



VMware vSphere

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



System Engineer with 10,001+ employees

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VALUABLE FEATURES

High Availability Distributed resource scheduling & vMotion Robust management toolset for automating routine tasks

IMPROVEMENTS TO MY ORGANIZATION

vSphere provides the infrastructure framework to manage server and client systems in a multitude of user environments, from dedicated virtual workstations to short-term use systems. vSphere makes the provisioning and deployment of virtual servers and clients quick and predictable, centralizing the customization process while removing common hardware problems.

ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

Fault Tolerance, which was introduced in version 5.5 and improved in 6.0, is a promising feature that has potential to ensure highly critical system availability in the enterprise environment. It presently has vCPU limitations which makes its deployment scenarios limited, but VMware has made great strides between the two versions, indicating that its usefulness will continue to improve.

USE OF SOLUTION

I've used it for four years.

DEPLOYMENT ISSUES

ESXi has some specific hardware requirements that administrators should make sure they are able to meet before deploying. While the platform can run on a considerable range of hardware, various features make use of specialized virtualization instruction sets in the hardware CPU that make the hypervisor suited to only a fraction of the common server hardware on the market. This is not a bad thing, as the benefits from these advanced features are well worth the cost of more advanced hardware. This is the only circumstance in which I have encountered obstacles to deployment.



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STABILITY ISSUES

No. The vSphere hypervisor is exceptionally stable, and the higher-level vSphere environment is quite adaptable to a fluctuating datacenter environment.

SCALABILITY ISSUES

No. The ability to expand the capacity of the vSphere environment is one of the core capabilities of the product.

CUSTOMER SERVICE AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Customer Service: Efficient and knowledgeable. Technical Support: Good value, particularly considering a support contract is required with the purchase of vSphere licenses.

PREVIOUS SOLUTIONS

No previous solution was used.

INITIAL SETUP

It's straightforward, as vSphere is a mature product with well-rounded documentation, and an easy-to-understand interface.

IMPLEMENTATION TEAM

Our system was installed by a vendor team, but was configured in-house. Our vendor team provided a solid architecture solution, but it was insufficient for our requirements.

PRICING, SETUP COST AND LICENSING

Licensing is not a major obstacle to adopting this product in an enterprise environment. VMware does offer some specialized vSphere editions for small business environments in which cost may be a considerable factor. There is a wide range of options provided by VMware with suitable price points for each license.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED

We did not evaluate other options.

OTHER ADVICE

Have a plan for system virtualization before pursuing vSphere. Often, the actual needs of an organization, particularly small and medium sized, are overestimated which leads to spending more for a product or product license than is necessary.

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