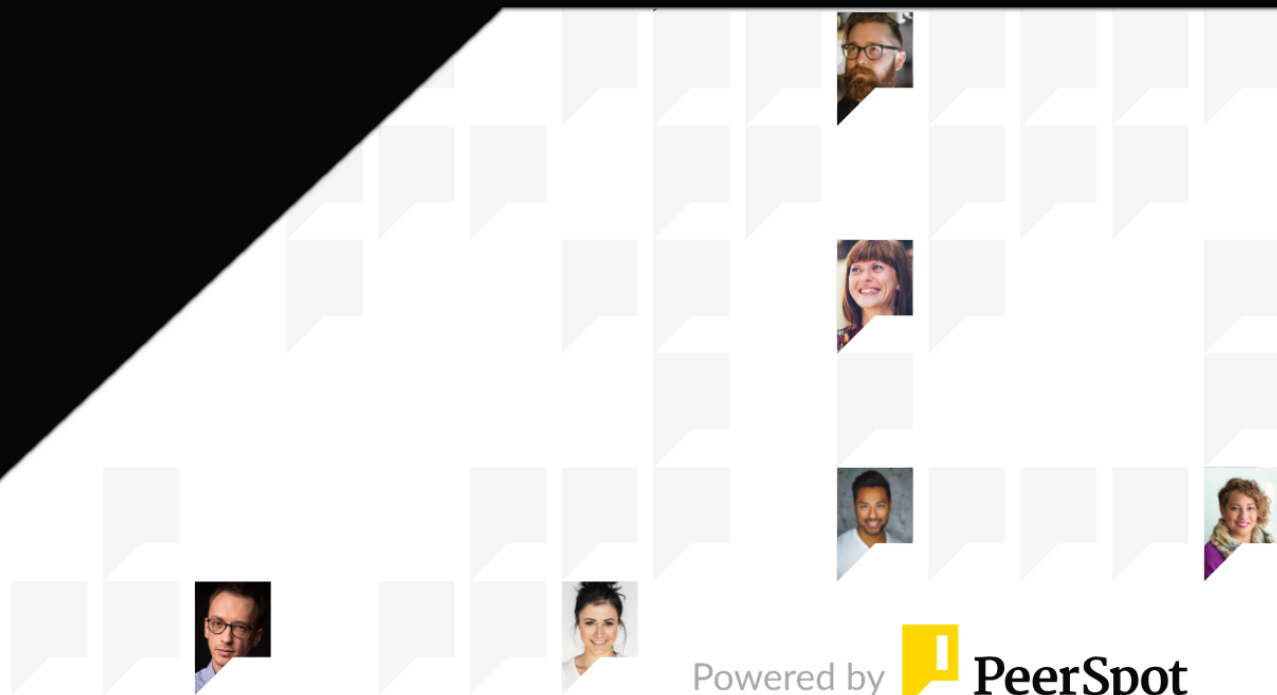




Cisco Catalyst Center

Reviews, tips, and advice from real users



Powered by  **PeerSpot**

Contents

Product Recap..... 3 - 4

Valuable Features..... 5 - 11

Other Solutions Considered..... 12 - 14

ROI..... 15 - 17

Use Case..... 18 - 19

Setup..... 20 - 22

Customer Service and Support..... 23 - 25

Other Advice..... 26 - 28

Trends..... 29 - 30

About PeerSpot..... 31 - 32

Product Recap



Cisco Catalyst Center

Cisco Catalyst Center Recap

Cisco Catalyst Center offers a comprehensive platform for network management, providing scalable solutions and advanced analytics for enterprise-level operations.

Focusing on efficient network management, Cisco Catalyst Center effectively addresses dynamic enterprise environments, ensuring operational scalability and actionable insights through its robust feature set. It emphasizes seamless management with an intuitive interface tailored for professional use, facilitating enhanced network visibility and control among IT professionals and service providers.

What are the standout features of Cisco Catalyst Center?

- **Automated Provisioning:** Simplifies and speeds up network configuration processes by automating repetitive tasks.
- **Advanced Analytics:** Provides real-time insights and trends for network optimization and security enhancements.
- **Policy-Based Configuration:** Ensures consistent network settings adherence with centralized policy management.
- **Comprehensive Monitoring:** Offers in-depth visibility into network performance, facilitating quick identification of issues.

