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6 Replies Last post: Oct 23, 2009 8:02 PM by Sharath23468

 Complete Migration to Distributed Virtual Switch

posted: Oct 22, 2009 11:16 PM

**Sharath23468**
3 posts since
Oct 9, 2009

Hi All,
When an ESX Server is first installed, it uses a standard vNetwork Switch for COS as vswif0.

When this server is added to the Vcenter server, the Vcenter communicates with ESX with vswif0 through the standard switch.

What is the process to move the vswif0 to the vDS? Can this be done via CLI?

A new vswif to be created in the vDS with a new uplink, remove the ESX from the Vcenter and add it with the new vswif ip and then remove the old vswif from the standard switch.

Is there a better way to do this?

Regards,

Sharath

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[Buy Now](#) Re: Complete Migration to Distributed Virtual Switch1. Oct 22, 2009 11:35 PM in response to: [Sharath23468](#)**athlon_crazy**
1,057 posts since
Oct 28, 2007

Sharath23468 wrote:
Hi All,
When an ESX Server is first installed, it uses a standard vNetwork Switch for COS as vswif0.

When this server is added to the Vcenter server, the Vcenter communicates with ESX with vswif0 through the standard switch.

What is the process to move the vswif0 to the vDS? Can this be done via CLI?

A new vswif to be created in the vDS with a new uplink, remove the ESX from the Vcenter and add it with the new vswif and then remove the old vswif from the standard switch.

Is there a better way to do this?

Regards,

Sharath

I maybe wrong but if you want to migrate virtual adapter (service console, vmkernel & port group) ASFAIK, we dont need to remove ESX host from vCenter. I did this twice and none of the process require me to remove the ESX first. Just remain untouch your existing vSS and create new vDS. Once you finished with vDS, you can migrate service console, vmkernel & port group to vDS. BTW, if possible, choose hybrid method (vSS + vDS) and leave your service console on vSS.

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Re: Complete Migration to Distributed Virtual Switch

2. Oct 22, 2009 11:38 PM  in response to: [Sharath23468](#)



rbos3

68 posts since
Apr 15, 2009

Hi Sharat! Welcome to the forums 😊

Because vDS are a part of vCenter Server, it's not possible to complete the whole configuration just by using the CLI.

Creating a vswif using a pre-defined IP address assigned to a vSwitch is no problem, but the migration to a vDS has to be done using the vSphere Client.

VMware should implement commands to do this tho, I think it's a good idea to create these settings using the CLI! It's only applicable when you already have a vCenter Server configured ofcourse =]

Hopefully I answered your question.

René

If you found this information useful, please consider awarding points for "Correct" or "Helpful".

Thanks!

Re: Complete Migration to Distributed Virtual Switch

3. Oct 23, 2009 12:42 AM in response to: [athlon_crazy](#)



Sharath23468

3 posts since
Oct 9, 2009

Athon_crazy,

Thanks for your reply. Just curious to know your setup when you did the migration from vSS to vDS.

Because when you have only one uplink pnic for vswif0, this is the physical adapter that the Vcenter server is talking to right?

So when you move the service console from vSS to vDS, the configuration will not be completed as the Vcenter server loses connectivity to vswif0 through that pnic.

Hope I am making sense here.

Regards,

Sharath

Re: Complete Migration to Distributed Virtual Switch

4. Oct 23, 2009 12:49 AM in response to: [Sharath23468](#)



rbos3

68 posts since
Apr 15, 2009

Hi Sharath,

In my experience when a vDS is active and you have a vSS on the same "height" as in vSwitch0 and vDS0 you don't need any physical NIC's at the vSS to have network connectivity. It seems that the physical nic assigned to the vDS is automatically available to vSS on the same level.

I added a SC port to a vSS with no pnics but I could use it fine.

If you found this information useful, please consider awarding points for "Correct" or "Helpful".
Thanks!

Re: Complete Migration to Distributed Virtual Switch

5. Oct 23, 2009 12:59 AM in response to: [Sharath23468](#)



athlon_crazy

1,057 posts since
Oct 28, 2007

It's better if you could refer to vSS to vDS migration bst practice.

In the doc it's already mentioned about 2x possible ways to migrate :

1. Host migrate with some distrupction to VMs
2. Host migrate without distrupction to VMs

So, I prefer option one since you only have one physical nic involved.

This option involving two steps:

- A Migrate virtual port first (service console etc) - so you still can manage ESX
- B. Migrate virtual machine network (Distrupction on VMnetwork until you finished step B)

Host Migration with some Disruption to VMs

The process as outlined in Step 3 of the flowchart includes two sub-steps:


A. Migration of vmnics and virtual ports (VMkernel ports and Service Consoles) can be migrated in a single step from vCenter Server.

B. Migration of VMNetworking where the VMs are migrated from vSS Port Groups to vDS DV Port Groups.

If all vmnics are migrated in Step A, then all VMs will lose network connectivity until Step B. Step B can follow quickly after Step A (it is up to the speed of the operator), but active sessions will most likely drop. However, VMs can remain powered on.

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Re: Complete Migration to Distributed Virtual Switch

6. Oct 23, 2009 8:02 PM  in response to: [athlon_crazy](#)



Sharath23468

3 posts since
Oct 9, 2009

Athlon and Rbos3,
Thanks for your replies. The key is to add a DVS and select the add host option later.

I was able to migrate and remove the vSS.

Regards,

Sharath

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