

VMware vSphere 5.5 Quick Reference

For more detailed information read the

“What’s New in VMware vSphere® 5.5 Platform”

<http://www.vmware.com/files/pdf/vsphere/VMware-vSphere-Platform-Whats-New.pdf>



vSphere ESXi Hypervisor Enhancements

- Hot-Pluggable SSD PCI Express (PCIe) Devices
- Enhancements for CPU C-States
- Native Drivers for ESXi Hypervisor Enhancements



Virtual Machine Enhancements

- Virtual Machine Compatibility with VMware ESXi™ 5.5 (HW Version 10)
 - LSI SAS support for Oracle Solaris 11
 - Enablement for new CPU architectures
 - New advanced SATA host controller interface
 - 4 Controllers, 30 Devices per controller; 120 Total
- Expanded vGPU Support
 - Include both Intel- and AMD-based GPUs
 - Render modes: automatic, hardware, software
- Graphic Acceleration for Linux Guests
 - Ubuntu 12.04 +, Fedora 17 +, RHEL 7



VMware vCenter Server Enhancements

- VMware vSphere Web Client
 - Full client support for Mac OS X
 - Drag and drop
 - Filters
 - Recent Items
- VMware vCenter Server Appliance™
 - Supports up to 100 hosts or 3,000 VMs
- VMware® vCenter™ Single Sign-On
 - Updated with a multi master architecture supporting a single deployment model
 - Built in replication
 - Removed database requirement
 - Support for SSL Certificate Automation Tool
 - Diagnostic tools
- vSphere Big Data Extensions
 - Plugin to deploy and manage Hadoop clusters



vSphere PowerCLI Enhancements

- Support for Windows 8/Windows Server 2012
- Cmdlets to manage vSphere Tags
- Cmdlets for opening vSphere/vCloud VM console
- Additional Cmdlets to manage VDS



Availability Enhancements

- vSphere App HA
 - Restart pre-defined application service on issue
- vSphere HA and VMware vSphere Distributed Resource Scheduler™ (vSphere DRS)
 - VM anti-affinity rules now recognized as part of HA Failover
- vSphere Replication Interop - Storage vMotion/SDRS vSphere Replication Multi-Point-in-Time Snapshot Retention
- vSphere Data Protection
 - Backup data replication to EMC Avamar
 - Direct-to-host VM restore,
 - Individual .vmdk backup and restore
 - Flexible storage configuration
 - Specific start times for backup and replication jobs.



vSphere Storage Enhancements

- Support for 62.9TB VMDK
- MSCS Updates
 - Microsoft Windows 2012
 - Round-robin path policy for shared storage
 - iSCSI protocol for shared storage
 - Fibre Channel over Ethernet (FCoE) protocol for shared storage
- 16Gb E2E support
- PDL AutoRemove
- vSphere Flash Read Cache
- VAAI UNMAP Improvements
- VMFS Heap Improvements



vSphere Networking Enhancements

- Link Aggregation Control Protocol Enhancements
- Traffic Filtering
- Quality of Service Tagging
- SR-IOV Enhancements
- Enhanced Host-Level Packet Capture
- 40GB NIC support

