

Juniper® Validated Design JVD Solution Brief: Metro Ethernet Business Services



Executive Summary

sol-overview-metro-eps-03-03

The Metro Ethernet Business Services (EBS) Juniper Validated Design (JVD) addresses traditional L2 Business Access and Dedicated Internet Access services while incorporating modern service delivery protocols, including EVPN-VPWS, EVPN Flexible Cross Connect, EVPN-ETREE, and EVPN-ELAN. The topology, built using the Juniper Cloud Metro portfolio, deploys an infrastructure designed to support metro access multi-ring topologies and a two-stage metro fabric spine-and-leaf design. The reference architecture is based on modern Carrier Ethernet Metro Area Networks (MAN) and takes into consideration the transformation required to facilitate diverse new services, applications, and use cases.

The new architecture, known as Cloud Metro, carries several important characteristics in the amalgamation of service and content providers. These shifting industry trends demand massive bandwidth and increase service scale while supporting more complex metro workloads. A major goal of Cloud Metro is the adaptation of cloud principles into metro networks, including the array of EVPN technologies, SR-MPLS/SRv6, and machinery to support inter-domain traffic engineering or seamless architecture across disparate networks. This is a differentiating factor that characterizes requirements for supporting any-to-any connectivity models or building infrastructures that become access agnostic while blending with virtualized network functions and devices.

The solution architecture and services proposed in the [Metro EBS JVD](#) are part of the network modernization journey, addressing challenges faced by many operators. Our modern converged network infrastructures and technologies stand ready to meet the demands of the new metro. The JVD proposes the solution blueprints to make every connection count.

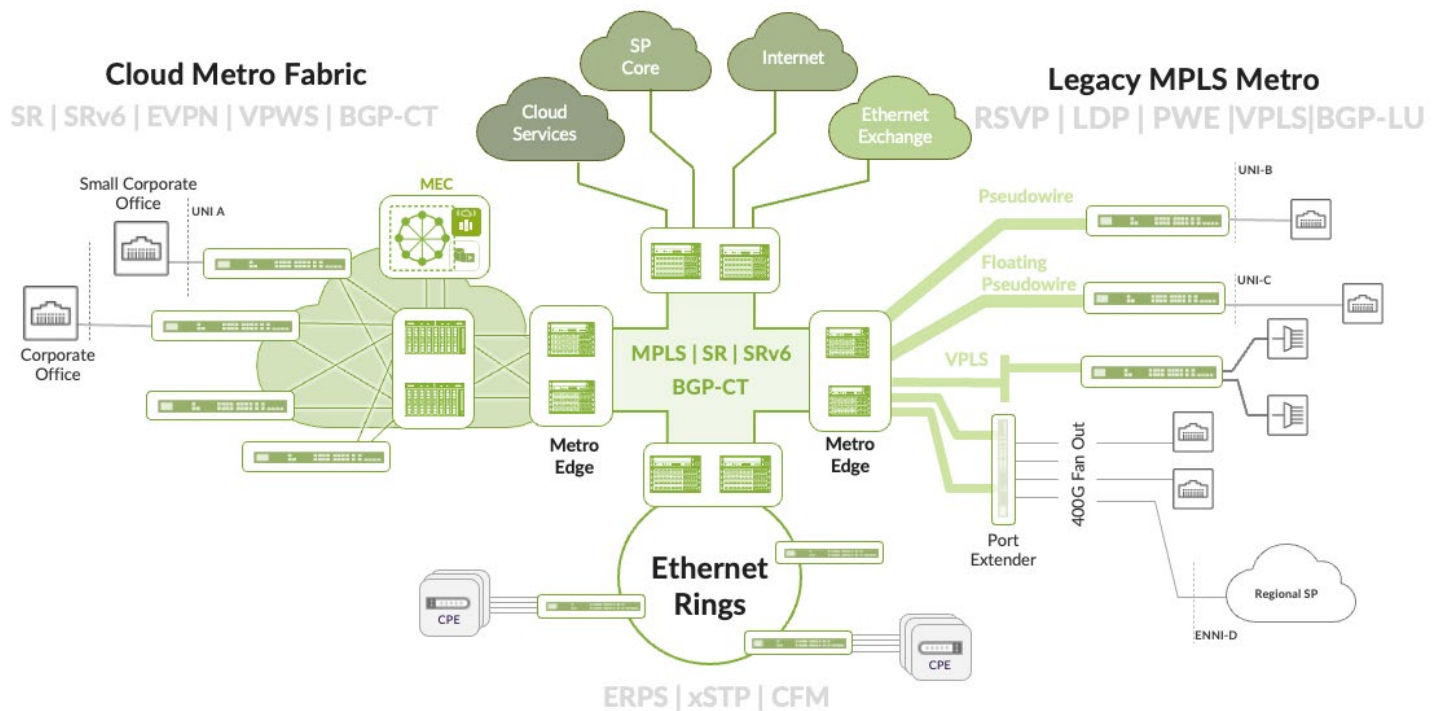
What's New in METRO-EBS-03-03?

