Azure VMware Solution
Answers to Frequently Asked Questions

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Overview

Q. What is Azure VMware Solution?
A. Azure VMware Solution is an infrastructure-as-a-service private cloud providing a VMware software stack running on dedicated bare-metal servers in Azure regions. Azure VMware Solution enables a fast path to the cloud for seamlessly migrating or extending existing VMware workloads from on-premises environments to Azure without the cost, effort, or risk of re-architecting applications or retooling operations. It is a service sold and supported by Microsoft, backed and cloud verified by VMware.

Q. What VMware products are included with this solution?
A. Customers can maintain operational consistency as they accelerate a move to the cloud with the use of familiar VMware technology and tools including some of the latest versions of vSphere, NSX, and vSAN. With additional features from HCX Enterprise, customers can further simplify their migration efforts to Azure, including support for bulk live migrations. For more details, see the Azure VMware Solution Private Cloud Component Inventory.

Q. What hardware does Azure VMware Solution use?
A. An Azure VMware Solution Software Defined Data Center is deployed in clusters with a minimum of three hosts. Hosts are dedicated bare-metal servers in Azure data centers. Currently available host types are 36-core AV36 and AV36P, and 52-core AV52. Refer to Microsoft documentation for detailed host specifications.

Q. Can VMware workloads running in Azure integrate with other native Azure services?
A. Yes. Azure VMware Solution is a native Azure service and integrates with Azure’s broad ecosystem of services including DR, Backup, Azure Active Directory, Azure management and security services, Azure Cognitive Services, and more.

Q. Where is Azure VMware Solution generally available today?
A. The service is currently available in 25 Azure Commercial and Government regions with more added regularly.

To view the most update-to-date information on availability, please visit https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/global-infrastructure/services/?products=azure-vmware.

Q. What is the pricing for the solution?
A. The service can be consumed on-demand on an hourly basis along with 1-year and 3-year reserved instances.
To view current pricing, please visit https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/pricing/details/azure-vmware/.

Q. How do I sign up for the service?
A. Contact a VMware representative to sign up for Azure VMware Solution using [this interest form](#).

VMware Aria (vRealize) Products with Azure VMware Solution

Q. Which VMware Aria products are tested and supported with Azure VMware Solution?
A. These Aria on-premises and cloud-hosted products are tested and supported with Azure VMware Solution as a managed end point:
   • Aria Operations
   • Aria Automation
   • Aria Operations for Networks
   • Aria Operations for Logs

Q. What are the sales channels for these Aria products?
A. VMware sells the Aria products using its standard sales channels.

Q. Who supports the Aria products used to manage Azure VMware Solution?
A. VMware provides support directly to customers.

Q. Can customers use their perpetual licenses towards the purchase of Aria products for Azure VMware Solution (BYOL)?
A. Aria perpetual licenses may be deployed on-premises and used to manage Azure VMware Solution as an end point. An exception is Aria Operations for Logs – only cloud-hosted Aria Operations for Logs can directly source logs from Azure VMware Solution.

Q. What are the tested and supported customer deployment scenarios for the Aria products?
A. The tested and supported scenarios are as follows:
   • The Aria software may be deployed on-premises and used to manage Azure VMware Solution as an end point. Aria Operations for Logs on-premises requires Azure VMware Solution logs to be forwarded from cloud-hosted Aria Operations for Logs.
   • The cloud-hosted Aria services may be used to manage Azure VMware Solution as an end point. Deploying Aria software directly on Azure VMware Solution is not currently a supported scenario.

Q. How do customers purchase the Aria products?
A. VMware Aria products may be purchased for on-premises or SaaS use with VMware Aria Suite or VMware Aria Suite Universal. Customers with perpetual licenses may leverage the Subscription Upgrade Program for savings towards the purchase of VMware Aria Suite or VMware Aria Suite Universal.

More details on VMware Aria Suite and VMware Aria Universal Suite are available here:

Q. What are the connectivity options for Aria products deployed on-premises managing an Azure VMware Solution end point?
A. Customers may leverage site-to-site VPNs or an Azure ExpressRoute service to access an Azure VMware Solution end point from Aria deployed in an on-premises data center.

