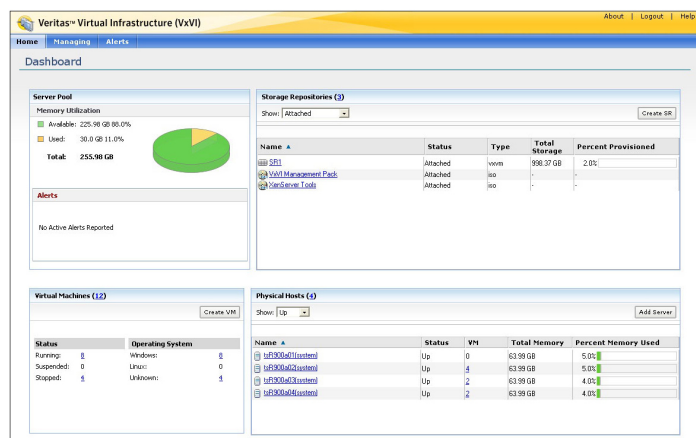Data Sheet: Storage Management

Veritas™ Virtual Infrastructure

Bringing enterprise-class storage management to virtual server environments

Overview

Veritas Virtual Infrastructure delivers the first unified enterprise-class virtualization solution, bringing industry-leading storage management into x86 virtual server environments for enterprise production deployments. Leveraging Veritas Storage Foundation™, along with Citrix XenServer™ server virtualization technology, customers can seamlessly manage both storage and virtual server operations using one intuitive, highly scalable, Web-based console.

Specially designed for large-scale production environments, Veritas Virtual Infrastructure meets the demands of the virtualized data center, allowing IT organizations to leverage many of the same operational processes and configurations across their physical and virtual environments. Based on trusted Veritas technology, it enables storage and application availability, higher system performance and availability, and increased storage utilization.

Centralized visibility and management of both virtual machines and underlying storage

Highlights

Enterprise-class storage virtualization and management: Manage complex storage operations online, including storage pooling, online migrations, and I/O load balancing and failover.

Enterprise-class server virtualization: Improve server resource utilization with a solution based on industry-standard open source Xen-based hypervisor.

Centralized management: Centrally monitor and manage thousands of virtual machines and underlying storage with a highly scalable Web-based console.

Disk-based data protection: Ensure application data is protected with full and space-optimized snapshots.

Simple deployment and installation: There is one easy-to-install package for both server and storage virtualization.

Enterprise-class storage management

Veritas Virtual Infrastructure delivers the industry-leading online storage management capabilities of Veritas Storage Foundation that are used extensively across both virtual and physical data center environments on UNIX, Linux®, and Windows® systems to increase operational efficiency. Veritas Virtual Infrastructure minimizes the burden of storage administration by optimizing storage performance and availability without bringing operating systems, applications, or virtual machines offline. The block-level storage management capabilities of Veritas Virtual

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Infrastructure enable enterprise-class, advanced online storage management that does not require organizations to re-architect their underlying storage infrastructure.

Organizations are able to deliver increased availability, improved storage utilization, and more efficient storage performance throughout the enterprise, across physical and virtual environments, by using advanced storage provisioning—including the ability to flexibly configure and dynamically allocate storage, along with storage pooling, storage capacity management, reclamation, and advanced SAN multi-pathing for I/O load balancing and failover.

Enterprise-class server virtualization

Veritas Virtual Infrastructure enables enterprise-class server virtualization using Citrix XenServer, based on the industry-leading open source Xen-based hypervisor. Enterprises can easily deploy multiple virtual servers and storage into resource pools on shared hardware, increasing utilization and reducing the costs of hardware, power, and cooling. Up to 16 physical servers and their underlying storage can be joined into a logical resource pool with shared configurations. By combining servers and storage into resource pools that can be assigned to the applications with the highest business need, IT operations can anticipate and respond to changing demand and business priorities.

Virtual machine operations are simplified with advanced provisioning and live migration capabilities that can be easily performed through the management console. Administrators can create virtual machines quickly and easily, provision these new virtual machines across the environment in a matter of minutes, and seamlessly provision storage to virtual machines. Additionally, the live migration capabilities allow IT organizations to dynamically move running virtual machines across multiple servers without impacting application availability.

Centralized management

Veritas Virtual Infrastructure utilizes a single Web-based graphical user interface (GUI) to manage both virtual server and storage resources, based on the highly scalable enterprise-class Veritas Storage Foundation Manager. This robust single-pane-of-glass interface enables the monitoring and management of virtual server and storage resources across server pools.

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Rather than relying on another set of point tools to manage the heterogeneous storage, administrators can leverage consistent operational processes across their virtual environments. The Web-based interface provides easy-to-use wizards and dashboards, designed to simplify multi-step operational tasks. Features include dashboards for server pool and storage status, alerts for reporting and notification, mapping of virtual machines to physical storage, virtual machine file system usage reporting, provisioning of new virtual servers in minutes, and coordination of virtual server and storage migrations across multiple hosts without impacting application availability.

Disk-based data protection

With Veritas Virtual Infrastructure, virtual machines can easily be cloned for off-host processing by using advanced full or space-optimized storage snapshots of application data that is storage hardware independent and can leverage tiered storage. Rather than taking a snapshot of the entire virtual machine, this block-based approach allows granular application data snapshots of only the data that needs to be copied. IT organizations can easily provision volumes/disks to virtual machines providing full and space-optimized snapshot capabilities.

Additionally, the snapshot capability has full compatibility with Microsoft® Volume Shadow Copy Service (VSS) to ensure reliable snapshots and quick backups of VSS-compliant applications such as Microsoft SQL Server.

Simple deployment and installation

With Veritas Virtual Infrastructure, there is one easy-to-install package for both server and storage virtualization. The management interface offers one simple screen to monitor and manage both server and storage virtual resources. While other solutions can require calls to multiple vendors when there is a problem, Symantec delivers a single point of support for troubleshooting either storage or server virtualization issues.

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More information

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About Symantec

Symantec is a global leader in providing security, storage, and systems management solutions to help businesses and consumers secure and manage their information. Headquartered in Cupertino, Calif., Symantec has operations in more than 40 countries. More information is available at www.symantec.com.

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