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Brocade Workflow Composer Automation Suites

HIGHLIGHTS

- Accelerate time-to-value with turnkey network automation suites, while easily customizing automation as skills and requirements change

- Reduce time-to-resolution using pre-built automation suites for network lifecycle automation that are backed by a world-class support organization

- Increase agility beyond Day 0 by automating the entire network lifecycle—provisioning, validation, troubleshooting, and remediation of Brocade network infrastructure

- Streamline end-to-end IT operations and increase IT agility with event-driven, cross-domain automation

Accelerate Time-to-Value with Turnkey Automation

To unleash new levels of business innovation and competitive advantage, today's organizations are embracing digital transformation. However, their success depends on building an agile business and agile IT. In the digital era, automation is key to IT agility.

The lack of network lifecycle automation and the inability of the network to align with IT operations and tool chains are the biggest inhibitors to an organization's ability to capitalize on digitalization.

Network infrastructures continue to be highly labor-intensive, as advancements

in network automation have remained embedded in proprietary systems and focused on service provisioning. Additionally, network operator training has been slow to evolve from a CLI-centric to an API-centric management model. But with 66 percent of IT organizations aspiring to emulate successful cloud
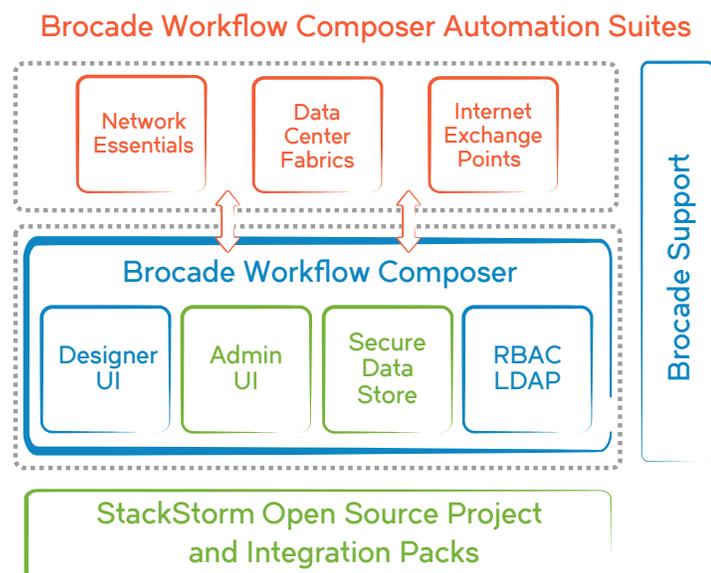

Figure 1: The Brocade Workflow Composer Automation Suite architecture.

provider architectures, automation, and agility,[1] it is clear that the network and the operational model must transform.

Brocade® Workflow Composer™ Automation Suites are specifically designed to jumpstart this transformation and accelerate time-to-value by providing everything needed for complete out-of-the-box network lifecycle automation for Brocade network infrastructure. And when combined with the DevOps-inspired, cross-domain automation of Brocade Workflow Composer (see Figure 1), these automation suites enable IT organizations to achieve immediate improvements in IT agility and accelerate their digital transformation.

Automation Suite Overview

Brocade Workflow Composer Automation Suites are a powerful collection of automation workflows designed and tested to address common automation needs (see Table 1). Each suite provides workflows to automate the entire network lifecycle, including provisioning, validation, troubleshooting, and remediation of Brocade network infrastructure.

Brocade Workflow Composer Automation Suites are ideal for IT organizations that want to embrace automation but have limited automation training and resources. These automation suites are a powerful collection of components assembled, built, and tested with Brocade network infrastructure. Each suite consists of turnkey yet customizable workflows, services, sensors, actions, rules, documentation, and, in some cases, a customized user interface. This innovative design allows Brocade Workflow Composer Automation Suites to deliver out-of-the-box network lifecycle automation for key use cases.