Q. Is there a free trial period for vRealize Cloud?
A. Customers can request a trial of VMware Aria Universal Suite [here](#).

Q. What are the licensing implications of a customer with vRealize software migrating to cloud-hosted Aria?
A. Customers may leverage the Subscription Upgrade Program to move from existing perpetual licenses to Aria Universal subscription licenses and receive a discount towards purchase of Aria cloud services. More details on the Subscription Upgrade Program are available here:

Q. Is a ‘freemium’ or free trial version of Aria Operations for Logs with Azure VMware Solution available?
A. When you start using the Aria Operations for Logs service, you enter a free trial subscription period of 30 days. During this period, you can use all the features in the service with Azure VMware Solution or other log sources. Aria Operations for Logs with Azure VMware Solution users are limited to 15 GB of log data per day during the free trial. A paid subscription is required to use Aria Operations for Logs with Azure VMware Solution log sources after the free trials end.

Q. Can I use my current Aria Operations for Logs subscription now with Azure VMware Solution by connecting it to an Azure VMware Solution SDDC?
A. Yes, Aria Operations for Logs is continuously updated to add new capabilities like Azure VMware Solution support. Azure VMware Solution log data you collect and retain will be billed to your subscription.

Q. What log data does Aria Operations for Logs collect from Azure VMware Solution SDDCs?
A. Aria Operations for Logs collects these logs from Azure VMware Solution SDDCs:
• ESXi Audit Events
• vCenter Audit Events
• NSX-T Audit Events
• NSX-T Firewall and Packet Log Events

Q. Can Aria Operations for Logs collect log data from native Azure services or VM instances?
A. Aria Operations for Logs currently supports integrations with over ten Azure log sources, including native Azure services like Active Directory, SQL, and Event Hub. Installation of the VMware Cloud Native Collector in an Azure VM instance is required.

Q. Does Aria Operations for Logs with Azure VMware Solution support all Aria Operations for Logs features?
A. Yes, all features of Aria Operations for Logs premium subscriptions are supported with Azure VMware Solution. Some features require storage of log data in indexed partitions.

Q. Are any pre-defined Azure VMware Solution dashboards or content packs available for Aria Operations for Logs on Azure VMware Solution?
A. Yes, an Azure VMware Solution content pack will be available for Aria Operations for Logs that provides pre-configured dashboards, extracted fields, saved queries, and alerts specific to Azure VMware Solution logs.

Q. Can Aria Operations for Logs (on-premises) be used to collect Azure VMware Solution SDDC logs?
A. Indirectly if Azure VMware Solution log data is forwarded from Aria Operations for Logs SaaS to on-premises Aria Operations for Logs.

Q. Where does Aria Operations for Logs on Azure VMware Solution store log data?
A. Aria Operations for Logs stores log partitions in the VMware Cloud service. For more information refer to VMware Cloud Services Status.

Q. I already use Aria Operations for Logs on-premises. Will using Aria Operations for Logs SaaS with Azure VMware Solution add a new user interface console I need to monitor?
A. No, all log sources collected under an Aria Operations for Logs subscription are managed from the same Aria Operations for Logs interface.

Q. Can I use Aria Operations for Logs with Azure VMware Solution with more than one Azure VMware Solution SDDC or cluster?
A. Yes. Each SDDC needs a Cloud Native Collector.

Q. Where can I find more information on Aria Operations for Logs with Azure VMware Solution?
A. See the VMware Aria Operations for Logs website, find Aria Operations for Logs learning activities on the VMware Pathfinder site.
VMware Tanzu Kubernetes Grid on Azure VMware Solution

Q. What is VMware Tanzu?
A. Tanzu is VMware’s modern apps brand which includes a portfolio of products and services for modernizing customer infrastructure and applications with cloud native technologies such as containers and Kubernetes.

Q. What is Tanzu Kubernetes Grid?
A. Tanzu Kubernetes Grid is a full enterprise-grade Kubernetes runtime that can be deployed across multiple environments—on vSphere and VCF, on public clouds like Azure, and on hybrid clouds like AVS and VMC on AWS.

To learn more, refer to the VMware Tanzu Kubernetes Grid website.