This release of the Metro EBS JVD introduces updated hardware platforms to reflect the continued evolution of metro requirements. The updates provide higher bandwidth, throughput, and scale, while unifying the architecture on a simplified power-optimized platform set. These enhancements align with current customer deployments and prepare the metro for 400G and future service growth.

- **MSE Update:** MX10004 with the LC9600 line card replaces MX304. Provides a higher 400G/800G scale, modular service edge capabilities, and investment protection.
- **MEG Update:** ACX7348 replaces ACX7100-32C and ACX7509. Compact, high-performance metro edge platform that is **MEF 3.0 certified** for business services.
- **MDR Update:** PTX10001-36MR replaces the prior mix of MX10003 and ACX7509. Hyperscale density for metro data routing and DCI.

These updates simplify the platform footprint, ensure feature consistency and align with modern Cloud Metro use cases.

Figure 1: Cloud Metro Landscape

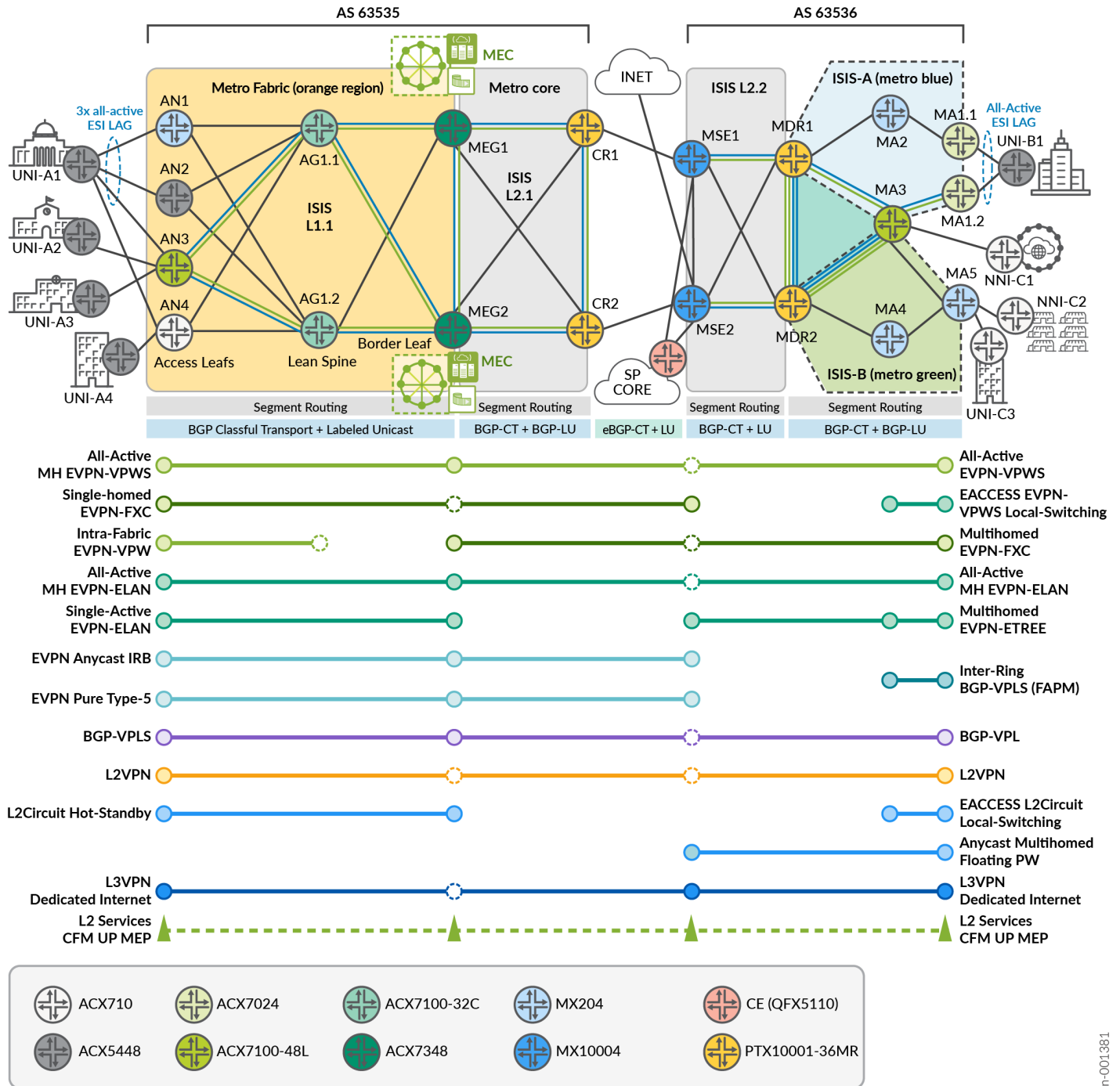


Solution Overview

The Metro Ethernet Business Services JVD addresses the network modernization journey, which includes multiple developing use cases. A crucial aspect of the overall solution is enabling flexibility to support heterogeneous customer architectures within the same validated design with the following major attributes:

- Seamless Segment Routing MPLS (SR-MPLS) with Topology Independent Loop-Free Alternate (TI-LFA)
- Flexible Algorithm Application-Specific Link Attribute (ASLA)
- Co-Existence of seamless SR-MPLS, BGP-LU and BGP-CT Inter-AS solutions
- Network slicing with end-to-end color-aware traffic steering
- Intra-domain Transport Class tunneling with service mapping
- Inter-domain color awareness with BGP Classful Transport
- Services include color-aware and color-agnostic path selection
- Intent-based routing with color mapping based on Delay and TE metrics
- Color agnostic services take IGP metric paths (inet.3)
- Strict Resolution Scheme (no fallback) and Cascade Resolution Scheme (fallback *gold to bronze* and *bronze to best effort paths*)
