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- Your industry
- Company size
- Which solutions you're already considering

It includes recommendations for you based on what other people like you are researching and using.

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Get your personalized report here.
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</table>
## Vendor Directory

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vendor</th>
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<tr>
<td>Avaya</td>
<td>Avaya Pod Fx</td>
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<td>Oracle SuperCluster</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rackspace</td>
<td>Rackspace OpenStack</td>
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</table>
# Top Converged Infrastructure Solutions

Over 392,812 professionals have used IT Central Station research. Here are the top Converged Infrastructure vendors based on product reviews, ratings, and comparisons. All reviews and ratings are from real users, validated by our triple authentication process.

## Chart Key

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Views</th>
<th>Comparisons</th>
<th>Reviews</th>
<th>Words/Review</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of views</td>
<td>Number of times compared to another product</td>
<td>Total number of reviews on IT Central Station</td>
<td>Average words per review on IT Central Station</td>
<td>Average rating based on reviews</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Bar length

The total ranking of a product, represented by the bar length, is based on a weighted aggregate score. The score is calculated as follows:

For each of Reviews, Views, and Comparisons, the product with the highest count in each area gets a maximum 18 points. Every other product gets assigned points based on its total in proportion to the #1 product in that area.

For example, if a product has 80% of the number of reviews compared to the product with the most reviews then the product’s points for reviews would be 18 * 80% = 14.4.

Both Average Rating and Words/Review are awarded on a fixed linear scale.

For Average Rating, the maximum score is 28 points awarded linearly between 6-10 (e.g. 6 or below=0 points; 7.5=10.5 points; 9.0=21 points; 10=28 points).

For Words/Review, the maximum score is 18 points awarded linearly between 0-900 words (e.g. 600 words = 12 points; 750 words = 15 points; 900 or more words = 18 points).

If a product has fewer than ten reviews, the point contribution for Average Rating and Words/Review is reduced:

1/3 reduction in points for products with 5-9 reviews, two-thirds reduction for products with fewer than five reviews.

Reviews that are more than 24 months old, as well as those written by resellers, are completely excluded from the ranking algorithm.

All products with 50+ points are designated as a Leader in their category.

## 1 FlexPod

- **10,966 views**
- **4,163 comparisons**
- **134 reviews**
- **658 words/review**
- **8.7 average rating**

## 2 Vblock

- **8,248 views**
- **6,401 comparisons**
- **10 reviews**
- **407 words/review**
- **8.1 average rating**

## 3 HPE ConvergedSystem

- **3,950 views**
- **2,657 comparisons**
- **5 reviews**
- **521 words/review**
- **8.4 average rating**

---

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To read more reviews about Converged Infrastructure, please visit: [https://www.itcentralstation.com/categories/converged-infrastructure](https://www.itcentralstation.com/categories/converged-infrastructure)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Vendor</th>
<th>Views</th>
<th>Comparisons</th>
<th>Reviews</th>
<th>Words/Review</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
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<td>2,598</td>
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<td>543</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Dell PowerEdge VRTX</td>
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## Top Solutions by Ranking Factor

### Views

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<th>Rank</th>
<th>Solution</th>
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<tr>
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<td>FlexPod</td>
<td>10,966</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Vblock</td>
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### Reviews

<table>
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<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Vblock</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>HPE ConvergedSystem</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Oracle SuperCluster</td>
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<td>5</td>
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### Words / Review

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<td>5</td>
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<td>500</td>
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</table>
Overview

The FlexPod platform, developed by NetApp and Cisco, is a flexible, converged infrastructure solution that delivers prevalidated storage, networking, and server technologies. It’s designed to increase IT responsiveness to business demands while reducing your overall cost of computing. Think maximum uptime, minimal risk

SAMPLE CUSTOMERS

University of Sao Paulo, WD-40, The Commonwell Mutual Insurance Group

TOP COMPARISONS

Nutanix vs. FlexPod ... Compared 21% of the time [See comparison]
Cisco HyperFlex HX-Series vs. FlexPod ... Compared 20% of the time [See comparison]
Vblock vs. FlexPod ... Compared 18% of the time [See comparison]

REVIEWERS *

TOP INDUSTRIES

Software R&D Company ... 21%
Comms Service Provider ... 19%
Financial Services Firm ... 9%
Manufacturing Company ... 7%