Q. Which VMware Tanzu Kubernetes Grid versions are tested and supported on Azure VMware Solution?
A. The VMware Tanzu Kubernetes Grid versions 1.3 and newer are tested and supported on Azure VMware Solution.

Q. What is the licensing model for VMware Tanzu Kubernetes Grid?
A. VMware Tanzu Kubernetes Grid is available as a subscription license and is licensed on a per processor and per core basis.

Q. What are the key functionalities included in VMware Tanzu Kubernetes Grid?
A. Tanzu Kubernetes Grid provides an enterprise-grade, open-source aligned Kubernetes runtime, which can be deployed across different environments – on-premises on vSphere and VMware Cloud Foundation, on hybrid clouds like Azure VMware Solution, on native public clouds, as well as at the edge.

Q. Who sells VMware Tanzu Kubernetes Grid on Azure VMware Solution?
A. VMware and its channel partners sell Tanzu Kubernetes Grid to customers.

Q. Who supports VMware Tanzu Kubernetes Grid on Azure VMware Solution?
A. VMware provides support for Tanzu Kubernetes Grid.

VMware Tanzu Application Service on Azure VMware Solution

Q. What is Tanzu Application Service?
A. Tanzu Application Service is a modern application platform for enterprises that want to continuously deliver and run microservices across clouds. It is often referred to as an application development platform-as-a-service.

Q. What are the benefits of Tanzu Application Service on Azure VMware Solution?
A. Tanzu Application Service delivers high-impact improvements in developer productivity enabling enterprises to modernize existing applications and deploy new cloud native applications that would otherwise require heavy outlays in developer staffing, training, and patching and maintenance effort. Tanzu Application Service customers have seen 37% increases in developer productivity, 82% increases in software production, as well as spending 92% less time patching.

VMware Tanzu Application Service complements the Azure cloud by offering a consistent, integrated experience that simplifies operations and helps you get better at delivering software. Tanzu Application Service provides a consistent modern application platform for developers and operators across on-premises vSphere, VMware Cloud Foundation, Azure, AWS, and Google Cloud Platform to make the benefits of multi-cloud operations a reality.

Q. Can apps running on Tanzu Application Service integrate with native Azure services?
A. Yes, with the Tanzu Cloud Service Broker for Azure, Azure-managed services can be consumed by Tanzu applications. Cloud Service Broker for Azure uses brokerpaks to expose services.
Q. Which Tanzu Application Service versions are certified on Azure VMware Solution?
A. Tanzu Application Service 2.7 and newer have been certified. VMware HCX certification with Tanzu Application Service for migration of applications is in process.

Q. Who sells and supports Tanzu Application Service on Azure VMware Solution?
A. Tanzu Application Service is sold by VMware and our partners. VMware provides support for Tanzu Application Service.

Q. What professional services are available from VMware to assist customers with Tanzu Application Service on Azure VMware Solution?
A. VMware Tanzu Labs is a service that partners side-by-side with organizations to accelerate the delivery of software and to modernize legacy apps, all while reducing operating costs and risk.

Q. What is the licensing model for Tanzu Application Service on Azure VMware Solution?
A. Tanzu Application Service components are licensed on an annual subscription basis. Subscriptions scale with the number of application instances, service instances, and runtime components deployed. Please contact your VMware sales representative for details. The Azure VMware Solution SDDC infrastructure required for Tanzu Application Service can be purchased on an hourly on-demand basis, or with 1-year and 3-year reserved instances.

Q. Where can I find additional information on Tanzu Application Service?
A. These Tanzu Application Service resources apply to installations on Azure VMware Solution:
   • VMware Tanzu Application Service Web page
   • VMware Tanzu Application Service for VMs product information and download page
   • Tanzu Application Service for VMs documentation
   • Tanzu Application Service for VMs on Azure VMware Solution Reference Architecture

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**VMware Site Recovery Manager for Hyperscalers and Cross-Cloud DR**

Q. Who sells and supports Site Recovery Manager for Hyperscalers?
A. VMware and VMware partners sell Site Recovery Manager (SRM) for Hyperscalers to customers. VMware provides support for the Site Recovery Manager for Hyperscalers directly to customers.

