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VMware Technical Support

- **VMware SUPPORT:** <https://www.vmware.com/support.html>
- **Contact Options:** <https://www.vmware.com/support/contacts>
- **How to file a support Request:** https://kb.vmware.com/selfservice/microsites/search.do?language=en_US&cmd=displayKC&externalId=2006985
 - **Video:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fxSV2Dna49U>
- **Support Numbers:** https://www.vmware.com/support/contacts/us_support
- **VMware Extended Support**
PDF: <https://www.vmware.com/content/dam/digitalmarketing/vmware/en/pdf/products/support/vmw-extended-datasheet.pdf?mid=16121&eid=CVMW2000000589735>
- **Support Telephone Number (English): 1-877-486-9273** Toll Free
 - **Licensing Help:** [Option 1](#)
 - **Renewals Help:** [Option 3](#)
 - **Technical Help:** [Option 4](#)
 - **Education/Training:** [Option 5](#)
 - **Customer Care:** [Option 0](#)

Sales:

- **VMware Public Website:** <http://www.vmware.com>
- **VMware News Releases:** <https://www.vmware.com/company/news/releases.html>

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MY TWITTER FEED

(vSphere / vCenter / VUM / vSAN) Versions 6.7 –

- **vSphere 6.7 – Release Notes:** <https://docs.vmware.com/en/VMware-vSphere/6.7/rn/vsphere-esxi-vcenter-server-67-release-notes.html>
- **vSphere 6.7 – Download:** <https://my.vmware.com/web/vmware/details?productId=614&rPid=22179&downloadGroup=ESXI670>
- **vCenter 6.7 – Download:** <https://my.vmware.com/web/vmware/details?productId=614&rPid=22179&downloadGroup=VC670>
- **Introducing VMware vSphere 6.7 – Blog:** <https://blogs.vmware.com/vsphere/launch>
- **vSphere 6.7 – Configuration Maximums:** <https://configmax.vmware.com/home>
- **vSphere 6.7 – YouTube Videos:** <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLymLY4xJSThro4OL4w3PGSwsKi4zKT3Rs>
- **vSphere Update Manager 6.7 – Release Notes:** <https://docs.vmware.com/en/VMware-vSphere/6.7/rn/vsphere-update-manager-67-release-notes.html>
- **vSAN 6.7 – Release Notes:** <https://docs.vmware.com/en/VMware-vSphere/6.7/rn/vmware-vsan-67-release-notes.html>
- **vSAN 6.7 Witness Appliance – Download:** <https://my.vmware.com/web/vmware/details?downloadGroup=WITNESS-OVA-67&productId=614>
- **vSAN 6.7 – What’s New Blog:** <https://blogs.vmware.com/virtualblocks/2018/04/17/whats-new-vmware-vsan-6-7>

vSphere 6.5 What’s New –

- **vSphere 6.x Edition Comparison of Features:** <https://kb.vmware.com/s/article/2109507>
- **vSphere 6.5 – Feature Walkthrough:** <https://featurewalkthrough.vmware.com/#!/vsphere-6-5>
- **What’s New in vSphere 6.5: vCenter Server:** <https://blogs.vmware.com/vsphere/2016/10/whats-new-in-vsphere-6-5-vcenter-server.html>
- **What’s New in vSphere 6.5 (whitepaper):** <https://www.vmware.com/content/dam/digitalmarketing/vmware/en/pdf/whitepaper/vsphere/vmw-white-paper-vsphr-whats-new-6-5.pdf>



Tim Sandy
@VMTimSandy

I added a video to a [@YouTube](#) playlist youtu.be/yf-Rdj3_7NY? VMware vROps 6.7 Upgrade Process

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I added a video to a [@YouTube](#) playlist youtu.be/DS_dCH3cq7I? Enabling Compliance Alerts in vRealize Operations Manager 6.7