COMPANY SIZE

1-200 Employees ... 15%
201-1000 Employees ... 33%
1001+ Employees ... 53%

VISITORS READING REVIEWS *

TOP INDUSTRIES

Financial Services Firm ... 16%
Comms Service Provider ... 10%
Energy/Utilities Company ... 9%
Healthcare Company ... 9%

COMPANY SIZE

1-200 Employees ... 11%
201-1000 Employees ... 22%
1001+ Employees ... 68%

* Data is based on the aggregate profiles of IT Central Station Users reviewing and researching this solution.
Continued from previous page

Top Reviews by Topic

VALUABLE FEATURES

- Business93 8f
  Certification from both manufacturers states that this is a tried and true converged product. That's what we are most happy about. One of the biggest things that my engineers have the pains with is to vet out core networking, vet out stretch routing, vet out applications and then vet out the compute, the front end and the stores, then layer it. After all that deal with the application and quality assure it before we put into production. FlexPod cut out all that complexity and helped get us to the point where it in a data center, launch our applicati... [Full Review]

- reviewer122 3427
  The guides that we use to install FlexPods are always up-to-date. This is really helpful, especially if there is a new product with NetApp moving so far forward and Cisco as well. For them to join together and update a centralized document for the install process, it is really good. It helps us understand if there are features from the first version that we installed while upgrading that we need to implement. Those are in the document. So, we find that document useful and helpful when moving forward. The solution’s validated designs for major enterp... [Full Review]

- ChrisKnott
  A valuable feature of the FlexPod solution is that it is all one architecture and I can call one number and get support for Cisco and NetApp without having to jump through open TAC (Technical Assistance Center) cases and do multiple things to get issues addressed. When integrating with VMware, I know all the parts that came with it and all the parts and when I need to update something in it, I can just get the complete package, do all the firmware stuff and the fabric interconnects. [Full Review]

- Aaron Hibbard
  I work at a state agency. With FlexPod, I can contact to NetApp. I can contact our rep and I can get the building materials from him which includes all of my switching, servers, and storage in one place. It saves me a lot of time when I have to go out and send out a bid, especially the bids for larger dollar amounts and longer terms. The more efficiently I can get those bids out and processed, the better it is, and the faster I can deliver solutions to our customers (our users). [Full Review]

IMPROVEMENTS TO MY ORGANIZATION

- Business93 8f
  At the end of the day, AI is not AI without the application that we write into it. With collaboration between Microsoft — utilizing it to build in a manner that is compatible to the FlexPod architecture — we’re able to provide specific intelligence that supports our objectives — whatever it is at a given time. Whether it's data aggregation, learning, pouring out the analytics, the intelligence helps specific applications respond to requirements within a business structure. That's what FlexPod enables us to do. That agility reduces the number of hour... [Full Review]

- reviewer122 3427
  Our private cloud sector of our company has grown exponentially thanks to the ease of deployment of the FlexPod architecture. We are also able to deploy a console to customers who want on-prem environments in a smaller deployment structure with a UCS Mini and direct-attached storage. So, it's helped us exponentially grow the business. All-flash has helped the company a lot, especially for business critical applications. We found that customers want more performance than ever based on what is out there in the market. We find that innovation and integ... [Full Review]

- ChrisKnott
  Before we had FlexPod, we had just stacks and stacks of servers. You know, every time you wanted to build a server you had to go buy a whole pizza box (case for computers or network switches), put it in a rack, plug it up. We had EMC, we had a bunch of different storage providers, the way it connected was makeshift, a couple of late servers here and there. So to be able to put everything in one rack, one solution with the storage, was a big step up. Plus, every time we need to expand the storage for the old system, it wasn't easy. Cisco blades simpl... [Full Review]
If we look at data center solutions, any of those solutions are only as good as the people that put it together. If there’s a way for us to take a hyperconverged technology or converged technology — like FlexPod — and use it with artificial intelligence, that allows the engineer who is building it to infuse the deployment with intelligence. Turning it on, the necessary steps — done correctly — eliminate human error. If something is in error or not within compliance to confines of what that particular architecture should be like, intelligence lets th...

It would be nice to have something like an automated, upgrade solution. The tasks needed to upgrade the hardware within FlexPod are still quite behind compared to some of its other aspects. That’s more on the Cisco side. For the NetApp side, the upgrade process is quite simple. It’s been simplified. So, that’s something that could be looked at. It has gone to HTML5, but it’s still quite a bit bland. It still seems a bit like there were some features in the Java version that are quite hard to get into in the HTML5 version of UCS Manager, where you go ...

