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Why Avaya + VMware = SDN Success

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Why it doesn't have to be an either-or decision between the underlay and the overlay

Software-Defined Networking (SDN), Network Function Virtualization, virtualization, data center automation, the list goes on. These are the hot topics fundamentally changing the way we design, build and operate our IT infrastructures. What do they all have in common? They're being discussed in detail this week at VMworld, one of the largest annual gatherings of customers, experts and vendors in the industry.

As mentioned in our last post on VMworld, Avaya is showcasing its cloud-based Unified Communications and Contact Center service offerings, and the new, smaller sibling of the Avaya Collaboration Pod family, the Collaboration Pod 2400.

The Collaboration Pod 2400 combines virtual compute, storage, networking and all Avaya UC/CC applications in a ready-to-deploy platform with a "single pane of glass" management system and integrated support provided by Avaya.

This allows customers to have a very complex set of applications up and running in mere hours. Stay tuned for a future blog post on Collaboration Pods, where we talk to cloud service providers who confirm this time-to-service advantage.

Underpinning the infrastructure agility of the Collaboration Pod platform is Avaya SDN Fx™ networking architecture and VMware's virtualization technology. Avaya SDN Fx offers unprecedented flexibility and ease of deployment. Independent research found the technology resulted in 100 percent fewer outages based on human error, 11 times faster implementation and 7 times faster configuration and troubleshooting time. Avaya SDN Fx is a true game changer.

In order to provide compute virtualization and overlay networking, the Collaboration Pod uses VMware's proven ESXi technology in conjunction with Avaya Virtual Provisioning Service.

The Collaboration Pod we are exhibiting at VMworld is a proof of concept that runs on VMware's NSX-V platform. We're leveraging NSX-V's compute, storage and networking virtualization, as well as its micro-segmentation, to provide enhanced capabilities for controlling micro-flows.

VMware's NSX-V and Avaya SDN Fx are highly complementary and an ideal foundation for SDN and cloud-based offerings in and beyond the data center.

Avaya SDN Fx and VMware's NSX form a best-in-class combination and are proof of the ongoing innovation provided by Avaya and VMware. Avaya SDN Fx allows for the extension of the VMware fabric—including its micro-segmentation capabilities—to the campus and branch, thus providing an integrated, end-to-end solution.

As partners, we continue to deliver best-in-class solutions to our customers. Avaya plans to work with VMware to ensure closer integration with NSX-V and a co-certification once the VMware program for NSX-V becomes available.