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- **vSphere 6.5 Release Notes:** <https://docs.vmware.com/en/VMware-vSphere/6.5/rn/vsphere-esxi-vcenter-server-65-release-notes.html>
- **New Walkthroughs for vCenter High Availability:** <https://blogs.vmware.com/vsphere/2016/12/new-walkthroughs-vcenter-high-availability.html>
- **VMware vCenter Server High Availability Performance And Best Practices:** <https://www.vmware.com/content/dam/digitalmarketing/vmware/en/pdf/techpaper/vcha65-perf.pdf>
- **VMware vSphere 6.5 – YouTube Channel:** <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCN8FHFshMw-15AtFKWSLczA>
 - **VMware vSphere 6.5 Embedded Update Manager (VUM) Demo:** https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X_xGihAfLS0
 - **Enabling vCenter High Availability – Basic:** <https://youtu.be/xLoX7tlduWs>
 - **Enabling vCenter High Availability – Advanced:** <https://youtu.be/K9xaii58zYM>
 - **vSphere 6.5 VM Encryption:** <https://youtu.be/JjAcoNrudhk>
 - **VM Encryption and vMotion Encryption:** https://youtu.be/5Y7Un4KB_fg
 - **Secure Boot for ESXi:** <https://youtu.be/31AcXPIKKoU>
 - **What's New in vSphere 6.5 vCenter Server Appliance 6.5 File-Based Backup and Restore:** <https://youtu.be/lwyg6fvUPkU>
 - **What's new in VMware PowerCLI 6.5 R1:** <https://youtu.be/vVKdWHvkJ9c>
 - **What's new in vSphere 6.5 Management Clients:** <https://youtu.be/2gFfL4zKNRQ>
- **vSphere 6.5 – Encryption Resources:**
 - **vSphere Security – White Paper:** <https://docs.vmware.com/en/VMware-vSphere/6.5/vsphere-esxi-vcenter-server-65-security-guide.pdf>
 - **What's New in vSphere Security – Blog:** <https://blogs.vmware.com/vsphere/2016/10/whats-new-in-vsphere-6-5-security.html>
 - **Encryption Permissions & Roles Requirements:** http://pubs.vmware.com/vsphere-6-5/index.jsp?topic=%2Fcom.vmware.wssdk.pg.doc%2FPG_VM_Encryption.14.4.html
 - **vSphere 6.5 Encrypted vMotion Architecture and Performance:** <https://blogs.vmware.com/performance/2017/01/vsphere-6-5-encrypted-vmotion-architecture-performance.html>
 - **VM Encryption Performance:** <https://www.vmware.com/content/dam/digitalmarketing/vmware/en/pdf/techpaper/vm->

Using the vRealize Operations Manager 6.7 User Interface

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Tweets

 **VMWARE ENABLEMENT: VMLIVE SESSIONS**

vmLIVE - NSX Increase Performance While Decreasing Time to Value for Business

vmLIVE - vSAN 6.7 - What's New

vmLIVE - Microsoft Competitive

vmLIVE - vSphere: What's New and How to Sell

vmLIVE - What's New with Android in the Enterprise

vmLIVE - How to Position Workspace ONE Mac Management to Take Out JAMF

[encryption-vsphere65-perf.pdf](#)

- **VM Encryption Interoperability:** <https://docs.vmware.com/en/VMware-vSphere/6.5/com.vmware.vsphere.security.doc/GUID-C0AF1F3A-67B4-41A6-A933-7E52A3603D9D.html>
- **VM Encryption Details:** <https://www.vladan.fr/vmware-vsphere-6-5-vm-encryption-details/>
- **Encrypted vMotion:** <https://docs.vmware.com/en/VMware-vSphere/6.5/com.vmware.vsphere.vcenterhost.doc/GUID-6865D84A-C286-49C4-A4D4-D62145150242.html>
- **Encryption – YouTube Videos:**
 - **VM Encryption & vMotion Encryption:** https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Y7Un4KB_fg
 - **vSphere 6.5 VM Encryption:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JjAcoNrudhk>
 - **What's New in vSphere 6.5 VM Encryption:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v5OdaBtuP9A>

vSphere 6.5 Upgrade Consideration Information:

