

VMware Cloud Director Availability On-premises Guides

Guide #11

Advanced configuration: Disk exclusion, VM seeds

You can find the most up-to-date technical documentation on the VMware website at: <https://docs.vmware.com/>

If you have comments about this documentation, submit your feedback to: vcav-light@vmware.com

When creating a replication, to reduce the replication data traffic and free destination storage, some VM disks can be excluded from the replication. For example, when the source VM contains disks that are used to store swaps, dumps or other data that does not need to be replicated to the destination site, those disks can be excluded from the replication. Excluding disks is useful when the bandwidth is limited, when the traffic is being charged, and to save disk space in the destination site.

Also, when creating a replication, to reduce the full initial replication synchronization traffic, an already existing VM on the destination site can be used as a seed VM. By using a seed VM, only the changed blocks are transferred for disks for which seed is used.

New Outgoing Replication

- 1 vCenter VMs
- 2 Destination VDC and Storage policy
- 3 Settings**
- 4 Seed VM
- 5 Replicated Disks
- 6 Ready to complete

Settings

☒ Use SLA profile
☐ Configure settings manually

Gold		Silver	
Target RPO	30min	Target RPO	2h
Compression	Activated	Compression	Activated
Quiescing	Deactivated	Quiescing	Deactivated
Retention	14 instances spread ...	Retention	7 instances spread 1 ...
Sync time	No delay	Sync time	No delay

VDC VM placement policy ⓘ

Select ▼

Exclude disks

☒ Save disk space on the target site by excluding disks that are not necessary.

Configure Seed VMs

☒ Use an older copy of the protected VMs on the target site to reduce the data traffic.

CANCEL BACK NEXT

Excluding Disks

When creating a replication, in the New Replication wizard some or all of the source VM disks can be excluded.

1. In the **Settings** page, select **Exclude disks** and click **Next**.

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Settings

☒ Use SLA profile
☐ Configure settings manually

Gold		Silver	
Target RPO	30min	Target RPO	2h
Compression	Activated	Compression	Activated
Quiescing	Deactivated	Quiescing	Deactivated
Retention	14 instances spread ...	Retention	7 instances spread 1 ...
Sync time	No delay	Sync time	No delay

VDC VM placement policy ⓘ

Select ▼

Exclude disks

☒ Save disk space on the target site by excluding disks that are not necessary.

Configure Seed VMs

☐ Use an older copy of the protected VMs on the target site to reduce the data traffic.

CANCEL BACK NEXT

2. In the **Replicated Disks** page, select the VM and in the right pane, deselect the disks to exclude from replication.

Note: By deselecting all VM disks, only the VM configuration files are replicated.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Key	Label	Capacity
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2000	6000c290-d15a-fc8a-5ea...	40.00 GB
<input type="checkbox"/>	2016	win_2016_1.vmdk	10.00 GB

CANCEL BACK NEXT

3. In the **Ready to Complete** page, verify the provided disk details and click **Finish**.

Using Seed VMs

When creating a replication, in the New Replication wizard, seed VMs can be used.

1. In the **Settings** page, to use a VM seed, select **Configure Seed VMs** and click **Next**.

Gold

Target RPO	30min
Compression	Activated
Quiescing	Deactivated
Retention	14 instances spread ...
Sync time	No delay

Silver

Target RPO	2h
Compression	Activated
Quiescing	Deactivated
Retention	7 instances spread 1 ...
Sync time	No delay

VDC VM placement policy ⓘ
Select

Exclude disks
☐ Save disk space on the target site by excluding disks that are not necessary.

Configure Seed VMs
☒ Use an older copy of the protected VMs on the target site to reduce the data traffic.

CANCEL BACK NEXT

2. In the **Seed VM** page, select a VM matching with the corresponding destination seed and click **Next**.

New Outgoing Replication

- 1 vCenter VMs
- 2 Destination VDC and Storage policy
- 3 Settings
- 4 **Seed VM**
- 5 Ready to complete

Seed VM

The following VApps/VMs exist on the target site. If any of them is an older copy of the replicated ones, you can use it as a seed in order to avoid transferring large amounts of data over the network during the initial sync. [REFRESH](#)

⚠ Selecting a seed will discard previously selected storage profile and use the one in the seed.

vApp / VM	Seed
✓ Replication-test02-pcRP	vApp-01
	vm-01

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3. In the **Ready to Complete** page, verify the provided seed details and click **Finish**.

Note: During the initial full synchronization, the source and the destination disk blocks are compared and transferred only when changed. By not using a seed, the entire source disk is synchronized.

New Outgoing Replication

- 1 vCenter VMs
- 2 Destination VDC and Storage policy
- 3 Settings
- 4 Seed VM
- 5 **Ready to complete**

Ready to complete

Verify the selected settings before clicking Finish:

VMs	Replication-test02-pcRP
Source site	My-On-Premise
Destination Site	CLOUD-01
Destination VDC	ovdc01
Storage policy	NFS
VDC VM placement policy	None
SLA profile	Gold
Sync time	No delay

vApp/VM	Seed
Replication-test02-pcRP	vm-01

[CANCEL](#) [BACK](#) [FINISH](#)



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