VMware Cloud™ on AWS for SQL Server Workloads

Hybrid infrastructures that combine service-based applications hosted in public cloud with on-premises deployments have become a favored approach to taking advantage of cloud benefits while leveraging existing on-premises investments. Although this approach brings with it considerable cost efficiency benefits and enables increased agility and flexibility, it can also create implementation and management complexities. As one of the most virtualized enterprise applications on the vSphere platform, Microsoft SQL Server deployments range from a simple single server instance to complex and highly available geo-distributed implementations. The diversity of hosting requirements can pose several challenges, including on-demand resource extension, disaster recovery, and datacenter migration—all of which make a hybrid approach to infrastructure very attractive. But the technical implementation of a hybrid infrastructure also likely requires configuration and networking changes, application refactoring, and might include additional licensing costs.

VMware Cloud on AWS leverages the same virtualization standard and toolset as an on-premises VMware vSphere deployment, enabling customers to avoid complex application refactoring or configuration changes to SQL Server workloads. VMware Cloud on AWS is an on-demand service that lets customers run applications across vSphere-based cloud environments with access to a broad range of AWS services. Powered by VMware Cloud Foundation, this service integrates vSphere®, vSAN™ and NSX® along with VMware vCenter® management, and is optimized to run on dedicated, elastic, bare-metal AWS infrastructure. ESXi hosts in VMware Cloud on AWS reside in an AWS Availability Zone (AZ) and are protected by automatic failed host remediation.

Use Cases

- On-demand scaling of SQL Server workloads for test and dev and/or during high load
- Simplification of DR Scenarios with or without Always-On Availability Groups
- Availability of different regions within AWS easily brings the backend database closer to customers