- Alignment with MEF 3.0 standards for service characteristics and attributes

Figure 2: Metro Fabric to Multi-Ring Inter-AS Topology



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Over 20 discrete service scenarios are covered for delivering metro Ethernet services. Traditional Layer 2 VPN services are included with L2Circuit, L2VPN, and VPLS, while demonstrating coexistence with newer EVPN-VPWS, EVPN-FXC, EVPN-ELAN, and EVPN-ETREE services—over common modern Metro ring and fabric infrastructures. In addition, the Floating Pseudowire (PW) solution delivers a massive upgrade to legacy static L2Circuit by leveraging Anycast-SID with all-active virtual ESI (vESI) for active-active multi-homing. The layer 3 services are supported with traditional L3VPN, EVPN-ELAN Type 5, and EVPN integrated routing and bridging (IRB) Virtual Gateway Address (VGA) models. The high-availability services include Active-Active EVPN and Hot-Standby L2CKT.

Platform Updates

MX10004 with the **LC9600** line card replaces MX304 in the role of Multiservice Edge (MSE) termination for dense L2/L3 VPN termination, Dedicated Internet Access (DIA), inter-domain communications, policy/QoS, and high scale at the network edge. Key platform features and technical differentiators introduced in this solution include:

- Powered by Juniper Trio 6 custom silicon architecture, LC9600 integrates six Juniper YT ASICs (1.6Tbps each) for 9.6 Tbps per slot.
- System capacity: 38.4Tbps in a compact 7RU chassis when fully populated with LC9600.
- High-density connectivity: 24 × QSFP56-DD (400G/100G), breakout up to 96 × 100G, with integrated MACsec and full PTP timing; ~768K queues per slot enable granular QoS.
- SLA-oriented scale: Hierarchical QoS and deep queuing enable fine-grained shaping/policing per service or customer; timing accuracy supports deterministic, MEF-aligned metro behaviors.
- Operational efficiency and growth: Compact 400G-ready edge reduces space and footprint, while maintaining dense throughput and scale. Trio/Junos continuity simplifies migration and automation across EVPN and traditional VPN services.

