

VMware<sup>®</sup> ESX and ESXi

**Support Matrix for  
Dell<sup>™</sup> PowerEdge<sup>™</sup> Systems  
and Storage Platforms**

# Notes



**NOTE:** A NOTE indicates important information that helps you make better use of your computer.

---

**Information in this document is subject to change without notice.**

**© 2008 Dell Inc. All rights reserved.**

Reproduction of these materials in any manner whatsoever without the written permission of Dell Inc. is strictly forbidden.

Trademarks used in this text: *Dell*, the *DELL* logo, *OpenManage*, *PowerEdge* and *PowerVault* are trademarks of Dell Inc.; *CommVault Galaxy* is a trademark or registered trademark of CommVault Systems, Inc.; *Microsoft* and *Windows Server* are registered trademarks of Microsoft Corporation in the United States and/or other countries; *Symantec*, *Backup Exec*, and *Veritas* are trademarks or registered trademarks of Symantec Corporation or its affiliates in the U.S. and other countries; *VMware* is a registered trademark or trademark (the "Marks") of VMware, Inc. in the United States and/or other jurisdictions.

Other trademarks and trade names may be used in this document to refer to either the entities claiming the marks and names or their products. Dell Inc. disclaims any proprietary interest in trademarks and trade names other than its own.

# Contents

<b>Contents</b> . . . . .	<b>3</b>
<b>Dell-Supported Configurations for Current Versions of ESX 3.5.x</b> . . . . .	<b>5</b>
Dell PowerEdge™ System–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 3.5.x . . . . .	5
Dell Storage Solutions–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 3.5.x . . . . .	7
Dell OpenManage™–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 3.5.x . . . . .	8
Dell-Supported Backup Solutions–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 3.5.x . . . . .	9
<b>Dell-Supported Configurations for Current Versions of ESX 3.0.x</b> . . . . .	<b>9</b>
Dell PowerEdge™ System–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 3.0.x . . . . .	10
Dell Storage Solutions–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 3.0.x . . . . .	11
Dell OpenManage™–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 3.0.x . . . . .	12
Dell-Supported Backup Solutions–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 3.0.x . . . . .	13
<b>Dell-Supported Configurations for Legacy Versions of ESX 2.x</b> . . . . .	<b>13</b>
Dell PowerEdge System–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 2.x . . . . .	14
Dell Storage Solution–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 2.x . . . . .	14
OpenManage–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 2.x. . . . .	15
Dell-Supported Backup Solutions–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 2.x. . . . .	16
PowerEdge System–VirtualCenter Compatibility Matrix . . . . .	16



This document provides information on the Dell™-supported configurations for VMware® ESX and ESXi software.

## Dell-Supported Configurations for Current Versions of ESX 3.5.x

This section provides the matrices of Dell-supported configurations of Dell systems and storage arrays with ESX 3.5 Update 2 to ESX 3.5.0. The following matrices are included:

- "Dell PowerEdge™ System–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 3.5.x" on page 5
- "Dell Storage Solutions–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 3.5.x" on page 7
- "Dell OpenManage™–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 3.5.x" on page 8
- "Dell-Supported Backup Solutions–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 3.5.x" on page 9

### Dell PowerEdge™ System–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 3.5.x

Table 1-1 lists the compatible configurations for ESX 3.5.x software with Dell PowerEdge systems.

**Table 1-1. Dell-Supported Configurations of PowerEdge Systems With ESX and ESXi 3.5.x**

	ESX 3.5 Update 2	ESXi 3.5 Update 2 Installable	ESXi 3.5 Update 2 Embedded	ESX 3.5 Update 1	ESXi 3.5 Update 1 Installable	ESXi 3.5 Update 1 Embedded	ESX 3.5
PowerEdge M905	✓	✓	✓				
PowerEdge M805	✓	✓	✓				
PowerEdge R905	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
PowerEdge R805	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓

**Table 1-1. Dell-Supported Configurations of PowerEdge Systems With ESX and ESXi 3.5.x (continued)**

	<b>ESX 3.5 Update 2</b>	<b>ESXi 3.5 Update 2 Installable</b>	<b>ESXi 3.5 Update 2 Embedded</b>	<b>ESX 3.5 Update 1</b>	<b>ESXi 3.5 Update 1 Installable</b>	<b>ESXi 3.5 Update 1 Embedded</b>	<b>ESX 3.5</b>
PowerEdge M605	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓
PowerEdge M600	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓
PowerEdge R900	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
PowerEdge 2970	✓	✓		✓			✓
PowerEdge 2950 III	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
PowerEdge 2900 III	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
PowerEdge 1955	✓	✓		✓			✓
PowerEdge 1950 III	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
PowerEdge 6950	✓	✓		✓			✓
PowerEdge 6850	✓	✓		✓			✓
PowerEdge 2850	✓	✓		✓			✓
PowerEdge 1855				✓			✓
PowerEdge 1850				✓			✓
PowerEdge 6650				✓			✓

## Dell Storage Solutions–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 3.5.x

Table 1-2 lists the compatible configurations for ESX and ESXi software version 3.5.x with Dell storage solutions.