The real improvement I could see on the FlexPod side is it falls on the NetApp components. The upgrades that they had to go through from 7-Mode to CDOT (Clustered Data OnTap) did not make for a good transition. I’m pretty sure they learned the lesson from that because you basically had to stand up a side-by-side system, copy your data over, upgrade your stuff and move your data back. No one wants to do that and it is a nightmare. It would also be nice if you could manage everything through a single pane of glass — but that won’t happen. With a singl...

There are a few nuances. There is always something which bug you. It always seems like we run into the bugs. It is usually just a simple code update or something like that. There is always room for little tweaks and little improvements to make life easier. A few things, the E-Series is stupidly, simple. However, the FAS in it, with all its flexibility and scalability, it is much more complex and could be simplified. We had not upgraded to the most recent release of ONTAP (and some of the other newer tools). The newer version that we are in right now...

Make sure you understand the technology that you need, and anytime that you are buying any storage make sure you understand storage. Do not just buy storage based on what somebody sells you in terms of IO or throughput. Buy storage based on the solutions you need, the technologies you need, and what will make your life a lot easier down the road.

Because of the way they slice things up, you have FlexPod Express, FlexPod Datacenter, and FlexPod Select, which allows you to go small, medium, and large with multiple locations. * If you have ROBO locations, you can go to Express. * If you’re looking at a converged infrastructure, you can use FlexPod Datacenter. * You can use FlexPod Select if you need to have that pocketed application which needs top-notch performance.

Sometimes you may end up spending a little more to get it in the first place, but you gain it back in terms of infrastructure upgrade costs and troubleshooting costs. The solution also lasts a surprisingly long time.
Overview

VCE Vblock Systems is an all-in-one virtualization platform that integrates the leading storage, network, and compute technologies from the likes of EMC, VMware and Cisco. VCE Vblock allows organizations to easily and securely deploy cloud computing and virtualization in their environments, supporting these multiple technologies and providing flexibility and agility for changing business needs.

SAMPLE CUSTOMERS
Xerox, ACS, and Columbia Sportswear.

TOP COMPARISONS
VxRail vs. Vblock ... Compared 20% of the time [See comparison]
VxBlock System vs. Vblock ... Compared 18% of the time [See comparison]
Nutanix vs. Vblock ... Compared 16% of the time [See comparison]

REVIEWERS *

| TOP INDUSTRIES | VISITORS READING REVIEWS *
|----------------|--------------------------
| Software R&D Company ... 38% | Financial Services Firm ... 20% |
| Comms Service Provider ... 16% | Pharma/Biotech Company ... 13% |
| Financial Services Firm ... 11% | Aerospace/Defense Firm ... 7% |
| Construction Company ... 6% | Manufacturing Company ... 7% |

<table>
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<th>COMPANY SIZE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-200 Employees ... 27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>201-1000 Employees ... 19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1001+ Employees ... 54%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Data is based on the aggregate profiles of IT Central Station Users reviewing and researching this solution.
Top Reviews by Topic

VALUABLE FEATURES

Fred Armantrout

This solution has rock-solid reliability. When a problem does occur, you can call the service number or support site to initiate a service request. We are approaching 3 years of operation with little problems with hardware. Had one 5K switch fail some ports and replaced that under service. The VCE Matrix of knowing what software, drivers, firmware and ESXi bundles all work together is a big relief in not having to dig through each and every part of the hardware and software updates to be sure they are all compatible. [Full Review]

Solut11991

* Ease of operation. * Access, without constraining actions. The tool is available to actually move things around, do things quickly. * The speed. * The support behind it as well. There is always quite good support around the box. Any fixes and updates are done pretty quickly. [Full Review]

SnrArch408

The integration between components, so that we don't have to worry about technology mismatches. Not having to worry about the firmware integrations with the software infrastructure components has been grand. [Full Review]

Abdullah El Deeb

* Dealing with multiple vendors can be tricky in multi-vendor setup. Having one vendor to deal with from a support perspective is a huge potential benefit when it comes to reliability and avoiding wasting time and money. * Finding a fully bundled, deployed, and configured solution with a short delivery time and unique support is really attractive. * As far as customer satisfaction, it will meet and surpass your needs. [Full Review]

IMPROVEMENTS TO MY ORGANIZATION

Fred Armantrout

The original pair of VBlock's were purchased to replace a hodgepodge of small VM clusters of 3 to 4 VM hosts and an outdated SAN, in addition to moving from an old data center to a new data center. Moving the VM's from the old systems to the new VBlock—which had more shared resources and a newer VMware version—was a big win. Once in place, we virtualized as many servers as could be converted from freestanding servers to a VM. The only exception was when the licensing of an application was cost prohibitive; we keep these on stand-alone hosts. Thi... [Full Review]