Q. How can customers obtain Site Recovery Manager for Hyperscalers evaluation licenses?
A. Customers can use the Site Recovery Manager evaluation licenses from the Site Recovery Manager evaluation site. After the 60-day evaluation period, and for production use, customers will need to purchase the Site Recovery Manager for Hyperscalers term license. The evaluation licenses can be replaced with a term license and Site Recovery Manager will continue to work non-disruptively through this evaluation-to-production conversion process. Azure VMware Solution SDDC hosts will need to be obtained directly from Microsoft through the standard mechanisms they may offer (e.g., trial, on demand, reserved instance, etc.).

Q. What is the licensing model for Site Recovery Manager for Hyperscalers?
A. Site Recovery Manager for Hyperscalers is available as a prepaid 1- and 3-year term license only and is licensed on a per protected VM basis in packs of 25 VMs.

Q. What are the key features included in the Site Recovery Manager for Hyperscalers license?
A. The Site Recovery Manager for Hyperscalers license is available in an enterprise edition. It is customer-managed and has the same features as the Site Recovery Manager enterprise edition. Refer to https://www.vmware.com/products/site-recovery-manager.html for further detail.

Q. How does a customer install Site Recovery Manager for Hyperscalers on Azure VMware Solution?
A. Microsoft Azure has added a Site Recovery Manager installation click-through workflow on the Azure VMware Solution Portal.
Q. What protection configurations does Site Recovery Manager for Hyperscalers support?
A. Site Recovery Manager for Hyperscalers can protect (1) workloads running in an on-premises data center to an Azure VMware Solution SDDC, (2) workloads running on an Azure VMware Solution SDDC to an on-premises data center, and (3) between different Azure VMware Solution SDDCs.

Cross-cloud DR protection between Azure VMware Solution with Site Recovery Manager and VMware Cloud on AWS with VMware Site Recovery is available as a public preview. Cross-cloud protection with other hyperscaler cloud SDDCs may be added in the future. Refer to the Site Recovery Manager FAQ for the latest listing of hyperscaler cloud SDDCs that can be used with the Site Recovery Manager for Hyperscalers license.

Note that the Site Recovery Manager for Hyperscalers term license cannot be used to protect workloads between on-premises data centers only – a separate Site Recovery Manager perpetual license is required.

Q. Can customers use their existing Site Recovery Manager perpetual licenses on hyperscaler cloud solutions?
A. No. Existing Site Recovery Manager perpetual licenses cannot be used on public clouds.

VMware NSX Advanced Load Balancer (Avi) on Azure VMware Solution

Q. How does NSX Advanced Load Balancer enhance Azure VMware Solution?
A. NSX Advanced Load Balancer Enterprise Edition (Avi) provides a rich set of features with elastic scale, automation workflows and observability to help accelerate your moves to Azure VMware Solution. NSX Advanced Load Balancer provides load balancing and seamless and consistent application delivery in both Azure VMware Solution and connected on-premises data center environments. In addition, NSX Advanced Load Balancer for Azure VMware Solution provides better scalability with auto-scale capabilities, so that the load balancing capacity can grow based on demand.

Q. How does NSX Advanced Load Balancer integrate with Azure VMware Solution?
A. NSX Advanced Load Balancer integrates as an attached load balancing solution, with communication between the Avi Controller, NSX-T Manager, and vCenter within Azure VMware Solution. This integration enables NSX Advanced Load Balancer to deploy and manage Service Engines automatically based on demand, providing for an elastic, automated approach to load balancing.

Q. Where is NSX Advanced Load Balancer installed in an Azure VMware Solution environment?
A. The Avi Controller resides in the customer environment, either within the Azure VMware Solution SDDC or on-premises. Other NSX Advanced Load Balancer components (Service Engines) run in VMs in the Azure VMware Solution SDDC.

Q. Who sells and supports NSX Advanced Load Balancer with Azure VMware Solution?
A. VMware and its partners sell NSX Advanced Load Balancer with Azure VMware Solution. VMware provides support directly to customers.

Q. What are the use cases for NSX Advanced Load Balancer in Azure VMware Solution?
A. NSX Advanced Load Balancer facilitates application delivery in Azure VMware Solution for use cases such as:

- **Cloud Migration**: Customers familiar with NSX Advanced Load Balancer in their private data centers can move applications to Azure VMware Solution and preserve the same load balancing features and capabilities in the public cloud.

