Written by Marco Attard 01 July 2016

IBM joins forces with Cisco in the name of enterprise collaboration, as IBM integrates the Cisco Spark and WebEx platforms with the cloud-based Connections and Verse solutions.



Spark provides 3 types of cloud-based communications-- messages, meetings and calls-- while WebEx is the Cisco online meeting and videoconferencing solution. Connections is the IBM take on business-oriented social networks, and Verse is a cloud-based email and messaging platform.

The integration of such disparate solutions, the two companies hope, will create a suite of collaboration tools powered by the Watson cognitive computing system able to provide users with insights based on daily interactions and activities.

IBM gives the example of a financial advisor holding a meeting over WebEx video conferencing while providing real-time advice and tasks via Watson, all while Connection securely stores all documents shared over WebEx.

"The irony of many workforce tools available today is that with because there are so many to choose from, they can reduce employee effectiveness," Big Blu says. "With our combined technology strengths and understanding of how teams get work done, IBM and Cisco can deliver the next generation of collaboration tools needed to cultivate innovation and drive productivity. By incorporating analytics and cognitive technologies into these solutions, we expect them to be able to learn what is important, in context, and take the right actions on behalf of the user."

## IBM and Cisco Collaborate in Collaboration

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Go IBM and Cisco Tap into the Power of IBM Watson and Cisco Spark