1.6-TB Enterprise Performance cache SSD 10 x 1.8-TB 12-Gbps 10,000-rpm capacity HDDs	Per node 2 x 2.1-GHz Intel Xeon processor 6130 CPUs, 16 cores 12 x 32 GB plus 12 x 16 GB RAM (576 GB) 1 x 400-GB Enterprise Performance cache SSD 6 x 3.8-TB capacity SSDs	Per node 2 x 2.1-GHz Intel Xeon processor 6130 CPUs, 16 cores 12 x 32 GB plus 12 x 16 GB RAM (576 GB) 1 x 400-GB Enterprise Performance cache SSD 6 x 3.8-TB capacity SSDs

*Usable capacity w/ RF3 before compression and deduplication

Test environment

This section introduces the technologies used in validating the solution described in this document.

The solution was tested with a 4-node HX220c M5SX All Flash cluster (Figure 9).

Figure 9. Cisco HyperFlex cluster used for testing

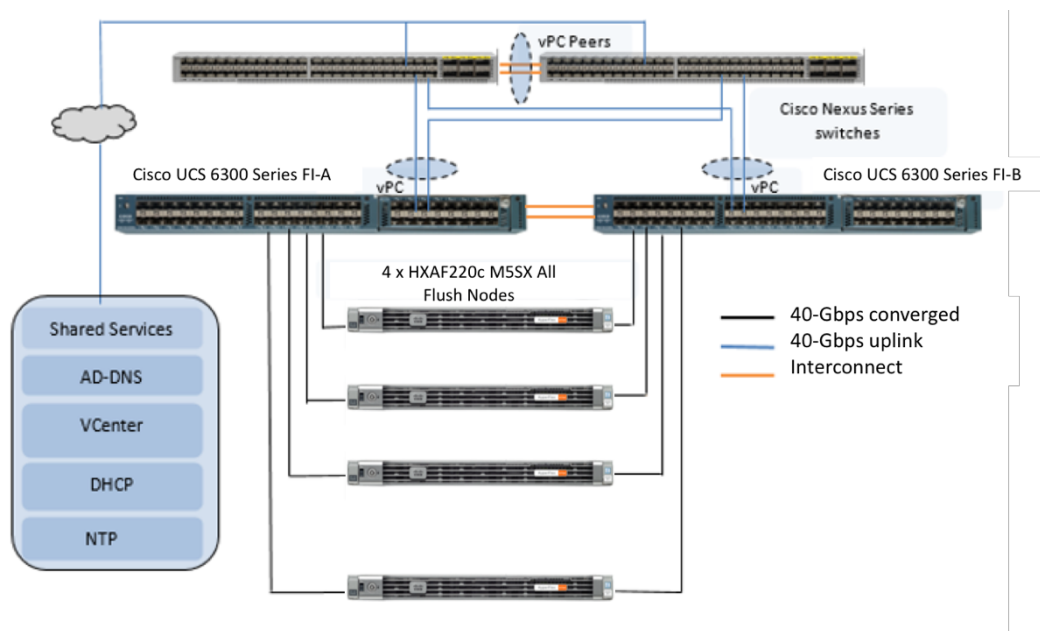


Table 3 lists the node specifications.

Table 3. Cisco HyperFlex HX220c M5SX All Flash Node specifications

Components	Specifications	Notes
CPU	2 x Intel Xeon Gold processor 6154 CPUs	2 x 18 cores
Memory	12 x 32-GB plus 12 x 16-GB DDR4 2666-MHz RDIMMs	576 GB
SSD	1 x 240-GB M.2 6-GB SATA SSD	Boot drive
	1 x 240-GB 2.5-inch Enterprise Value 6-GB SATA SSD	Housekeeping
	1 x 1.6-TB 2.5-inch NVMe High-Performance High-Endurance SSD	Configured as cache
	6 x 3.8-TB 2.5-inch Enterprise Value 6-GB SATA SSDs	Capacity disks for each node

Table 4 lists the software versions used in the test environment described in this document.

Table 4. Test environment versions

Layer	Device	Image
Computing	Cisco UCS 6332-16UP Fabric Interconnect pair	Release 3.2(3h)
	Cisco HyperFlex HX220c M5SX All Flash Node	Release 3.2(3h)
Network	Cisco Nexus 9372PX Switch pair (HX-Series upstream)	Release 7.0(3)I4(7)
Software	Cisco UCS Manager	Release 3.2(3h)
	Cisco HyperFlex Data Platform software	Release 3.0(1e)
	Cisco Tetration OS (software-only virtual appliance for installation)	Release 2.3.1.41
	Cisco Tetration OS upgrade patch	Release 2.3.1.51
	VMWare vSphere ESXi	Release 6.5.0, 8294253
	VMWare vSphere vCenter	Release 6.5.0.20000

Cisco HyperFlex installation (nested VMware vCenter)

Use the following procedures to configure the Cisco HyperFlex system to run the Cisco Tetration virtual appliance software (Tetration-V) to provide a solid data analytics solution for small-scale virtualized environments. The procedures describe how to deploy and run an HX Data Platform configuration that has a vCenter virtual machine running on the Cisco HyperFlex storage cluster, rather than on a server external to the Cisco HyperFlex storage cluster. Although embedded VMware vSphere vCenter is recommended for this solution, use of an existing vCenter appliance on an external ESXi host or cluster is supported.

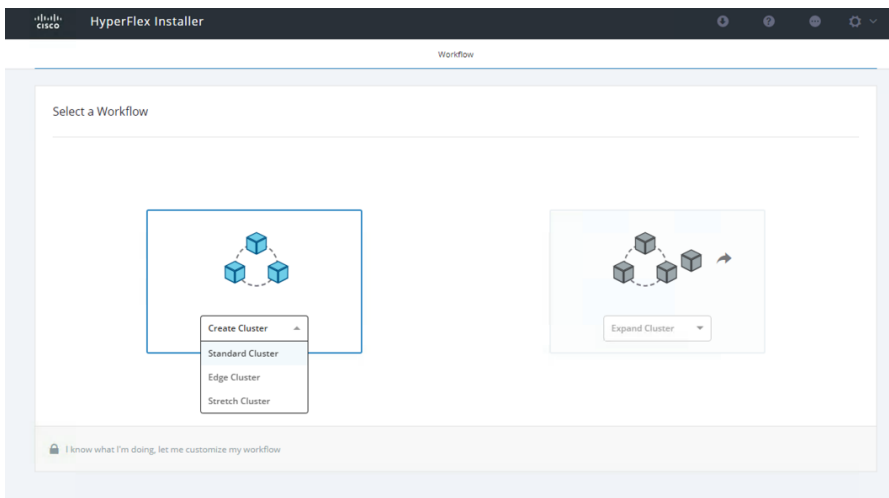
Installing Cisco HyperFlex systems

Follow the steps here to create a Cisco HyperFlex cluster. Definition of vCenter is a post-installation task.

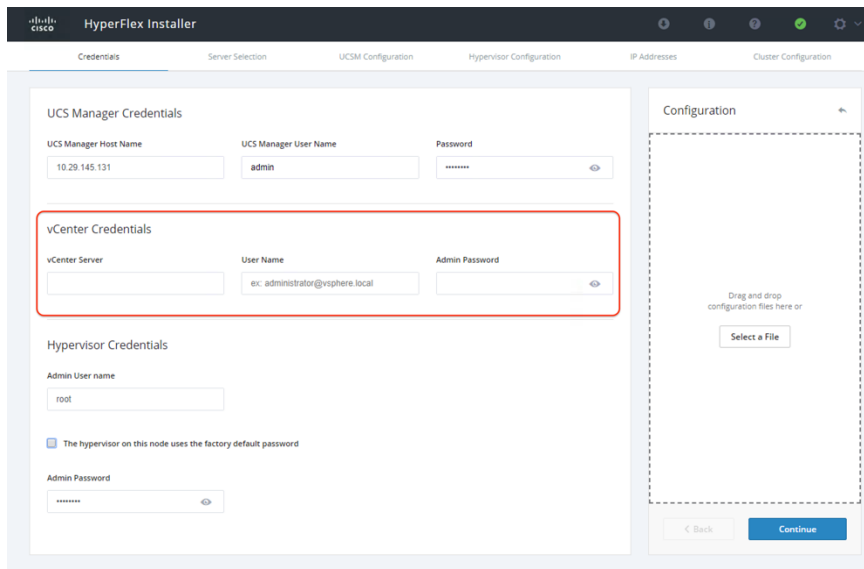
1. Download the HX Data Platform Installer OVA file from the Cisco website. Deploy the installer OVA file on a virtual machine in an existing VMware vSphere, VMware Workstation, VMware Fusion, or other virtualization environment that supports the import of OVA files.
2. Open the HX Data Platform Installer in a local web browser and accept the end-user license agreement.
3. Log in to the HX Data Platform Installer using the default root user name and password.



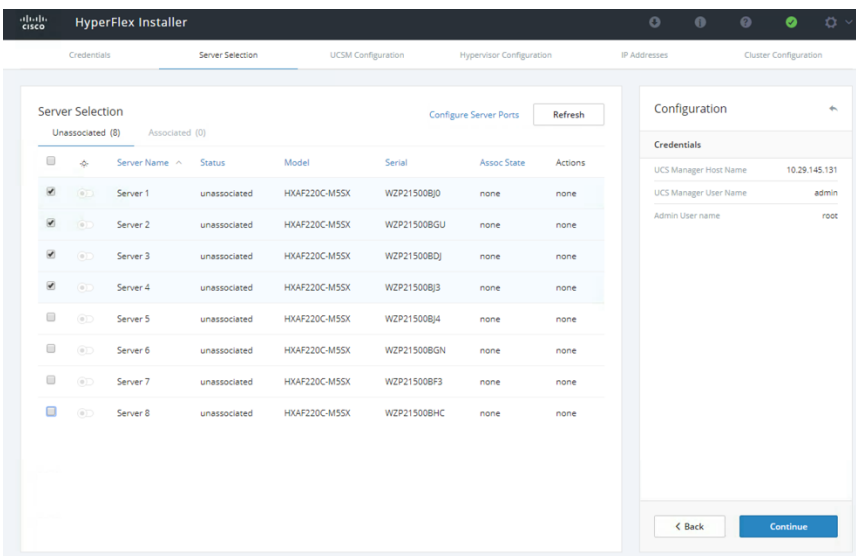
4. On the Workflow page, choose Create Cluster > Standard Cluster.



5. On the Credentials page, enter the Cisco UCS Manager and HX Data Platform hypervisor credentials. Leave all three vCenter fields blank; the vCenter server will be registered in a post-installation task. Click Continue.



6. Ignore the vCenter warning message and click Continue to confirm that the installation is being started without vCenter.
7. On the Server Selection page, under Unassociated, select the servers that you want to include in the Cisco HyperFlex storage cluster. Then click Continue.



8. On the Cisco UCS Manager Configuration page, enter the Cisco UCS Manager configuration information and click Continue. Cisco UCS Manager configuration information includes the VLAN, MAC address pool, subnet, gateway, Small Computer System Interface over IP (iSCSI) storage, Fibre Channel storage, Cisco UCS firmware, Cisco HyperFlex cluster name, and organization name. Fill in these fields as required for any Cisco HyperFlex storage cluster. Then click Continue. You do not need to enable iSCSI or Fibre Channel storage in this step.

The screenshot shows the 'UCSM Configuration' step in the HyperFlex Installer. The main area is titled 'VLAN Configuration' and contains several sections:

- VLAN for Hypervisor and HyperFlex management:** VLAN Name: 'hvx-band-mgmt', VLAN ID: '3021'.
- VLAN for HyperFlex storage traffic:** VLAN Name: 'hvx-storage-data', VLAN ID: '3022'.
- VLAN for VM vMotion:** VLAN Name: 'hvx-vmotion', VLAN ID: '3023'.
- VLAN for VM Network:** VLAN Name: 'vm-network', VLAN ID(s): '3024'.
- MAC Pool:** MAC Pool Prefix: '00:25:B5:E2'.
- 'hvx-ext-mgmt' IP Pool for Out-of-band CIMC:** IP Blocks: '10.29.145.171-174', Subnet Mask: '255.255.255.0', Gateway: '10.29.145.1'.
- Advanced:** UCS Server Firmware Version: '3.2(2n)', HyperFlex Cluster Name: 'HX2AF', Org Name: 'HX2AF'.