Solut11991

We used to have different departments, each with their own IT section. Everybody was making their own IT investments, and every department had their own little bits of applications here and applications there. Now, it's all coordinated, all synchronized. That reduces the risk of equipment and costs as well. We no longer have people running different applications, different tools, in a multi-vendor environment. Now, we have one synchronized solution. [Full Review]

SnrArch408

It's a little bit easier to maintain and easier when an upgrade needs to take place, since the vendor is handling the integration aspects usually for a fee. [Full Review]
**ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT**

Currently, there is some uncertainty about the future of the product line with regards to Dell's takeover of EMC. Because VBlock is so closely wrapped around the Cisco Blade converged infrastructure environment, I am concerned that Dell may end the relationship and kill the VBlock line, pushing their other VCE products that can run on Dell servers. Initial indications from VCE were that this was not going to happen, but I am concerned that Dell may not really know what they have taken on when they took over the EMC / VCE / VMware companies. [Full Review]

As the technology changes and comes down in price as well, we’re looking at VDI, having a virtual desktop infrastructure, so instead of using client, using a virtual environment, a thin client. Also, I would like to see them improve their switching infrastructure and rely on Cisco configurations. They are a bit more complex and technical, but result in a slightly reduced cost in terms of switching on the network side of it. It’s a very complicated process, our configuration, from the network side. [Full Review]

It’s difficult to think of anything that needs to be improved because it’s a good stable system, but paid support is expensive so the cost of operation could be lowered. In the next release, I would like to see a smaller footprint in the data center and have improvements to disk performance. [Full Review]

* The infrastructure is converged, but the teams, not so much. It is so complex that the converged infrastructure needs converged management. * While most public clouds are deployed on Linux, there is current no certified Vblock working on KVM hypervisors. [Full Review]

**PRICING, SETUP COST AND LICENSING**

Get your best deal and press for everything. We already had our VMware licensing, but we had to upgrade to Enterprise Plus to implement the full features of the VBlock and the VDS, rather than using the normal enterprise or standard level licensing from VMware. Plan for room to grow the system in the future. We have expanded SAN capacity much more than the compute capacity, as databases and data files continue to grow and eat more data space. [Full Review]

I would not say the pricing is not good value. It is still on the expensive side, near the top-end of cost compared to what’s available now. The licensing has to be improved. There has to be a clear definition of the licensing from the initial set-up so the customer knows what they are paying for, without being hit later on with extra licensing. The licensing definitions should be clearer and, perhaps, have one set of licenses rather than multiple licenses. [Full Review]

I think the pricing is on the higher end of the spectrum. There could be some adjustments that could be made there. Regarding licensing, watch compatibility with external products that you run on Vblock. It has got to be properly architected, otherwise, you will run into licensing issues. [Full Review]
Overview

HPE ConvergedSystem gives you lower cost of ownership and greater flexibility to meet more business demands. Eliminate the inefficiencies and inflexibility of one-silo-at-a-time infrastructure with software-defined agility and automation.

Deploy pre-validated, factory-tested configurations in weeks instead of months. Set up IT services in minutes, not hours. Integrated, workload-optimised systems eliminate infrastructure silos for improved efficiency, simplicity and speed.

SAMPLE CUSTOMERS
FAW-Volkswagen, NICS, NBrix, Pinpoint, HPE Technology Services, SWS, Ko Sistem, HPE

TOP COMPARISONS
Dell PowerEdge VRTX vs. HPE ConvergedSystem ... Compared 41% of the time [See comparison]
Nutanix vs. HPE ConvergedSystem ... Compared 13% of the time [See comparison]
HPE SimpliVity vs. HPE ConvergedSystem ... Compared 13% of the time [See comparison]

REVIEWS *

TOP INDUSTRIES
Software R&D Company ... 29%
Comms Service Provider ... 24%
Retailer ... 12%
Manufacturing Company ... 7%

VISITORS READING REVIEWS *

TOP INDUSTRIES
Manufacturing Company ... 36%
K 12 Educational Company Or School ... 9%
Healthcare Company ... 9%
University ... 9%

COMPANY SIZE
1-200 Employees ... 29%
201-1000 Employees ... 24%
1001+ Employees ... 47%