The release model of the suites aligns with the agile nature of DevOps teams and methodologies. To respond quickly to rapidly changing customer needs, Brocade will create and update automation suites on a regular basis. As each suite reaches a certain level of maturity and testing, it will be posted as a "technical preview." Registered Brocade Workflow Composer customers will be able to install and begin testing technical previews for free. Support for these versions is community-based. After each automation suite reaches a designated maturity and testing level, it will be posted for general availability, and all applicable licensing requirements will be applied.

Table 1: Examples of automation workflows provided by Brocade Workflow Composer Automation Suites.

Brocade Workflow Composer Automation Suites		
Network Essentials	**Data Center Fabrics**	**Internet Exchange Points (IXPs)**
Provides automation building blocks for common networking tasks. Examples include: • Configure edge port VLAN, Layer 2 port channel, VLAN interface, VRRPe, and VRF • Set Layer 2 and 3, and System MTU • Validate edge port Layer 2 port channel state, VLAN interface, VRRPe, and OS version • Place switch in maintenance mode • Configure Syslog, NTP, AAA, DNS, and SNMP v2c management services For the current list of automated tasks, view the Network Essentials Automation Suite documentation.	Provides pre-built provisioning and management automation of data center fabric networks for executing advanced automation with minimal training. Examples include: • Provision data center fabric underlay/overlay • Add servers, switches, or Layer 2/3 tenants to fabrics • Upgrade fabric (scheduled, organized execution) • Validate BGP settings and state, BGP neighbors, BGP-EVPN peering, and switch reachability • Troubleshoot and remediate issues with flow trace for end-to-end integrity or leaf-spine connectivity • Perform a "Support Save" For the current list of automated tasks, view the Data Center Fabrics Automation Suite documentation.	Provides pre-built automation for executing advanced automation and very short time-to-value for IXP network operators. Examples include: • Add VLAN and VPLS ports for new customers • Add new customer MAC address to Layer 2 ACL (immediate or scheduled) • Place switch in maintenance mode • Validate MAC address • Validate LSP full mesh • Validate VPLS • Troubleshoot VPLS tunnel paths • Perform a customer health check • Troubleshoot BGP status from route-server • Validate MPLS load balancing • Move customer to quarantine

1   Enterprise Strategy Group, *ESG Research Report: Trends in Data Center Networking*, February 2016.

AUTOMATION ON YOUR TERMS

Brocade Workflow Composer Automation Suites allow IT organizations of all sizes to realize near-term business value while transitioning to automation at their own pace.

An Evolutionary Approach Yields Revolutionary Results

The process of automating network infrastructure involves various steps, each of which delivers greater value but requires advancements in technology, skills, and processes. While some organizations are further along in this process, many are seeking ways to get started by using their existing skills, resources, or investments.

Brocade Workflow Composer, powered by StackStorm, and Brocade Workflow Composer Automation Suites help IT organizations realize short- and long-term business value while transitioning to DevOps-inspired automation with confidence and at their own pace. As a result, they can:

- *Speed up time-to-value with automation suites that include everything needed for network lifecycle automation and are backed by a world-class support organization*
- *Develop and execute an automation strategy at their own pace with turnkey yet customizable, cross-domain network workflow automation—all supported in multivendor network environments*
- *Easily automate the entire network lifecycle—including provisioning, configuration validation, troubleshooting, and remediation—with event-driven automation*
- *Automate with confidence by leveraging the power of proven DevOps methods, popular open source technologies, industry best practices, and a thriving technical community for peer collaboration and innovation*

Getting Started

The Brocade Workflow Composer automation platform and Brocade Workflow Composer Automation Suites are available as a free 90-day evaluation.

For more information on the Brocade Workflow Composer automation platform, or to download the free trial, visit www.brocade.com/workflowcomposer.

About Brocade

Brocade networking solutions help organizations achieve their critical business initiatives as they transition to a world where applications and information reside anywhere. Today, Brocade is extending its proven data center expertise across the entire network with open, virtual, and efficient solutions built for consolidation, virtualization, and cloud computing. Learn more at www.brocade.com.

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