

Dell Management Plug-in for VMware vCenter



Dell™ Management Plug-in for VMware® vCenter™ seamlessly integrates with vCenter to simplify and consolidate infrastructure management—physical and virtual—from a single console.



Take control of your physical and virtual infrastructure

The data center of today grows more complex every day. Virtualization has unshackled IT and allowed you to be more flexible and agile in responding to the needs of business. Along with this new found agility and flexibility comes complexity. Hardware has become more powerful and virtual infrastructure is increasingly dynamic. You need tools to tame this situation so you can fully leverage the promise of virtualization. VMware offers such a tool, VMware vCenter—the de facto standard for managing VMware virtual infrastructure. But what about the hardware? Don't launch another console to manage your servers; use vCenter to manage your entire infrastructure—physical and virtual. The Dell Management Plug-in for VMware vCenter is designed to compress tasks and bring various management processes such as firmware updates and bare metal deployment into the VMware vCenter Server management console—offering a richer management experience with Dell™ PowerEdge™ servers.

Reduce complexity and eliminate trial and error

The Dell Management Plug-in for VMware vCenter allows you to create and use hardware and hypervisor templates to ensure consistency and maintain corporate-approved standards. The Dell Management Plug-in removes the guesswork from server deployment for companies of all sizes—from those that deploy a few servers per quarter to those that deploy hundreds of servers per month.

Accelerate your virtualization deployments

Virtualization is valuable for IT because it drives efficiencies, reduces infrastructure costs and increases responsiveness to business needs. The faster you are able to deploy virtualized infrastructure the faster you and your business can achieve the benefits. The Dell Management Plug-in for VMware vCenter reduces the number of steps to deploy virtual infrastructure and accelerates your time to value.

Maintain hardware currency and mitigate risk

The Dell Management Plug-in for VMware vCenter provides wizard-driven utilities to allow you to update the BIOS and firmware of your PowerEdge servers from within the vCenter console. These updates can be staged to coincide with the next server reboot or other options as you see fit. The Dell Management Plug-in for VMware vCenter puts the control in your hands—you choose the time for server updates that is right for your business.

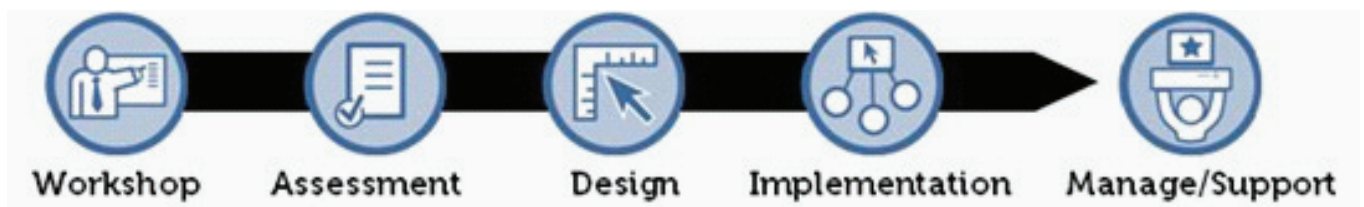
Bringing it together

When combined with the VMware vCenter console and the embedded management capabilities of Integrated Dell Remote Access Controller (iDRAC) with Lifecycle Controller, the Dell Management Plug-in for VMware vCenter offers seamless integration and comprehensive management of your Dell PowerEdge virtualized infrastructure. Increase the efficiency of your IT staff and reduce the time it takes to manage your virtual environment with virtualization management solutions from Dell.

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Feature	Description	Benefit
Deep level detail for inventory	Full server details like quantity and type for items such as memory, NIC, power supplies, processors, RAC, and more are available as well as warranty information and server- or cluster-level views (exportable to CSV for sorting).	Get the same extensive details you get from Dell OpenManage™ without leaving the VMware console. Compress tasks, save time and improve accuracy by eliminating need to move from console to console.
BIOS and firmware update deployment	During or after installation, BIOS and firmware baselines and templates can be set up to ensure a uniform and compliant solution. BIOS and firmware updates can be staged from vCenter and deployed at your convenience.	Choose where you pull your updates from and when they are run—IT Admins now have a consistent, reliable process to install BIOS and firmware updates to VMware® ESX® and ESXi™ hosts.
Built-in deployment wizard	Dell servers show up in the admin console as “bare metal” servers—a server that does not have a hypervisor or operating system—allowing you to set configurations of BIOS and firmware updates. RAID, server name, IP address, and many other settings can be set and kept as a profile template. Hypervisor templates can be created for ESX® and ESXi™ 4.1 and later releases.	Use templates to meet company compliance rules relating to approved corporate BIOS standards and then save for future deployments. Pair hypervisor and BIOS templates as needed to quickly and consistently ready the hardware for the hypervisor. Deploy servers with an easy-to-use wizard to reduce IT staff hours and provide peace of mind knowing that every server is configured to be compliant from the beginning.
Alert recommendations	You set the control level—allow the tool to require manual approval of the suggested action or allow the tool to automatically remediate—or choose from various degrees in between based on the alerts.	Invoke VMware® vMotion™ to keep your data center applications up and running based on prescriptive actions tied to severity. Integrate seamlessly with VMware® vCenter™ to reduce complexity and save time.
Online warranty information	Dell puts key information at your fingertips by including server warranty information in vCenter™ including service provider, warranty type, and service dates at a server or cluster level.	Check your warranty details and status from the vCenter™ console and eliminate the need to hunt down information on server age or EOL. This aids in disaster recovery planning and server refresh planning.
Cluster level view and reporting	You can view Dell servers at an overview level, or drill down into areas such as firmware, warranty, power, or many other categories. Reports can be sorted, filtered, and exported into CSV format.	Save time and money by getting a quick, high-level view of your Dell server cluster—you can see what hardware inventory is in each server, view warranty and check for BIOS and firmware compliance.

Dell is here to help you at every step



Our IT consulting services can help you quickly identify high-impact projects that deliver return on investment (ROI) and free up resources so you can focus on creating a competitive advantage. In addition, our Dell ProSupport suite of support services will enable you to build the support solution that's right for your organization.

For more information visit Dell.com/vCenterPlugin

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