On the right, a 'Configuration' sidebar shows 'Credentials' (UCS Manager Host Name: 10.29.145.131, UCS Manager User Name: admin, Admin User name: root) and 'Server Selection' (Server 2: WZP21500BGU / HXAF220C-M5SX, Server 3: WZP21500BDJ / HXAF220C-M5SX, Server 1: WZP21500BJD / HXAF220C-M5SX, Server 4: WZP21500BJ3 / HXAF220C-M5SX). 'Back' and 'Continue' buttons are at the bottom.

9. On the Hypervisor Configuration page, enter common hypervisor settings, such as the subnet mask, gateway, static IP addresses, and host names for the Cisco HyperFlex nodes. Then click Continue.

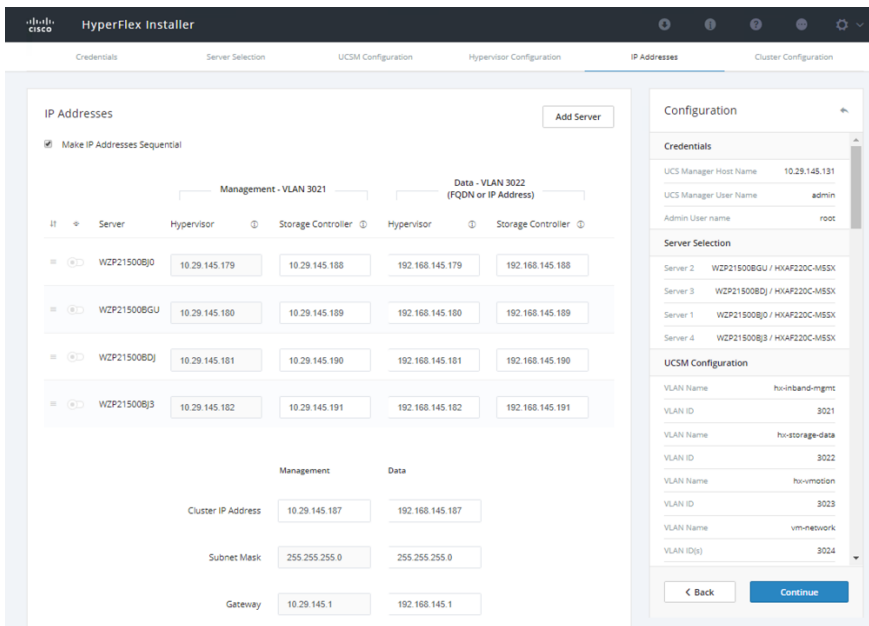
The screenshot shows the 'Hypervisor Configuration' step in the HyperFlex Installer. The main area is titled 'Configure common Hypervisor Settings' and contains:

- Subnet Mask:** '255.255.255.0', **Gateway:** '10.29.145.1'.
- Hypervisor Settings:** 'Make IP Addresses and Hostnames Sequential' is checked.
- Table of Server Settings:**

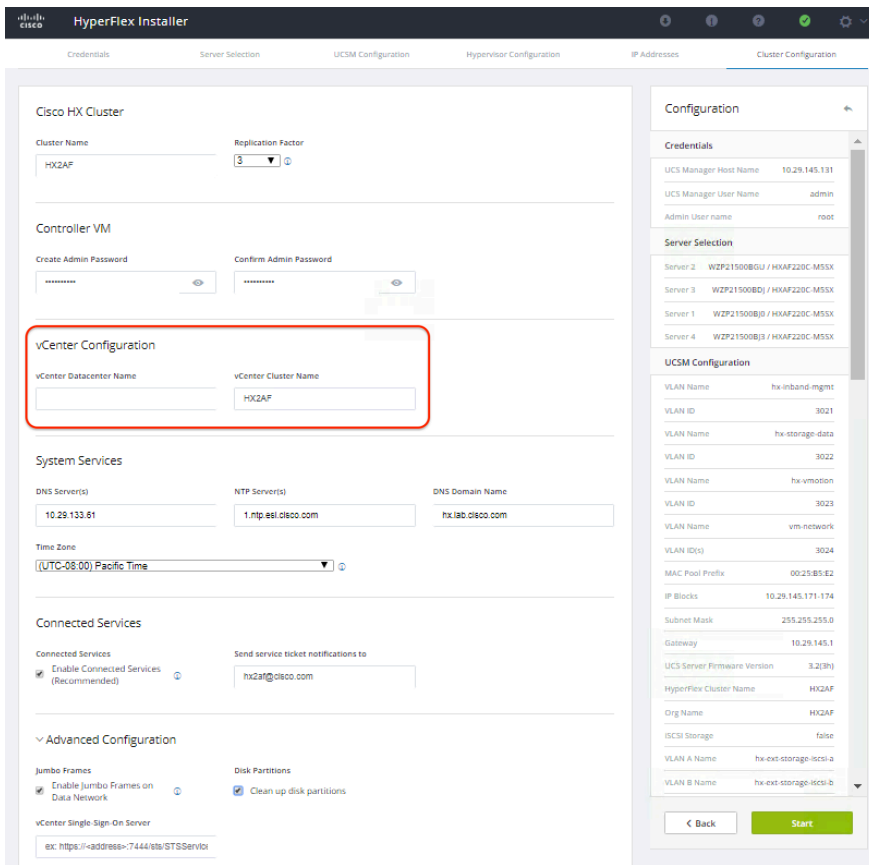
IT	Name	Serial	Static IP Address	Hostname
Server 1	WZP21500BJD	WZP21500BJD	10.29.145.179	HX2-C220M5-1
Server 2	WZP21500BGU	WZP21500BGU	10.29.145.180	HX2-C220M5-2
Server 3	WZP21500BDJ	WZP21500BDJ	10.29.145.181	HX2-C220M5-3
Server 4	WZP21500BJ3	WZP21500BJ3	10.29.145.182	HX2-C220M5-4

On the right, a 'Configuration' sidebar shows 'Credentials' (UCS Manager Host Name: 10.29.145.131, UCS Manager User Name: admin, Admin User name: root) and 'Server Selection' (Server 2: WZP21500BGU / HXAF220C-M5SX, Server 3: WZP21500BDJ / HXAF220C-M5SX, Server 1: WZP21500BJD / HXAF220C-M5SX, Server 4: WZP21500BJ3 / HXAF220C-M5SX). Below that, 'UCSM Configuration' shows the same VLAN settings as in step 9. 'Back' and 'Continue' buttons are at the bottom.

10. On the IP Addresses page, for each Cisco HyperFlex node, complete the fields for hypervisor management, data IP addresses, subnet masks, and gateways. Specify the IP address settings for the Management network and the Data network.



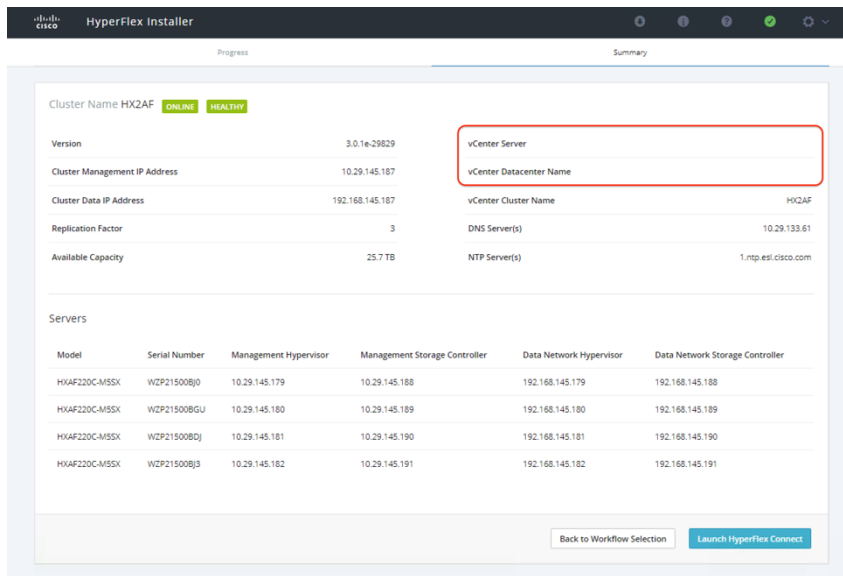
11. On the Cluster Configuration page, enter the Cisco HyperFlex storage cluster settings, such as the storage cluster name, controller virtual machine credentials, data replication factor, DNS and NTP servers, and autosupport (ASUP). At this step, set RF = 3. Skip the vCenter configurations and leave the vCenter Datacenter Name field blank.



12. Click Start to create the Cisco HyperFlex cluster.

Note: See the Cisco HyperFlex Systems Installation Guide for VMware ESXi for complete deployment and cluster creation steps.

13. Wait for the cluster creation process to complete and for the summary page to appear. Note that the vCenter Server information is not specified.



Configuring the data store

Use the following steps to configure the data stores for the Cisco HyperFlex storage cluster.

1. Log in to the cluster management IP address using Secure Shell SSH and the root credentials. Run the following command to create a large data store:

```
stcli datastore create --name <datastore name> --size <size of datastore> --unit {kb,mb,gb,tb} --blocksize {8k,4k}
```

root@SpringpathCo...:~# **stcli datastore create --name HX2DS --size 25 --unit tb --blocksize 8k**
2. After the data store has been created successfully, check the data store status. Make sure that the data store shows the status **mountSummary: mounted** before continuing.

```
root@SpringpathControllerI41GLGFS95:~# stcli datastore create --name HX2DS --size 25 --unit tb --blocksize 8k
Created Storage datastore with name: HX2DS id: 0000000ed93cfe4:0000000000100f1
virtDatastore:
status:
  EntityRef(idtype=None, confignum=None, type=6, id='aa696a49-af8a-8b48-bce5-99ba09ecf5d1', name='HX2-C220M5-2.hx.lab.cisco.com'):
    accessible: True
    mounted: True
  EntityRef(idtype=None, confignum=None, type=6, id='a707ed92-e80f-6c43-8fb6-acc7af093b21', name='HX2-C220M5-3.hx.lab.cisco.com'):
    accessible: True
    mounted: True
  EntityRef(idtype=None, confignum=None, type=6, id='f45696d6-1eb9-cf43-9e8b-f0da1daa4eb0', name='HX2-C220M5-1.hx.lab.cisco.com'):
    accessible: True
    mounted: True
  EntityRef(idtype=None, confignum=None, type=6, id='1661635b-13c0-7b44-ad19-da765471139b', name='HX2-C220M5-4.hx.lab.cisco.com'):
    accessible: True
    mounted: True
url: /vmfs/volumes/c7d36d8f-f349afd6
mor: 5689943029602619025-6286633941746059062:192.168.145.187:HX2DS
entityRef:
  type: virtdatastore
  id: 660003a29602619025-6286633941746059062:192.168.145.187:HX2DS
  accessibilitySummary: accessible
  mountSummary: mounted
stplacdatastore:
  unsharedUsedBytes: 0
  creationTime: 1538807677
  lastAccessTime: 1538807677
  entityRef:
    type: datastore
    id: 0000000ed93cfe4:0000000000100f1
    name: HX2DS
  lastModifiedTime: 1538807677
  uncompressedUsedBytes: 0
  config:
    systemDatastore: False
    capacity: 25.0T
    name: HX2DS
    numStripes: 0
    siteIndex: 0
    dataBlocksize: 8192
    numMirrors: 3
    freeCapacity: 25.0T
    totalCapacity: 25.0T
entityRef:
  type: datastore
  id: 0000000ed93cfe4:0000000000100f1
  name: HX2DS
replDatastore:
  paired: False
  er:
    type: datastore
    id: 0000000ed93cfe4:0000000000100f1
    name: HX2DS
```

You can also run the following command to check the data store status:

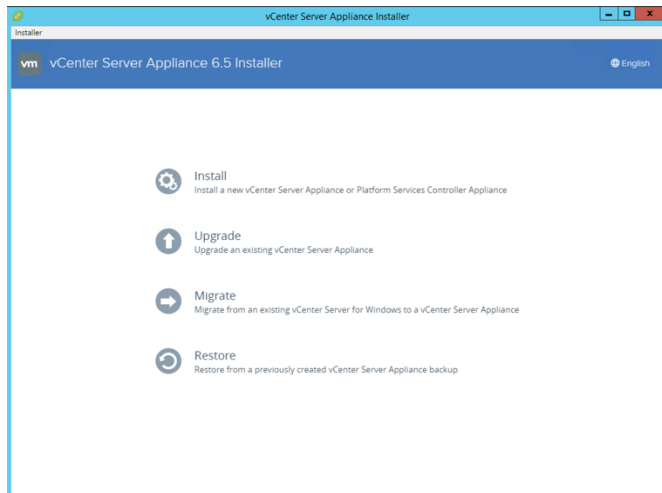
```
root@SpringpathCo...:~# stcli datastore info --name HX2DS
```

```
root@SpringpathControllerI41GLGF595:~# stcli datastore info --name HX2DS
virtDatastore:
  status:
    EntityRef(idtype=None, confignum=None, type=6, id='aa696a49-af8a-8b48-bce5-99ba09ecf5d1', name='hx2-c220m5-2.hx.lab.cisco.com'):
      accessible: True
      mounted: True
    EntityRef(idtype=None, confignum=None, type=6, id='a707ed92-e80f-6c43-8fb6-acc7af693b21', name='hx2-c220m5-3.hx.lab.cisco.com'):
      accessible: True
      mounted: True
    EntityRef(idtype=None, confignum=None, type=6, id='f45696d6-1eb9-cf43-9e8b-f0da1daa4eb0', name='hx2-c220m5-1.hx.lab.cisco.com'):
      accessible: True
      mounted: True
    EntityRef(idtype=None, confignum=None, type=6, id='1661635b-13c0-7b44-ad19-da765471139b', name='hx2-c220m5-4.hx.lab.cisco.com'):
      accessible: True
      mounted: True
  url: ds:///vifs/volumes/c7d36d8f-f349afd6/
  mor: datastore-32
  entityRef:
    type: virtdatastore
    id: datastore-32
    name: HX2DS
    accessibilitySummary: accessible
    mountSummary: mounted
stDatastore:
  unsharedUsedBytes: 349.1G
  creationTime: 1539041654
  lastAccessTime: 1539041654
  entityRef:
    type: datastore
    id: 0000000ed93cfe4:0000000000100f1
    name: HX2DS
  lastModifiedTime: 1539041654
  uncompressedUsedBytes: 847.5G
  config:
    systemDatastore: False
    capacity: 25.0T
    name: HX2DS
    numStripes: 0
    siteIndex: 0
    dataBlockSize: 8192
    numErrors: 0
  freeCapacity: 24.7T
  totalCapacity: 25.0T
  entityRef:
    type: datastore
    id: 0000000ed93cfe4:0000000000100f1
    name: HX2DS
  replDatastore:
    paired: False
    err:
      type: datastore
      id: 0000000ed93cfe4:0000000000100f1
      name: HX2DS
root@SpringpathControllerI41GLGF595:~#
```

Installing VMware vCenter

Use the following steps to install the embedded VMware vCenter Server appliance on the Cisco HyperFlex storage cluster.

1. Use the vCenter Server Appliance Installer wizard to build a new vCenter appliance virtual machine.



2. Review the introduction to stage 1 of the installation. Click Next.
3. Accept the terms of the license agreement. Click Next.
4. Choose to install vCenter with an embedded platform services controller. Click Next.

Install - Stage 1: Deploy appliance

1 Introduction
2 End user license agreement
3 Select deployment type
4 Appliance deployment target
5 Set up appliance VM
6 Select deployment size
7 Select datastore
8 Configure network settings
9 Ready to complete stage 1

Select deployment type
Select the deployment type you want to configure on the appliance.

For more information on deployment types, refer to the vSphere 6.5 documentation.

Embedded Platform Services Controller

- vCenter Server with an Embedded Platform Services Controller

External Platform Services Controller

- Platform Services Controller
- vCenter Server (Requires External Platform Services Controller)

Back Next Finish Cancel

5. Deploy the new vCenter on any one of the Cisco HyperFlex servers in the cluster. Click Next.

Install - Stage 1: Deploy vCenter Server with an Embedded Platform Services Controller

1 Introduction
2 End user license agreement
3 Select deployment type
4 Appliance deployment target
5 Set up appliance VM
6 Select deployment size
7 Select datastore
8 Configure network settings
9 Ready to complete stage 1

Appliance deployment target
Specify the appliance deployment target settings. The target is the ESXI host or vCenter Server instance on which the appliance will be deployed.

ESXI host or vCenter Server name

HTTPS port

User name

Password

Back Next Finish Cancel

6. Ignore the certificate warning by clicking Yes.

7. Enter the virtual machine's name and password. Click Next.

Install - Stage 1: Deploy vCenter Server with an Embedded Platform Services Controller

1 Introduction
2 End user license agreement
3 Select deployment type
4 Appliance deployment target
5 Set up appliance VM
6 Select deployment size
7 Select datastore
8 Configure network settings
9 Ready to complete stage 1

Set up appliance VM
Specify the VM settings for the appliance to be deployed.

VM name

Root password

Confirm root password

Back Next Finish Cancel

8. Select the deployment size based on the manage needs of your environment. Click Next.

Install - Stage 1: Deploy vCenter Server with an Embedded Platform Services Controller

- ✓ 1 Introduction
- ✓ 2 End user license agreement
- ✓ 3 Select deployment type
- ✓ 4 Appliance deployment target
- ✓ 5 Set up appliance VM
- 6 Select deployment size
- 7 Select datastore
- 8 Configure network settings
- 9 Ready to complete stage 1

Select deployment size
Select the deployment size for this vCenter Server with an Embedded Platform Services Controller.

For more information on deployment sizes, refer to the vSphere 6.5 documentation.

Deployment size Tiny

Storage size Default ⓘ

Resources required for different deployment sizes

Deployment Size	vCPUs	Memory (GB)	Storage (GB)	Hosts (up to)	VMs (up to)
Tiny	2	10	250	10	100
Small	4	16	290	100	1000
Medium	8	24	425	400	4000
Large	16	32	640	1000	10000
X-Large	24	48	980	2000	35000

Back
Next
Finish
Cancel

9. Use the newly created data store for persistent storage. Click Next.

Install - Stage 1: Deploy vCenter Server with an Embedded Platform Services Controller

- ✓ 1 Introduction
- ✓ 2 End user license agreement
- ✓ 3 Select deployment type
- ✓ 4 Appliance deployment target
- ✓ 5 Set up appliance VM
- 6 Select deployment size
- 7 Select datastore
- 8 Configure network settings
- 9 Ready to complete stage 1

Select datastore
Select the storage location for this vCenter Server with an Embedded Platform Services Controller.

Install on an existing datastore accessible from the target host

Name	Type	Capacity	Free	Provisi...	Thin Provisi...
HX2DS	NFS	25 TB	25 TB	0 B	true
SpringpathDS-WZP21500BJ0	VMFS	216 GB	207.66 GB	8.34 GB	true

2 items

Enable Thin Disk Mode ⓘ

Install on a new Virtual SAN cluster containing the target host ⓘ

Back
Next
Finish
Cancel

10. Select an appropriate port group for the network. The port group must have network access to the Cisco HyperFlex cluster management IP address and all ESXi management IP addresses. Specify Input the IP configuration. Click Next.

Install - Stage 1: Deploy vCenter Server with an Embedded Platform Services Controller

- ✓ 1 Introduction
- ✓ 2 End user license agreement
- ✓ 3 Select deployment type
- ✓ 4 Appliance deployment target
- ✓ 5 Set up appliance VM
- ✓ 6 Select deployment size
- ✓ 7 Select datastore
- 8 Configure network settings
- 9 Ready to complete stage 1

Configure network settings
Configure network settings for this vCenter Server with an Embedded Platform Services Controller.

Network	Storage Controller Management Network
IP version	IPv4
IP assignment	static
System name	
IP address	10.29.145.205
Subnet mask or prefix length	255.255.255.0
Default gateway	10.29.145.1
DNS servers	10.29.133.61
Common Ports	
HTTP	80
HTTPS	443

Back Next Finish Cancel

11. Review the configuration for your vCenter server appliance virtual machine. Click Finish to start the installation.

Install - Stage 1: Deploy vCenter Server with an Embedded Platform Services Controller

- ✓ 1 Introduction
- ✓ 2 End user license agreement
- ✓ 3 Select deployment type
- ✓ 4 Appliance deployment target
- ✓ 5 Set up appliance VM
- ✓ 6 Select deployment size
- ✓ 7 Select datastore
- 8 Configure network settings
- 9 Ready to complete stage 1

Ready to complete stage 1
Review your settings before starting the appliance deployment.

Deployment Details	
Target ESXi host	10.29.145.179
VM name	HX2AF-VC
Deployment type	vCenter Server with an Embedded Platform Services Controller
Deployment size	Tiny
Datastore Details	
Datastore, Disk mode	HX2DS, thin
Network Details	
Network	Storage Controller Management Network
IP settings	IPv4, static
IP address	10.29.145.205
System name	10.29.145.205
Subnet mask or prefix length	255.255.255.0
Default gateway	10.29.145.1
DNS servers	10.29.133.61
HTTP Port	80
HTTPS Port	443

Back Next Finish Cancel

12. When stage 1 deployment is complete, click Continue for stage 2 vCenter configuration.

Install - Stage 1: Deploy vCenter Server with an Embedded Platform Services Controller

✓ You have successfully deployed the vCenter Server with an Embedded Platform Services Controller.

Deployment complete

To proceed with stage 2 of the deployment process, appliance setup, click Continue.

If you exit, you can continue with the appliance setup at any time by logging in to the vCenter Server Appliance Management interface <https://HXLFFVcenter.hx.lab.cisco.com:5480/>

Continue Close

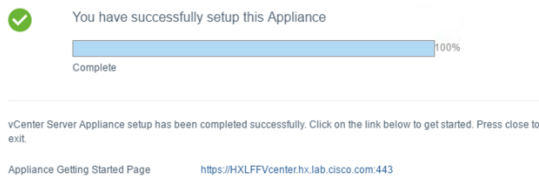
- 13. Review the introduction to stage 2 of the deployment process. Click Next.
- 14. Configure the NTP servers in the appliance and enable remote SSH access to allow high availability for VCenter. Click Next.

- 15. Create a new vCenter single sign-on (SSO) domain or join an existing domain. For example, enter vsphere.local as the domain name, set the password for the administrator account, and enter a default site name. Click Next.

Install - Stage 2: Set Up vCenter Server Appliance with an Embedded PSC

- 16. Review the VMware Customer Experience Improvement Program (CEIP) page and select or deselect the Join box. Click Next.
- 17. Review the settings on the Ready to Complete page and click Finish.
- 18. Click OK to complete stage 2 of the deployment process and set up the appliance.

Complete



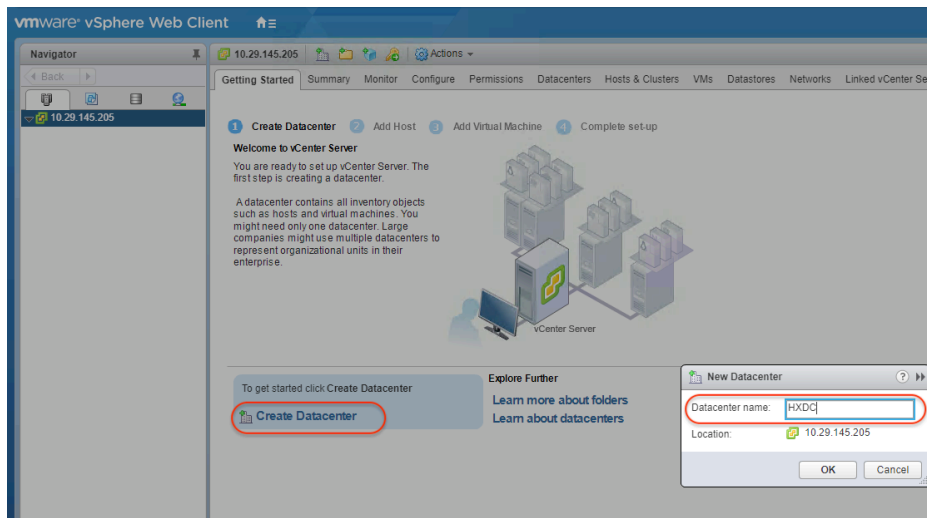
Close

19. When the deployment completes successfully, click Close to exit the installer wizard.

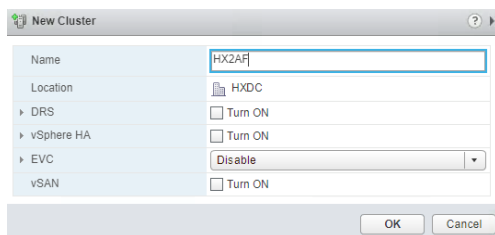
Configuring VMware vSphere

Use the following steps to configure the embedded VMware vSphere server to provide high availability for the Cisco Tetration virtual appliance.