- **vSphere Upgrade Center:** <https://www.vmware.com/products/vsphere/upgrade-center.html>
- **Update sequence for vSphere 6.5 and its compatible VMware products (KB2147289):** https://kb.vmware.com/selfservice/microsites/search.do?language=en_US&cmd=displayKC&externalId=2147289
- **VMware's Product Interoperability Matrix:** http://www.vmware.com/resources/compatibility/sim/interop_matrix.php
- **Top Reasons to Upgrade to vSphere 6.5 – Infographic:** [Click Here!](#)
- **Introduction to vSphere 6.5 Upgrade Blog:** <https://docs.vmware.com/en/VMware-vSphere/6.5/com.vmware.vsphere.upgrade.doc/GUID-EB29D42E-7174-467C-AB40-DB37236FEAF5.html>
- **Important information before upgrading to vSphere 6.5 (KB2147548):** https://kb.vmware.com/selfservice/microsites/search.do?language=en_US&cmd=displayKC&externalId=2147548
- **vSphere 6.5 Upgrade Considerations – Part 1:** <https://blogs.vmware.com/vsphere/2017/05/vsphere-6-5-upgrade-considerations-part-1.html>

- **vSphere 6.5 Upgrade Considerations – Part 2:**
<https://blogs.vmware.com/vsphere/2017/07/vsphere-6-5-upgrade-considerations-part-2.html>
- **Announcing the vSphere 6.5 Topology and Upgrade Planning Tool Blog:**
<https://blogs.vmware.com/vsphere/2017/08/announcing-vsphere-6-5-topology-upgrade-planning-tool.html>
- **vCenter Lifecycle (Install, Upgrade, and Migrate)**
Tool: <https://vspherecentral.vmware.com/#!/vcenter-server/vcenter-lifecycle-install-upgrade-and-migrate>
- **vCenter Server Appliance 6.5 Migration Walkthrough:**
<https://blogs.vmware.com/vsphere/2017/01/vcenter-server-appliance-6-5-migration-walkthrough.html>
- **VMware Doc's – Migration Assistance Tool:** https://docs.vmware.com/en/VMware-vSphere/6.5/com.vmware.vsphere.update_manager.doc/GUID-D6A60375-0088-4517-B3FA-44245285D538.html
- **vSphere 6.5 – Upgrade Guide:** <https://docs.vmware.com/en/VMware-vSphere/6.5/vsphere-esxi-vcenter-server-65-upgrade-guide.pdf>
- **Blog – vSphere 6.5 Basics – Part 5 – Upgrade vCSA 6.0 to vCSA 6.5:** <https://vcdx133.com/2017/04/17/vsphere-6-5-basics-part-5-upgrade-vcsa-6-0-to-vcsa-6-5/>
- **Blog – vCenter Server 6.0 Upgrade to vCenter Server 6.5 Walkthrough:** <https://miketabor.com/upgrade-vcenter-server-appliance-6-0-to-6-5/>
- **Best practices for upgrading to vCenter Server 6.5 (KB2147686):** https://kb.vmware.com/selfservice/microsites/search.do?language=en_US&cmd=displayKC&externalId=2147686

VMware Cloud on AWS Resources:

- **VMware Cloud on AWS – Preparing to Onboard:** <https://blog.cloud.vmware.com/s/content/a1y6A000000aEjBQAU/vmware-cloud-on-aws-preparing-to-onboard>