What benefits should users look for in reviews?

- **Improved Efficiency:** Streamlined operations lead to reduced manual input and increased productivity.
- **Cost Savings:** Automation and analytics reduce operational expenses and enhance ROI.
- **Enhanced Security:** Policy enforcement and monitoring provide robust defense against vulnerabilities.
- **Scalability:** Supports growing network infrastructures and evolving enterprise demands.

Cisco Catalyst Center is widely implemented across industries like finance, healthcare, and education due to its ability to handle complex network requirements. It addresses specific needs by offering tailored solutions designed to enhance operational efficiency and security, catering to professionals managing large-scale IT ecosystems.

Valuable Features

Excerpts from real customer reviews on PeerSpot:



“Cisco Catalyst Center's reporting is one of the best features, providing graphs and quick hit analysis in one place instead of having to search elsewhere.”



Andrew Richardson

Network Engineer at Edmonton Catholic School Board



“Cisco Catalyst Center has significantly reduced travel time for our organization, which has approximately 60 locations across our state.”



Sylas Sloan

Network Engineer at CHEROKEE NATION



“Whenever something goes down, it's easy for us to look into a problem because before teammates reach out to us saying they're not getting to the internet, we already know there's a problem because of Cisco Catalyst Center, so it's very useful and helps us have less downtime.”



Verified user

Network Engineer I at a mining and metals company with 10,001+ employees



“Storing the configs with Cisco Catalyst Center benefits my organization because if there is a failure, I can restore directly from it.”



Damon Smith

Security, Network & Hosting Operations Manager, Information Technology at cmog



“Cisco Catalyst Center has been pretty smooth with scaling the growing needs of my organization, and it is scaling; we are about to replace all of our switches, so we are anticipating that it will help a lot with that.”

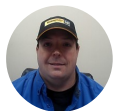


Verified user

Network Engineer at a university with 5,001-10,000 employees



“The features I appreciate most about Cisco Catalyst Center are user accessibility.”



Nicholas Hopper

System Analyst at Wyoming Machinery Company



“What I appreciate most about Cisco Catalyst Center is that it is a product which I am deploying to work.”



Thomas Colberg

IT Engineer at aeven

What users had to say about valuable features:

“The features I appreciate most about Cisco Catalyst Center are user accessibility.

My impression of the end-to-end visibility offered by Cisco Catalyst Center is that it is quite good.

The end-to-end visibility from Cisco Catalyst Center affects my organization's troubleshooting capabilities significantly. Without it, we would not be able to connect to anything..”

Nicholas Hopper

System Analyst at Wyoming Machinery Company

[Read full review](#) 

“Cisco Catalyst Center's reporting is one of the best features, providing graphs and quick hit analysis in one place instead of having to search elsewhere. Historical data can be stored in Cisco Catalyst Center, and dashboards and widgets can be configured to personal preference.

“The web-based interface for managing network and data tasks is functional, though some users still prefer CLI management.

“Cisco Catalyst Center was used with Catholic schools as their primary infrastructure..”

AndrewRichardson

Network Engineer at Edmonton Catholic School Board

[Read full review](#) 

“My favorite feature of Cisco Catalyst Center is the automated patching because previously I had been manually updating equipment at each site.

“Cisco Catalyst Center has significantly reduced travel time for our organization, which has approximately 60 locations across our state. The farthest location from me is about three hours away. If something goes wrong, I previously had to physically travel there to fix it, but now I can resolve it through Cisco Catalyst Center, which is extremely convenient.

“My impression of the end-to-end visibility offered by Cisco Catalyst Center is 10 out of 10. This was the primary reason we wanted Cisco Catalyst Center, so we could have a live view of all nodes on our network..”

Sylas Sloan

Network Engineer at CHEROKEE NATION

[Read full review](#) 

“The most valuable functions in Cisco Catalyst Center are its monitoring capabilities, as it has a very valuable dashboard that allows me to monitor everything and catch every issue in my network.

I am satisfied with the analytics part of Cisco Catalyst Center as I can get statistics about everything in my network, including clients, operating systems, MAC addresses, and switches, which is very good.