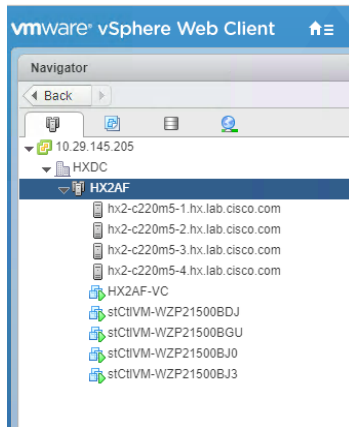
1. After successfully deploying vCenter, log in to the vSphere Web Client. On the Getting Started page, choose Create Datacenter.
2. Enter the new data center name—for example, **HXDC**—and click OK.



3. Create a new cluster in the new data center—for example, **HX2AF**—leaving high availability (HA) and VMware Distributed Resource Scheduler (DRS) disabled. They will be enabled later. Click OK.



4. Right-click the newly created cluster and choose Add Host to manually add one Cisco HyperFlex server to the cluster.
 - a. Enter the host name, root user, and password to connect the server.
 - b. Assign an ESXi license, or use the evaluation license and assign a license later.
 - c. Keep the default Lockdown mode.
 - d. Review the settings and then click Finish to add the Cisco HyperFlex node.
5. Repeat step 4 to add all the Cisco HyperFlex servers to the Cisco HyperFlex cluster.



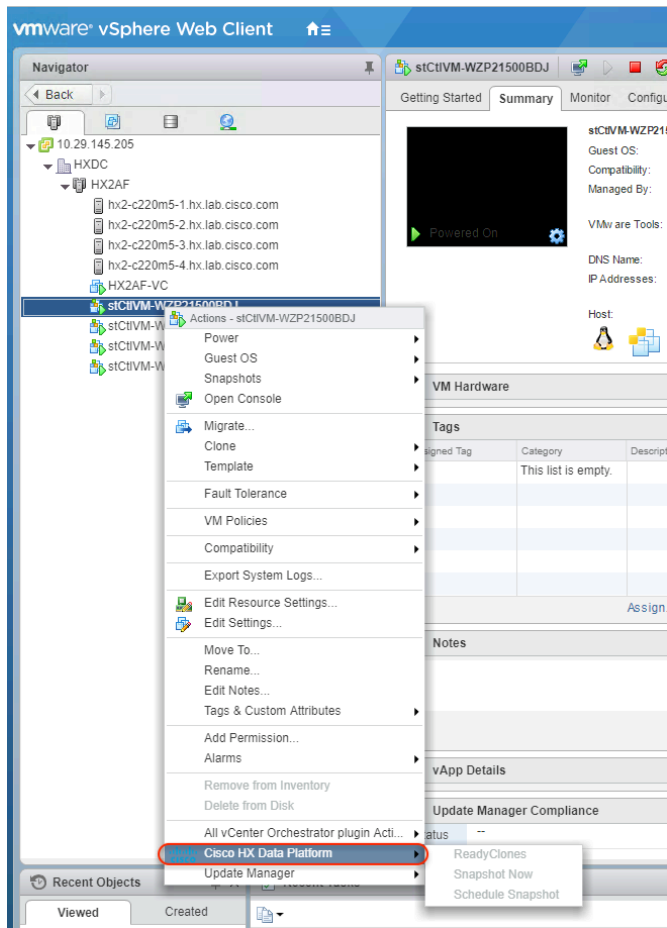
6. Log out of the vSphere Web Client.
7. Register the Cisco HyperFlex storage cluster to the newly configured vCenter server.
8. Log in to the Cisco HyperFlex cluster management IP address using SSH and the root credentials. Then run the following command:


```
stcli cluster reregister --vcenter-datacenter <Datacenter Name> --vcenter-cluster <Cluster Name>
--vcenter-url <URL or IP of vCenter> --vcenter-user <admin username>
```

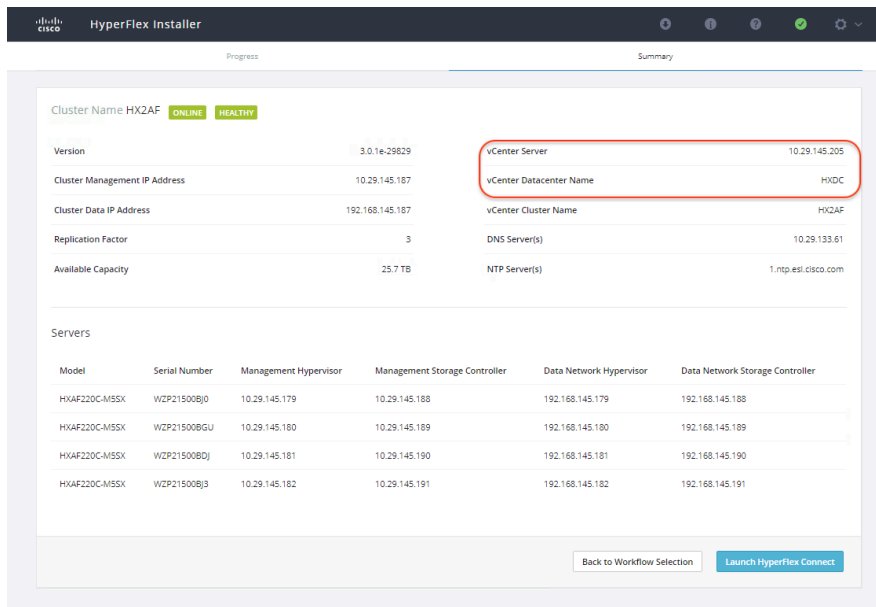
Here is an example of the command:

```
# stcli cluster reregister --vcenter-datacenter HXDC --vcenter-cluster HX2AF --vcenter-url
10.29.145.205 --vcenter-user administrator@vsphere.local
Register StorFS cluster with vCenter ...
Enter NEW vCenter Administrator password: *****
Cluster registration with new vCenter succeeded
```

9. Log in to vSphere Web Client and verify that the HX Data Platform plug-in appears in the extension list.



10. Refresh the Summary page of the Cisco HyperFlex installer. Verify that now the vCenter Server is specified.



Performing Cisco HyperFlex post-installation configuration

Use the following steps to run the **post_install** script from the Cisco HyperFlex Installer virtual machine to configure additional settings on the Cisco HyperFlex storage cluster.

1. Log in to the Cisco HyperFlex Installer virtual machine IP address using SSH and the root credentials.
2. Run the **post_install** script and follow the prompts.
3. The installer will already have the information from the just-completed Cisco HyperFlex installation, and the script will use this information. Enter the Cisco HyperFlex storage controller virtual machine root password for the Cisco HyperFlex cluster (use the name entered during the Cisco HyperFlex cluster installation), as well as the vCenter user name and password.
4. You can choose to enter the vSphere license here or complete this task later.
5. Enter **y** to enable HA and DRS if you have the appropriate licenses.
6. Enter **y** to disable the ESXi hosts' SSH warning.
7. Add the VMware vMotion VMkernel interfaces to each node by entering **y**. Enter the netmask, the vMotion VLAN ID, and the vMotion IP addresses for each of the hosts as prompted.
8. Enter **y** to add virtual machine VLANs to create two guest network port groups: one for Tetration Private Network and another for Tetration Configuration Network.

Note: The VLANs that will be used for Tetration-V installation must already be trunked to the Cisco UCS fabric interconnects from the northbound network by the upstream switches, and this configuration step must be performed manually prior to beginning the Cisco Tetration deployment.

9. If desired, enter **y** to run a health check on the cluster, or enter **n** to skip this step.

Here is an example of a completed configuration:

```

root@Cisco-HX-Installer-Appliance:~# post_install
Logging in to controller 10.29.145.187
HX CVM root password:
Getting ESX hosts from HX cluster...
vCenter URL: 10.29.145.205
Enter vCenter username (user@domain): administrator@vsphere.local
vCenter Password:
Found datacenter HXDC
Found cluster HX2AF

Enter vSphere license key? (y/n) n

Enable HA/DRS on cluster? (y/n) y

Disable SSH warning? (y/n) y

Add vmotion interfaces? (y/n) y
Netmask for vMotion: 255.255.255.0
VLAN ID: (0-4096) 3023
vMotion IP for hx2-c220m5-1.hx.lab.cisco.com: 192.168.245.179
Adding vmotion-3023 to hx2-c220m5-1.hx.lab.cisco.com
Adding vmkernel to hx2-c220m5-1.hx.lab.cisco.com
vMotion IP for hx2-c220m5-2.hx.lab.cisco.com: 192.168.245.180
Adding vmotion-3023 to hx2-c220m5-2.hx.lab.cisco.com
Adding vmkernel to hx2-c220m5-2.hx.lab.cisco.com
vMotion IP for hx2-c220m5-3.hx.lab.cisco.com: 192.168.245.181
Adding vmotion-3023 to hx2-c220m5-3.hx.lab.cisco.com
Adding vmkernel to hx2-c220m5-3.hx.lab.cisco.com
vMotion IP for hx2-c220m5-4.hx.lab.cisco.com: 192.168.245.182
Adding vmotion-3023 to hx2-c220m5-4.hx.lab.cisco.com
Adding vmkernel to hx2-c220m5-4.hx.lab.cisco.com

Add VM network VLANs? (y/n) y
Attempting to find UCSM IP
Found UCSM 10.29.145.131, logging with username admin. Org is HX2AF
UCSM Password:
Port Group Name to add (VLAN ID will be appended to the name): TetrationInt
VLAN ID: (0-4096) 3025
Adding VLAN 3025 to FI
Adding VLAN 3025 to vm-network-a VNIC template
Adding TetrationInt-3025 to hx2-c220m5-1.hx.lab.cisco.com
Adding TetrationInt-3025 to hx2-c220m5-2.hx.lab.cisco.com
Adding TetrationInt-3025 to hx2-c220m5-3.hx.lab.cisco.com
Adding TetrationInt-3025 to hx2-c220m5-4.hx.lab.cisco.com
Add additional VM network VLANs? (y/n) y
Port Group Name to add (VLAN ID will be appended to the name): TetrationCfg
VLAN ID: (0-4096) 3026
Adding VLAN 3026 to FI
Adding VLAN 3026 to vm-network-a VNIC template
Adding TetrationCfg-3026 to hx2-c220m5-1.hx.lab.cisco.com
Adding TetrationCfg-3026 to hx2-c220m5-2.hx.lab.cisco.com
Adding TetrationCfg-3026 to hx2-c220m5-3.hx.lab.cisco.com
Adding TetrationCfg-3026 to hx2-c220m5-4.hx.lab.cisco.com
Add additional VM network VLANs? (y/n) n

Run health check? (y/n) n
root@Cisco-HX-Installer-Appliance:~# █

```

10. (Optional) Create DRS pin rules for the vCenter virtual machine if you have the appropriate licenses.

These steps place the vCenter virtual machine on a known host, making troubleshooting and manual restart easier. You may need to search for the vCenter virtual machine on all hosts to perform any manual steps, such as, bringing up the vCenter virtual machine after a full shutdown. See the VMware documentation for additional information.

- a. Click cluster > Manage > Settings > Configuration > VM/Host Groups.
- b. Click Add and select Type: VM group.

- c. Click Add, select the vCenter virtual machine, click OK, and click OK again.
- d. Click Add, select Type: Host group, add an ESXi host, click OK, and click OK again.
- e. Click VM/Host Rules and select Type: Virtual Machines to Hosts.
- f. Select the virtual machine group created earlier, select “Should run on hosts in group,” select the host group created earlier, and enter the rule name. Then click OK.

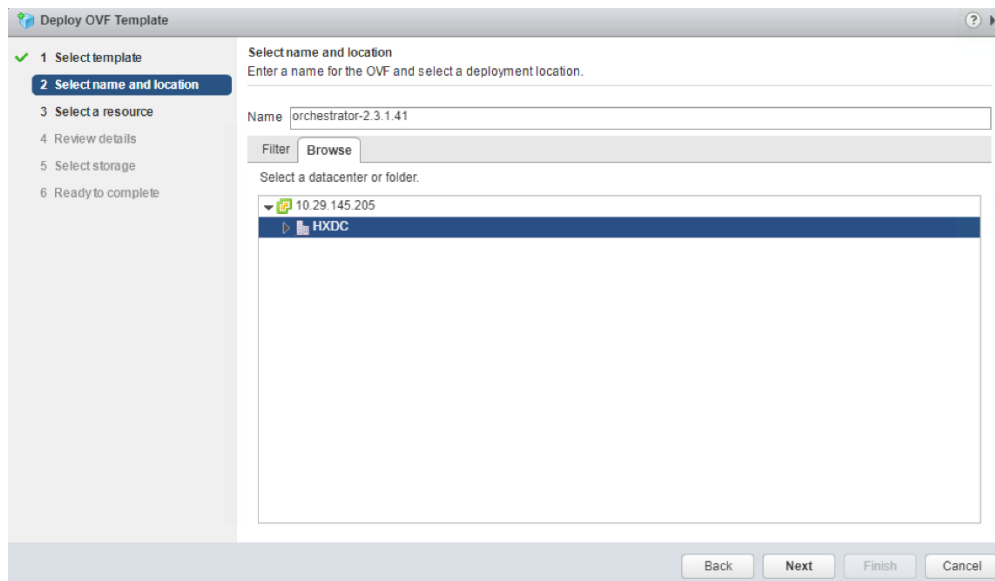
Cisco Tetration-V virtual appliance deployment

Follow the procedures here to deploy Tetration-V.