- **VMware Cloud on AWS – Public Page:** <https://cloud.vmware.com/vmc-aws>
- **VMware Cloud on AWS – Technical Overview**
Document: <https://www.vmware.com/content/dam/digitalmarketing/vmware/en/pdf/cloud/VMW-TO-Cloud-on-AWS-USLET-101-MED-RES.pdf>
- **VMware Cloud on AWS – 10 Questions, 10 Answers eBook:** <https://cloud.vmware.com/vmc-aws/resources>
- **VMware Cloud on AWS – Amazon AWS Public Page:** <https://aws.amazon.com/vmware/>
- **VMware Cloud on AWS – Public Announcement:** <http://ir.vmware.com/overview/press-releases/press-release-details/2017/VMware-and-AWS-Announce-Initial-Availability-of-VMware-Cloud-on-AWS/default.aspx>
- **VMware Cloud on AWS – YouTube Video List:** https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=VMware+Cloud+on+AWS
- **VMware Cloud on AWS – Blogs:**
 - **Exciting Lineup of VMware Cloud on AWS Sessions at VMworld 2017:**
<https://blogs.vmware.com/vsphere/2017/07/vmcsessions-vmworld2017.html>
 - **VMware Cloud on AWS Blog:** <https://blog.cloud.vmware.com/s/services-and-products-vmware-cloud-on-aws>
 - **How Much VMware Cloud on AWS Will I Need?:** <https://blogs.vmware.com/management/2017/09/much-vmware-cloud-aws-will-need.html>
 - **VMware Cloud on AWS – A Closer Look:** <https://blogs.vmware.com/vsphere/2016/10/vmware-cloud-on-aws-a-closer-look.html>

VMware Education & Certification –

- **VMware Learning Zone:** https://mylearn.vmware.com/mgrReg/plan.cfm?plan=51506&ui=www_edu
- **VMware Formal Education:** <http://mylearn.vmware.com/mgrreg/index.cfm>
- **Certification Tracks:** <http://mylearn.vmware.com/portals/certification/>
- **Certification FAQ's:** <http://mylearn.vmware.com/portals/certification/faqs.cfm?ui=www>
- **New Recertification Policy:** <https://mylearn.vmware.com/mgrReg/plan.cfm?>

[plan=46667&ui=www_cert](#)

- **NEW Recertification Policy for Expired VCP's:**

<http://blogs.vmware.com/education/2016/10/new-course-option-expired-vcps.html>

VMware Training & Videos -

- **The Virtually Connected YouTube Channel:** <http://bit.ly/TheVirtConn>
- **VMware Corp. YouTube Page:** <https://www.youtube.com/user/VMwareLearning>
- **VMware TV on YouTube -**
 - **VMware TV:** <http://youtube.com/vmwaretv>
 - **VMware KB TV:** <http://youtube.com/vmwarekb>
 - **VMware Tech Pubs:** <http://youtube.com/vmwaretechpubs>
 - **VMware Partner TV:** <http://youtube.com/vmwarepartnertv>
- **Top Gun Technical Thursdays (TGTT) for VMware Partners:** <http://www.vmware.com/go/TGTT>
- **vmLive Sessions:** <http://bit.ly/vmLive>
- **Instructional Videos:** <http://vmwarelearning.com>
- **Cloud Academy (vCloud Air):** <http://vcloud.vmware.com/cloud-academy>
- **vBrownbag Webinar Series:** <http://professionalvmware.com/brownbags>
- **"Getting More Out Of" Webinar Series:** www.vmware.com/go/getmore
- **"ViewPoint" Webinar Series:** <http://tinyurl.com/oduc27e>
- **"vBrownBag" Webinar Series:** <http://professionalvmware.com/brownbags>
- **VMUG Events:** <http://www.vmug.com>
- **NSX - 5-Part Webcast Series:** https://blogs.vmware.com/networkvirtualization/2018/01/free-webcast-series-nsx.html?src=so_5a314d05e49f5&cid=70134000001SkJn
- **NSX Webcast Series:** <https://www.vmware.com/products/nsx/nsx-webinar.html>
- **FREE VMware Webcasts:** https://mylearn.vmware.com/mgrreg/plan.cfm?plan=48202&ui=www_edu
- **VMware Events (In Person, Online, On-Demand):** <https://www.vmware.com/company/events.html>
- **ViewPoint Webinar Series Archive:** https://mylearn.vmware.com/mgrReg/plan.cfm?plan=62190&ui=www_edu