**Table 1-2. Dell-Supported Configurations of Storage Systems With ESX and ESXi 3.5.x**

	ESX 3.5 Update 2	ESXi 3.5 Update 2 Installable	ESXi 3.5 Update2 Embedded	ESX 3.5 Update 1	ESXi 3.5 Update1 Installable	ESXi 3.5 Update1 Embedded	ESX 3.5
Dell EqualLogic PS5000XV	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dell EqualLogic PS5000X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dell EqualLogic PS5000E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dell™ PowerVault™ MD1120	✓						
PowerVault MD3000i	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PowerVault MD3000 <sup>a</sup>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PowerVault MD1000 <sup>b</sup>	✓			✓			✓
PowerVault NX1950 <sup>c</sup>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dell EMC CX3-80	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dell EMC CX3-40	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dell EMC CX3-20	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dell EMC CX3-10c	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

**Table 1-2. Dell-Supported Configurations of Storage Systems With ESX and ESXi 3.5.x (continued)**

	ESX 3.5 Update 2	ESXi 3.5 Update 2 Installable	ESXi 3.5 Update2 Embedded	ESX 3.5 Update 1	ESXi 3.5 Update1 Installable	ESXi 3.5 Update1 Embedded	ESX 3.5
Dell   EMC CX700				✓	✓	✓	✓
Dell   EMC CX500				✓	✓	✓	✓
Dell   EMC CX300				✓	✓	✓	✓
Dell   EMC AX150i				✓	✓	✓	✓
Dell   EMC AX150				✓	✓	✓	✓

- a. The PowerVault MD3000 storage array supports providing external storage to a single ESX host or a maximum of two hosts in a split configuration.
- b. The PowerVault MD1000 storage array supports providing external storage to a single ESX host or a maximum of two hosts in a split configuration.
- c. The PowerVault NX1950 storage array supports only integrated basic configuration with ESX using the iSCSI protocol and not the NFS protocol. The PowerVault NX1950 storage array is *not* supported in Integrated High Availability configuration with ESX.

### Dell OpenManage™–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 3.5.x

Table 1-3 lists the supported configurations for ESX and ESXi software version 3.5.x with Dell OpenManage Systems Management suite of software.

**Table 1-3. Dell-Supported Configurations of Dell OpenManage With ESX 3.5.x**

	ESX 3.5 Update 2	ESX 3.5 Update1	ESX 3.5
OpenManage 5.4.3 <sup>a</sup>	✓		
OpenManage 5.4.1 <sup>b</sup>	✓	✓	✓
OpenManage 5.4	✓	✓	✓
OpenManage 5.3.1 <sup>c</sup>	✓	✓	✓
OpenManage 5.3	✓	✓	✓

- a. OpenManage 5.4.3 or higher is required to manage the PowerEdge M805 and M905 systems.
- b. OpenManage 5.4.1 or higher is required to manage the PowerEdge R805 and R905 systems.
- c. OpenManage 5.3.1 or higher is required to manage the PowerEdge M600 and M605 systems.



## Dell-Supported Backup Solutions–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 3.5.x

Table 1-4 lists the supported configurations for ESX 3.5.x with Dell-supported backup solutions.

**Table 1-4. Dell-Supported Configurations of Backup Solutions With ESX 3.5.x**

	ESX 3.5 Update 2	ESXi 3.5 Update 2 Installable	ESXi 3.5 Update2 Embedded	ESX 3.5 Update 1	ESXi 3.5 Update1 Installable	ESXi 3.5 Update1 Embedded	ESX 3.5
CommVault Galaxy® 6.1 SP4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Symantec™ Backup Exec™ 11d	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Symantec Backup Exec 10d	✓			✓			✓

## Dell-Supported Configurations for Current Versions of ESX 3.0.x

This section provides the matrices of Dell-supported configurations of Dell systems and storage arrays with VMware ESX 3.0.3 to ESX 3.0. The following matrices are included:

- "Dell PowerEdge™ System–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 3.0.x" on page 10
- "Dell Storage Solutions–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 3.0.x" on page 11
- "Dell OpenManage™ –ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 3.0.x" on page 12
- "Dell-Supported Backup Solutions–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 3.0.x" on page 13

## Dell PowerEdge™ System–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 3.0.x

Table 1-5 lists the compatible configurations for ESX for 3.0.x software with PowerEdge systems.

