

## Cisco Elastic Services Controller









# Sophisticated lifecycle management for virtualized services

Virtualized services come with a number of benefits, from more efficient use of physical resources, to shorter time to market, to more rapid innovation—the kind of outcomes that improve customer experience (CX), increase profitability, and generally make you a hero. However, for all the benefits of building services from virtualized network functions (VNFs) and a virtualized network function infrastructure (VNFI), there is one significant downside: increased operational complexity. With physical infrastructure, you build it once then typically leave it alone until it's time to replace it. Delivering the speed, efficiency, and fluidity of virtualized services means you need to constantly build, evaluate, and recycle your services in response to business needs and customer demands.

This is where the Cisco® Elastic Services Controller (ESC) shines. It gives you sophisticated tools to manage your services and their component VNFs across

### **Benefits**

- Comprehensive lifecycle management of VNFs
- ETSI-compliant generic VNF Manager (gVNFM)
- Broad support of third-party VNFs
- Intelligent handling of multi-VNF services
- Advanced analytics, service monitoring and recovery
- Context-sensitive, customizable workflows

### Resources

**Elastic Services Controller** 

cisco.com/go/ESC

**Network Services Orchestrator** 

cisco.com/go/NSO

the entire lifecycle: from onboarding and deployment to monitoring health, scaling in response to demand, remediating issues, and finally tearing down services and freeing resources for other applications and services.



Figure 1 - Lifecycle management

#### **About Cisco ESC**

Cisco ESC provides an integrated framework of tools that follow a service and its component VNFs throughout its entire lifecycle. ESC can manage both simple services and complex multi-VM, multi-VNF services.

Cisco ESC can be installed in a standalone or high availability (HA) configuration on OpenStack, VMware vCenter, KVM, or Amazon Web Services (AWS) and manages deployment of VNFs on Red Hat OpenStack and VMware vCenter Virtualized Infrastructure Managers (VIMs) as well as vCloud Director and AWS.

ESC is an ETSI-compliant generic VNF Manager (gVNFM) and will work with any other compliant

network functions virtualization orchestration (NFVO) and virtualized infrastructure manager (VIM). Cisco also offers a compliant NFVO with Cisco Network Services Orchestrator (NSO) and the NFVO core function pack. One advantage of pairing NSO and ESC is that NSO then provides a common orchestration layer across both your physical and virtual infrastructure. Finally, Cisco also offers a VIM, for infrastructure management. You can mix and match Cisco components with other vendors' compliant management and network orchestration (MANO) components — but Cisco also offers the simplicity of a complete, standards-compliant MANO stack.



Figure 2 - ESC architecture

#### Learn more

Cisco ESC is the result of our ability to integrate operational experience, industry insights, and leading technologies into powerful tools that increase your real-world operational capabilities and strengthen your business. Learn more at cisco.com/go/esc

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