Demo Environments -

- Hands On Lab (HOL): <https://labs.hol.vmware.com>
- Feature Walkthrough Site: <http://featurewalkthrough.vmware.com/>
- TestDrive (EUC Demo Environment): <https://www.vmwdemo.com/session/new>
- Demo's on Demand: <http://www.demosondemand.com/it/vendors/vmware.asp>

VMworld 2017 Resources:

- VMworld 2017 – US Public Page: <https://www.vmworld.com/en/us/index.html>
- VMworld 2017 – What's New: <https://www.vmware.com/products/whats-new.html>
- VMworld 2017 – YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/VMworldTV>
- VMworld 2017 – vSAN Video Playlist: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLHYKlysU7mcUyxDIMUZcnZqoS0YIWQ-YD>
- VMworld 2017 – Direct Playback of Breakout Sessions: <https://github.com/lamw/vmworld2017-session-urls>
- VMworld 2017 – Session Slides Now Available: <https://blogs.vmware.com/feed-items/slides-from-my-vmworld-2017-sessions-are-now-available/>
- VMworld 2017 – VMworld Blog: <https://blogs.vmware.com/vmworld/>

VMware Product-Related Posters:

- VMware Posters: <https://blogs.vmware.com/vsphere/2012/09/vmware-posters.html>
- NSX Logical Views: <https://wp.me/p7loq2-1QU>

Misc. Blogs & Technical Info:

- VMware Employee & 3rd Party Sites -

- **Yellow-Bricks (Duncan Epping) Blog – vSAN/Storage:** <http://www.yellow-bricks.com/>
 - **VirtuallyGhetto (William Lam) Blog – VMware (all):** <http://www.virtuallyghetto.com/>
 - **Cormac Hogan Blog – vSAN/Storage:** <http://cormachogan.com/>
 - **Virtual Jad (Jad El-Zein) Blog – Cloud Management:** <http://www.virtualjad.com/>
 - **VMware News and Updates (Sheng Sheen) Blog – VMware (all):** <https://vmwaresheng.wordpress.com/>
 - **Big Virtual Me (Kevin Groat) Blog – VMware Enablement Videos:** <https://bigvirtualme.com/>
 - **vSphere 6.5 Link-O-Rama:** <http://vsphere-land.com/news/vsphere-6-5-link-o-rama.html>
 - **vSphere 6.0 Link-O-Rama:** <http://vsphere-land.com/news/vsphere-6-0-link-o-rama.html>
 - **NSX Link-O-Rama:** <https://vcdx133.com/2014/10/05/nsx-link-o-rama/>
 - **vSphere-Land Blog:** <http://vsphere-land.com/category/vsphere-links>
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- **VMware Corporate Sites –**
 - **MyVMware Portal – FAQ's:** <https://kb.vmware.com/s/article/2014350>
 - **How to Upgrade Licenses in MyVMware Portal (Video):** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UpoHZccpY2Q>
 - **How to Upgrade Licenses in MyVMware Portal (KB 2006974):** <https://kb.vmware.com/s/article/2006974>
 - **Correlating Build Numbers to Versions:** <https://kb.vmware.com/s/article/1014508>
 - **Lifecycle Product Matrix**
PDF: <https://www.vmware.com/content/dam/digitalmarketing/vmware/en/pdf/support/product-lifecycle-matrix.pdf>
 - **vSphere Upgrade Center:** <https://www.vmware.com/products/vsphere/upgrade-center.html>
 - **VMware Extended Support**
PDF: <https://www.vmware.com/content/dam/digitalmarketing/vmware/en/pdf/products/support/vmware-extended-datasheet.pdf?mid=16121&eid=CVMW2000000589735>
 - **VMware SUPPORT:** <https://www.vmware.com/support.html>
 - **VMware Patch Downloads:** <https://my.vmware.com/group/vmware/patch#search>
 - **vSphere 5.5 to vSphere 6.0 Upgrade Sequence:**
<http://kb.vmware.com/selfservice/microsites/search.do?>