**Table 1-5. Dell-Supported Configurations of PowerEdge Systems With ESX 3.0.x**

	ESX 3.0.3	ESX 3.0.2 Update 1	ESX 3.0.2	ESX 3.0.1	ESX 3.0
PowerEdge M905	✓				
PowerEdge M805	✓				
PowerEdge M605	✓	✓			
PowerEdge M600	✓	✓			
PowerEdge R905	✓				
PowerEdge R805	✓				
PowerEdge R900	✓	✓			
PowerEdge 2970	✓	✓	✓	✓	
PowerEdge 2950 I/II/III	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PowerEdge 2900 I/II/III	✓	✓	✓	✓	
PowerEdge 1955	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PowerEdge 1950 I/II/III	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PowerEdge 6950	✓	✓	✓	✓	
PowerEdge 6850	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PowerEdge 2850	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PowerEdge 1855	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PowerEdge 1850	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PowerEdge 6650		✓	✓	✓	✓

## Dell Storage Solutions–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 3.0.x

Table 1-6 lists the compatible configurations for ESX software version 3.0.x with Dell storage solutions.

**Table 1-6. Dell-Supported Configurations of Storage Systems With ESX 3.0.x**

	ESX 3.0.3	ESX 3.0.2 Update 1	ESX 3.0.2	ESX 3.0.1	ESX 3.0
PowerVault MD3000i	✓				
PowerVault MD3000	✓				
PowerVault MD1120	✓				
PowerVault MD1000 <sup>a</sup>	✓	✓	✓	✓	
PowerVault NX1950 <sup>b</sup>	✓	✓	✓	✓	
EqualLogic PS5000E	✓				
EqualLogic PS5000X	✓				
EqualLogic PS5000XV	✓				
EqualLogic PS5500E	✓				
Dell EMC CX4-960	✓				
Dell EMC CX4-480	✓				
Dell EMC CX4-240	✓				
Dell EMC CX4-120	✓				
Dell EMC CX3-80	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dell EMC CX3-40	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dell EMC CX3-20	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dell EMC CX3-40c	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Dell EMC CX3-20c	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Dell EMC CX3-10c	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Dell EMC CX3-40F	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Dell EMC CX3-20F	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Dell EMC CX700	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dell EMC CX500	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

**Table 1-6. Dell-Supported Configurations of Storage Systems With ESX 3.0.x (continued)**

	ESX 3.0.3	ESX 3.0.2 Update 1	ESX 3.0.2	ESX 3.0.1	ESX 3.0
Dell EMC CX300	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dell EMC CX400	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dell EMC CX200	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dell EMC AX150i	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Dell EMC AX150	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Dell EMC AX100i	✓				

- a. The PowerVault MD1000 storage array supports providing external storage to a single ESX host or a maximum of two hosts in a split configuration.
- b. The PowerVault NX1950 storage array supports only integrated basic configuration with ESX using the iSCSI protocol and not the NFS protocol. The PowerVault NX1950 storage array is *not* supported in Integrated High Availability configuration with ESX.

### Dell OpenManage™–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 3.0.x

Table 1-7 lists the supported configurations for ESX software version 3.0.x with OpenManage Systems Management suite of software.

**Table 1-7. Dell-Supported Configurations of OpenManage With ESX 3.0.x**

	ESX 3.0.3	ESX 3.0.2 Update 1	ESX 3.0.2	ESX 3.0.1	ESX 3.0
Open Manage 5.5	✓				
Open Manage 5.4	✓	✓			
Open Manage 5.3.1 <sup>a</sup>		✓			
Open Manage 5.3		✓			
Open Manage 5.2 <sup>b</sup>			✓	✓	
Open Manage 5.1.1 <sup>c</sup>				✓	
Open Manage 5.1				✓	✓
Open Manage 5.0					✓

- a. OpenManage 5.3.1 or higher is required to manage the PowerEdge M600 and M605 systems.
- b. OpenManage 5.2 or higher is required to manage the PowerEdge 2970 system.
- c. OpenManage 5.1.1 or higher is required to manage the PowerEdge 6950 system.

## Dell-Supported Backup Solutions–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 3.0.x

Table 1-8 lists the supported configurations for ESX 3.0.x with Dell-supported backup solutions.

**Table 1-8. Dell-Supported Configurations of Backup Solutions With ESX 3.0.x**

	ESX 3.0.3	ESX 3.0.2 Update 1	ESX 3.0.2	ESX 3.0.1	ESX 3.0
CommVault Galaxy® 6.1 SP4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Symantec Backup Exec 11d	✓				
Symantec Backup Exec 10d		✓	✓	✓	✓

## Dell-Supported Configurations for Legacy Versions of ESX 2.x

This section provides the Dell-supported configurations for ESX versions 2.5.5 to ESX 2.0.1. The following matrices are included:

- "Dell PowerEdge System–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 2.x" on page 14
- "Dell Storage Solution–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 2.x" on page 14
- "OpenManage–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 2.x" on page 15
- "Dell-Supported Backup Solutions–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 2.x" on page 16

## Dell PowerEdge System–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 2.x

Table 1-9 lists the Dell-supported configurations for ESX with PowerEdge systems.