* Data is based on the aggregate profiles of IT Central Station Users reviewing and researching this solution.
Top Reviews by Topic

**VALUABLE FEATURES**

The solution's most valuable feature is its ability to restore lost machines. Essentially its high availability capabilities are extremely valuable to us. [Full Review]

reviewer127
6620

One of the valuable components in this solution is HPE Synergy, which is a useful tool for deployments and updates. This solution is very simple to use. [Full Review]

reviewer906
897

The best feature of this solution is the backup system. I have found it to be particularly good because we've been able to restore on a file by file basis. The user interface, reporting, and management are good, and we are quite happy with the performance. This solution integrates well with other products and applications. [Full Review]

reviewer946
647

**IMPROVEMENTS TO MY ORGANIZATION**

It begins with a simpler installation. It provides a more advanced way to approach enterprise IT. It's still a nightmare, like every other converged solution out there. But we have done data center consolidation and data protection, disaster recovery for our services for DR. Desktops are globally backed up. [Full Review]

Omar Sánchez
(Mr.Tech)

Improvements to the organization depend on the customer, but usually, it assists them with consolidation. For example, they're replacing server racks with the converged system because they have too little space to have a rack full of servers. [Full Review]

reviewer906
897

We had an old system, but it got to a point, because of age, and the data limitations, that backup times and operations were taking too long. After we migrated to this environment, everything changed. Our applications are performing at their best and the backup times have been reduced from about four hours to 30 minutes. [Full Review]

Kingsley Gyasi
ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

We don't have any problems with it at the technology level. I can't think of any improvements they can make. I think they are doing pretty much what any other converged infrastructure services system can do. Perhaps faster allocation of memory or storage. However, I am sure we are not the only healthcare company that works with them. They need to work more as a team to solve common business problems. If you're asking me about the technology, I don't see anything that they can do, other than growing the hyper-converged. But I think things have grown ...

The solution needs to be easier to use. The administration's ease of use it poor and it needs a better administrative console. The solution has a complicated front-end. In terms of features, the solution is very complete. It doesn't seem to be missing features that I can see that would need to be added in future releases.

I would like to see better manageability and integration with third-party tools. I would like to see persistent memory deployed in this solution, as I have not yet seen it in any converged system.

PRICING, SETUP COST AND LICENSING

Pricing is good. We have not calculated what hyper-converged infrastructure has brought us but I think there has to be some lower cost for us, compared to the public cloud. Obviously, there would be a lower cost, probably by more than half. Regarding licensing, have the paperwork looked at by senior management and don't make any decisions until you have all of your corners covered. In the beginning, you might see that this thing has ears and a tail but you don't know if it's a mouse or an elephant. You need to try to have as much clarity on what the...
Overview

Oracle Exalogic Elastic Cloud is a datacenter building block that integrates compute, networking and storage hardware with virtualization, operating system and management software. It provides breakthrough performance, reliability, availability, scalability and investment protection for the widest possible range of business application workloads, from middleware and custom applications to packaged applications from Oracle and hundreds of 3rd party vendors, in both conventional and cloud deployments. As an Oracle Engineered System, Oracle Exalogic delivers faster deployment, higher user productivity, lower TCO, reduced risk and one-stop support.

For more information on Oracle Exalogic Elastic Cloud, visit Oracle.com

SAMPLE CUSTOMERS
Sascar, Banca Transilvania, UL, Agilent, Reliance Commercial Finance, PT Bank Central Asia Tbk, Bank of Qingdao, Yarra Valley Water, FAW Car Co. Ltd.

TOP COMPARISONS
Oracle Private Cloud Appliance vs. Oracle Exalogic ... Compared 21% of the time [See comparison]
Nutanix vs. Oracle Exalogic ... Compared 21% of the time [See comparison]
Vblock vs. Oracle Exalogic ... Compared 12% of the time [See comparison]

REVIEWERS *

TOP INDUSTRIES
Software R&D Company ... 38%
Government ... 21%
Comms Service Provider ... 12%
Financial Services Firm ... 6%

VISITORS READING REVIEWS *

TOP INDUSTRIES
Financial Services Firm ... 36%
Comms Service Provider ... 18%
Government ... 18%
Energy/Utilities Company ... 9%

COMPANY SIZE
1-200 Employees ... 17%
201-1000 Employees ... 22%
1001+ Employees ... 61%

* Data is based on the aggregate profiles of IT Central Station Users reviewing and researching this solution.
Converged Infrastructure