[language=en_US&cmd=displayKC&externalId=2057795](https://www.virtuallyconnected.net/useful-links/[4/17/2018 4:17:16 PM])

- **vExpert Blogs Library for vSphere 6.0:** <http://blogs.vmware.com/vmtn/2015/02/vsphere-6-0-vexpert-blog-articles.html>
- **VMware's StorageHub Site:** <https://storagehub.vmware.com>
- **VMware's Virtual Blocks Site:** <https://blogs.vmware.com/virtualblocks>
- **VMware's Product Interoperability Matrix:**
http://www.vmware.com/resources/compatibility/sim/interop_matrix.php
- **VMware's Hardware Compatibility:**
<https://www.vmware.com/resources/compatibility/search.php>
- **VMware's Documentation Center:** <https://www.vmware.com/support/pubs/>
- **VMware's Hardware Compatibility List (HCL):**
<http://www.vmware.com/resources/compatibility/search.php>
- **VMware's Pulse IoT Blog Site:** <https://blogs.vmware.com/pulseiot/>

Free Stuff!

- **PowerCLI 10.0.0 Commands Poster:** https://blogs.vmware.com/PowerCLI/2018/04/new-release-powercli-poster.html?src=so_5a314d05ddb83&cid=70134000001SkJd
- **Upgrading to vSphere 6.5 – Insights for vSphere Administrators (FREE Book):** https://secure.vmware.com/45026_REG?src=so_5a314d05e49f5&cid=70134000001SkJn
- **VMware – Visio Stencils:** <https://www.rayheffer.com/vmware-visio-stencils-powerpoint-icons-2018/>
- **FREE NSX Books:**
 - <http://www.myitblog.in/2017/09/free-nsx-books-580-pages-of-awesomeness.html>
- **NSX – Micro-Segmentation Guide For Dummies – 2nd Edition (FREE Book):**
 - http://learn.vmware.com/41021_REG?src=so_5a55e7cbb955e&cid=70134000001CUWA&src=so_5a314d05e49f5&cid=70134000001SkJn
- **Building VMware NSX Powered Clouds and Data Centers for Small and Medium Businesses (FREE Book):**
 - <https://blogs.vmware.com/networkvirtualization/2018/01/building-nsx-powered-clouds-data->

