

Knowledge Base

KB Home

Knowledge Base Help

Search the Knowledge Base

Search

View by Article ID

View

Products -->

Category -->

Enabling syslog on ESXi



(7 Ratings)

Symptoms

Purpose

All ESX and ESXi hosts run a syslog service (syslogd) which logs messages from the VMkernel and other system components to a file.

On ESXi hosts, you can use the vSphere Client or the vSphere CLI command `vicfg-syslog` to configure the following options:

- `Log file path`: Specifies a datastore path to the file syslogd logs all messages.
- `Remote host`: Specifies a remote host to which syslog messages are forwarded. In order to receive the forwarded syslog messages, your remote host must have a syslog service installed.
- `Remote port`: Specifies the port used by the remote host to receive syslog messages.

Note: Neither vSphere Client nor `vicfg-syslog` can be used to configure syslog behavior for an ESX host. To configure syslog for an ESX host, you must edit the `/etc/syslog.conf` file. For more information on `vicfg-syslog`, see the [vSphere Command-Line Interface Installation and Reference Guide](#).

Resolution

To configure syslog for an ESXi host:

1. In the vSphere Client inventory, click on the host.
2. Click the **Configuration** tab.
3. Click **Advanced Settings** under **Software**.
4. Select **Syslog** in the tree control.
5. In the `Syslog.Local.DatastorePath` text box, enter the datastore path to the file where syslog will log messages. If no path is specified, the default path is `/var/log/messages`.

The datastore path format is `[<datastorename>] </path/to/file>` where the path is relative to the root of the volume backing the datastore.

Example: The datastore path `[storage1] var/log/messages` maps to the path `/vmfs/volumes/storage1/var/log/messages`.

6. In the `Syslog.Remote.Hostname` text box, enter the name of the remote host where syslog data will be forwarded. If no value is specified, no data is forwarded.
7. In the `Syslog.Remote.Port` text box, enter the port on the remote host where syslog data will be forwarded. By default `Syslog.Remote.Port` is set to 514, the default UDP port used by syslog. Changes to `Syslog.Remote.Port` only take effect if `Syslog.Remote.Hostname` is configured.
8. Click **OK**.

Request a Product Feature

To request a new product feature or to provide feedback on a VMware product, please visit the [Request a Product Feature](#) page.

Feedback



(7 Ratings)

Did this article help you?

- ☐ This article resolved my issue.
- ☐ This article did not resolve my issue.
- ☐ This article helped but additional information was required to resolve my issue.

Actions

- Bookmark Document
- Email Document
- Print Document
- Subscribe to Document

SHARE

KB Article: **1016621**Updated: **Jul 28, 2010**

Category

How to
Troubleshooting

Products:

VMware ESXi

Product Versions:

VMware ESXi 3.5.x
Installable
VMware ESXi 4.0.x
Installable

What can we do to improve this information? (4000 or fewer characters)

Email address (optional)

Submit

Permalink to: [Enabling syslog on ESXi](#)



[Read our blog](#)



[Watch KBTV](#)



[Follow us](#)

Download Products

[Visit Download Center](#)
[Download SDKs & APIs](#)
[Download Patches](#)
[Sign Up for Patch Alerts](#)
[Read Downloads Help Guide](#)

Purchase Support

[Review VMware Support Options](#)
[Request Renewal/Upgrade Quote](#)
[Contact VMware Sales](#)
[Locate a VMware Reseller](#)
[View Support Policies](#)

Connect with Experts

[Visit Community Forums](#)
[Join VMware User Groups](#)
[Visit VMworld](#)
[Browse Training](#)
[Register for Support Days](#)

Find Answers

[Visit Product Support Centers](#)
[Read Product Documentation](#)
[Search the Knowledge Base](#)
[Login to Your Account](#)
[Find Support Help Documents](#)

Copyright © 2010 VMware, Inc. All rights reserved. [Contact Us](#) | [Legal](#) | [Privacy](#) | [Accessibility](#) | [Site Index](#) | [Help](#) | [Feedback](#) [+]

[rss feed](#) 