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IT infrastructure   IBM Storage

Cisco MDS 9710 Multilayer Director

Overview   **Features and Benefits**   **Specifications**

Highlights

Help future-proof the data center for cloud and big data with next-generation capabilities

Meet scalability requirements and manage TCO; scale up to 384 Fibre Channel or Fibre Channel over Ethernet (FCoE) ports per chassis

Support IBM® z Systems™ FICON®, FCoE and Fibre Channel protocol environments

Combine large-scale storage networks and multiple storage protocols on a single converged network to reduce complexity and enable hyper agility

Attain high availability with fully redundant components

Benefit from network features such as virtual storage area network (SAN) technology, access control lists and intelligent frame processing

Achieve outstanding SAN performance with support for 16-Gbps Fibre Channel and 1.5 Tbps throughput per slot

Utilize 48-port 16-Gbps Fibre Channel switching module designed to deliver full-duplex aggregate performance of 768 Gbps

Extend the benefits of FCoE beyond the access layer into the data-center core with the full line-rate Cisco MDS 9700 48-Port 10-Gbps and 24-Port 40-Gbps FCoE Modules

Power a new generation of scalable and intelligent multilayer switching solutions for SANs

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A next-generation, director-class SAN switch designed for deployment in large-scale storage networks, Cisco MDS 9710 Multilayer Director for IBM System Networking enables not only enterprise clouds, but business transformation. By adding enterprise connectivity options that support FICON, MDS 9710 delivers a high-performing and reliable FICON infrastructure designed to support fast and scalable z Systems servers. The MDS 9700 platform also provides multi-protocol flexibility for SANs delivering 16-Gbps Fibre Channel, 10-Gbps FCoE and 40-Gbps FCoE capabilities.

Layering a comprehensive set of intelligent features over a high-performance, protocol-independent switch fabric, MDS 9710 addresses the rigorous requirements of large, virtualized data-center storage environments with features such as high availability, extreme scalability, flexibility, security and ease of management. Importantly, it enables the transparent integration of new technologies into the data center to provide highly flexible SAN solutions.

Product features

Delivers up to 24 Tbps of Fibre Channel backplane bandwidth

Provides 16-Gbps line-rate, non-blocking and predictable performance across all traffic conditions for every Fibre Channel and FCoE port in chassis

Provides deterministic hardware performance and features that allow virtual machines to have the same SAN attributes as physical servers

Enables outstanding levels of availability and reliability

Comes mainframe-ready, with full support for z Systems FICON and Fibre Channel protocol (FCP) environments

Hardware summary

Modular, multilayer, highly available, dual supervisor modules with six fabric slots and eight module slots (14RU)

384 2/4/8/16-Gbps and 10-Gbps full line-rate autosensing Fibre Channel ports in single chassis for deployment in both open systems and FICON environments

384 10-Gbps full line-rate autosensing FCoE ports in a single chassis

192 40-Gbps full line-rate autosensing FCoE ports in a single chassis

48-port 16-Gbps Fibre Channel switching module

48-port 10-Gbps FCoE switching module

24-port 40-Gbps FCoE switching module

Hot-swappable switching modules, supervisor modules, fans, power supplies and small form-factor pluggables

Front-to-back airflow