



Oracle VM

Review From A Customer



From IT Central Station, the leading review site for enterprise technology solutions.

Review by a Real User

Verified by IT Central Station



Sr. Unix System Administrator at a media company with 1,001-5,000 employees

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WHAT IS MOST VALUABLE?

Oracle VM allows you to control your licensing costs for Oracle because Oracle allows hard partitioning to control the number of cores you're licensing.

HOW HAS IT HELPED MY ORGANIZATION?

You save vast amounts of money. It's also very robust and it allows you to better use your hardware.

WHAT NEEDS IMPROVEMENT?

I would like them to include greater flexibility. I would like them to include multitudinous users and permissions capabilities. I would like them to design the system so that it is optimized for 10GB Ethernet at a minimum as opposed to 1GB Ethernet. Oracle VM does not have what is commonly called role-based user permissions. Everyone logs into the management console as an 'admin' and has full control over everything, as opposed to VMware, where you can (for example) give a particular user control over a certain virtual machine but no others. You can even give different grades of control, so a user would be able to reboot 'his' virtual machine but could not add disk space to it; or a storage administrator might have the right to add and delete storage but not affect any virtual machines at all. I had a problem with Ethernet timeouts on my 10gb Ethernet connections and when I contacted them, they informed me that they had optimized their settings and values in the operating system kernel for 1gb Ethernet as was standard at the time. They gave me a listing of changes to the operating system that might optimize it for 10gb, but that might cause problems if and when I were to upgrade the system. The Oracle VM Server is not meant to be modified by the user; it is the hypervisor, and I didn't wish to engage in the danger of modifying my base system. I also am skilled in VMware. VMware costs about 10 times as much but also is about 10 times more usable. If they could learn that usability that VMware has, that would be wonderful.

WHAT DO I THINK ABOUT THE STABILITY OF THE SOLUTION?

I have been using the product since it came out in version 3.0. We're now at version 3.4.1. In version 3.0, many portions of it were unstable, especially when upgrading. They have made great strides and now at version 3.4.1, all the bugs seem to have been worked out.



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WHAT DO I THINK ABOUT THE SCALABILITY OF THE SOLUTION?

The whole point of Oracle VM is that it allows me to access modern-day computers with large number of cores and large amounts of memory. Most users are not going to run into something that it cannot handle.

HOW ARE CUSTOMER SERVICE AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT?

I've had to use tech support quite a bit, over the many iterations of the program. In the beginning, they were not so great. Now, they've also made great strides and learned their own product.

WHICH SOLUTION DID I USE PREVIOUSLY AND WHY DID I SWITCH?

We were previously using Oracle on HP-UX. They ceased support on HP-UX and we cut over to Linux. We needed to control our licensing costs and Oracle VM was the way to do it.

HOW WAS THE INITIAL SETUP?

I was involved in the initial setup. It was relatively simple. There were just Linux installs.

WHICH OTHER SOLUTIONS DID I EVALUATE?

Oracle is the only vendor that sells this. That is all there is to choose. Oracle are the only ones who can provide it.

WHAT OTHER ADVICE DO I HAVE?

Hire me for consulting. That's the big one.

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