

VMware Consolidated Backup 1.1 Release Notes

What's in the Release Notes

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What's New

This section covers numerous improvements that VMware Consolidated Backup version 1.1 offers.

Support for SSL Certificate Verification

When communicating with a VirtualCenter server or ESX Server host, VMware Consolidated Backup 1.1 can now use SSL certificate verification to confirm the identity of the host and prevent potential man-in-the-middle attacks.

For information on enabling the SSL certificate verification, see the latest version of *Virtual Machine Backup Guide* at www.vmware.com.

Better Security in Virtual Machine Metadata Transfers

A new feature in Consolidated Backup version 1.1 allows to establish a secure network SSL connection when transferring virtual machine metadata, such as configuration and log files. As a result, the metadata can be now transferred in encrypted form, which was not possible previously.

For this feature to work, your virtual machines should reside on an ESX Server 3.5 or ESX Server 3i version 3.5 host. If the virtual machine resides on an ESX Server 3.0.x host, the metadata encryption does not occur.

Support for Local and NAS Storage

Consolidated Backup can now use an over-the-network protocol when connecting to ESX Server host. As a result, to run Consolidated Backup, you are no longer required to use a shared SAN, but can store virtual machine disks on local storage devices or NAS. However, for efficiency reasons, VMware recommends to use the shared SAN whenever possible.

To be able to use Consolidated Backup over the network, you need to have ESX Server 3.5 or ESX Server 3i version 3.5 in combination with VirtualCenter version 2.0.x or later. Your virtual disks should not exceed 1 Terabyte in size.

For more information, see the latest edition of *Virtual Machine Backup Guide* at www.vmware.com.

Better Flexibility in Configuring LUNs with RDMs

Previously, Consolidated Backup would not function correctly if LUNs containing RDMs were presented with different LUN IDs to the ESX Server(s) and the VCB proxy. .

Consolidated Backup version 1.1 uses NAA disk IDs to identify LUNs. As a result, you no longer need to configure identical LUN IDs in the arrays that support NAA. These arrays include most of the recent Fibre Channel arrays and all iSCSI targets.

The following arrays do not support NAA. For them, consistent LUN numbering is still required.

- EMC Symmetrix 6 or earlier
- AX100 with Navisphere Express
- IBM TotalStorage 8000

This feature works with any version of ESX Server 3.x and VirtualCenter 2.x.

VCB Proxy 64-Bit Operating System Support

You can now install a 64-bit version of Microsoft Windows 2003 on your VCB proxy.

If you use Consolidated Backup in conjunction with a VMware supported third party software, make sure that the versions of Microsoft Windows and your backup software match. For example, if you run the 64-bit version of Microsoft Window, install the 64-bit version of the backup software.

Vista and Longhorn Guest Operating System Support

You can now perform file-level backups of virtual machines running Windows Vista or Windows Server 2008 "Longhorn" guest operating systems. However, the SYNC driver for these guest operating systems is not available.

New Consolidated Backup Command Line Utility

The new `vcbCleanup` command line utility is now bundled with Consolidated Backup 1.1. It performs cleanups after a failed backup operation.

For more information, see the latest edition of *Virtual Machine Backup Guide* at www.vmware.com.

Enhancements in Consolidated Backup Command Line Utilities

This release introduces the following improvements:

- You can now stop a command line utility using `Ctrl+C`.
- When starting a utility, you can interactively enter a password if you have not specified it as the `-p <password>` option on the command line or in `backuptools.conf` on the service console.
- The `vcbMounter` utility has been improved, so that it does not remove a mount directory (and `unmount.dat`) on unmount if it could not successfully remove the backup snapshot on a corresponding virtual machine.

New Backup Software Support

VMware provides support and integration modules for the following backup software versions:

- EMC/Legato Networker 7.4
- Symantec Netbackup 6.0
- Symantec BackupExec 11d
- IBM Tivoli Storage Manager (TSM) 5.4

NOTE Support for Netbackup 6.5 is provided by Symantec. Netbackup 6.5 comes with its own Consolidated Backup integration module and does not require VMware integration module.

New Method to Specify Multiple Drives in Legato Networker

You can now specify multiple drives for a virtual machine to be backed up in Networker with just `VM:foo.company.com:C:D`.

New Default Port to Connect to VirtualCenter Server

Consolidated Backup now uses port 443 when communicating with VirtualCenter Server. Previous versions of Consolidated Backup used port 902.

Resolved Issues

For this release, numerous critical problems have been fixed, which improves general performance, reliability, and robustness of Consolidated Backup. The most significant resolved issues are the following:

- The timestamps for all the folders and directories (letters/digits...) that Consolidated Backup creates are now always set to Jan. 1st, 2001. This works around certain issues with some backup applications when you perform incremental backups. For example, it is now possible to configure a file level backup for all disks of a virtual machine in Netbackup by specifying `C:\mnt\myvm.company.com\letters` and incremental backups will work as expected.
- This release fixes a bug that caused backups to fail if a virtual machine had disks in the root directory of a datastore.
- Previously, if a virtual machine had an RDM in physical compatibility mode, Consolidated Backup would not be able to backup other disks of this virtual machine. This issue has been resolved. Although Consolidated Backup still does not allow you to back up physical compatibility RDMS, it can now ignore them and proceed to backing up all the other disks of the virtual machine.

NOTE This feature requires ESX Server 3.5 or ESX Server 3i version 3.5 in combination with VirtualCenter version 2.5.

ESX Server, VirtualCenter, and VMware Consolidated Backup Compatibility

Keep in mind the following when choosing versions of ESX Server and VirtualCenter to work with VMware Consolidated Backup:

- Consolidated Backup 1.1 is compatible with any version of ESX Server 3.x managed by any version of VirtualCenter 2.x. However, to be able to have a better performance and utilize some of its new features, Consolidated Backup 1.1 requires ESX Server 3.0.2 or later and VirtualCenter 2.0.2 or later.
- Consolidated Backup 1.0.2 and Consolidated Backup 1.0.3 do not work with VirtualCenter 2.5. To address this issue, VMware provides patches for these versions of Consolidated Backup.
- VirtualCenter 2.5 and Consolidated Backup can coexist on the same system. However, since the VCB proxy should be locked down as much as possible, VMware does not recommend this setup.

Upgrading to VMware Consolidated Backup 1.1

You can upgrade Consolidated Backup from its earlier versions by running the VMware Consolidated Backup 1.1 installer.

After upgrading, to eliminate any possible negative effects caused by problems in earlier versions of Consolidated Backup, run the `automount scrub` command on the `Diskpart` utility and clean the `C:\Windows\Temp` directory.

For a detailed procedure, see the latest edition of *Virtual Machine Backup Guide* at www.vmware.com.

Known Issues for VMware Consolidated Backup 1.1

The following sections describe the known issues for this release of Consolidated Backup.

Consolidated Backup and Storage VMotion are Mutually Exclusive

Because Consolidated Backup operates on snapshots of virtual machines and Storage VMotion does not work for virtual machines with snapshots, you cannot migrate a virtual machine while it is being backed up by Consolidated Backup.

Storage VMotion, on its part, disables snapshot operations for virtual machines it migrates. As a result, an attempt to back up such a virtual machine with Consolidated Backup fails with a `resource in use` error.

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