

vReplicator™

Host-Level Image-Based Replication

vReplicator allows companies of all sizes to leverage virtualization for affordable host-level image-based replication.

Vizioncore's vReplicator is the recognized host-level image replication solution for VMware® Infrastructure. vReplicator allows the entire virtual machine to be replicated, including configuration settings, patches to the OS, the application itself as well as the data, and all other OS-level changes. vReplicator can selectively replicate virtual machines to one or more hosts, and is hardware agnostic in replicating to dissimilar sources.

Ease of Use

vReplicator is installed on a centralized server, it is agent-less and communicates directly to the source and destination hosts, or VirtualCenter, thus eliminating licensing costs, management and maintenance involved with agent-based solutions. vReplicator provides a Setup Wizard to enable the optimal deployment of replication jobs. The Setup Wizard helps assist in creating and configuring replication jobs. Settings include replication type, intervals, destination to multiple servers and target datastores, and the ability to skip certain disks within a VM.

VirtualCenter Support

vReplicator is integrated with VirtualCenter for a tree view of the virtual machines and respective hosts involved in replication. This integration allows vReplicator to be VMotion™ and DRS aware to continue replication jobs even after virtual machines have moved.

Differential or Hybrid Replication

vReplicator now offers two types of replication Differential and Hybrid. Differential replication, the initial synchronization for vReplicator, leverages proven technology for the initial copy of the source virtual machine. The differential engine sends changes to the destination host and applies them to the closed target virtual machine (VM). Hybrid replication takes the difference, or changes from the source VM to the target, and submits only those changes, instead of resending the whole image.

VSS

vReplicator includes an agent that works in conjunction with the Microsoft® Volume Shadow Copy Service (VSS) to pause application writes. This feature enables quiescing of supported databases to provide a "transactionally consistent" replica for High Availability (HA) or Disaster Recovery (DR) sites.

Status Information and Report Enhancements

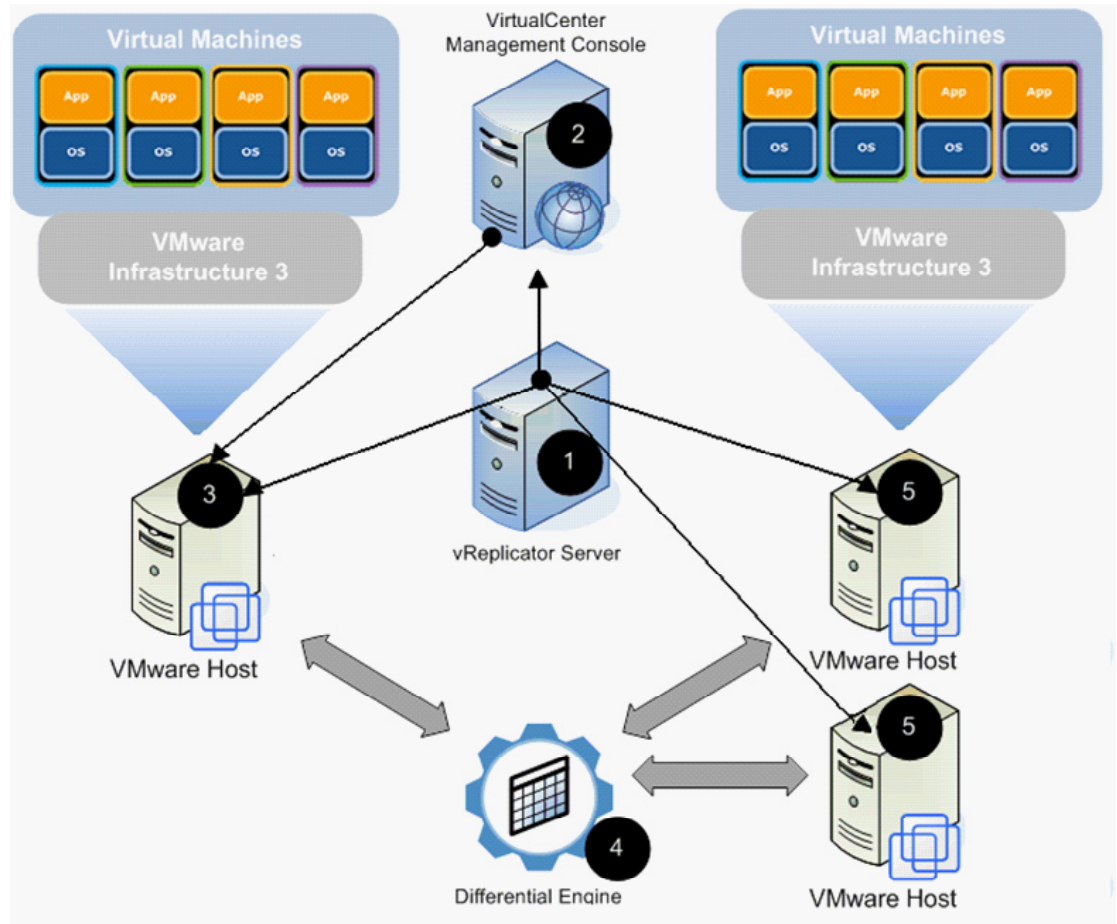
vReplicator now offers enhanced status information, which is available in the GUI, to determine the duration of replication passes, successful connection to both target and source VM, and verification of successful passes. Performance statistics are available to determine the load of a host and the impact of replication on the virtualized environment. These statistics are helpful in determining the limitations of the host and the performance requirements for replication. vReplicator now also offers the ability to export activity reports that provide status and meaningful context. The ability to export job information to such formats as Adobe® Portable Document Format (PDF), Extensible Markup Language (XML), and Microsoft® Excel (.xls), allows the user to import this data into third-party reporting software to create custom reports.



vReplicator offers integration with VirtualCenter and is VMotion and DRS aware. This solution can replicate selected VMs over the LAN/WAN to dissimilar hardware and offers both Differential and Hybrid replication.

How vReplicator Works

The following diagram depicts a typical replication job and replication pass with vReplicator.



Step 1: vReplicator is installed centrally and communicates directly with the hosts or VirtualCenter for replication. Replication job information is sent through the communication layer to the respective hosts for recurring replication passes. The Setup Wizard helps create jobs based on frequency, replication methods, or destination on a per virtual machine basis. Integration with VirtualCenter facilitates setting up and managing new or existing jobs. VirtualCenter integration is needed to follow virtual machines to their new source hosts after a VMware Distributed Resource Scheduler (DRS) or VMotion event.

Step 2: Once a job has been set up in the Setup Wizard, the information is sent to the source host for replication. This information is recorded at the vReplicator server and the job is scheduled to execute on the defined interval set in the Job Wizard.

Step 3: During the replication pass, the differential engine will look for block-level changes to be sent to the destination and applied to the VMDK until the next replication pass.

Step 4: vReplicator reviews what type of replication (Differential or Hybrid) will be performed. Once the replication is complete, a success message is sent to the vReplicator server and a new pass will initiate at the next scheduled interval.

Step 5: vReplicator can submit several types of replications to multiple destination host to specific target virtual machine's VMDK file. In addition, vReplicator has the ability to skip certain disks within a VM.



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