SteelHead CX/GX

Visibility, Optimization and Control for the Hybrid Enterprise

Today, Riverbed® SteelHead™ delivers not only best-in-class optimization—but essential visibility and control as companies transition to the hybrid enterprise.

The Riverbed SteelHead CX/GX solution accelerates the performance of all applications including on-premise, cloud, and software-as-a-service (SaaS) across the hybrid WAN for organizations that want to deliver the best end-user experience.

The solution is engineered for seamless network integration into remote sites, data centers, and private and public clouds with scalable performance designed to support a growing number of users, devices, and data.

SteelHead comes in a variety of form factors/models, including appliances, virtual software, and cloud instances.

SteelHead CX is available as a virtual solution on VMware vSphere, Microsoft Hyper-V and KVM. With SteelHead CX for Virtual, you can deliver application performance improvements while leveraging the scalability and cost benefits of virtualization.

Built for public cloud environments, such as Amazon Web Services (AWS), Microsoft Azure, and VMware ESX-based cloud and vCloud Air. SteelHead CX for Clouds extends optimization, visibility, and control to intrastructure-as-a-service (IaaS) clouds.

SteelHead CX is certified for Microsoft Azure and VMware vCloud Air.

Business Challenge

The traditional enterprise has evolved into a hybrid one with people, apps, and data everywhere. More and more business-critical applications are moving to public clouds for SaaS and to private clouds, while others remain on premise in datacenters. Additionally, organizations are leveraging combinations of hybrid networks (MPLS, Internet VPN, and public Internet) for real-time application delivery to location-independent users.

IT is under continued pressure to deliver the highest level of performance while also managing the budget in a complex and evolving hybrid network. Manageability of application performance, reduced visibility, and limited control, as well as difficult migrations and complex deployments to the cloud, can challenge IT and put applications at risk for performance issues. As a result, businesses and users often experience decreased productivity.

Key Benefits

Accelerated application performance and reduced bandwidth consumption

- Increases application and data transfer performance up to 100x

- Reduces bandwidth utilization by up to 95%, thus deferring costly network bandwidth upgrades

- Increases throughput and the number of connections in a single box by up to 50%

- Ensures the best performance for the largest number of applications on premise, in the cloud, and for SaaS

- Delivers application acceleration in every type of cloud environment, including the majority of public cloud environments

Integrated visibility

- Enables end-user monitoring and troubleshooting for SteelHead-optimized and non-optimized enterprise Web and SaaS applications through seamless integration with Riverbed® SteelCentral™ AppResponse

- Supports end-to-end network monitoring and reporting through seamless integration with SteelCentral NetProfiler

- Improves problem resolution with on demand gathering of packet and flow data from the branch through activation of SteelCentral NetShark

Enhanced control with application-aware, business intent-based policies

- Automatically derives all application path possibilities to streamline configuration when used with the SteelCentral Controller

- Dynamically selects the best application path based on application-aware, business intent-based policies, and network availability

- Leverages simplified configuration with REST API for hybrid features—path selection, QoS, and secure transport—and custom API scripts for monitoring

- Utilizes streamlined QoS configuration with per-site exceptions as needed, using centralized, business intent-based policies, and application grouping

- Secures all traffic between SteelHead solutions across private and Internet links with standards-based encryption

Key Features

Multi-tiered optimization

- Leverages multiple optimization techniques, including data, application, and transport streamlining, as well as specifically-designed SaaS and cloud intelligence

- Improves end-user experience and reduces traffic over direct Internet connections with a fully embedded, transparent HTTP(S) proxy for local connection termination and Web object caching, including video

- Enables high-quality, rich media experiences while reducing bandwidth consumption for both live video and video on demand (VOD) with stream splitting and video caching

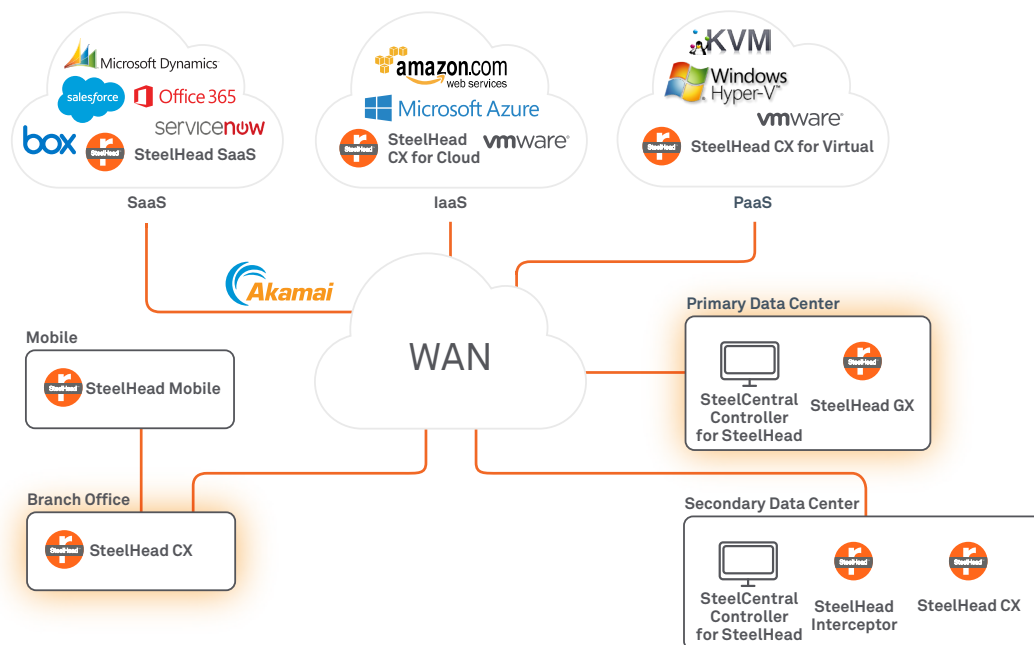### Industry-leading performance

- Features the highest-capacity SSD-based optimization controller

- Includes a full range of SSD-based appliances ideal for large branch offices and data centers

Support for large-scale deployments

- Supports up to one million connections through an intelligent, scale-as-you-grow performance architecture

- Automates migration of QoS configuration to streamline upgrades to newer versions of SteelHead

Faster, more cost-effective disaster recovery

- Accelerates both replication and back up from the branch—or between data centers—by 10x or more

- Eliminates the need for additional bandwidth or longer backup window

Learn More

Riverbed delivers not only optimization of all applications (on prem, SaaS and cloud)—but essential visibility and control across the hybrid enterprise. Riverbed SteelHead solutions support location-independent computing for organizations of all sizes. A broad Riverbed product portfolio delivers a SteelHead appliance or software for every laptop, branch office, or data center providing the highest performance for data and application acceleration, backup, replication, and recovery across the hybrid network. What's more, you can upgrade your solutions within a model family as your demand grows.

To learn more about Riverbed SteelHead solutions, including the Riverbed SteelHead CX/GX solution, please visit: www.riverbed.com/SteelHead.

About Riverbed
Riverbed enables organizations to modernize their networks and applications with industry-leading SD-WAN, application acceleration, and visibility solutions. Riverbed's platform allows enterprises to transform application and cloud performance into a competitive advantage by maximizing employee productivity and leveraging IT to create new forms of operational agility. At more than $1 billion in annual revenue, Riverbed's 28,000+ customers include 97% of the *Fortune* 100 and 98% of the *Forbes* Global 100.
Learn more at riverbed.com.

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