**Table 1-9. Dell-Supported Configurations of PowerEdge Systems With ESX 2.x**

	ESX 2.5.5	ESX 2.5.4	ESX 2.5.2	ESX 2.5.1	ESX 2.5	ESX 2.1.2	ESX 2.1	ESX 2.0.1
PowerEdge 2950 III	✓	✓						
PowerEdge 1955	✓	✓						
PowerEdge 1950 III	✓	✓						
PowerEdge 6950	✓							
PowerEdge 6850	✓	✓	✓	✓				
PowerEdge 2850	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
PowerEdge 1855	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
PowerEdge 1850	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
PowerEdge 6650	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

## Dell Storage Solution–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 2.x

Table 1-10 lists the Dell-supported configurations for ESX software with Dell storage solutions.

**Table 1-10. Dell-Supported Configurations of Storage Solutions With ESX 2.x**

	ESX 2.5.5	ESX 2.5.4	ESX 2.5.2	ESX 2.5.1	ESX 2.5	ESX 2.1.2	ESX 2.1	ESX 2.0.1
Dell EMC CX3-80	✓	✓						
Dell EMC CX3-40	✓	✓						
Dell EMC CX3-20	✓	✓						
Dell EMC CX700	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dell EMC CX600	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dell EMC CX500	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

**Table 1-10. Dell-Supported Configurations of Storage Solutions With ESX 2.x (continued)**

	ESX 2.5.5	ESX 2.5.4	ESX 2.5.2	ESX 2.5.1	ESX 2.5	ESX 2.1.2	ESX 2.1	ESX 2.0.1
Dell EMC CX400	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dell EMC CX300	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dell EMC CX200	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

### OpenManage–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 2.x

Table 1-11 lists the supported configurations for ESX software with OpenManage Systems Management suite of software.

**Table 1-11. Dell-Supported Configurations of OpenManage With ESX 2.x**

	ESX 2.5.5	ESX 2.5.4	ESX 2.5.2	ESX 2.5.1	ESX 2.5	ESX 2.1.2	ESX 2.1	ESX 2.0.1
OpenManage™ 5.2 <sup>a</sup>	✓							
OpenManage 5.0 <sup>b</sup>		✓						
OpenManage 4.5 <sup>c</sup>	✓	✓						
OpenManage 4.5			✓	✓				
OpenManage 4.4				✓				
OpenManage 4.3				✓	✓			
OpenManage 4.1.3					✓			
OpenManage 4.2					✓			
OpenManage 4.1						✓		
OpenManage 3.8							✓	
OpenManage 3.6								✓

a. OpenManage 5.2 is required to manage the PowerEdge 6850, 1950, 1955, 2950, and 6950 systems with PowerEdge Expandable RAID Controller (PERC) 5 family.

b. OpenManage 5.0 is required to manage the PowerEdge 6850, 1950, 1955, and 2950 systems with PERC 5 family.

c. OpenManage 4.5 is required to manage the PowerEdge 6850, 1850, 1855, and 2850 systems with PERC 4 family.

## Dell-Supported Backup Solutions–ESX Compatibility Matrix for Version 2.x

Table 1-12 lists the supported configurations for ESX software with Dell-supported backup solutions.

**Table 1-12. Dell-Supported Configurations of Backup Solutions With ESX 2.x**

	ESX 2.5.5	ESX 2.5.4	ESX 2.5.2	ESX 2.5.1	ESX 2.5	ESX 2.1.2	ESX 2.1
Symantec Backup Exec 10d	✓	✓					
Symantec Backup Exec 10			✓	✓			
Veritas® Backup Exec 10					✓		
Veritas Backup Exec 9.1						✓	
Veritas Backup Exec							✓

## PowerEdge System–VirtualCenter Compatibility Matrix



**NOTE:** Table 1-13 lists the Dell-tested configurations only. Other configurations of PowerEdge systems and VirtualCenter may be compatible. For a complete list of Virtual Center platform requirements, see the VMware VirtualCenter 1.x Documentation website at [vmware.com/products/vmanage/vc\\_specs.html](http://vmware.com/products/vmanage/vc_specs.html).

**Table 1-13. Dell-Supported Configurations of PowerEdge Systems With VirtualCenter**

VMware VirtualCenter Software	VirtualCenter 1.x	VirtualCenter2.x
PowerEdge systems	All PowerEdge systems with Microsoft® Windows Server® 2003 operating system or later.	All PowerEdge systems with Windows Server 2003 SP1 operating system or later.