



# **VMware Benchmarking Approval Process**

## Purpose of This Document

### VMware Benchmarking Guidelines

*These guidelines provide information about the process VMware requires of all third parties to produce and/or publish benchmark and performance data related to a VMware product.*

*The VMware End-User License Agreement (EULA) Clause: “You may use the Software to conduct internal performance testing and benchmarking studies, the results of which you (and not unauthorized third parties) may publish or publicly disseminate; provided that VMware has reviewed and approved of the methodology, assumptions and other parameters of the study. Please contact VMware at [benchmark@vmware.com](mailto:benchmark@vmware.com) to request such review.”*

*This process document provides step-by-step overview of the benchmark review and approval process.*

# Overview of the VMware Benchmarking Process

1. **Planning:** Please submit your test plan by email to [benchmark@vmware.com](mailto:benchmark@vmware.com) before you begin any testing. Please allow 7 business days for VMware to review your test plans and allow 10 business days for VMware to review test results and the final publishable paper. Turnaround time is dependent on the volume of requests; however, VMware's goal is to respond to each request w/in 7-10 business days. Therefore, for planning purposes, it is best to submit your test plans to VMware at least 30 days prior to your desired publication date to allow for iterations in the review and approval process.
  2. **Commence Testing:** After your test plan is reviewed by VMware, direct all communication regarding testing to [benchmark@vmware.com](mailto:benchmark@vmware.com). Please read and accept all relevant VMware Software EULAs prior to commencing your testing.
  3. **Approvals:** When your testing is complete, send the detailed results including the original test plans and any modifications as well as the final report to [benchmark@vmware.com](mailto:benchmark@vmware.com) for review by VMware Engineering, Technical Marketing, and Legal.
  4. Upon approval, VMware will provide a letter which indicates the terms and conditions regarding VMware approval and publication of your final report.\*\* You may only publish or distribute the final report after you have executed the VMware letter which amends your VMware EULA(s).
- ▶ **For Technical Guidelines and Considerations when benchmarking VMware products see:**
    - [http://www.vmware.com/pdf/vi\\_performance\\_tuning.pdf](http://www.vmware.com/pdf/vi_performance_tuning.pdf)
    - [http://www.vmware.com/pdf/WS55\\_Benchmarking\\_Guidelines.pdf](http://www.vmware.com/pdf/WS55_Benchmarking_Guidelines.pdf)
  - ▶ **\*\*VMware reserves the right to refuse publication of any benchmark.**

## Details on Step 1 - Planning

**Submit a test plan.** Without an approved test plan the process may take as long as 10 weeks for iteration and final approval. VMware will review your test plan to point out any known issues or problems and to ensure all relevant data is collected. VMware wants to ensure that the data is being presented in a clear and customer relevant way. Methodologies should be consistent and disclaimers will need to be approved by VMware. VMware will review the test plan for:

- > **Configuration:** of the systems under test to ensure you produce the best performance possible. This includes the VMware software and the host hardware and may include the guest system if testing VMware hosted products.
- > **Comparisons:** to ensure that the tests are making “apples-to-apples” comparisons between VMware products and other virtualization products, if applicable.
- > **Pitfalls:** certain pitfalls can affect the accuracy or relevance of the results obtained by benchmarking tests. VMware assists in the acquisition of meaningful, accurate, and repeatable benchmarks.
- > **Hardware/Software:** VMware will require that all hardware and software products used in testing be Generally Available within 90 days of the benchmark publication date. The systems being compared should be no more than 6 month contemporaries.
- > **Metrics:** VMware assists in the review of the metrics you are collecting along with auxiliary metrics like resource utilization data.

**Co-branded Benchmarks:** VMware Partners, if you wish to co-brand your benchmark, please cc: your VMware Alliance manager in your original e-mail request and indicate your desire to co-brand the results when you submit your test plan to [benchmark@vmware.com](mailto:benchmark@vmware.com). VMware will work with you during the review process regarding the considerations for co-branding. Please be aware that co-branding may require more time to review. Therefore you are advised to allow more time in your planning process.

## Details on Step 2 - Testing

After your test plan has been submitted, reviewed and approved by VMware, commence testing.

- > When you send the results of your testing with the raw data you produced, remember to include the test methodology and test-set-up again to verify the original plan or to highlight any changes; provide as much detail as possible. Please provide the e-mail addresses and contact phone numbers of the testing team and your marketing team so that the review and approval process is quick and efficient. Submit your final report in Microsoft Word format.
- > Based on the data and the test results, the review process may include a few iterations. Therefore it is a good idea to send VMware your intermediate data before you tear down your test bed in case any oddities crop up that need further investigation. Please save all of your test data and log files we may need to refer back to the raw data.
- > The feedback from VMware comes in two possible forms: “Required Changes” and “Suggestions”. A required change is a necessary pre-requisite for final approval of the paper. A suggested change might improve the quality of the paper but is not mandatory to receive final approval.

## Details on Step 3 - Approval

In the e-mail accompanying the test plans, results and publishable paper, the following information should be included:

- > Indicate whether you, as the beneficiary of the report, or a designated third party testing agent ran the testing and prepared the report on your behalf.
  - If the tests were run internally by you as the beneficiary of the report, please indicate that you accepted the applicable VMware EULA(s).
  - If a designated third party testing agent ran the tests and prepared the report on your behalf, please indicate if that party accepted the applicable VMware EULA(s).<sup>\*\*</sup>
- > In anticipation of approval, please provide the appropriate name, address and e-mail information for the individual that has the authority to execute the letter detailing the terms and conditions of approval and publication of the benchmark report.
  - If a designated third party testing agent ran the tests and prepared the report on your behalf, please provide their appropriate contact information.
- > Be specific as to how you anticipate wanting to be able to publish the report.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Permission to publish is predicated upon you or your agent accepting the applicable VMware EULA(s).

VMware reserves the right to refuse publication of any benchmark