

VMware vCenter Configuration Manager

Policy-Driven Configuration Management and Compliance Control

AT A GLANCE

VMware vCenter™ Configuration Manager automates configuration management across virtual and physical servers and desktops, increasing efficiency by eliminating manual, error-prone and time-consuming work. This allows enterprises to maintain continuous compliance by detecting changes and comparing them to configuration and security policies. Configuration Manager remediates problems and automates provisioning of VMware vSphere™, operating systems and software for complete virtualized datacenter control.

KEY BENEFITS

- Avoid configuration drift by automatically detecting and comparing changes to policies and remediating to bring systems back into compliance.
- Maintain continuous compliance with out-of-the-box templates for standards and regulatory mandates (such as Sarbanes-Oxley, PCI DSS and HIPAA).
- Reduce potential security threats and breaches and harden your environment.
- Automate software provisioning and patching, and provision vSphere and operating systems from a central location.
- Streamline Active Directory management and compliance automation.
- Gain enterprise control and broad configuration visibility.

What Is VMware vCenter Configuration Manager?

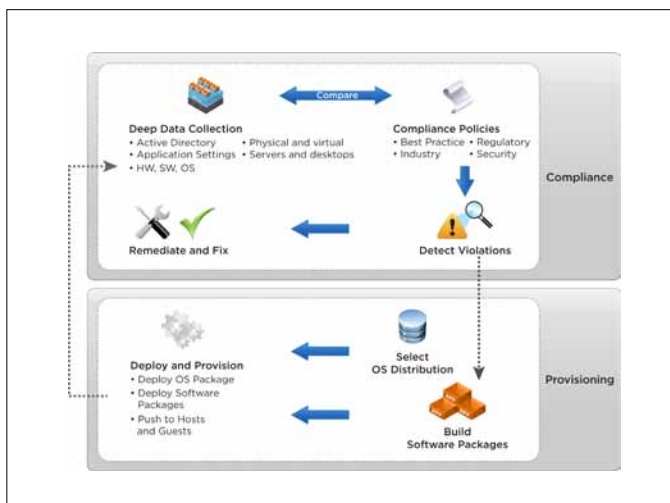
VMware vCenter Configuration Manager is a policy-driven configuration automation solution that detects deep system changes and checks whether those changes are compliant to industry, regulatory or your own self-defined best practices. It helps you avoid configuration drift by remediating systems to bring them back into compliance, managing change, controlling risk, and automating vSphere, operating system and software provisioning and patching.

vCenter Configuration Manager automates critical IT configuration management and compliance processes across thousands of asset, security and configuration settings from vSphere, VMware ESXi™ and ESX®, Windows, UNIX or Linux servers and user desktops, providing a powerful, business-aligned system with unified configuration insight.

How Is VMware vCenter Configuration Manager Used?

vCenter Configuration Manager ensures the integrity of your virtualized datacenter and lowers IT audit costs by providing automated compliance assessments against VMware and Microsoft security best practice guides, industry best practices and your own policies.

- **Gain configuration insight and agility** and avoid configuration drift by automating discovery, collection, change detection and policy violation identification for more than 80,000 configuration settings.
- **Maintain continuous compliance** with out-of-the-box templates that contain policy-driven rules, reports and dashboards that ensure security, regulatory and operational compliance.
- **Perform physical and virtual system provisioning** via a centralized mechanism. With Configuration Manager, you can deploy vSphere to 'bare metal' and then load operating systems into virtual machine containers or to 'bare metal' systems.
- **Automate software provisioning** and integrate it into compliance enforcement processes. Configuration Manager allows users to easily create software packages, push packages to systems and guests, automatically find missing software (e.g., antivirus), and remediate to install required software to non-compliant systems. This same compliance methodology can also be used to remove unwarranted or unsafe software from your systems (e.g., Kazaa).



How Does vCenter Configuration Center Work?

vCenter Configuration Manager is the only end-to-end configuration management solution that combines deep server and workstation configuration management and provisioning with out-of-the-box compliance intelligence, across physical and virtual environments. It gives you the policy-driven automation and control required to deliver IT as a service.

- **Deep collection and visibility** – Discover configurations across the enterprise with scalable, secure data collection, and track changes to them automatically.
- **Compliance policy intelligence** – Ensure compliance with various industry and regulatory standards and requirements on a continuous basis.
- **Remediation and patch management** – Detect and fix configuration problems and security vulnerabilities automatically across multiple systems. Assess the status of a patch, deploy it and verify it was installed correctly.
- **Simplify provisioning** – Dramatically simplify the provisioning of vSphere, operating systems and software packages and provision to both virtual and physical systems.
- **Multiplatform support** – Configuration Manager supports vSphere, Windows desktops and servers, Linux and Mac OS X desktops and servers, and UNIX servers.

Key Features

Configuration and Change Management

- Automated collection, analysis, remediation, and patch management lowers IT audit costs by significantly reducing the time and labor of time-consuming manual processes.
- Tool consolidation removes the hassles and time associated with using multiple separate systems for managing server changes, patches, configurations and remediation.
- Centralized view into configuration, security and compliance.
- Discover, collect and detect changes and identify policy violations for more than 80,000 configuration settings.

Out-of-the-Box Compliance Templates

- Ensure continuous compliance with security best practices and hardening guidelines for VMware, Microsoft, and Apple.
- Facilitate and enforce compliance with industry and government regulations such as Sarbanes-Oxley, HIPAA, DISA, ISO 27002, and 802-53, PCI DSS and NIST.

Simplify vSphere and Operating System Provisioning

- Manage OS distributions from a centralized repository.
- Discover new systems and build/deploy using standard PXE mechanism.
- Provision vSphere to “bare metal” systems.
- Provision operating systems (Windows, Red Hat EL and SLES) to “bare metal” systems and to virtual machine containers.

Automate Software Provisioning

- Build software packages for installation on Windows servers and workstations and deploy based on compliance results.
- Automatically find systems with missing software (e.g., antivirus) and remediate non-compliant systems.
- Distributed software repository architecture allows global scale and collaboration across distributed locations and teams (Development, Test, Production, etc.).

Active Directory Compliance

- Streamline Active Directory management and compliance automation by collecting configuration data objects and changes made.
- Track access control entry (ACE) or other critical security-based changes that may not be approved or occur outside designated change windows.
- View changes to group membership across Active Directory servers—in one report.
- Manage user accounts, enforce organization standards for user accounts and monitor changes.

Powerful Enterprise Control and Visibility

- High-level dashboards provide the right level of information needed to make change, configuration and patch management processes more effective.
- View details about the changes happening in your IT environment and track their impact against compliance.
- Role-based access controls use of reports and operational actions based on Active Directory rights, roles and responsibilities.

Find Out More

For information or to purchase VMware products, call 1-877-4-VMWARE (outside of North America, dial +1-650-427-5000), visit www.vmware.com/products, or search online for an authorized reseller.