The main benefits I receive from Cisco Catalyst Center include management, monitoring, and troubleshooting of the network, and these are very good benefits. However, if I compare it with tools we had before Catalyst, there is no way to compare it. You cannot save money with Cisco..”

MustafaFarhat

Systems Technician. IT Office at a educational organization with 1,001-5,000 employees

[Read full review](#) 

“The features I appreciate most with Cisco Catalyst Center are the net operations and security operations, or SecOps.

“Mostly, it is the compliance portion of Cisco Catalyst Center that stands out. The traditional way I managed switches required me to configure them individually. With Cisco Catalyst Center, it is now controlled in one location and I can easily manage them, ensuring they are all up to date with compliance checks and other requirements. This makes the process much simpler for me.

“One of the considerations that led us to change prior to adopting Cisco Catalyst Center was the management approach. Because it is easier, and as I mentioned before, we had to configure switches individually. With Cisco Catalyst Center, it has made my life significantly easier..”

Raymond Asejo

IT Analyst at City Of Indio

[Read full review](#) 

“I appreciate that Cisco Catalyst Center gives you notifications when the switches go down. When there's downtime for a switch, we get updates very fast.

“I work in the manufacturing industry, so any downtime is losing money. Whenever something goes down, it's easy for us to look into a problem. We won't know that we have to fix the problem unless we've identified it. Before even teammates reach out to us saying they're not getting to the internet or whatever, we already know there's a problem because of Cisco Catalyst Center. So it's very useful and helps us have less downtime.

“I think Cisco Catalyst Center addresses the challenges we face with hybrid and distributed enterprise networks pretty well because now I can bring a switch out of the box and configure it through Catalyst instead of manually spending time doing it. So it saves me a lot of time, and I can focus on something more important..”

Verified user

Network Engineer I at a mining and metals company with 10,001+ employees

[Read full review](#) 

Other Solutions Considered

The main competitor on the market is SolarWinds. However, I prefer working with Cisco due to its integrated hardware and software, which offers better integration.

Verified user

Wireless Network Engineer at a tech services company with 10,001+ employees

[Read full review](#) 

Huawei has been a significant competitor to Cisco, especially regarding cost and return on investment. The increased features and enhancements have affected Huawei's pricing.

Muhammad Kabir Salihu

Deputy Director at NITDA

[Read full review](#) 

“Prior to adopting Cisco Catalyst Center, I used SolarWinds Orion for a long time, and it worked fairly well. However, I wanted something that, since I use Cisco products, would make it easier to replace and integrate Cisco software into my setup..”

Sylas Sloan

Network Engineer at CHEROKEE NATION

[Read full review](#) 

“Before adopting Cisco Catalyst Center, I was using Prime Infrastructure, but I considered a change because Cisco stopped putting development into Prime Infrastructure and moved to Cisco Catalyst Center, with all new devices coming with at least Essentials level Catalyst Center licensing required upon purchase when I buy the equipment..”

Damon Smith

Security, Network & Hosting Operations Manager, Information Technology
at cmog

[Read full review](#) 

“I can compare Cisco Catalyst Center with other products in terms of scalability, compatibility with Cisco products, management, monitoring, analyzing of the network, and AI function. Catalyst Center has a built-in AI function that can analyze data and provide troubleshooting help, which we do not have on our other platform..”

MustafaFarhat

Systems Technician. IT Office at a educational organization with 1,001-5,000 employees

[Read full review](#) 

“Prior to adopting Cisco Catalyst Center, I have used another solution.

“We used SolarWinds, and we used another solution, but I can't even remember the old one now..”

Verified user

Network Engineer at a university with 5,001-10,000 employees

[Read full review](#) 

ROI

Real user quotes about their ROI:

My clients must have seen a positive return on investment, which is why they continue to choose Cisco solutions. If there was no return on investment, they wouldn't select these solutions.

Pratap Barik

Data Center Admin at Sysnet Global Technologies

[Read full review](#) 

We assessed customers' environments, identified performance demands and pain points, and positioned the appropriate Cisco Catalyst Center model to fit, potentially leading to performance improvements and better return on investment.

Shubham Chandra

Solution Architect at HCLSoftware

[Read full review](#) 

“The price to get in the door is quite high. However, as long as I manage my rotation of them as I refresh it, it's not so bad. They have a long life. I did have a small Cisco deployment prior to that, and it was running for 15 years..”