Oracle Exalogic

Continued from previous page

Top Reviews by Topic

VALUABLE FEATURES

The database is the solution's most valuable feature. Running the application on one machine makes it easier to position it to the client. I don't need a separate machine to run my databases. I can virtually run the databases with the application. The Linux component of it is great as well. It makes it easier to administrate. There are a lot more Linux administrators as opposed to the SuperCluster which uses Solaris and there are not as many people that use Solaris. The automation and provisioning of the environment, as well as the centralized monit... [Full Review]

IMPROVEMENTS TO MY ORGANIZATION

This product offers a strong infrastructure with compute, storage, and network in a private cloud environment, enabling the organization to concentrate on business application development and improvement. [Full Review]

ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

The solution is prone to disk failures. This needs to improve. Over the past four years we've had to replace about six of them. They've failed almost every three to six months. The solution would benefit from the addition of real-time physical monitoring, like noting the temperature of the actual physical machine. The console should be able to tell you if it's overheating right away. Right now, it's not really in real-time. If I take my own temperature measurement versus what the console tells me, I find that my readings are more accurate than on th... [Full Review]

With the shift to public cloud, and with Oracle releasing Oracle Public Cloud Machine and Oracle Private Cloud Appliance, the Exalogic X6-2 version was still released, but, clearer goals in the product roadmap are necessary to be able to affirm the improvements. [Full Review]

PRICING, SETUP COST AND LICENSING

Pricing and licensing are two very delicate aspects when talking about Oracle, especially engineered systems. The prices are quite high compared with other similar products, so the CapEx analysis and investment return have to be very well studied. [Full Review]
Overview

PowerEdge VRTX modular infrastructure platform integrates servers, storage, networking and management together in a single compact chassis.

SAMPLE CUSTOMERS

TOP COMPARISONS

HPE ConvergedSystem vs. Dell PowerEdge VRTX ... Compared 61% of the time [See comparison]
FlexPod vs. Dell PowerEdge VRTX ... Compared 9% of the time [See comparison]
Pivot3 vs. Dell PowerEdge VRTX ... Compared 7% of the time [See comparison]

* Data is based on the aggregate profiles of IT Central Station Users reviewing and researching this solution.
Dell PowerEdge VRTX

Top Reviews by Topic

VALUABLE FEATURES

The most valuable feature is the combined management in one box. It is space-saving, and in fact, you can have four Blade servers in one box, all sharing the same storage and network card. A 10 GB network card is a must. The Pro Support is very good and helped me with one of the servers when a network card stopped working. Re-installing the server fixed this problem.

Richard Artes

This is all-inclusive with shared storage and the servers housed in one chassis, including the networking. It's a data center in one small box, which is a good value for the customers who are small in size and cannot afford a large investment. It is simple to use and it's user-friendly.

Deepak-Shinde

IMPROVEMENTS TO MY ORGANIZATION

Using this solution has lowered costs by including SAN storage, networking, and servers all in one chassis. We used to have half a rack taken with clustered servers, storage devices, and network switches. All that is now consolidated into five U high with four Blade servers and 6 TB of SAN storage in one box. Management is by web interface which means one place for all configuration.

Richard Artes

ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

Management of storage and networking is web-based, slow, and difficult. I would like a Windows application to manage this instead of using the web interface. My Dell account manager promised to help me with setting it up, but after buying it, he was nowhere to be seen. Didn’t call me back, didn’t take my e-mails. So you are pretty much on your own with setup. Luckily there a lot of people who have already done the same setup, so I was able to follow their guides.

Richard Artes

This solution is good but, with multiple Chassis, it would be a good thing to have one console for management and integration with utilization software. In the next release, I would like to see some auto-tiering features. There are other enterprise storage solutions that have them included.

Deepak-Shinde
Overview

VxBlock and Vblock Systems simplify all aspects of IT and enable organizations to achieve better business outcomes faster. Seamlessly integrating enterprise-class compute, network, storage and virtualization technologies from industry leaders Cisco, Dell EMC, and VMware, VxBlock and Vblock Systems, powered by Intel Xeon processors, deliver the world's most advanced converged infrastructure: engineered, manufactured, managed, supported and sustained as one, allowing you to focus on your business.

The Dell EMC Converged Systems portfolio offer choice, flexibility, and reliability for accelerating IT transformation - VxBlock System offers additional levels of flexibility with a choice of network virtualization from VMware NSX or Cisco ACI.

