The public sector's work day is no longer sheltered in a single building, desk or computer. State and local IT users are expanding the terrain they traverse every day, exerting more control over how and where they connect. As they work in the storm of the constantly expanding cloud they must face a new reality, one that demands more speed, more power and more security from IT. Thanks to the new Cisco® Collaboration Cloud platform, featuring Cisco Project Squared and the awe-inspiring new Cisco TelePresence® IX5000, you can now shelter end users from the storm while giving them the tools they need to securely and successfully accomplish their missions.

Cisco Collaboration Cloud: Team Builder + Team Player 24/7

It is roaring to life, bringing a much needed user-focused approach that is helping public sector teams work together like never before. The Cisco Collaboration Cloud platform introduces an exciting new approach to cloud based projects called Cisco Project Squared. And it delivers an enhanced Cisco TelePresence IX5000 experience that is turning heads, all while delivering the speed, power and security your organization needs to excel. By enhancing your team's collaboration through an easy-to-use cloud experience, the Cisco Collaboration Cloud platform is able to respond to your team's changing needs more rapidly and securely. Based on a service-oriented architecture (SOA), Cisco's approach is designed to be an engine for innovation, spurring creativity and advanced working solutions for your projects.

To be successful, collaboration in the cloud requires a common experience across roles, organizational boundaries and devices. The Cisco Collaboration Cloud platform does just that, leveling the field by removing barriers to creativity and enhancing the free flow of information and ideas. By giving your team access to this resource any time, any place, its creativity never sleeps. Your team is free of restrictions and able to explore the best solutions whenever creativity strikes, 24 hours a day.

Project Squared: Sharing Ideas Any Time, Any Place

As state and local workers are becoming more mobile, their need for real time chat, audio, video and conferencing is growing. Cisco Project Squared is designed specifically for them. Free to work any time, any place your team can now enjoy this app-based collaboration tool on a number of mobile devices, including smartphones and tablets. This next-generation, cloud-based tool lets your entire team enjoy a shared experience. They can now stay connected across devices, time zones and even project teams. Cisco Project Squared lets your staff get up to speed on current projects, evolve current ideas and freely share from in and outside your organization without any security concerns.

"There's a tremendous opportunity to boost productivity and collaboration by connecting content to the tools people use most," said Aaron Levie, co-founder and CEO of Box. "With Project Squared, Cisco is connecting team collaboration to information in a seamless, elegant way. We believe the future of enterprise IT is best of breed, and we're incredibly excited to work with Cisco to enable better collaboration across our two platforms."

With Cisco Project Squared, the physical conference room expands to the cloud, letting your team securely share messages, post files and enjoy both voice and video calls. Its intuitive design works elegantly with web browsers without the need for VPNs or plugins. And it is designed to integrate your existing business tools, such as calendars, Microsoft Active Directory, Cisco WebEx® and Box. Plus, it does all this with the ease and reliability of enterprise IT security and is designed to evolve as your needs evolve. Best of all, Project Squared is now available as a free download. Try it at: http://projectsquared.com/

Cisco TelePresence: Enhancing Reality Again

The three-screen Cisco TelePresence video-conferencing technology is once again leading the pack in industry firsts. With the introduction of the new Cisco TelePresence IX5000, your state or local agency can experience a simple,

affordable yet vivid interactive collaboration. At half the bandwidth, half the power and half the installation time of previous models, the Cisco TelePresence IX5000 delivers the very best, most life-like video, audio and collaboration experience available. And it may do so at lower costs.

Now your team can enjoy world-class quality video collaboration for up to 18 people. Those complicated, time consuming installations of the past are gone as are the high costs of cooling, electric, and bandwidth usage. The new Cisco TelePresence IX5000 features half the bandwidth (H.265 compression) of competitive three-screen systems and requires less power than a hair dryer (under 10 amps). Featuring powerful graphics processing, it easily smooths transitions between people and content, and amazingly can digitally correct awkward angles on whiteboards. Cisco TelePresence IX5000 also lets you view multiple presentation sources simultaneously. Plus, whether you're sitting, standing or at the whiteboard, its three high-end 4K cameras, an industry first, easily captures the entire room in ultra-high definition. Cisco has also focused on users' audio experience. Cisco TelePresence IX5000 immerses viewers in theater-quality audio thanks to 18 custom speakers and an integrated subwoofer. Plus, its revolutionary microphone array, featuring 17,502 sound-capturing micro holes, uses advanced beam-forming technology to deliver crystal clear audio.

Cisco's team of designers also extended their innovation beyond the collaborative experience itself. This includes cable-free presentation. By simply opening your laptop you can be instantly connected through Wi-Fi and start your presentation. With a built-in universal video adapter, another industry first, a variety of devices can be quickly and elegantly connected. At Cisco, our goal is to bring Cisco TelePresence technology to every room, every desk and every pocket. Thanks to innovative design solutions and industry first, we are nearing that goal.

Next Steps to Collaboration Cloud

With the announcement of the Cisco Collaboration Cloud platform, a prime opportunity for your state or local agency to transition to cloud-based IT solutions has arrived. This innovation in cloud can provide your organization with significant flexibility and reduced overall IT costs. By enabling a hosted collaboration solution (HCS), you can experience even greater savings by eliminating purchase and maintenance of internal systems. You can also benefit from HCS thanks to its support of multiple devices and applications on a single platform, plus, it can be more readily expanded or downsized as your mission dictates, resulting in significant long-term savings.

To help state and local agencies in this transition to cloud-based IT solutions, Cisco and Collab9 have partnered to provide you with flexible hosted collaboration solutions. Collab9 HCS for state and local agencies can be customized especially for you. Your organization can now benefit from voice, voice mail, unified messaging, point-to-point video, mobility and much more. And you can get it all using a low risk, subscription-based model to minimize impacts on your organization's budget. So, take this opportunity to step up to the cloud and drive collaboration with the Cisco Collaboration Cloud platform, featuring Cisco Project Squared and TelePresence IX5000. For more information on how it can work for you, visit the Cisco Collaboration Cloud platform.