

# Hyper-Converged Edge for ROBO IT

For enterprise IT organizations, operating and supporting disparate remote infrastructure and applications has become increasingly complex and costly. Remote or branch office (ROBO) data residing outside of the data center is susceptible to high risk where data security and loss mitigation is crucial.

The Riverbed SteelFusion™ solution for the hyper-converged edge is the only solution purpose-built to address the unique challenges of IT organizations managing ROBO locations. This cost effective, simple architecture provides unprecedented levels of business continuity, agility and data security without compromising business experience and productivity.

## Challenge

A majority of the enterprise business workforce resides outside of the data center at remote branch locations. Most ROBO sites require local infrastructure to support business critical applications. For enterprise IT, there are challenges associated with supporting remote infrastructure operations not felt in the data center.

- High TCO associated with setting up entire infrastructure stack at every branch location
- Increased complexity in managing and supporting multiple components remotely (i.e. network, storage, compute, data protection)
- Lack of business continuity and agility due to slow provisioning, delivery of services and recovery times
- Major security concerns around enterprise data residing outside of the data center (where it can be protected and governed more effectively) IT support, even though approximately half of IT budgets are being spent to operationally support these locations

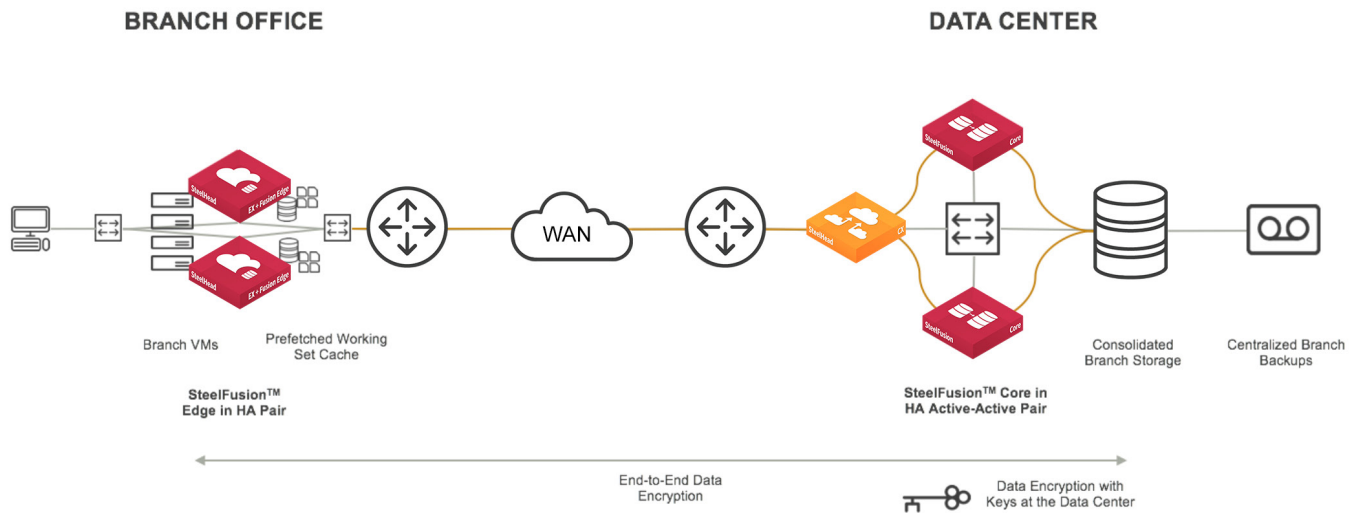


Figure 1 Riverbed SteelFusion™ Solution for the Hyper-Converged Edge

## Solution

The Riverbed SteelFusion™ solution for the hyperconverged edge is the only solution on the market architected to address and mitigate the specific challenges faced by enterprises around managing ROBO IT infrastructure, applications, data governance and security.

All branch data is consolidated and resides at the data center storage array, ensuring enterprise-grade data management, protection and security. Branch working set data is intelligently predicted and projected out to the branch where a cached copy is locally stored for day-to-day business use. Local branch applications (VMs) are executed at the branch to serve branch-specific services. Data created at the branch is continuously replicated back to the data center for centralized data management and protection. Branch data can also be further replicated to a secondary site for disaster recovery scenarios. Data can also be encrypted, both in flight and at rest with keys safely located in the data center to ensure utmost data security for all enterprise data regardless of the location. All data management (provisioning and recovery), protection (backup and archive) and governance (security and encryption) takes place at the data center using data center tools and resources.

The following components make up the solution:

- SteelFusion™ Core (standalone or in HA pair) sits at the data center and acts as a single management portal and data broker for all branch storage
- SteelHead™ (standalone or in HA) at the data center is responsible for optimizing all to-and-from traffic between data center and all branch locations
- SteelFusion™ Edge (standalone or in HA pair) resides at the branch that provides server virtualization (VMWare ESXi), intelligent storage caching, and industry-leading network optimization, all converged in a single appliance form factor

## Ultimate ROBO Control and Visibility

Users at branch locations often utilize Internet links and cloud-based applications for business use. Data is no longer confined to the infrastructure and links governed and controlled by the enterprise IT. The need for visibility into the hybrid IT and application performance is more critical now than ever for IT to maintain control. Riverbed integrates its SteelCentral™ platform into any Hyperconverged Edge solution to enable infrastructure leaders to proactively gain visibility to application and network traffic, as well as end-user experience, in order to maintain SLAs with cloud service providers, as well as strong relationships with the business front lines.

## Outcome

The Riverbed SteelFusion™ solution for the hyperconverged edge yields numerous business advantages.

- Low TCO for ROBO IT infrastructure. A single (or dual for HA) appliance is required at the branch office locations
- Operational efficiency in cost and management of remote IT infrastructure, through centralized data management and support
- Enhanced business continuity and agility with instant provisioning and recovery (from days and weeks to hours and minutes)
- Data center grade protection and security for all branch data with centralized backups and end-to-end encryption

---

## Resources

- Learn more at <http://www.riverbed.com/steelfusion>.
- For additional information, or to request a meeting, visit <http://www.riverbed.com/zerobranchIT>.

---

### About Riverbed

Riverbed, at more than \$1 billion in annual revenue, is the leader in application performance infrastructure, delivering the most complete platform for the hybrid enterprise to ensure applications perform as expected, data is always available when needed, and performance issues can be proactively detected and resolved before impacting business performance. Riverbed enables hybrid enterprises to transform application performance into a competitive advantage by maximizing employee productivity and leveraging IT to create new forms of operational agility. Riverbed's 27,000+ customers include 97% of the *Fortune* 100 and 98% of the *Forbes* Global 100. Learn more at [riverbed.com](http://riverbed.com).

The Riverbed logo consists of the word "riverbed" in a lowercase, bold, orange sans-serif font.