Data center network upgrade and implementation for health care provider

Immediate and continuous, scalable and flexible

As one of the country’s leading integrated pediatric health care providers, this Dallas-Fort Worth-based client is dedicated to improving the health of children through the prevention and treatment of illness, disease, and injury. To assist in facilitating that mission, the client sought a data center network upgrade solution. The solution needed to allow immediate and continuous access to critical patient records and hospital operations data, and also provide the scalability and flexibility necessary to adopt new health care technologies and meet the increasing demands of their unique business.

Delivering a next generation network

To assist this health care provider in achieving their goals, GDT architects and engineers performed an evaluation of the current data center and an assessment of future business needs. Based on previous experience and product expertise they determined the best implementation would consist of four Cisco Nexus 5596UP switches configured as edge switches, two additional Cisco Nexus 7000 Series Switches used in conjunction with the client’s two existing Nexus 7000 Series Switches, four Cisco Nexus Fabric Modules, and six Cisco Nexus 2248 Fabric Extenders.

Design IT. Build IT. Deliver IT.
GDT turned to the Cisco Nexus 5000 Series Switches for their high-density top-of-rack (ToR) Layer 2 and Layer 3, 10 Gigabit Ethernet design. The Cisco Nexus 7000 Series Switches provide operational flexibility and high levels of scalability and the Cisco Nexus 2000 Series Fabric Extenders act as remote LAN cards for either the 5000 or 7000 Series of parent switches and reduce data center footprint through optimized inter-rack cabling.

Delivery satisfaction

GDT does more than design, build, and deliver equipment. We deliver satisfaction. We custom design and manufacture the cabling required to complete a clean and efficient solution. And we pre-test that solution in our state-of-the-art lab and staging facilities prior to delivery.

For this health care provider, the continued operation of the data center was not only mission critical, but potentially life critical. To help ensure a quick, efficient, and non-disruptive upgrade, GDT planned and participated in the cutover of the client’s six blade chassis to the Nexus 5596UP Switches. GDT also performed any software upgrades and configuration changes on the new Nexus 7000 Switches necessary to support the addition of the Nexus 5596 Switches at the GDT facility. Cooks was responsible for migrating end host systems to the Cisco Nexus 2248 Fabric Extenders. Additionally, GDT planned and participated in weekend and evening implementations of the equipment. As with all clients, GDT provided the highest level of service possible to ensure that all of deadlines were met with 100% accuracy.