SAMPLE CUSTOMERS
Atos, Canadian Pacific, IDS, City of Denton, CenturyLink, BNP Paribas, Asyaport, EDF, CSC, Fox Sports, Insight, Hunter, KPIT, Paetec, Rosetta Stone, Sonda, Switch, Xerox

TOP COMPARISONS
Vblock vs. VxBlock System ... Compared 73% of the time [See comparison]
FlexPod vs. VxBlock System ... Compared 5% of the time [See comparison]
HPE ConvergedSystem vs. VxBlock System ... Compared 5% of the time [See comparison]

* Data is based on the aggregate profiles of IT Central Station Users reviewing and researching this solution.
Top Reviews by Topic

**VALUABLE FEATURES**

The most valuable feature of this solution is the speed. We have a legacy data center that is separated from the blades. It used to be very slow, and now it is very fast. We have had no trouble with backups. [Full Review]

Mohamed Abdu

**IMPROVEMENTS TO MY ORGANIZATION**

We completely replaced our old data center using this solution. We used to have around one hundred and fifty blades, two storage devices, two Cisco SAN Directors, and a lot of fibre cables. We have replaced all of this with just two VxBlock cabinets. It is very fast and very neat. There are no wires outside. [Full Review]

Mohamed Abdu

**ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT**

This solution does not support Hyper-V, and we would like the new version to be supported and certified to work with Hyper-V. It only supports VMware. We need this as a virtualization solution for the hardware. [Full Review]

Mohamed Abdu
Overview

Secure cloud infrastructure with the industry’s most advanced security, extreme performance, and a complete suite of efficiency enhancements, tools, and automation that work together to dramatically lower cost and complexity.

SAMPLE CUSTOMERS

Advania, Dimension Data, Atos, Etislat Nigeria, HDFC, Specialized Bicycle Components, Uganda Revenue Authority, iQor, United Energy, Portic Barcelona, B Logistics, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, CSC, CNSI, REDISA

TOP COMPARISONS

Oracle Exalogic vs. Oracle SuperCluster ... Compared 44% of the time [See comparison]
Oracle Private Cloud Appliance vs. Oracle SuperCluster ... Compared 16% of the time [See comparison]
IBM PureSystems vs. Oracle SuperCluster ... Compared 9% of the time [See comparison]

VISITORS READING REVIEWS *

COMPANY SIZE

1-200 Employees ... 14%
201-1000 Employees ... 14%
1001+ Employees ... 71%

* Data is based on the aggregate profiles of IT Central Station Users reviewing and researching this solution.
The features of Oracle SuperCluster are more common based. If you want to make any additional configuration or changes to the virtualization layer, it is commonly based. [Full Review]

The promise of consolidation is still a strong selling point, especially if the prospective client has applications that run on SPARC and has its data store in an Oracle Database. [Full Review]

I wouldn't say there is anything good about it because since it was deployed we have been having issues with the cluster. It's not working as we expected. We thought it would be fast and reliable but we are not getting the reliability. It's not stable. It could be an issue with the network or configuration. [Full Review]

Because it's classified as an engineered system, it's all integrated, it's all supported by one vendor. We don't have to go to multiple vendors for support, it's all integrated under Oracle. So it's one place to call, one place to support it, which of course, has advantages in terms of not having to engage multiple vendors. [Full Review]

Regarding the performance between our old system and the new system, previously we were running the system with IBM, the quarterbacking was running in IBM, then we moved to the Oracle SuperCluster. The quarterbacking is from Oracle, the hardware and the database is also running on Oracle. We have seen that there is an improvement in performance. For example, end of the year in IBM, we were running almost twelve and a half hours, but when we moved to Oracle SuperCluster, after the first year it was running for only four hours. It went from twelve and. [Full Review]

One of the limitations we see is its integration with other things, like other brands of storage or networks, or other brands of databases. So if it had capabilities to integrate really well with DB2 or SQL Server or Hitachi SANs, those sort of things, that would be a real benefit. Right now, it's fully supported only under all Oracle infrastructure. [Full Review]
We are not able to upgrade our SuperClass to the latest version, because this solution is more compatible with Oracle. We are not able to run any .NET-based applications and they cannot install Windows. The Oracle SuperCluster is specific to Oracle products. They can set up a convergence infrastructure so that you can run both applications, such as Java, non-Java, .NET, and Windows. The features are limited and we are not able to upgrade this solution. We are not able to integrate our current version with the new, upgraded version. If they had an ap... [Full Review]

There are many areas for improvement. For example, better guidance in terms of troubleshooting issues relating to ZFS, as well as better tools/diagnostics for monitoring that specific component, to better identify potential issues. Hardware monitoring via OEM 13.2 is not 100 percent, as Ops Center is still required in some instances. [Full Review]
Overview

OpenStack is an open and scalable cloud operating system for building public and private clouds. It provides both large and small organizations an alternative to closed cloud environments, reducing the risk of lock-in associated with proprietary platforms.

