CISCO MDS TEST DRIVE

Service Overview:

At Netnology, we specialize in Cisco Multilayer Director Switch (MDS) services to expedite the adoption of the solutions. The test-drive offer will help customers develop a baseline understanding of Cisco MDS and its value proposition.

This 2–4-hour session will demonstrate the working of Cisco MDS and much more. It will also highlight the ease of configuration and manageability of this integrated solution.

This test-drive is built and delivered by subject matter experts (SMEs) who have extensive experience working with Data Center Solution.

Solution Overview:

The Cisco MDS SAN Solution Test Drive Service is designed to give customers a hands-on experience of deploying, operating, and validating a modern Storage Area Network (SAN) using Cisco MDS 9000 Series switches. Built for mission-critical storage environments, Cisco MDS delivers high-performance Fibre Channel connectivity, intelligent SAN services, and enterprise-class availability to support business-critical applications across physical and virtual data centers.

Cisco MDS simplifies storage networking through centralized management, resilient fabric architecture, advanced traffic visibility, and automated operational capabilities. During this test drive, participants will explore key SAN capabilities—including fabric initialization, zoning configuration, VSAN segmentation, Inter-Switch Link (ISL) deployment, device discovery, NPIV, port-channel configuration, monitoring, and SAN health validation. The session demonstrates how Cisco MDS provides a secure, scalable, and highly available storage networking foundation while simplifying day-to-day SAN operations and accelerating storage infrastructure deployment.

Service Benefits:

Netnology has a team of world-class engineers who specialize in Storage Networking solutions and are passionate about customer success. Netnology will partner with you to provide guidance on:

- **Accelerated SAN Deployment:** Demonstrating the simplicity of deploying and configuring Cisco MDS SAN fabrics using industry best practices and validated architectures.
- **Resilient Storage Connectivity:** Showcasing high-availability SAN design with VSANs, redundant fabrics, ISLs, and intelligent path resiliency for uninterrupted storage access.
- **Operational Efficiency:** Highlighting centralized SAN management, simplified zoning, proactive fabric monitoring, and streamlined Day-2 operations.
- **Scalable Storage Performance:** Validating Cisco MDS's ability to deliver high-bandwidth, low-latency Fibre Channel connectivity for enterprise storage, virtualization, and mission-critical workloads.

Scope of Services:

As part of the 2–4-hour Test Drive engagement, Netnology will provide the following services:

- Solution Overview
- Solution Value Proposition
- Solution Use-case Demo
  - Cisco MDS Provisioning
    - Fabric initialization and switch provisioning.
    - VSAN creation and Fibre Channel interface configuration.
    - Inter-Switch Link (ISL) establishment and fabric formation.
    - Storage and host device discovery (FLOGI/FCNS).
    - Fabric validation and operational verification.
  - Storage Connectivity and SAN Operations
    - Zone creation using single-initiator, single-target best practices.
    - Active zone set activation and zoning validation.
    - NPIV host login and end-to-end storage access verification.
    - PortChannel configuration for ISL resiliency.
  - SAN Monitoring and High Availability
    - Fabric health and status verification.
    - Fibre Channel port monitoring and performance statistics.
    - Link failure simulation and fabric resiliency validation.
    - Review of event logs, alarms, and diagnostic information.
- Lessons learned and enhancements

Target Audience:

This service is designed for candidates with little to no Cisco MDS and SAN experience or prior knowledge.

Service Deliverables:

No.	Deliverable	Service Details
1.	Concepts	• Solution Overview • Environment Overview • Use-Case Overview
2.	Value-Prop	• Ease of configuration • Ease of manageability
3.	Execution	• Cisco MDS Provisioning • Storage Connectivity and SAN Operations • SAN Monitoring and High Availability
4.	Wrap-up	• Lessons Learned • Q&A