

SANsymphony™ -V Plug-in for VMware vCenter

Control and schedule key SANsymphony-V storage virtualization services directly from the vCenter Server management platform

DataCore offers strong integration and collaboration tools between VMware vSphere environments and the SANsymphony-V storage hypervisor. These tools combine the power of VMware’s server and desktop virtualization technologies with DataCore’s strength in storage virtualization.

Benefits

The most popular actions requested via the plug-in include:

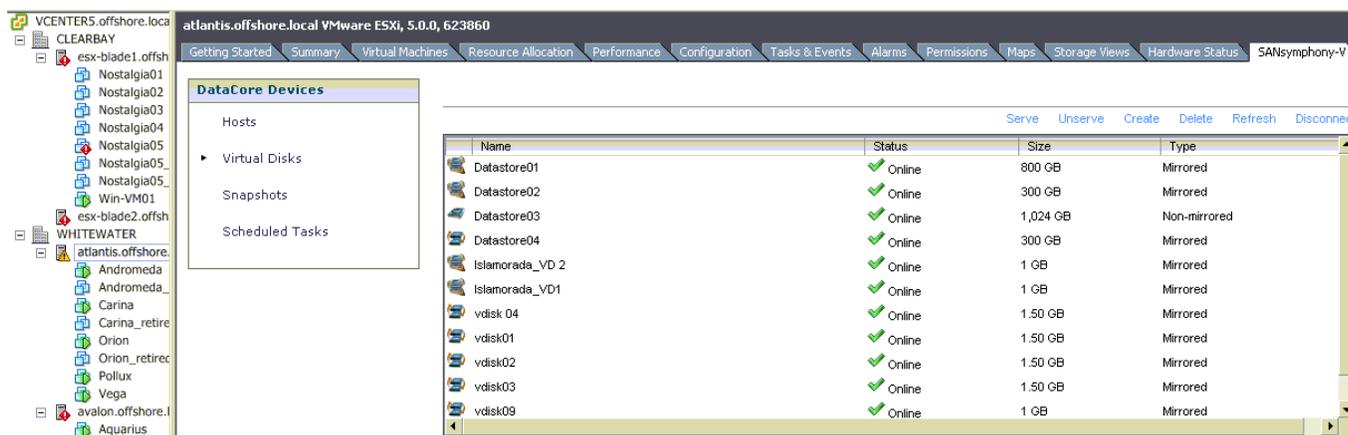
- Rapidly provision virtual disks to vSphere/ESX hosts
- Create and restore snapshots of datastores where VMs are kept
- Schedule tasks to coordinate workflows between vSphere and SANsymphony-V servers

Benefits

The plug-in is integrated into the main administrative interface for VMware’s vCenter Server management platform. From the plug-in, vSphere administrators can fulfill many of the dynamic storage needs of their vSphere/ESX clusters, hosts and virtual machines (VMs) without leaving their familiar central console.

Intuitive Interface

The SANsymphony-V functions are accessed via a tab on the vSphere Client. In the example below, the DataCore software is supplying virtualized storage services to a pair of ESX hosts (atlantis and avalon) that make up the WHITEWATER ESX cluster. Each ESX host is running several VMs (Andromeda, Carina, etc.). The inventory of virtual disks available from SANsymphony-V is shown in the right hand pane. There one can see which virtual disks are served, which are available and their level of mirroring.



Provisioning Virtual Disks

Several virtual disks can be quickly created and then served to an ESX host by selecting from the menu of available resources. Unservicing and deleting is just as easy.

Taking Snapshots

Wizards make capturing snapshots of VMs a breeze. Administrators simply use the screen below to select the datastore housing the specific VMs of interest. The plug-in signals the vCenter Server to quiesce those VMs and then triggers SANsymphony-V to take snapshots of the corresponding datastore. Both full clone and differential (lightweight) snapshots are supported. The known good state in those online snapshots may be used to instantiate new VMs or quickly recover from malware and user errors that may have damaged their integrity.

	Name	Size	Type
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Datastore01	800 GB	Mirrored
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Datastore02	300 GB	Mirrored
<input type="checkbox"/>	Datastore03	1,024 GB	Non-mirrored
<input type="checkbox"/>	Datastore04	300 GB	Mirrored
<input type="checkbox"/>	Islamorada_VD 2	1 GB	Mirrored
<input type="checkbox"/>	Islamorada_VD1	1 GB	Mirrored
<input type="checkbox"/>	vdisk 04	1.50 GB	Mirrored
<input type="checkbox"/>	vdisk01	1.50 GB	Mirrored
<input type="checkbox"/>	vdisk02	1.50 GB	Mirrored
<input type="checkbox"/>	vdisk03	1.50 GB	Mirrored
<input type="checkbox"/>	vdisk09	1 GB	Mirrored
<input type="checkbox"/>	vdisk10	0.50 GB	Non-mirrored

Quiesce	Name
<input type="checkbox"/>	Andromeda
<input type="checkbox"/>	Andromeda_retired_5_3_2012 4:08:27 AM
<input type="checkbox"/>	Carina
<input type="checkbox"/>	Carina_retired_5_2_2012 3:45:13 PM
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gemini
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gemini_retired_5_2_2012 1:43:18 PM
<input type="checkbox"/>	Orion
<input type="checkbox"/>	Orion_retired_5_2_2012 4:40:52 PM
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pegasus
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pollux
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Vega

Scheduling Tasks

Snapshots may be scheduled at regular intervals, say every Saturday morning at 3am. The workflow can also define how long the snapshots should be retained before they are deleted.

Accessing Extended Storage Virtualization Functions

The SANsymphony-V plug-in lets administrators manage the most frequent storage provisioning and snapshot requests encountered in VMware vSphere environments from their familiar vCenter console. Those with deeper interest in the storage infrastructure may also tap directly into the rich command and control interface available from the native SANsymphony-V console, as well as its comprehensive library of scriptable PowerShell commandlets.

For additional information,
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