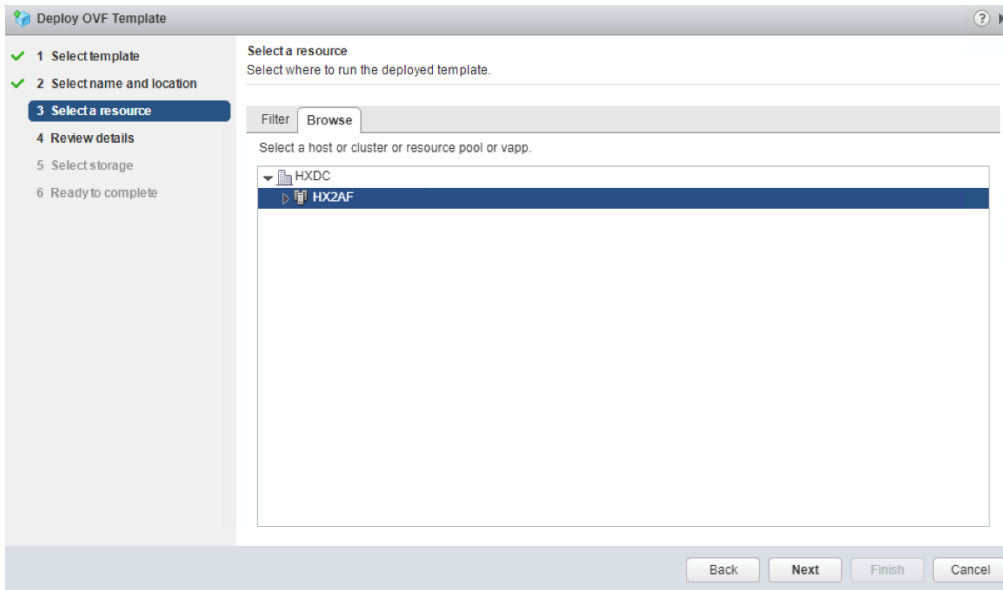
Installing the Cisco Tetration orchestrator virtual machine

Follow these steps to install the Cisco Tetration orchestrator virtual machine.

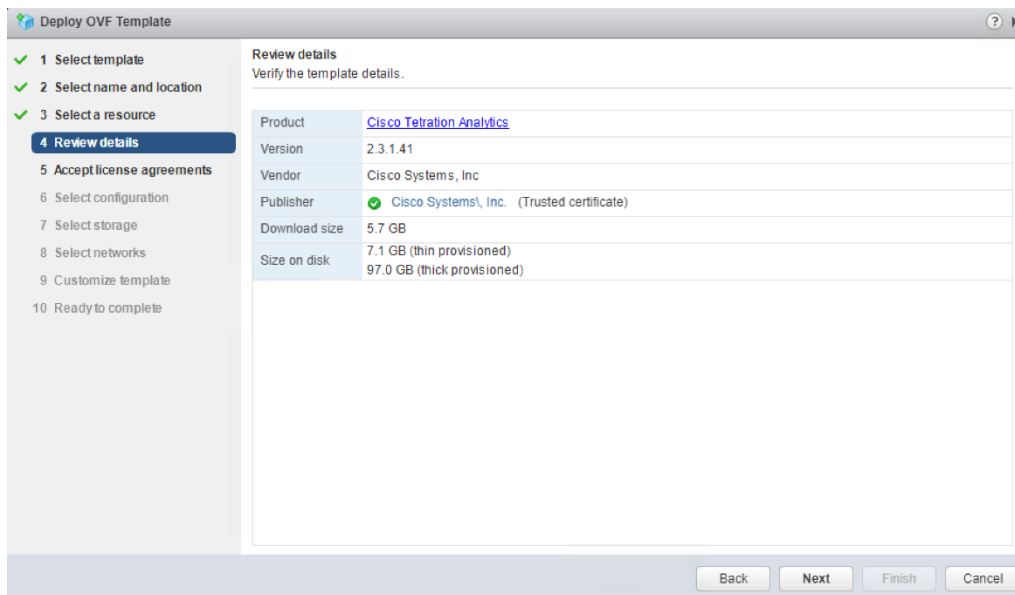
1. Download from the Cisco website the software-only virtual appliance OVA file for deploying Cisco Tetration in a VMware ESXi environment: for example, orchestrator-2.3.1.41.ova.
2. Log in to the vSphere vCenter web interface.
3. Right-click the Cisco HyperFlex cluster and choose Deploy OVF Template.
4. Enter the location of the downloaded OVF template file. Click Next.
5. Enter the name for the orchestrator virtual machine and choose the data center in which the virtual machine is deployed. Click Next.



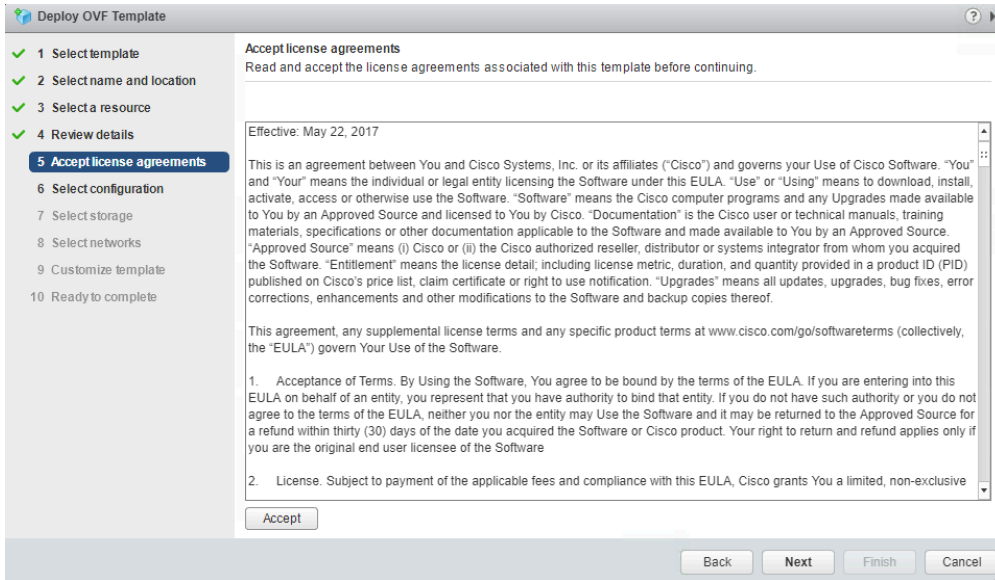
6. Choose the Cisco HyperFlex cluster that is the intended target. Click Next.



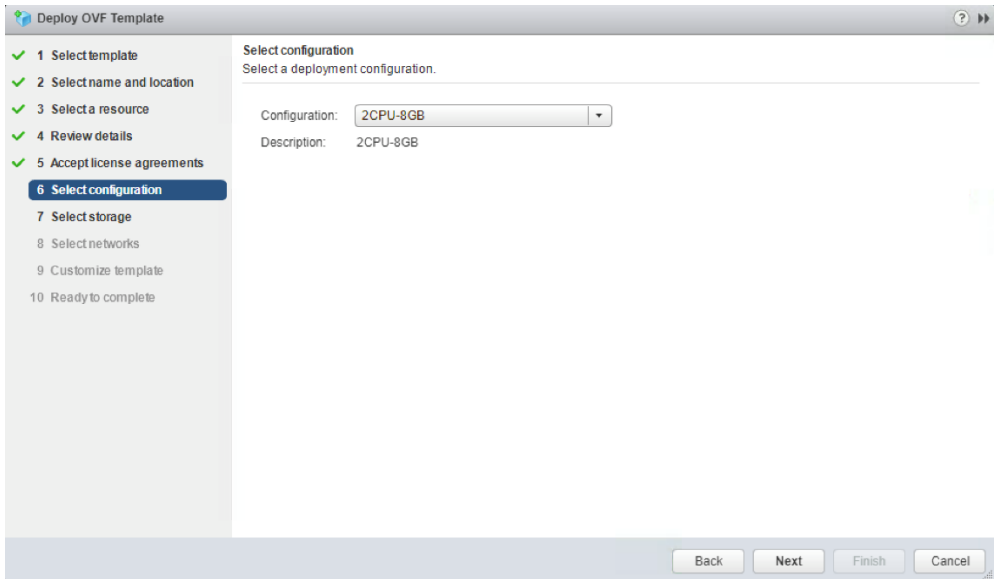
7. Review the required resources. Click Next.



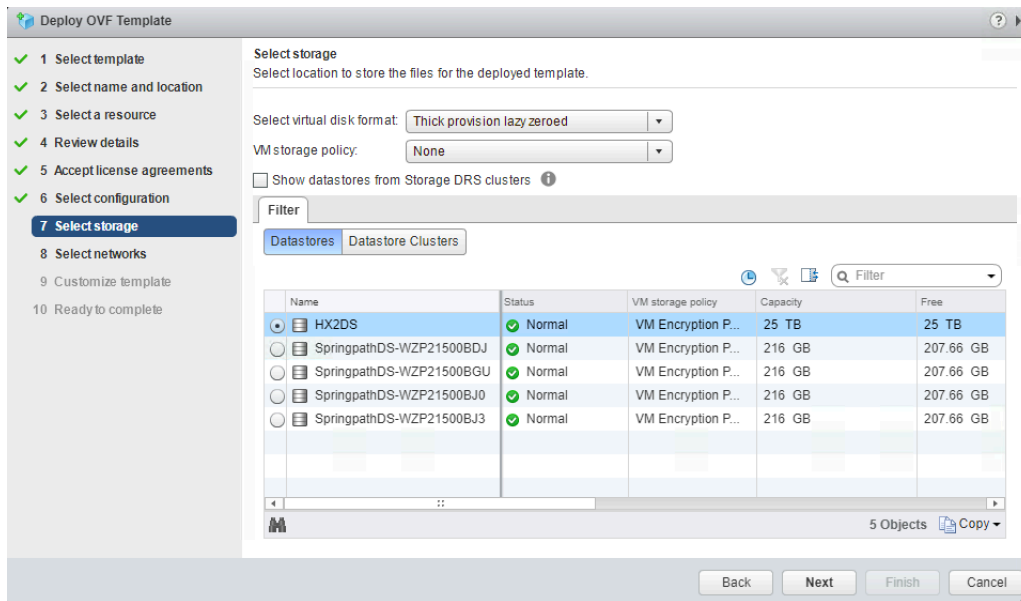
8. Review the license agreements and if you agree to the terms, click Accept. Then click Next.



9. Use the default configuration profile (2CPU-8GB) and click Next.



10. Choose the Cisco HyperFlex data store that should be used for the deployment. Leave other options at the default settings. Click Next.



11. Choose the appropriate network settings according to the Cisco HyperFlex network configuration and post-installation configuration. Click Next.