ACX7348, part of Juniper Cloud Metro portfolio, replaces ACX7100-32C and ACX7509 in the Metro Edge Gateway (MEG) role, aggregating metro access fabrics, terminating border-leaf VPN services, and providing SLA-grade business service delivery at the metro edge. Key platform features and technical differentiators introduced in this solution include:

- Powered by Broadcom Qumran-2C (Q2C) chipset, part of the Jericho2/DNX generation, delivering deterministic low-latency performance for metro aggregation and services.
- System capacity: 2.4Tbps forwarding in a compact 3RU, 29-cm-deep chassis.
- High-density connectivity: Fixed 48 × 1/10/25GbE (MACsec) and 8 × 100GbE (QSFP28) ports, plus three modular I/O bays (2 × 800 Gb/s, 1 × 400 Gb/s) supporting 100/200/400GbE uplinks.
- Service assurance: Industrial-temperature (-40 °C to +65 °C), precision timing (SyncE, PTP, Class C, GNSS), advanced OAM, and integrated MACsec for SLA-driven metro services.
- Operational efficiency and growth: Fixed-plus-modular design combines resilient base hardware with build-as-you-grow scalability; Junos OS Evolved feature continuity and **MEF 3.0 certification** simplify operations and Carrier Ethernet service assurance.

PTX10001-36MR replaces MX10003 and ACX7509 in the Metro Distribution Router (MDR) role, delivering high-capacity metro aggregation, supporting multiple metro rings, and enabling resilient transport with deterministic performance and fast failover. Key platform features and technical differentiators introduced in this solution include:

- Powered by Juniper Express 4 custom silicon architecture, delivering high-capacity forwarding optimized for transport aggregation, peering, and high-scale metro distribution.
- System capacity: 9.6Tbps non-oversubscribed ultra-compact 1RU chassis.
- High-density connectivity: 24 × 400GE (QSFP56-DD) and 12 × 100GE (QSFP28) ports for dense 400G aggregation with flexible 100G fan-out.
- Transport resilience: Built for high-availability metro fabrics, with TI-LFA, micro-BFD, and advanced fast reroute mechanisms enabling sub-50ms failover across metro rings and inter-domain paths.

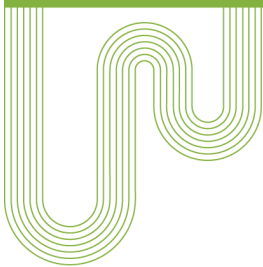
- Operational efficiency and growth: Compact 1RU, dense 400G architecture reduces space and power footprint with power-optimized transport; Junos OS Evolved continuity simplifies automation and integration across metro aggregation, DCI, and core transport roles.

Alignment with MEF 3.0 Standards

An important focus of the Metro Ethernet Business Services JVD involves alignment with Mplify (formerly Metro Ethernet Forum) for MEF 3.0 standards. Mplify is an industry consortium dedicated to accelerating the adoption of Carrier Ethernet services and technologies. Its primary purposes and goals revolve around:

- Standardization, interoperability, and innovation within the Ethernet ecosystem
- Development and promotion of standards for Carrier Ethernet services
- Ensuring interoperability between Carrier Ethernet networks and equipment from different vendors
- Fostering innovation by promoting the development of new technologies and services based on Carrier Ethernet
- Educating the market about the benefits and capabilities of Carrier Ethernet services

In this updated design, **ACX7348** is **MEF 3.0 certified** (listed in the Mplify MEF 3.0 Technology Registry), ensuring compliance for supporting MEF-defined business services such as E-Line and E-LAN. This continued alignment ensures service interoperability and compliance across multivendor metro networks.



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