centers-smbs-available-now.html/

- **Next-Gen Virtualization For Dummies Book (FREE Book):**
 - http://learn.vmware.com/40687_REG?touch=1&src=so_59c231c9a6b21&cid=70134000001CWdX
- **VMware Cloud Foundation Architecture Poster 2.3 (FREE eBook):** https://blogs.vmware.com/cloud-foundation/2018/03/13/vmware-cloud-foundation-architecture-poster-2-3/?src=so_5a314d05e49f5&cid=70134000001SkJn
- **Hyper-Converged Infrastructure in Action eBook (FREE Book):**
 - http://learn.vmware.com/36403_vSAN_HCI_ToF_Reg?asset=demand&touch=1&src=em_57e2df8662d63&cid=70134000000Vnls
- **Hyper-Converged Infrastructure in Action eBook (FREE Book):**
 - http://learn.vmware.com/ONECLOUD_WW_HCI_2016_GATECON_VSAN-0130_HCI_For_Dummies_EBOOK_DEMAN_38392_REG?asset=dummies&touch=1&src=em_58d17597cee07&cid=70134000001AdxZ
- **vSAN Essentials eBook (FREE Book):**
 - <https://www.vsan-essentials.com/>
- **Virtual SAN (vSAN) Fundamentals [v6.2] – Self-Paced Online Training:**
 - https://mylearn.vmware.com/mgrReg/courses.cfm?ui=www_edu&a=one&id_subject=75602&rcode=VMUGWebcast041817&src=af_58c6e381dc7b0
- **VMware vSAN & HCI Fundamentals eLearning Training:**
 - https://mylearn.vmware.com/mgrReg/courses.cfm?ui=www_edu&a=one&id_subject=80865
- **All-Flash Data Centers for Dummies eBook (FREE Book):**
 - http://vladan-fr.tradepub.com/free/w_pure52/prgm.cgi?a=1
- **Cloud Management For Dummies (FREE eBook):** http://learn.vmware.com/40686_REG?src=so_5a314d05e49f5&cid=70134000001SkJn
- **Top Free Online Courses From VMware:**
 - <https://mylearn.vmware.com/portals/www/mL.cfm?menu=topfreecourses>
- **Getting Started With Horizon Cloud (FREE eBook):** http://learn.vmware.com/42416_REG
- **Secure Digital Workspace for Dummies eBook (FREE Book):**
 - http://learn.vmware.com/41966_REG?src=so_5a58be2fdaad6&cid=70134000001CZmd&src=so_5a314d05e49f5&cid=70134000001SkJn
- **vRealize Log Insight (FREE Book):**

- <https://blogs.vmware.com/management/2014/02/free-ebook-vcenter-log-insight.html>

VMware Assessment Tools:

- **Virtual Network Assessment:** <https://www.vmware.com/products/nsx/assessment.html>
- **vSAN Assessment Tool:** <https://vip.vmware.com/>
- **vSphere Optimization Assessment (VOA) Tool:** <https://www.vmware.com/assessment/voa>
- **Hybrid Cloud Assessment (HCA) Tool:** <http://www.vmware.com/hybrid-cloud-assessment.html>
- **SysTrack Desktop Assessment Tool:**
<http://www.vmware.com/files/microsites/latitude/index.html>

VMware Sizing & Pricing Tools:

- **VSAN Sizing & TCO Calculator:** <https://vsantco.vmware.com/vsan/SI/SIEV>
- **VSAN Hardware Compatibility List (HCL):** <http://bit.ly/VSANHCL>
- **Capacity Planner Tool:** <https://optimize-beta.vmware.com/>

Meltdown & Spectre (INTEL CPU) Security Issue – Links:

- **Description/Information:**
 - A hardware flaw has been discovered in CPU types of all kinds, including server and mobile chipsets. This flaw exists in server and mobile chips from multiple vendors, including Intel and ARM going back several years. AMD is potentially impacted as well but waiting on detail confirmation.
 - **What happened?** A systemic flaw has been found in modern CPUs. With purpose-built code, software exploits can be run to harvest information they did not and should not have access to; The possible data breaches from this are many and serious. Spectre and Meltdown are the names of two exploits of this flaw. There is not a BIOS or firmware level fix that will address this

today. As a result, Operating System, Hypervisor and Cloud vendors are rolling out patches, including VMware.

- **Critical detail** – Software patches will protect systems and applications but come with a performance penalty, estimates vary, from 5% to 30% depending on the CPU and applications running on it. Here is the current VMware response including vSphere patch links –<https://blogs.vmware.com/security/2018/01/vmsa-2018-0002.html>
- **VMware Cloud on AWS environments have already been patched for this exploit back in December 2017.**
- Customers that have **vRealize Operations Manager (vROPs)** can model estimates on the performance and capacity impact of the overhead these patches will have.
 - See the below “**3rd Party Blogs**” for how to use vROPs dashboards to identify software/hardware versions within your environment.
- **vRealize Network Infrastructure (vRNI)** and **NSX** may also have an important role to play in mapping and segmenting systems that cannot be patched.
- **IMPORTANT NOTE:** When applying any of the recommended patches by VMware, be sure that you **Power Off** and then **Power On** the hosts and VMs. **DO NOT** do a **RESTART** after applying patches, If you just do a restart, the change will not be actually applied!
- **VMware Recommended Patching – General Update Order:** (steps may vary depending on what products you own)
 1. Upgrade vCenter Server
 2. Upgrade ESXi hosts
 3. Upgrade host BIOS/firmware (if applicable)
 4. Upgrade Virtual Machines (VMs)
 1. Apply Operating System (OS) patches
 2. Upgrade VMware Tools (if applicable)
 3. Upgrade Virtual Machine (VM) hardware version (if applicable)
 4. Power-cycle the Virtual Machine (VM) (**this means power off/on...DO NOT do a RESTART!**)