Christopher Dent

[Read full review](#) 

Network Administrator at a healthcare company with 501-1,000 employees

“The voice capabilities are used for the solution, however, I do not know how to quantify this system. The best feature is its availability, easy deployment, and good support for the solution..”

Daniel Garcia Montes

[Read full review](#) 

Consultant at TECVA

“Because we have not fully implemented Cisco Catalyst Center across all sites, I have seen a return on investment primarily at the two sites where we have implemented it. The network's stability at those two sites has been excellent, and that definitely translates to cost benefits, as there is less compliance needed compared to the past..”

Verified user

[Read full review](#) 

Account Service Delivery Manager at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

“These platforms are valuable because they reduce the need for extensive technical resources to manage the network. With such platforms in place, the cost of resources can be lowered, and adding or configuring new elements in the IT landscape becomes much easier. This streamlined approach simplifies network management and allows for more efficient operations..”

Bharath_Kumar

Solution Architect at Velocis Systems

[Read full review](#) 

Use Case

The product was used with Catholic schools because that was their primary infrastructure. This is an enterprise-level product rather than an SMB-grade solution.

AndrewRichardson

Network Engineer at Edmonton Catholic School Board

[Read full review](#) 

“The main use case for us is to centralize managing our switches in one spot. We have a lot of switches to manage, so it's very easy to find that useful..”

Verified user

Network Engineer I at a mining and metals company with 10,001+ employees

[Read full review](#) 

I am involved in implementing and maintaining switches, routers, firewalls, and load balancers at Cisco Catalyst Center. I support clients who have been using Cisco solutions due to various factors, possibly including cost, system integration, and market availability.

Pratap Barik

Data Center Admin at Sysnet Global Technologies

[Read full review](#) 

“We are primarily using Cisco Catalyst Center for two purposes: LAN automation, which we deployed for two sites, and wireless assurance for all 17 sites..”

Verified user

[Read full review](#) 

Account Service Delivery Manager at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

“Our primary use case for Cisco Catalyst Center involves deploying different models of Catalyst switches, particularly for user connectivity. Some models are used for extra switching, some for distribution, and others for core applications. We extensively deploy various types of Catalyst switches..”

Syed Shahnawaz Hussain

[Read full review](#) 

Sr. Executive Design Engineering Team at Wateen Telecom (pvt.)

“I use Cisco Catalyst Center to automate patching schedules for all switches and firewalls on the network, and I will soon be using it to build out layer two and three network maps and topology maps.

“We are switching to a hybrid setup with Cisco Catalyst Center, and many of our VMs are moving to the cloud, which is providing a challenge from a routing perspective..”

Sylas Sloan

[Read full review](#) 

Network Engineer at CHEROKEE NATION

Setup

The setup process involves configuring and preparing the product or service for use, which may include tasks such as installation, account creation, initial configuration, and troubleshooting any issues that may arise. Below you can find real user quotes about the setup process.

The initial setup of Cisco Catalyst Center is not complex, but it requires knowledge. The complexity depends on the architecture size; if properly understood, it can be configured within a few hours.

Pratap Barik

Data Center Admin at Sysnet Global Technologies

[Read full review](#) 

The initial setup is seamless for using and managing Cisco Catalyst Center. However, the initial process of loading the iOS software on new devices is time-consuming. Reducing this time would lower installation costs, especially when most companies outsource this task and pay technicians by the hour.

Premnath Jaganathan

Product Manager at Uop Ipl

[Read full review](#) 

“We just started implementing Cisco Catalyst Center last year, so this is fairly new to us. I had the great opportunity to install and configure it for the first time, and I am learning quite a lot, especially from attending Cisco Live..”

Raymond Asejo

IT Analyst at City Of Indio

[Read full review](#) 

“The initial setup for Cisco Catalyst Center is not a simple process. You must follow the exact recommendations from Cisco to get it set up correctly at the end; otherwise, you will face many issues. It is not complex, but at the same time, it is not simple..”

