VMware vCenter Configuration Manager

Configuration Control and Compliance Management for the Cloud

AT A GLANCE

VMware® vCenter Configuration Manager™ (VCM)—a key part of the VMware vCenter™ Operations Manager™ suite-delivers capabilities fundamental to ensuring that virtualized and cloud computing environments are properly configured to meet operational, security and compliance requirements. VCM is a full-featured configuration-management solution that automates configuration management across virtual, physical and cloud environments. Enterprises can use VCM to continuously audit the configurations of VMware infrastructure (including VMware ESX®, ESXi™, vCenter, vCloud[®] Director[™] and vShield[™]) as well as Windows, Linux and UNIX operating systems. Configuration compliance can be maintained against internal standards, security best practices, vendor hardening guidelines and regulatory mandates.

KEY BENEFITS

- Improve operational effectiveness by continuously auditing configurations of the VMware infrastructure and Windows, Linux and UNIX operating systems.
- Speed time to service restoration by correlating configuration changes tracked within VCM with performance and capacity issues identified by VMware vCenter Operations Manager™.
- Accelerate the adoption of virtualization and cloud computing for business-critical applications by addressing security and compliance concerns.
- Reduce potential security threats through a unified approach to configuration management across physical and virtual infrastructure.
- Drive down the effort and cost of configuration compliance through the use of an automated solution.



What Is VMware vCenter Configuration Manager?

VCM automates critical configuration and compliance management tasks—including configuration data collection, configuration change execution, configuration reporting, change auditing, compliance assessment, patch management, operating system (OS) provisioning and software package distribution. In many cases VCM supports automated enforcement and remediation of noncompliant configurations.

Key Features

Broad Configuration- and Compliance-Management Solution

- Centralized configuration change execution across VMware
 infrastructure and Windows, Linux and UNIX operating systems
- Extensive and continuous configuration data collection, configuration assessment and change auditing
- Unified reporting of configuration data and complianceassessment results
- Automated remediation of "out-of-compliance" configurations
- Ability to assess OS patch status and deploy patches as needed
- OS provisioning to virtual and physical systems
- Automated support for software distribution (Windows only)
- Security Content Automation Protocol (SCAP) 1.0 validated product

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Out-of-the-Box Configuration Compliance Toolkits

Out-of-the-box compliance toolkits cover a broad range of standards, including security best practices, vendor hardening guidelines and regulatory mandates. Out-of-the-box toolkits include

- Security best practices developed by the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA), the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), and the Center for Internet Security (CIS)
- Hardening guidelines from VMware and Microsoft
- Regulatory mandates such as Sarbanes-Oxley (SOX), the payment card industry (PCI) standard, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), and the Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA)

You can also use VCM to build your own internal IT standards to drive best practices in your environment. Easily create standards by leveraging one of the toolkits above as a starting point or by creating a new company-specific IT standards toolkit.

Fundamental to the Management of Clouds Built on VMware Technology

- Deep configuration data collection, change tracking, and compliance assessment across the VMware infrastructure for VMware products including ESX, ESXi, vCenter, vCloud Director, and vShield
- Automated remediation of VMware infrastructure across many use cases
- Correlation of performance issues identified by vCenter Operations Manager with change events tracked within vCenter Configuration Manager
- Management of configuration and compliance tasks across private, public and hybrid cloud use cases
- Configuration management for virtual machine templates and offline virtual machines, including configuration change execution, change tracking, compliance assessment, OS patch management and remediation of noncompliant configurations
- Snapshots of virtual machines to support rollback operations if needed
- VCM API coupled with VMware vCenter Orchestrator™ to support integration with other VMware and third-party products

Support and Professional Services

VMware offers enterprise-class support to all vCenter Operations management suite customers. For customers who require additional services for any vCenter Operations management suite offering, VMware also offers several professional-services engagements to help them get started and learn best practices.

Find Out More

For more information or to purchase VMware products, call 877-4-VMWARE (outside North America, +1-650-427-5000), visit http://www.vmware.com/products or search online for an authorized reseller.

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