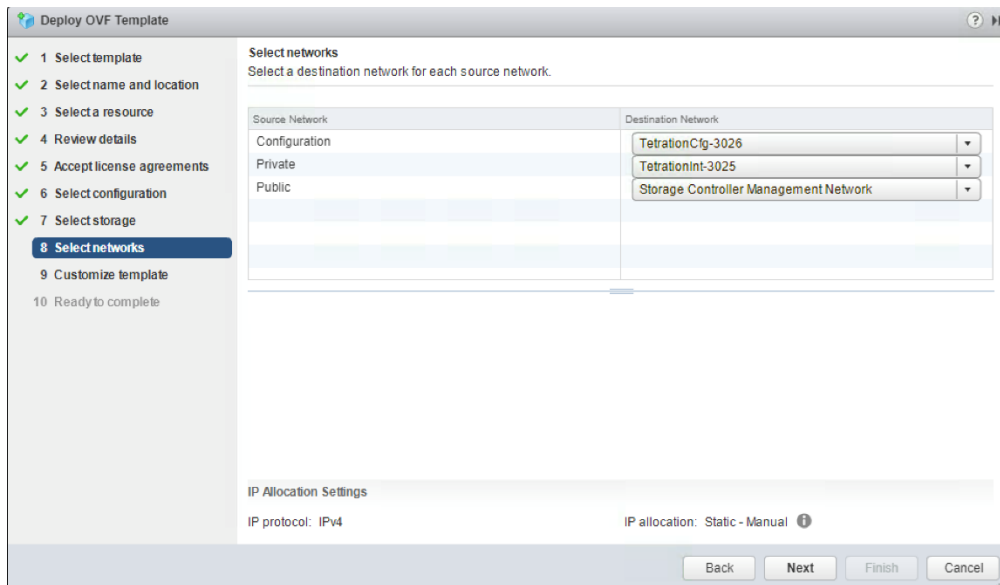
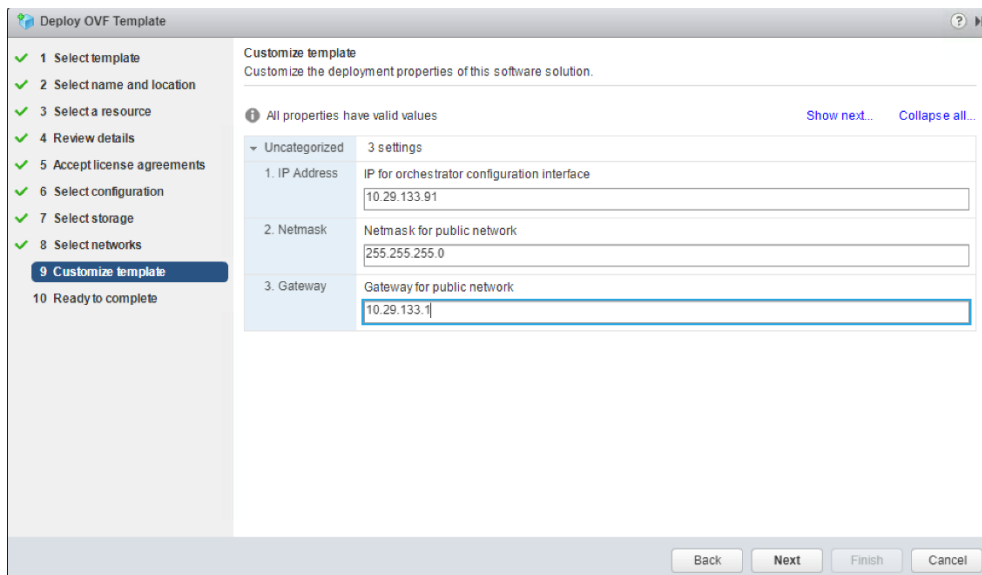


Table 5 shows the mapping applied for this document between the Tetration-V network and the Cisco HyperFlex network.

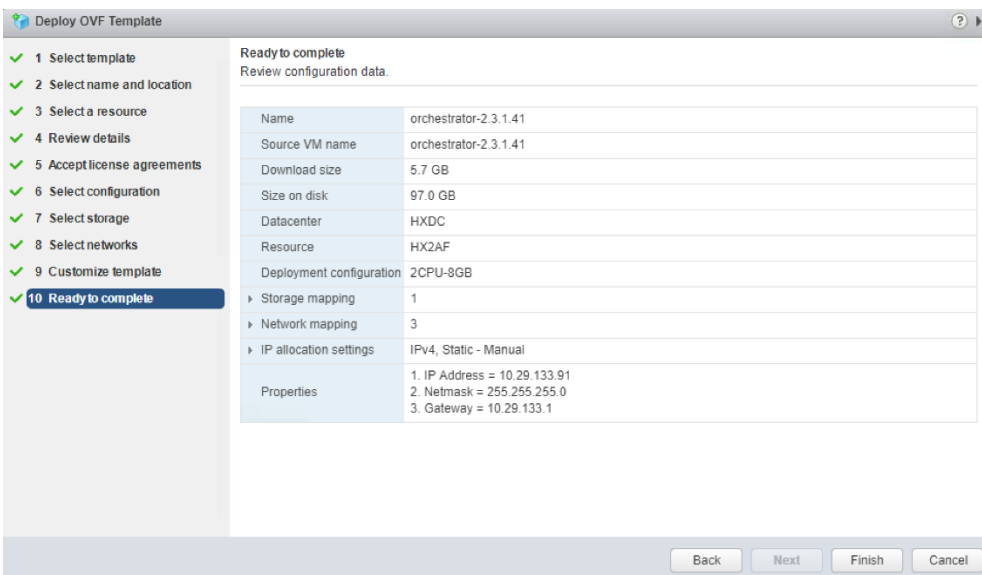
Table 5. Mapping between Cisco Tetration-V and Cisco HyperFlex networks

Tetration-V network	Cisco HyperFlex VLAN	Notes
Configuration	Cisco Tetration configuration VLAN on the guest virtual machine network	Additional Cisco HyperFlex guest virtual machine port group created in the post-installation configuration
Private	Cisco Tetration private VLAN on the guest virtual machine network	Additional Cisco HyperFlex guest virtual machine port group created in the post-installation configuration
Public	Cisco HyperFlex storage controller management VLAN	The network can be the same as the Cisco HyperFlex management network, or it can be different, depending on the local environment.

12. Enter the orchestrator’s IP configuration. Click Next.



13. Review and confirm all your configuration parameters. Click Finish.

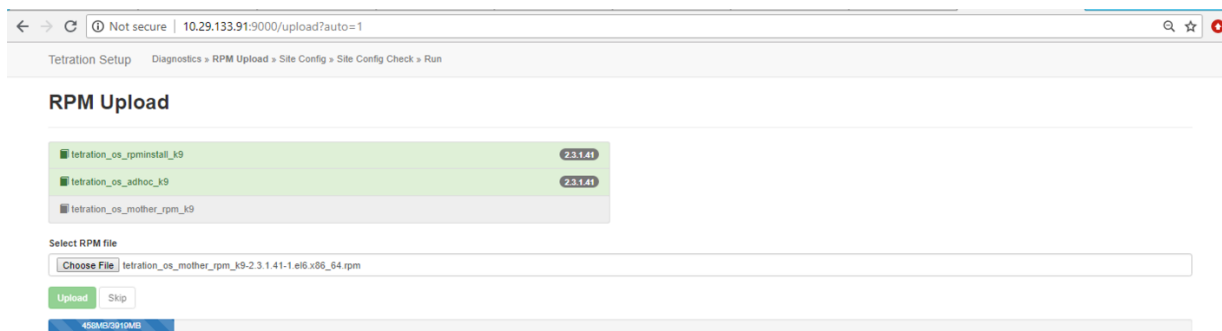


14. Wait a few minutes for the OVF deployment to be completed.
 15. Go back to the vSphere web client and power on the orchestrator virtual machine.
- You are now ready to deploy the full set of Cisco Tetration Analytics appliance files from the orchestrator virtual machine.

Configure Cisco Tetration-V virtual appliance

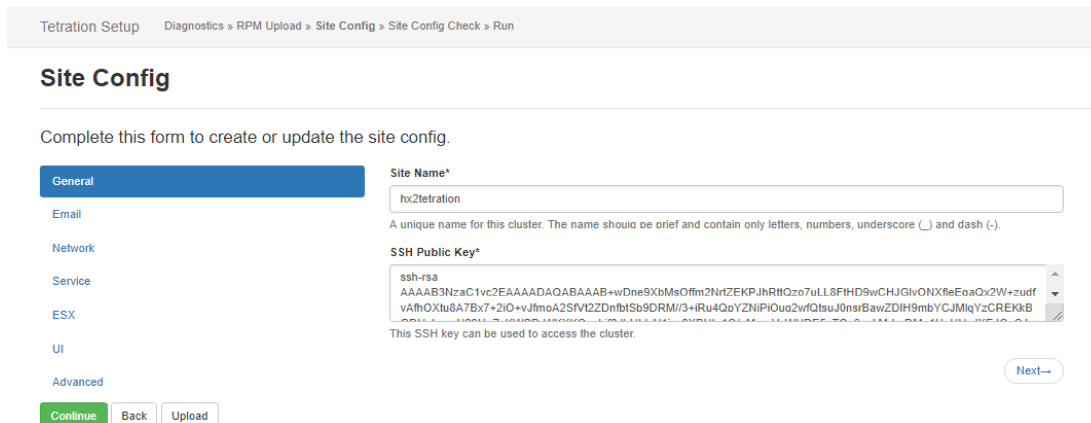
Follow these steps to configure Cisco Tetration-V.

1. Download the Cisco Tetration RPMs from the Cisco website. The following files are required:
 - rpminstall
 - adhoc
 - mother
2. Open a new browser tab, enter the IP address of the orchestrator virtual machine and add port 9000 after the IP address. For example, enter <http://10.29.133.91:9000>. Click Enter to open the Tetration Setup GUI.
3. In the Tetration Setup GUI, choose and upload the RPM files one by one in the following order:
 - rpminstall
 - adhoc
 - mother



The Cisco Tetration installation procedure starts automatically after the files are uploaded.

4. For Site Configuration, on the General page, enter the site name and SSH public key (you can generate the key by using the `ssh-keygen` command). Click Continue.



5. On the Email page, provide the required email addresses and click Continue. Three email accounts are needed:
 - User interface administrator email account
 - User interface primary customer support email account
 - Sentinel alert email account

Tetration Setup Diagnostics » RPM Upload » Site Config » Site Config Check » Run

Site Config

Complete this form to create or update the site config.

General

Email

Network

Service

ESX

UI

Advanced

Continue Back Upload

UI Admin Email*

The email address of the individual who will be responsible for administering Tetration within your organization. Carefully ensure this address is correct before proceeding.

UI Primary Customer Support Email*

Must be different from 'UI Admin Email'.

Sentinel Alert Email*

This email address will receive alerts related to the cluster health.

←Previous Next→

Click Continue.

6. On the Network page, enter the internal and external network settings, DNS IP address, and domain information. For the internal network configuration, you can use the address that is in the orchestrator deployment output. Click Continue.

Tetration Setup Diagnostics » RPM Upload » Site Config » Site Config Check » Run

Site Config

Complete this form to create or update the site config.

General

Email

Network

Service

ESX

UI

Advanced

Continue Back Upload

Internal Network*

The internal network in which the Tetration cluster is connected, specify it in CIDR notation.

External Network*

A space-separated list of external networks in which the Tetration cluster is connected, specify them in CIDR notation.

DNS Resolver*

A space-separated list of DNS resolver addresses.

DNS Domain*

A search domain that should be used by the cluster.

←Previous Next→

7. On the Service page, enter the settings in your local network for the NTP, Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP), HTTP proxy, and syslog services. Click Continue.

Site Config

Complete this form to create or update the site config.

- General
 - Email
 - Network
 - Service**
 - ESX
 - UI
 - Advanced
- [Continue](#) [Back](#) [Upload](#)

NTP Servers*
1.mps.cisco.com
A space-separated list of NTP server names or IP addresses.

SMTP Server*
outbound.cisco.com
The name or IP address of an SMTP server that can be used by Tetration to send email.

SMTP Port*
25
The port number of the SMTP server provided above.

SMTP Username
puich
Username for SMTP authentication.

SMTP Password

Password for SMTP authentication.

HTTP Proxy Server
proxy.es.cisco.com
The name or IP of an HTTP proxy server that will be used by Tetration to access external services on the Internet.

HTTP Proxy Port
80
The port number for the HTTP proxy server.

HTTPS Proxy Server
proxy.es.cisco.com
The name or IP of an HTTPS proxy server that will be used by Tetration to access external services on the Internet.

HTTPS Proxy Port
80
The port number for the HTTPS proxy server.

Syslog Server
syslog.cisco.com
The name or IP address of a syslog server that can be used by Tetration to send alerts.

syslog Port
514
The port number of the syslog server provided above.

syslog severity
warning
The severity level for syslog messages. Possible values: informational, notice, warning, error, critical, alert, emergency.

[←Previous](#) [Next→](#)

- On the ESX page, enter the vSphere vCenter access information and Cisco HyperFlex cluster name and Cisco HyperFlex data store for the Cisco Tetration virtual machine deployment. Enter the port group names for the Cisco Tetration private and public networks. Click Continue.

Tetration Setup > Diagnostics > RPM Upload > Site Config > Site Config Check > Run

Site Config

Complete this form to create or update the site config.