MustafaFarhat

Systems Technician. IT Office at a educational organization with 1,001-5,000 employees

[Read full review](#) 

“The deployment for Cisco Catalyst Center took a long time, and I am not able to recollect exactly how much time was required for installation, as it depended on the customer and happened in a phase-to-phase manner during COVID. However, for the new site we have planned for execution, we expect to complete everything, including deployment, testing, and UAT sign off, within a 15-day period..”

Verified user

Account Service Delivery Manager at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

[Read full review](#) 

“My experience with deploying Cisco Catalyst Center is that the deployment was simple, as getting all of my devices to join was straightforward, but there were some features that were supposed to function, especially when it came to adding in Meraki Dashboard; devices were not populating, and although it was advertised as being able to do that, when I talked to Cisco TAC, they said that was not possible..”

Damon Smith

Security, Network & Hosting Operations Manager, Information Technology
at cmog

[Read full review](#) 

Customer Service and Support

“On a scale of one to ten, with ten being the best, I think customer support and customer service are actually good. I would rate them at eight or nine..”

Thomas Colberg

IT Engineer at aeven

[Read full review](#) 

“I have not contacted tech support yet. However, based on my previous experience with other switches, I would rate customer service and tech support at 10. They are very helpful and supportive..”

Raymond Asejo

IT Analyst at City Of Indio

[Read full review](#) 

“I would evaluate customer service and support at a scale of 1 to 10 as an 8.

“The reason for that is that the people we have worked with have been pretty reactive to issues..”

Verified user

Network Engineer at a university with 5,001-10,000 employees

[Read full review](#) 

“I evaluate customer service and tech support as sometimes being questionable; if it is not labeled as a high priority, it is not treated as such, so if it does not require a very fast response, I can go weeks without hearing anything on a ticket, and I sometimes have to put things in as higher priority to get an initial response, but it always gets changed down to a lower priority..”

Damon Smith

Security, Network & Hosting Operations Manager, Information Technology
at cmog

[Read full review](#) 

“In terms of technical support from Cisco, I had very few tickets open for DNAC and my experience is not so bad, but not so good either. Each case's situation can be different, and I believe the team should have better analytical skills, as the cases I raised went to the BU level. I would give it a rating of seven, due to challenges in getting the right engineer at the right time and issues related to different time zones..”

Verified user

Account Service Delivery Manager at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

[Read full review](#) 

“On a scale from 1 to 10, I would rate customer service and technical support as 10 out of 10. I have not needed to use it yet, but we have a representative who has been extremely helpful. I have not had any issues, and any issues I have brought to him are handled promptly.

“The response time from Cisco Catalyst Center support is very quick..”

Sylas Sloan

Network Engineer at CHEROKEE NATION

[Read full review](#) 

Other Advice

“Cisco Catalyst Center might optimize the experience in a hybrid or distributed enterprise setup; I just have not used it long enough to determine that. My overall review rating for Cisco Catalyst Center is 8 out of 10..”

Sylas Sloan

Network Engineer at CHEROKEE NATION

[Read full review](#) 

“My experience with deploying Cisco Catalyst Center was positive, as it worked well and I have not encountered too many problems.

Cisco Catalyst Center scales with the growing needs for my organization quite well.

On a scale of one to ten, I would rate Cisco Catalyst Center as definitely ten. I would rate this review as a ten overall..”

Nicholas Hopper

System Analyst at Wyoming Machinery Company

[Read full review](#) 

“I have not faced any specific challenges with hybrid and distributed enterprise networks that Cisco addresses.

“Since I am all Cisco, I assess the operational efficiency in my IT environment as being at the same level.

“I provide an overall review rating of 8 for Cisco Catalyst Center..”

Damon Smith

Security, Network & Hosting Operations Manager, Information Technology
at cmog

[Read full review](#) 

“In my type of environment regarding hybrid and distributed enterprise networks, I do not work with a hybrid type of environment, so I do not have any challenges in that area.

“Cisco Catalyst Center addresses a lot of my security concerns, especially in the world of cybersecurity where there is a lot of risk. It does address many of those concerns.

“My impression of the end-to-end visibility is that it is excellent. The new implementation of AI has made it easier, and it can find things that I could not see on my own. I have given this product a review rating of 10..”

