HCL
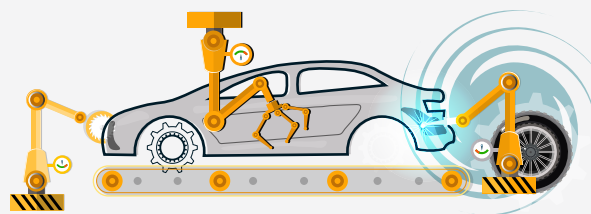
REIMAGINING DATA CENTER NETWORK FOR A LEADING MANUFACTURING FIRM

Customer Background

▶ The customer is a leading European manufacturing company with around a century of experience in production, distribution and sale of automobiles and construction equipment. The customer employs about 100K people, has production facilities in 18 countries and sells its products in more than 190 countries.
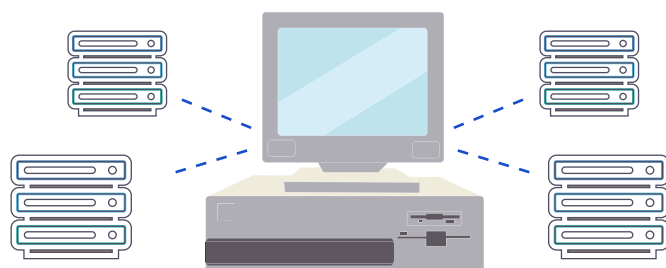
Legacy Network Infrastructure was Impeding Business Agility

▶ Obsolescent legacy network infrastructure, with more than 16K heterogeneous network assets of multiple vendors across geographically dispersed Data Centers (DCs), restrained business scalability and agility of a global manufacturing company. The vendor lock-ins prevented in-time deployment of new applications and services.

▶ Limited visibility of the entire application and network infrastructure made problems harder to troubleshoot, diagnose and manage. Adding to this, was the absence of a single plane of glass that could seamlessly orchestrate network and security policies across DCs and sites.

▶ Multiple fragmented solutions were needed to support workloads from different hypervisors which added the complexity and the cost required to manage it.

▶ Manual setup of network devices to isolate traffic from multiple customers took significant amount of time and effort. Error prone manual configuration and change management activities reduced overall productivity and operational efficiency.

## HCL's Sensus: One Answer for End-To-End Network Transformation
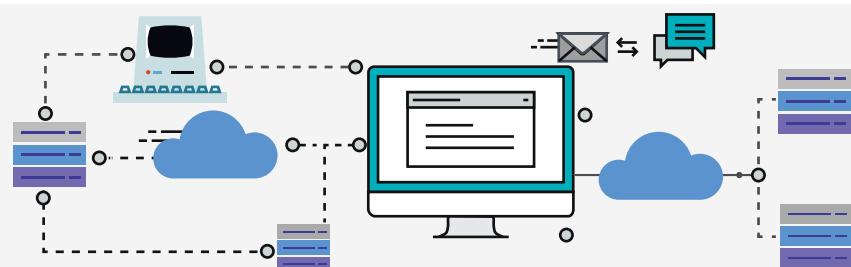
▶ The solution was architected basis HCL's Software Defined Networking (SDN) framework 'Sensus'. The SDN framework covered end to end transformation of the data center network infrastructure.

> **Sensus** involves a robust end-to-end assessment of customer landscape on various parameters such as physical and virtual infrastructure, state of network devices, traffic flow, application ecosystem and behavior, and data center operational processes.

These parameters helped identify the optimum vendor ecosystem to stitch the right solution forming a seamless fit for the overall organization's multi tower strategy.

HCL successfully deployed the right SDN solution in a fraction of the committed time using automated scripts based on Ansible templates. HCL also provided seamless integration with load balancers, firewalls, and HCL's network automation tool 'NetBOT' for different DC use cases. The final architecture supported network programmability, multi-tenancy, multi-hypervisor environment, automated provisioning, and centralized management and control, independent of the underlying hardware.
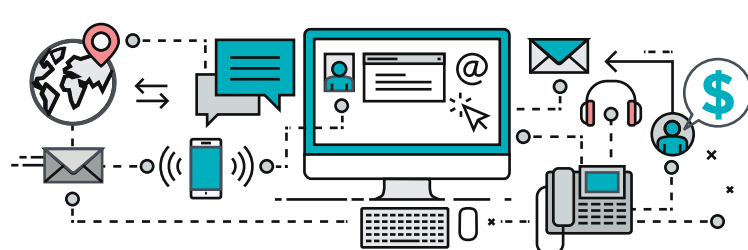
Reaping The Benefits

HCL's Software Defined Networking (SDN) framework helped achieve:

▶ **Cost Optimization:** Reduced CAPEX and OPEX by **30%** by eliminating dependencies on proprietary hardware and enabling network programmability simplified network administration.

▶ **Scalable Multi-tenancy:** Created a shared service multi-tenant platform that automatically isolates customer traffic and support workloads from different hypervisors such as VMware ESXi, Microsoft Hyper-V, and KVM.

▶ **Greater Network Agility:** Dynamically adjusted the network-wide traffic flow based on workload demands through network programmability and virtualization.

▶ **Improved Operational Efficiency:** Single plane of glass for all change management and policy needs across geographically dispersed DCs including automated provisioning, configuration and control.

▶ **Graceful Migration:** Successful migration of multiple customers on multi-tenant software defined DC environment with zero downtime.

▶ **Seamless Integration:** REST API based integration with 'NetBOT' for driving end-to-end automation use cases. Reduced incident tickets for LAN and DCLAN by at least 30%.

Who We Are

▶ HCL Network Practice has been delivering managed network solutions and services for almost a quarter century. We bring innovative network solutions and products to help customers future proof their networks and adapt technologies such as SDWAN, SDN, Automation & Orchestration, Unified communication & collaboration. We have 3500+ highly skilled, certified networking professionals with experience of working across multiple engagements of varying scale and complexity. We provide complete lifecycle of Network solutions and Services – from strategy (technology platform or vendor), design, implementation and managed services across all facets of data and collaboration networks in the enterprise. We have state of the art Customer Experience Center and Technology labs that give customers a first-hand experience on network technologies and trends, our current and future offerings.

PAC (A CXP Group company) publishes an exclusive report on HCL offerings in DACH market. HCL's unique next-gen network services and carefully devised localization strategy is creating substantial value for customers in the DACH market. *Download the report here*

To find out more about how HCL's Infrastructure Management services can help you simplify IT complexity and support your business' digital initiatives – *please contact us at* **ITO@hcl.com**