See Associated Link for upgrade order

guidance: <https://kb.vmware.com/s/article/52085>

- **VMware Links:**

- **Meltdown & Spectre FAQ's:** [Meltdown-Spectre FAQs](#)
- **VMware Security & Compliance Blog:** <https://blogs.vmware.com/security/2018/01/vmsa-2018-0002.html>
- **VMSA-2018-0002:** <https://www.vmware.com/security/advisories/VMSA-2018-0002.html>
- **VMSA-2018-0004:** <https://www.vmware.com/security/advisories/VMSA-2018-0004.html>
- **KB Articles:**
 - <https://kb.vmware.com/s/article/52264>
 - <https://kb.vmware.com/s/article/52345>
 - <https://kb.vmware.com/s/article/52245>
 - <https://kb.vmware.com/s/article/52085>
- **(NEW) vRealize Operations Manager (vROPs) – Meltdown/Spectre Dashboard:**
 - <https://blogs.vmware.com/management/2018/01/assess-performance-impact-spectre-meltdown-patches-using-vrealize-operations-manager.html>
- **Helpful PowerCLI Script and vROPs Dashboard to Identify Patches, etc. –**
 - **DISCLAIMER:** These **ARE NOT “OFFICIALLY SUPPORTED”** scripts by VMware, please take this into advisement before running the script.
 - **vROPs Dashboard (Vikas Shitole's Blog):** <http://vthinkbeyondvm.com/powercli-script-confirm-esxi-host-patched-vmware-hypervisor-patched-microcode-spectre-vulnerability/>
 - **PowerCLI Script (William Lam's Blog):** <https://www.virtuallyghetto.com/2018/01/automating-intel-sighting-remediation-using-powercli-ssh-not-required.html>

- **Dell Links:**

- <http://www.dell.com/support/article/us/en/04/sln308588/microprocessor-side-channel-vulnerabilities-cve-2017-5715-cve-2017-5753-cve-2017-5754-impact-on-dell-emc-products-dell-enterprise-servers-storage-and-networking-?lang=en>
- <http://www.dell.com/support/article/no/no/nobsdt1/sln308588/microprocessor-side-channel-vulnerabilities-cve-2017-5715-cve-2017-5753-cve-2017-5754-impact-on-dell-emc-products-dell-enterprise-servers-storage-and-networking-?lang=en>

- **Intel:**
 - **NEW (FEB 20th, 2018) – Updated Firmware for Intel 6th, 7th, & 8th generation processors now available!!**
 - <https://newsroom.intel.com/news/latest-intel-security-news-updated-firmware-available/>
 - **Security Issue Update: Initial Performance Data Results for Client Systems:**
 - <https://newsroom.intel.com/editorials/intel-security-issue-update-initial-performance-data-results-client-systems/>
- **3rd Party Blogs:**
 - **virtuallyGhetto Blog – PowrCLI Script**
– <https://www.virtuallyghetto.com/2018/01/automating-intel-sighting-remediation-using-powercli-ssh-not-required.html>
 - **vThinkBeyondVM Blog – vROPs Dashboard** – <http://vthinkbeyondvm.com/powercli-script-hide-speculative-execution-control-mechanism-vms-running-intel-haswell-broadwell-processors/>

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