General

Email

Network

Service

ESX

UI

Advanced

Continue Back Upload

vSphere Host*
10.29.145.205
IP address or hostname of vSphere Server

vSphere Username*
administrator@vsphere.local
Username for vSphere account which has necessary roles to upload files and create virtual machines

vSphere Password*
.....
Password for vSphere account

vSphere Datacenter*
HXDC
Name of target vSphere Datacenter

Cluster*
HXZAF
Cluster into which virtual machines will be placed

VM Folder Name*
tetration
Name of folder which Tetration Virtual Machines will be placed into

Datastore*
HXZDS
Datastore into which attached storage will be placed

Private Network Port Group*
TetrationInt-3025
Name of virtual switch port group to use for private networking

Public Network*
Storage Controller Management Network
Name of virtual switch port group to use for public networking

Cloud Init Folder*
tel_ci_iso
Folder name on datastore which may be used for storing deployment configuration files

←Previous Next→

- On the UI page, enter a unique number for the virtual router identifier (VRID) and the fully qualified domain name (FQDN) for the appliance. Leave the airbrake key blank. Click Continue.

Tetration Setup > Diagnostics > RPM Upload > Site Config > Site Config Check > Run

Site Config

Complete this form to create or update the site config.

General

Email

Network

Service

ESX

UI

Advanced

Continue Back Upload

UI VIP VRID*
77
A unique numeric identifier.

UI FQDN*
hx2tetration.hx.lab.cisco.com
The fully qualified domain name that has been (or will be) setup for this cluster. This name should point to the IP address specified above as UI VIP.

UI Airbrake Key

←Previous Next→

- On the Advanced page, enter the external IP addresses (eight IP addresses are required) that are available to this Cisco Tetration virtual appliance.

Tetration Setup Diagnostics » RPM Upload » Site Config » Site Config Check » Run

Site Config

Complete this form to create or update the site config.

General	External IPs
Email	10.29.145.242 10.29.145.243 10.29.145.244 10.29.145.245 10.29.145.246 10.29.145.247 10.29.14
Network	A space separated list of IP addresses. If this is populated, when assigning external cluster IP addresses, the selection process will be restricted to only IP addresses defined in this list, that are part of the external network. This may be helpful if other existing hosts exist on a network, and you wish to restrict what addresses may be used. If this field is left blank, any IP specified in the external network can be assigned
Service	
ESX	←Previous
UI	
Advanced	
Continue	Back Upload

Click Continue to start the deployment process.

Deploying the Cisco Tetration-V virtual appliance

At the Pre Deploy Config stage of the deployment, you will be asked for a validation token to continue.

1. View the Pre Deploy Config page.

Tetration Setup Diagnostics » RPM Upload » Site Config » Site Config Check » Run

Pre Deploy Config

✓ RPM version Checks ✓ Site Linter ✓ Switch Config ✓ Site Checker token validation

Validation Token

[Continue](#) [Back](#) [Refresh](#)

Disabled until script completes successfully.

2. The token was sent to the administration email address you provided during the configuration. You can click the Site Checker tab to see the email address that was used to send this token.

Tetration Setup Diagnostics » RPM Upload » Site Config » Site Config Check » Run

Pre Deploy Config

✓ RPM version Checks ✓ Site Linter ✓ Switch Config ✓ Site Checker token validation

DNS resolvers validation successful
Successfully performed DNS translation for NTP, Successfully performed DNS translation for SHTP, Successfully performed DNS translation for ESX
NTP validation successful
ESX validation successful
SHTP validation successful. Please authenticate token sent to [redacted]@cisco.com within the next 30 mins (check your spam/junk folder).

[View Log](#)

[Continue](#) [Back](#) [Refresh](#)

Disabled until script completes successfully.

TETRATION CLUSTER hx2tetration: Verify Token

Hui Chen (huich)
Hui Chen (huich)
Monday, October 8, 2018 at 4:22 PM
[Show Details](#)

Token: EBNXU

DO NOT REPLY TO THIS EMAIL

3. Enter the received token and click Continue. The deployment process will now start.

Tetration Setup Diagnostics > RPM Upload > Site Config > Site Config Check > Run [Nostradamus](#)

tetration_os_rpminstal_k9
2.3.1.41

tetration_os_mother_rpm_k9
2.3.1.41

tetration_os_adhoc_k9
2.3.1.41

Running playbooks on the instances ... 50%

[Refresh](#) [Details](#) [Reset](#)

Instance View Search:

Instance Type	Instance Index	Private IP	Public IP	Uptime	Status	Deploy Progress	
namenode	1	1.1.0.6		13 minutes	In Progress	42%	View Log
secondaryNamenode	1	1.1.0.7			In Progress	92%	View Log
datanode	1	1.1.0.8		13 minutes	In Progress	37%	View Log
datanode	2	1.1.0.9		13 minutes	In Progress	37%	View Log
datanode	3	1.1.0.10		13 minutes	In Progress	37%	View Log
datanode	4	1.1.0.11		13 minutes	In Progress	37%	View Log
zookeeper	1	1.1.0.12		14 minutes	Deployed	100%	View Log
zookeeper	2	1.1.0.13		14 minutes	Deployed	100%	View Log
zookeeper	3	1.1.0.14		14 minutes	Deployed	100%	View Log
resourceManager	1	1.1.0.15		14 minutes	In Progress	33%	View Log
resourceManager	2	1.1.0.16		13 minutes	In Progress	33%	View Log
hbaseMaster	1	1.1.0.17		14 minutes	In Progress	64%	View Log
hbaseMaster	2	1.1.0.18		14 minutes	In Progress	64%	View Log
hbaseRegionServer	1	1.1.0.19		13 minutes	In Progress	64%	View Log
hbaseRegionServer	2	1.1.0.20		13 minutes	In Progress	64%	View Log
hbaseRegionServer	3	1.1.0.21		14 minutes	In Progress	64%	View Log
launcherHost	1	1.1.0.22			In Progress	39%	View Log
launcherHost	2	1.1.0.23		14 minutes	In Progress	39%	View Log
launcherHost	3	1.1.0.24		13 minutes	In Progress	39%	View Log
collectorOrchestrator	1	1.1.0.25	10.29.145.244	13 minutes	Deployed	100%	View Log
collectorOrchestrator	2	1.1.0.26	10.29.145.245	14 minutes	Deployed	100%	View Log

- Deployment takes approximately 1.5 hours to complete. To review your site information, click the appliance name at the top-right corner.

The screenshot shows the 'Tetration Setup' interface. At the top, there are three tabs: 'tetration_os_rp...', 'tetration_os_mo...', and 'tetration_os_ad...'. Below these, a green progress bar indicates 'Congratulations! Tetration Cluster Deployed.' with a 100% completion rate. A red circle highlights the 'hx2tetration' button in the top right corner. A red arrow points from this button to the 'Site Info' panel. The 'Site Info' panel contains a list of configuration parameters and their values. A red circle highlights the 'site_ui_fqdn' value 'hx2tetration.hx.lab.cisco.com'. Another red circle highlights the 'site_ui_airbrake_key' value '10.29.145.242'. To the right of the 'Site Info' panel, there is a 'Deploy Progress' section with a search bar and a list of 15 items, each with a 100% progress bar and a 'View Log' button.

- After the deployment progress has reached 100 percent, note the virtual IP address that is shown in the status line, which is the first available IP address that was provided to the installer. You can also use the user interface FQDN to access the Cisco Tetration Analytics Dashboard webpage.
- The last step of the deployment process is to disable external access to the Tetration-V installer:
 - In the vSphere web client, right-click the orchestrator-1 VM and choose Edit Settings.
 - Click the Virtual Hardware tab.
 - For Network Adapter 3, remove the checkmark from the Connected box.
 - Click OK to apply the changes.

Verifying the installation

Now validate the installation.

1. Open your browser and point it to the user interface FQDN that you obtained in the site information to access the Cisco Tetration Analytics Dashboard webpage.
2. On the “Sign in” page, click Forgot Password?

Cisco Tetration Analytics™

Please sign in to continue

Sign in

Email

Password [Forgot password?](#)

Use two-factor authentication

Remember me

Sign in

TetrationOS Software, Version 2.3.1.41
TAC Support: <http://www.cisco.com/tac>
© 2015-2018 Cisco Systems, Inc. All rights reserved.

3. Enter the email address that you entered for the site administrator and click “Send Password reset link.”

Forgot password?

Enter the account email to receive password reset instructions.

Email

@cisco.com

Send password reset link

TetrationOS Software, Version 2.3.1.41
TAC Support: <http://www.cisco.com/tac>
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4. Check your inbox for the email message and follow the included instructions to reset the password for the Cisco Tetration administrator.

[Tetration Analytics] Reset Password Instructions

Hui Chen (huich)
Hui Chen (huich)
Monday, October 8, 2018 at 6:46 PM
[Show Details](#)

Hello Site Admin!

We received a request to reset your password. You can do this through the link below

[Change my password](#)

If you didn't request this, please ignore this email.

Your password won't change until you access the link above and create a new one.

Cisco TetrationOS Software, Version 2.3.1.41
TAC Support: <http://www.cisco.com/tac>
Copyright (c) 2015-2018 by Cisco Systems, Inc.
All rights reserved. This product is protected by U.S. and international copyright and intellectual property laws. Cisco products are covered by one or more patents.

Reset password

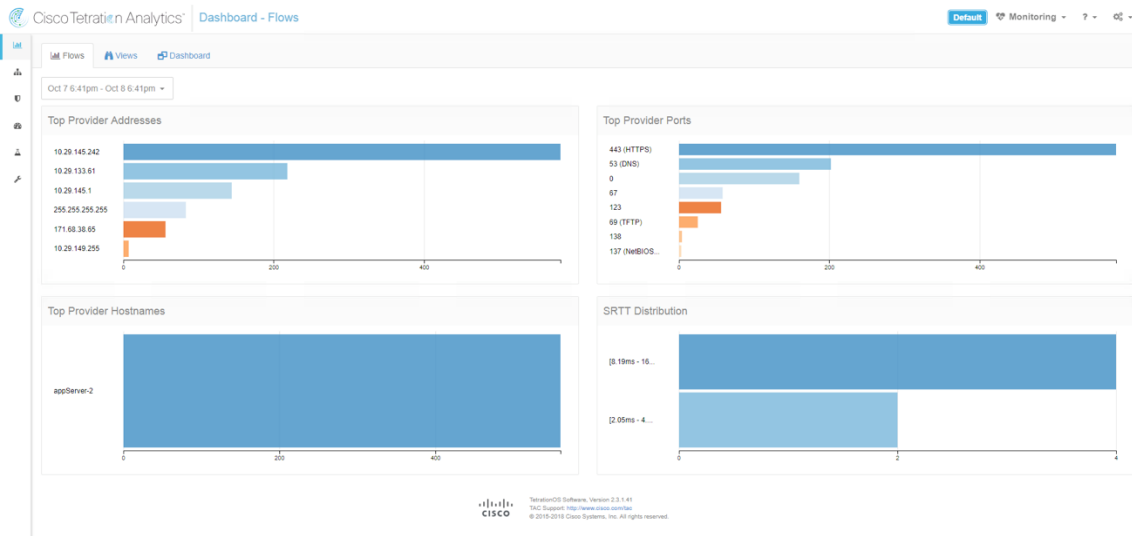
New password

Confirm new password

Update password

TetrationOS Software, Version 2.3.1.41
TAC Support: <http://www.cisco.com/tac>
© 2015-2018 Cisco Systems, Inc. All rights reserved.

5. Sign in to the Cisco Tetration Analytics Dashboard webpage with the new password. You should be taken to the dashboard of the newly installed Cisco Tetration virtual appliance.



Upgrading the Cisco Tetration-V virtual appliance

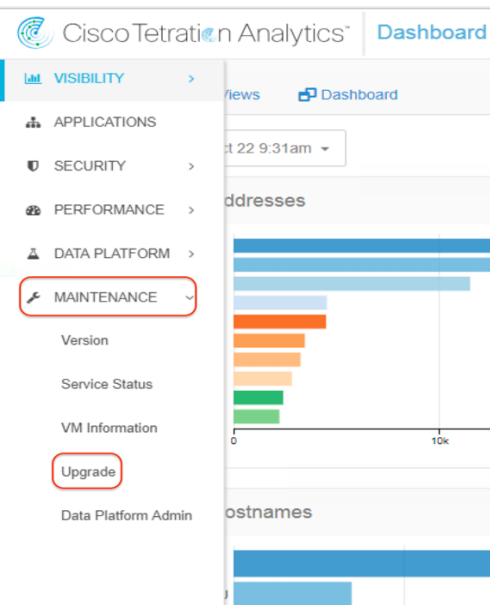
Before you begin the upgrade process, check the Cisco Tetration Analytics Upgrade Guide to see the supported upgrade paths and upgrade the patches in the specified order. You cannot skip any releases, unless otherwise specified.