Raymond Asejo

IT Analyst at City Of Indio

[Read full review](#) 

“The operational efficiency of Cisco in my IT environment is pretty good. There have been a few problems with hardware, like one of the nodes stops working, but I don't expect it to run perfectly. I would say it gives us overall good visibility, so

that's how I would assess it. It's good visibility for what we have out there.

“My impression of the end-to-end visibility is that it's great. I'm able to build agents and use Cisco Catalyst Center to give me a lot of information. So now I don't even have to log into Catalyst. I get better visibility if something goes down, like if an endpoint goes down, I can identify the switch, or it will identify it for me and give me troubleshooting tips and advice through Catalyst. So the visibility is very good in that regard.

“I rate Cisco Catalyst Center overall as an eight out of ten..”

Verified user

Network Engineer I at a mining and metals company with 10,001+ employees

[Read full review](#) 

“I have not really faced any specific challenges with hybrid and being distributed to the enterprise networks that Cisco Catalyst Center addresses.

“Cisco Catalyst Center optimizes the experience in a hybrid distributed enterprise setup.

“I would probably assess the optimal efficiency of Cisco Catalyst Center in my IT environment as above average.

“I am not really sure on the end-to-end visibility offered by Cisco Catalyst Center.

“The deployment model for Cisco Catalyst Center is on-premises.

“For my cloud provider, we use [Amazon Web Services](#) and [Azure](#).

“I would rate this review a 7..”

Verified user

Network Engineer at a university with 5,001-10,000 employees

[Read full review](#) 

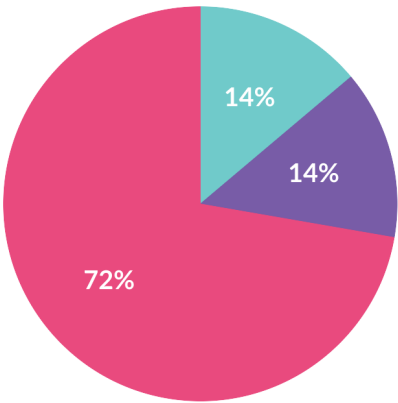
Top Industries

by visitors reading reviews

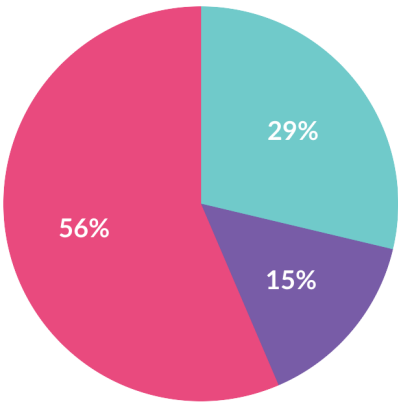


Company Size

by reviewers



by visitors reading reviews



 Large Enterprise  Midsize Enterprise  Small Business

About this buyer's guide

Thanks for downloading this PeerSpot report.

The summaries, overviews and recaps in this report are all based on real user feedback and reviews collected by PeerSpot's team. Every reviewer on PeerSpot has been authenticated with our triple authentication process. This is done to ensure that every review provided is an unbiased review from a real user.

Get a custom version of this report... Personalized for you!

Please note that this is a generic report based on reviews and opinions from the collective PeerSpot community. We offer a [customized report](#) of solutions recommended for you based on:

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

The customized report will include recommendations for you based on what other people like you are using and researching.

Answer a few questions in our short wizard to get your customized report.

[Get your personalized report here](#)

About PeerSpot

PeerSpot is the leading review site for cloud, AI, and business software. We created PeerSpot to provide a trusted platform to share information about software, applications, and services. Since 2012, over 22 million people have used PeerSpot to choose the right software for their business.

PeerSpot helps tech professionals by providing:

- A list of products recommended by real users
- In-depth reviews, including pros and cons
- Specific information to help you choose the best vendor for your needs

Use PeerSpot to:

- Read and post reviews of products
- Access over 30,000 buyer's guides and comparison reports
- Request or share information about functionality, quality, and pricing

Join PeerSpot to connect with peers to help you:

- Get immediate answers to questions
- Validate vendor claims
- Exchange tips for getting the best deals with vendor

Visit PeerSpot: www.peerspot.com

PeerSpot

244 5th Avenue, Suite R-230 • New York, NY 10001

reports@peerspot.com

+1 646.328.1944