- **Data Center Extension**: NSX Advanced Load Balancer can provide consistent load balancing, Global Server Load Balancing (GSLB) and Web Application Firewall (WAF) for customer applications hosted across on-premises and Azure VMware Solution environments.

- **Disaster Recovery**: NSX Advanced Load Balancer supports BC/DR scenarios for application availability with load balancing and GSLB features.
Q. Which NSX Advanced Load Balancer (Avi) editions are supported on Azure VMware Solution?
A. NSX Advanced Load Balancer Enterprise Edition is supported on Azure VMware Solution. NSX Advanced Load Balancer Enterprise Edition is a full-featured load balancing, GSLB, and WAF solution available for multi-cloud and hybrid cloud environments including VMware vCenter, Microsoft Azure, and Azure VMware Solution.

Q. Can customers use their existing perpetual licenses towards NSX Advanced Load Balancer with Azure VMware Solution (BYOL)?
A. NSX Advanced Load Balancer perpetual licenses may be used for the tested deployment scenario listed above.

Q. Is there a free trial period for NSX Advanced Load Balancer?
A. All customers can utilize a free 30-day trial of NSX Advanced Load Balancer prior to making a commitment to purchase. The trial license is included in the Avi Controller by default.

Q. How is NSX Advanced Load Balancer (Avi) licensed and packaged on Azure VMware Solution?
A. NSX Advanced Load Balancer is licensed based on Service Cores (vCPUs consumed by the Avi data-path VMs, i.e., Service Engines). For example, two Service Engines of two vCPUs each would require 4 Service Core licenses. The Avi Controller is not licensed separately and has no cost.

VMware SD-WAN on Azure VMware Solution

Q. What does VMware SD-WAN on Azure VMware Solution provide?
A. VMware SD-WAN, as a part of the VMware SASE solution, delivers a rich experience when users in branch, campus and Work-from-Home locations access their workloads in Azure VMware Solution. The solution provides optimal, reliable, and efficient access for these users by bringing SD-WAN to the front door of Microsoft Azure. The deployment of the VMware SD-WAN Edges in Azure Virtual WAN Hub is automated using the Microsoft Azure Portal. This connectivity leverages BGP peering between the VMware SD-WAN Edges and the Virtual WAN Hub. VMware SD-WAN Edges can also connect through the Azure Route Server, which is a fully managed Azure Service configured with high availability.

Q. What Azure VMware Solution customer issues does VMware SD-WAN solve?
A. Connecting a distributed workspace to the enterprise network that now lives in the cloud and/or on-premises poses great challenges. VMware SD-WAN offers a reliable, scalable, highly available, and secure connectivity method to Azure and Azure VMware Solution workloads and provides the optimized network needed for assured application performance.

Q. What are the use cases for VMware SD-WAN and Azure VMware Solution?
A. VMware SD-WAN provides reliable, scalable, highly available, and secure connectivity to both your Azure VMware Solution SDDCs and on-premises data centers.

• **VDI:** VMware SD-WAN ensures that users working from home, or anywhere else, all get that same increased and consistent experience when going over the Internet by prioritizing virtual desktop traffic over other traffic. VMware SD-WAN provides expanded WAN bandwidth by bonding all available links.

• **Data center expansion:** In the case of unplanned projects, seasonal spikes, or temporary events requiring additional resources to be spun up in the Azure VMware Solution SDDC, the VMware SD WAN edges can be deployed in a highly available and on-demand fashion directly from the Azure portal to meet the desired scale and address the increased load on the network.

• **Enterprise network extension:** In the event the Azure VMware Solution SDCC cannot be deployed in a region near your users, it may be beneficial to extend SD-WAN from your branches to the nearest Azure region and then leverage the Azure backbone and Azure Virtual WAN Hub to connect to the Azure region where your Azure VMware Solution SDDC is deployed.

Q. Is VMware HCX traffic to Azure supported with VMware SD-WAN?
A. Yes, with HCX version 4.2 and above, any VMware SD-WAN connection meeting the HCX minimum network
underlay requirements for bandwidth, packet loss, and latency is supported. Supported HCX features over VMware SD-WAN include HCX vMotion, Replication Assisted vMotion, Bulk Migration and DR, and OS Assisted Migration. HCX Mobility Optimized Networking is also supported with HCX over SD-WAN to route migrated virtual machine traffic within the Azure cloud, without tromboning.