Also download the desired RPM file from the Cisco website: for example, tetration_os_patch_k9-2.3.1.50-1.noarch.rpm.

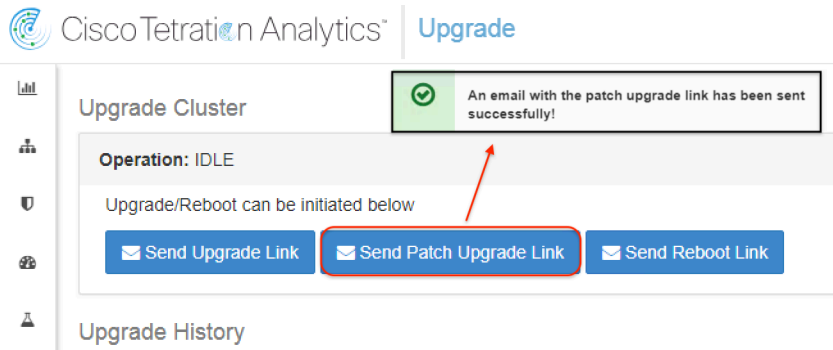
Note: Do not upgrade if any nodes are currently in a decommissioned state or any services are unhealthy. Contact the Cisco Technical Assistance Center (TAC) to remediate any issues before continuing.

Perform the following procedure as a user with customer support privileges:

1. In the Cisco Tetration GUI, click the Settings button and choose Maintenance.
2. In the left pane, click Upgrade.

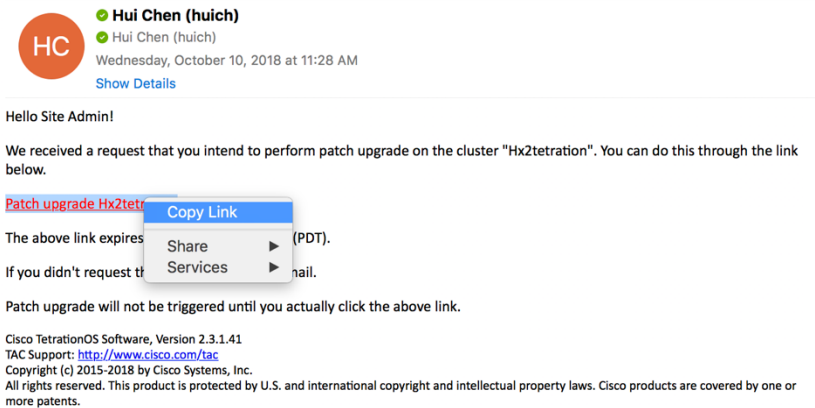


3. Click Send Patch Upgrade Link. The patch upgrade link will be sent in an email message to the user. After the link has been sent successfully, a notification message will pop up.

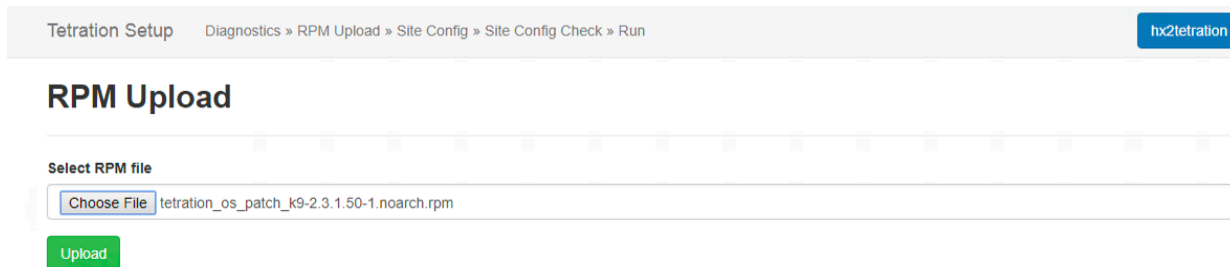


4. Check your inbox for the email message and follow the included instructions to upgrade the Cisco Tetration appliance. After you start a full upgrade, you may experience multiple hours of downtime.

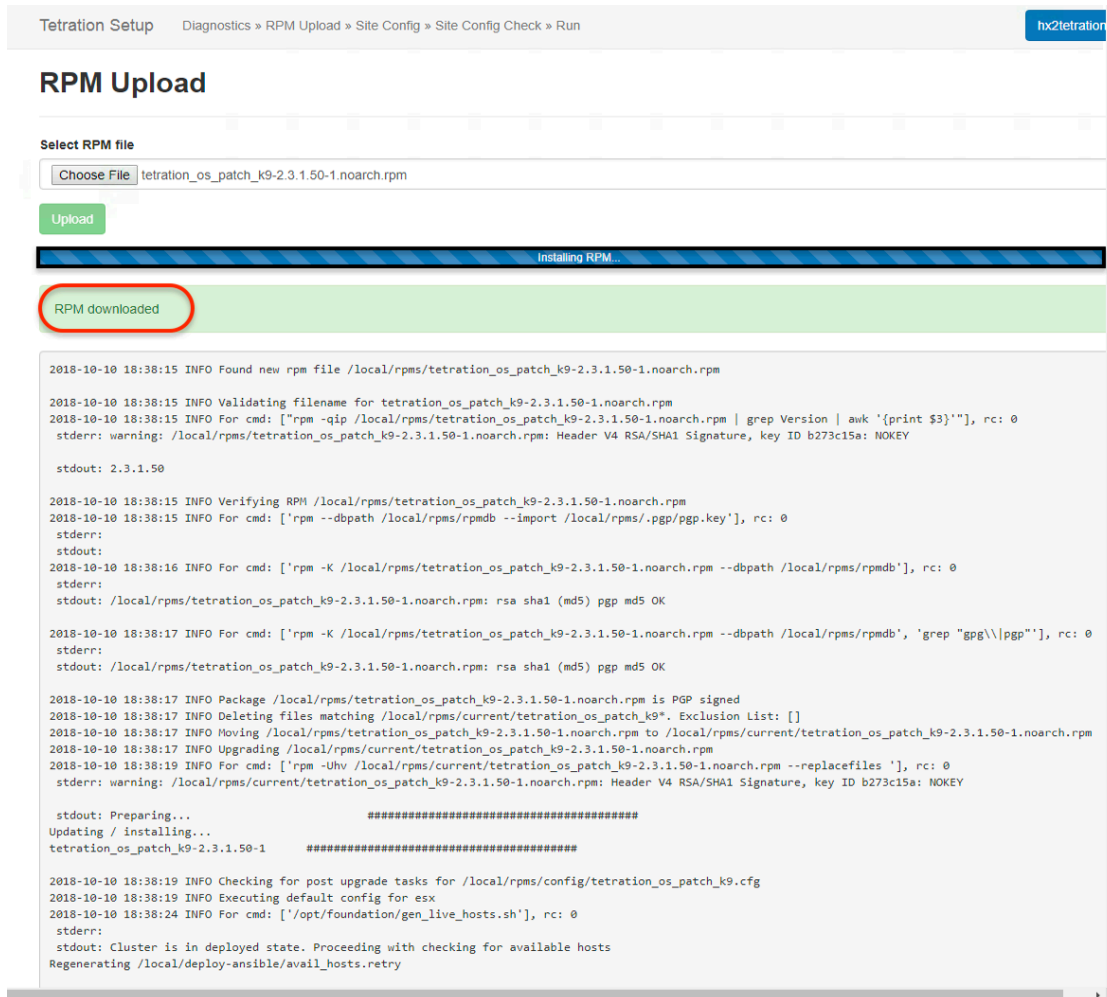
[Tetration Analytics][Hx2tetration] Patch Upgrade Initiation Link



5. In the email message, click the upgrade link. The link opens the Cisco Tetration Setup GUI.
6. Click Choose File. Navigate to the patch RPM, choose it, and click Open.
7. Click Upload.



8. The message "RPM downloaded" will appear if the upload is successful. The RPM installation process will then begin.

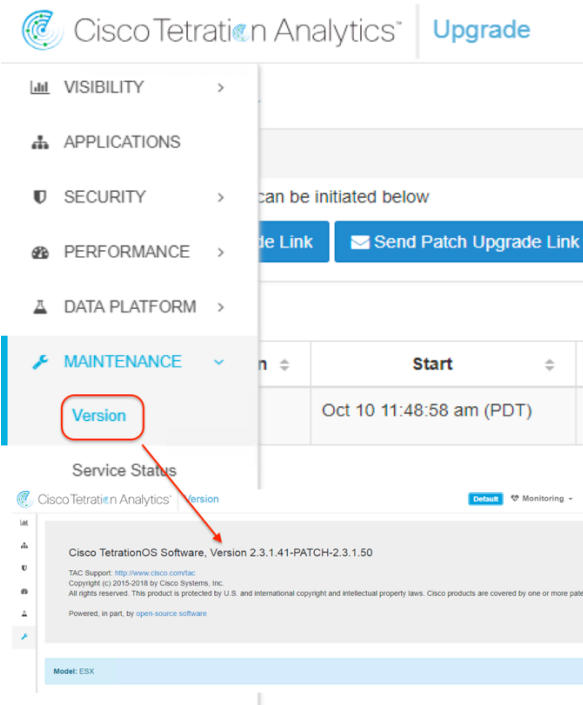


- 9. Wait for the installation to be complete. The message " RPM installed" will appear. The whole process will take about 30 to 40 minutes.

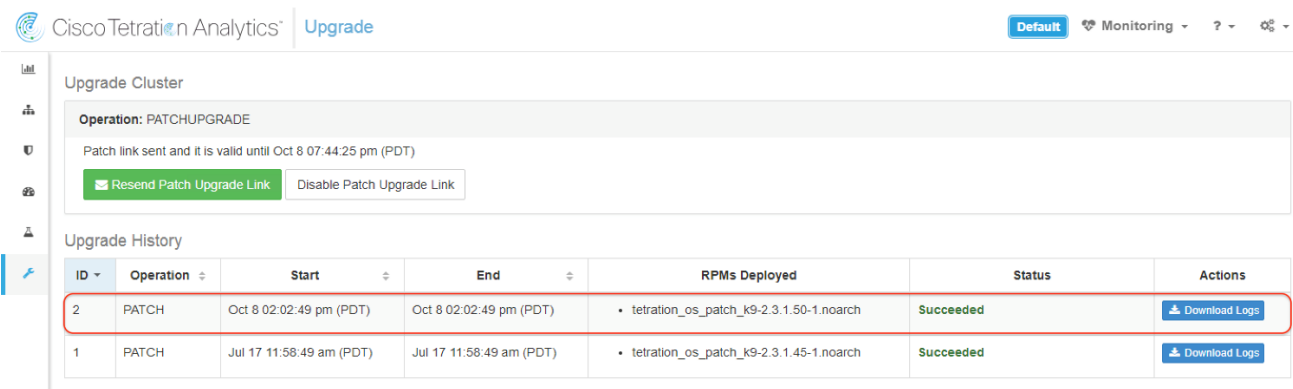
RPM Upload



- 10. Verify the upgrade.
 - In the Cisco Tetratation GUI, click the Settings button and choose Maintenance. In the navigation pane, click Version. The newly installed TetratationOS Software version will be displayed.



- Alternatively, in the navigation pane, go back to the Upgrade page. In the Upgrade History section, you should see an upgrade status of Succeeded.



11. Click Disable Patch Upgrade Link and choose Yes to confirm. Then close the Tetration Setup GUI window before initiating another upgrade.

Conclusion

The Cisco Tetration-V virtual appliance provides an option that gives customers the benefits of the Cisco Tetration platform in a cloud-based or VMware ESXi-based virtualized environment. Cisco HyperFlex systems provide optimized hyperconverged infrastructure for any workload at any scale. This infrastructure provides an excellent choice of hardware and storage for the high-performing virtual infrastructure required for a Tetration-V deployment. Cisco HyperFlex systems simplify the Tetration-V deployment process and establish a solid foundation for data center analytics solutions.

For more information

For additional information, see the following:

- Cisco HyperFlex products, services, and solutions: <https://www.cisco.com/go/hyperflex>
- Cisco Tetration products, services, and solutions: <https://www.cisco.com/go/tetration>
- The latest [Cisco Tetration Analytics virtual appliance deployment guide](#)
- The latest [Cisco Tetration Analytics upgrade guide](#)

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