The VMware Solutions Lab (VSLab)

Introduction and History:

VMware has become renowned for working with an extremely substantial number of partners and customers on a plethora of different unique and customized solutions that are built on numerous hardware and software components by a veritable army of implementation specialists.

In 2013 VMware established the "VMware Experts Program" which was charted to develop elite communities of renowned specialists in specifically target disciplines such as Oracle, Microsoft SQL Server, Big Data and HPC as well as other Business Critical Applications areas. The success of the program has resulted in an abundance of VMware inclined specialists who are open to working with VMware in a variety of different focus areas.

The VMware Solutions Labs, founded in 2016 has a charter to bring together the many Hardware, Software and Implementation partners in the greater VMware ecosystem in an externally accessible lab environment. Constant requests for collaboration from VMware partners in all disciplines accentuated the need for a unique location and process to streamline the submissions, selection and subsequent creation of co-branded collateral including white papers and videos.

The need arose in 2016 for collateral focused on the effort to develop solutions for virtualizing infrastructure for SAP Hana. This requirement inspired the foundation of the VMware Solutions Lab. The subsequent meteoric rise in demand for new and innovative solutions drove the expansion through 2017. Built initially on Dell Servers early VMware partners such as Pure Storage, Brocade, Western Digital, Tintri, Blue Medora, Mellanox and Nvidia and others joined the list of companies who have contributed hardware as well as expertise to the ever-expanding list of VSlab Partners.

VSLab Goals:

- To present an external lab environment suitable for VMware Technology focused Solutions development and co-branded collateral creation.
- To foster an open environment where VMware Partner and VMware Internal personnel can collaborate to develop innovative and thoughtful solutions and respective collateral.
- To develop unique and useful solutions pertaining to VMware Technology and partner implementations and deliver respective partner co-branded collateral including white papers and videos.
- To encourage VMware and partner personnel to think innovatively to consider innovative approaches to industry problems and develop those solutions in an open VMware sponsored lab environment.
- To build relationships with worldwide Universities to develop ideas and produce solutions in the VSLab.

- For all individuals working in the VSLab to consider delivering the content developed as a consequence of their VSLab efforts publicly at conferences and as a component of their public interaction
- All VSLab complete projects will be publicized as part of the VSlab website and possibly on other webpages of vmware.com such as the Business Critical Applications homepage
- All VSlab completed projects should be considered ideal candidate subject areas for VMworld session submissions.
- Proposed projects can be submitted at www.vmware.com/go/solutionslab/projectrequest

Benefits:

- VMware and VMware Partners will produce unique and innovative solutions which will contain co-branded collateral including white papers and videos. This will all happen more efficiently in terms of time and cost than third party contracted collateral development.
- All parties working in the VSlab will be able to think innovatively when they submit proposals which will include new and interesting ideas that otherwise may not have found a suitable environment to develop.
- VMworld sessions will be generated directly from the projects undertaken as part of the VMware Solutions Lab
- The VMware Experts Program will run all the workshop labs on the VSLab

2017 Completed Projects – VSLab:

Project #1 - Virtual Hana

https://www.vmware.com/solutions/business-critical-apps/sap-virtualization.html
https://www.vmware.com/content/dam/digitalmarketing/vmware/en/pdf/solutions/vmw-vsphere-virtual-saphana-application-workload-guidance-design.pdf
https://blogs.vmware.com/apps/2017/06/awg_s4hana_part1.html

Project #2 - New Architectures for Apache Spark and Big Data

https://www.vmware.com/content/dam/digitalmarketing/vmware/en/pdf/vmw-architectures-for-apache-spark-and-big-data.pdf