



## Introduction

With the rapid developments in storage networking, such as implementation of Fibre Channel over Ethernet (FCoE), many customers have been asking questions about compatibility. They want to know more than just how a technology works; they want to know how it works with other solutions.

Any time a new technology emerges, people have lots of questions about how to implement it. For instance, Cisco SMARTnet® customers want to know: Will it work with my existing equipment? Will it work with other equipment that I want to acquire? Will it work with other vendors' equipment?

Cisco is a world-leader in FCoE technology and, as a result, is changing the way administrators think about data center deployments. Through the power of the Cisco® Data Center Assurance Program (DCAP), the Cisco Storage Enterprise Assurance Lab (SEAL) can give you the confidence to deploy Fibre Channel and FCoE with thoroughly tested, validated designs.

## What Is Cisco SEAL?

Cisco SEAL is the certification program for Fibre Channel and FCoE devices. The Cisco Data Center Storage Networking certification matrix tests and certifies end-to-end solutions, including converged network adapters (CNAs), Cisco Nexus® Family and Cisco MDS 9000 Family switches, Cisco Unified Computing System™, and storage targets.

The Cisco SEAL program provides Cisco certification of storage-related equipment, whether it is Fibre Channel or FCoE. Cisco SEAL provides Cisco customers with the tools necessary to plan storage networks. In particular, Cisco SEAL and DCAP provide:

- Interoperability matrices for Fibre Channel and FCoE equipment
- Cisco Validated Designs, with access to test plans and results
- Multivendor FCoE interoperability tests
- Recommended software versions
- Third-party network management, multipathing, and backup applications
- Supported host operating systems, hardware, and storage disk and tape arrays

## Cisco SEAL Program

The Cisco SEAL program includes the core Cisco FCoE technologies, and it will continue to grow to encompass a comprehensive matrix of interoperable FCoE and Fibre Channel products. As the FCoE and Fibre Channel ecosystem expands, so will Cisco SEAL, identifying qualified solutions for immediate deployment in the data center. Cisco SEAL provides a single point of reference for equipment and solutions certified by Cisco.

## Why Cisco SEAL?

The promise of network convergence has shown that a true solution is more than just the sum of its parts, and Cisco SEAL provides guidance about which parts work best together. The Cisco SEAL matrix helps ensure easy deployment of Cisco's data center Fibre Channel and FCoE products and provides the most up-to-date information regarding qualified solutions ready for immediate deployment.

Further, Cisco SEAL does not provide guidance only about FCoE. Cisco SEAL is a single point of reference for Cisco certified storage equipment and solutions: switches, adapters, operating systems, disk arrays, and tape drives, applications, and much more.

## Cisco Differentiators

Cisco is the world leader in converged networking and unified fabric solutions; Cisco SEAL gives customers and vendors direct access to the latest information about supported FCoE and Fibre Channel equipment to assist in the development of short- and long-term data center solutions.

## For More Information

For more information, please visit <http://www.cisco.com/go/seal>.