SAMPLE CUSTOMERS
X.commerce

TOP COMPARISONS
Nutanix vs. Rackspace OpenStack ... Compared 47% of the time [See comparison]
VMware vSAN vs. Rackspace OpenStack ... Compared 12% of the time [See comparison]
HPE SimpliVity vs. Rackspace OpenStack ... Compared 10% of the time [See comparison]

* Data is based on the aggregate profiles of IT Central Station Users reviewing and researching this solution.
Image storage with Akamai. OpenStack allowed for mass uploading of images to Akamai cloud services. It also allowed for product administration with images. [Full Review]
Overview

VersaStack is a converged infrastructure solution of network, compute and storage designed for quick deployment and rapid time to value. The solution includes Cisco UCS integrated infrastructure together with IBM software-defined storage solutions to deliver extraordinary levels of agility and efficiency. VersaStack is backed by Cisco Validated Designs and IBM Redbooks application guides for faster infrastructure delivery as well as workload/application deployment.

Designed for dynamic organizations that want to accelerate business growth while reducing costs, VersaStack incorporates IBM all-flash as well as hybrid storage technologies into the “single pane of glass” management environment provided by Cisco UCS Director. The solution off... [Read More]

SAMPLE CUSTOMERS
Newhall Hospital, Medicat, JJ Haines, Sigmax

TOP COMPARISONS
Vblock vs. IBM VersaStack ... Compared 36% of the time [See comparison]
FlexPod vs. IBM VersaStack ... Compared 25% of the time [See comparison]
Dell PowerEdge VRTX vs. IBM VersaStack ... Compared 10% of the time [See comparison]

* Data is based on the aggregate profiles of IT Central Station Users reviewing and researching this solution.
The following needs improvement:

* Raw data mapping for storage is not a given option, but must be customized.
* Storage management integration with UCS Manager. [Full Review]
Oracle Private Cloud Appliance

Overview

Oracle Private Cloud Appliance, is an integrated infrastructure system engineered to enable rapid deployment of converged compute, network, and storage technologies for hosting applications or workloads on a guest OS. It is a data center-class system that provides incremental and scalable performance optimized for consolidation of mixed workloads.

SAMPLE CUSTOMERS

Agnitum Information Technologies, Mediacloud, Xait AS, Atos Global Managed Services, CaixaBI, ICA AB, BT Spain, Secure-24, Xait

TOP COMPARISONS

Oracle Exalogic vs. Oracle Private Cloud Appliance ... Compared 51% of the time [See comparison]
HP ConvergedSystem vs. Oracle Private Cloud Appliance ... Compared 8% of the time [See comparison]
Vblock vs. Oracle Private Cloud Appliance ... Compared 7% of the time [See comparison]

REVIEWERS *

TOP INDUSTRIES

Software R&D Company ... 41%
Government ... 33%
Comms Service Provider ... 6%
Transportation Company ... 5%

* Data is based on the aggregate profiles of IT Central Station Users reviewing and researching this solution.
About this report

This report is comprised of a list of enterprise level Converged Infrastructure vendors. We have also included several real user reviews posted on ITCentralStation.com. The reviewers of these products have been validated as real users based on their LinkedIn profiles to ensure that they provide reliable opinions and not those of product vendors.

About IT Central Station

The Internet has completely changed the way we make buying decisions. We now use ratings and review sites to see what other real users think before we buy electronics, book a hotel, visit a doctor or choose a restaurant. But in the world of enterprise technology, most of the information online and in your inbox comes from vendors but what you really want is objective information from other users.

We created IT Central Station to provide technology professionals like you with a community platform to share information about enterprise software, applications, hardware and services.

We commit to offering user-contributed information that is valuable, objective and relevant. We protect your privacy by providing an environment where you can post anonymously and freely express your views. As a result, the community becomes a valuable resource, ensuring you get access to the right information and connect to the right people, whenever you need it.

**IT Central Station helps tech professionals by providing:**

- A list of enterprise level Converged Infrastructure vendors
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