VMware SD-WAN and HCX enable secure, high-performance migrations of virtual machines to Azure VMware Solution and connectivity between branch and data center locations to Azure to optimize hybrid multi-cloud operations.

Q. Where do I find more information about VMware SD-WAN?
A. These sources provide more details about VMware SD-WAN on Azure VMware Solution:
   • Blog - Connecting Users to Workloads on Azure VMware Solution with VMware SD-WAN
   • Solution Overview - VMware SD-WAN Connects Users to Workloads on Azure VMware Solution
   • Web Page – VMware Software-Defined WAN (SD-WAN)

Q. What versions of the VMware SD-WAN edges are tested and supported for Azure VMware Solution?
A. VMware SD-WAN Edges running version 4.3.0 and newer.

Q. What Azure VMware Solution VMware SDDC platform versions were the VMware SD-WAN products tested on?
A. The VMware SD-WAN Edges are not deployed in the Azure VMware Solution SDDC stack itself but rather in native Azure. Hence, there is no dependency on vSphere, vSAN, and NSX versions in the Azure VMware Solution SDDC.

VMware Cloud Director service
Management of Azure VMware Solution

Q. Is Cloud Director service supported with Azure VMware Solution?
A. Cloud Director service for Azure VMware Solution is in Initial Availability status.

Q. What are the use cases for Cloud Director service with Azure VMware Solution?
A. Cloud Director service lets customers sub-divide Azure VMware Solution SDDC resources and assign them to different tenants in an organization. Tenants are strongly isolated from each other and can perform self-provisioning within their organization virtual data centers. Cloud Director service supports two use cases with Azure VMware Solution:
   • Enterprise customers can subscribe to Cloud Director service to manage multiple internal tenants sharing Azure VMware Solution SDDCs
   • Enterprise customers with Azure VMware Solution SDDCs can outsource management of their internal tenants to managed service providers that subscribe to Cloud Director service.

VMware Horizon on Azure VMware Solution

VMware Horizon is a modern platform for secure delivery of virtual desktops and apps across the hybrid cloud, from the market leader in software-defined data center (SDDC) architecture and digital workspaces. VMware Horizon is supported on Azure VMware Solution, enabling cloud desktops that leverage a unified Horizon architecture and familiar tools.

For more information, please see the VMware Horizon on Azure VMware Solution FAQ.
**VMware Cloud Universal and Azure VMware Solution**

As announced by VMware and Microsoft, Azure VMware Solution is available through the VMware Cloud Universal Program. VMware Cloud Universal credits sold by VMware and VMware partners are redeemable for Azure VMware Solution on-demand and reserved instances.

For more information, please see the Azure VMware Solution VMware Cloud Universal FAQ.

**Azure VMware Solution in Azure Government**

**Q. What is Azure Government?**

A. Azure Government is Microsoft’s mission-critical cloud for U.S. government customers and their partners. Azure Government provides world-class security and compliance in dedicated cloud regions with physically isolated data centers and networks in the U.S. Customer data stays in the U.S. and is managed by screened U.S. citizens.

**Q. What is the status of Azure VMware Solution in Azure Government?**


**Q. Who would use Azure VMware Solution in Azure Government?**

A. Public sector agencies and their partners required to operate in a cloud complying with U.S. government requirements can simplify and accelerate migration of VMware workloads to the cloud with Azure VMware Solution in Azure Government. In addition to cloud migration, it supports use cases for application modernization, data center expansion, cloud virtual desktops, and disaster recovery to the cloud.

**Q. What U.S. government certifications has Azure VMware Solution in Azure Government obtained?**

A. Azure VMware Solution in Azure Government launched prior to earning government certifications. Work is underway to provide U.S. government certifications like FedRAMP High and DoD Impact Level (IL) 4 and 5.

**Q. Where can I get more information about Azure VMware Solution in Azure Government?**

A. Refer to the announcements from Microsoft and VMware, and this Azure VMware Solution in Azure Government Solution Brief.