## **vm**ware **EXPLORE**

Blueprint to Brilliance

Navigating the Marvels of VMware Cloud Foundation

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Technical Support Engineer Level 2



### Presenter



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Technical Support Engineer

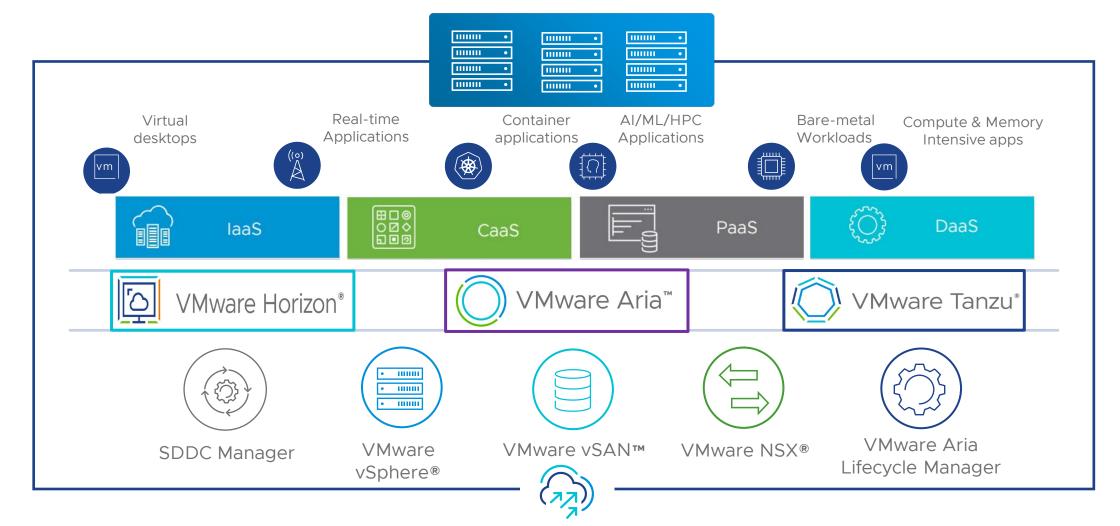


## Agenda

- 1. VMware Cloud Foundation Overview
- 2. VMware Cloud Foundation Architecture
- 3. Breakdown of Services
- 4. Evolution of VMware Cloud Foundation
- 5. Navigating VMware Cloud Foundation
- 6. Tools for Troubleshooting
- 7. Summary
- 8. Important Links



### **VMware Cloud Foundation Overview**

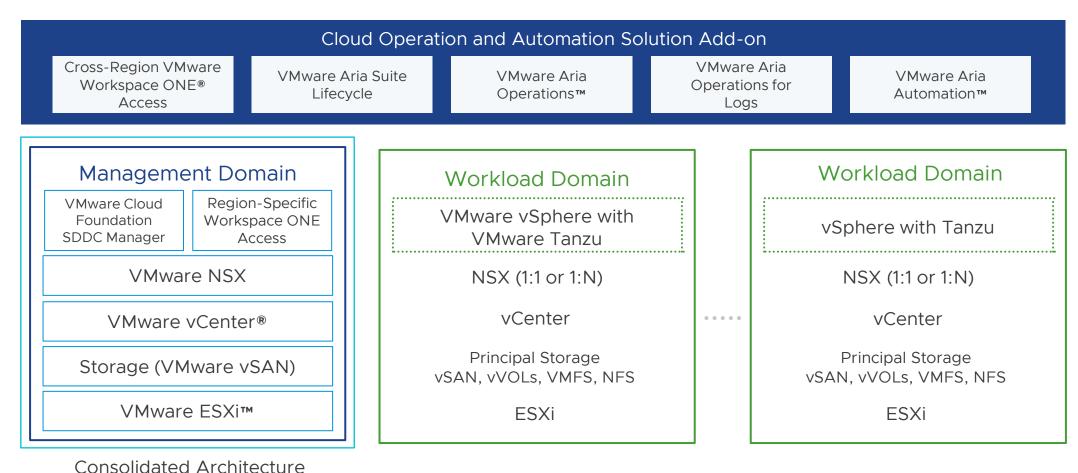




VMware Cloud Foundation™

### **VMware Cloud Foundation Architecture**

#### Top level view

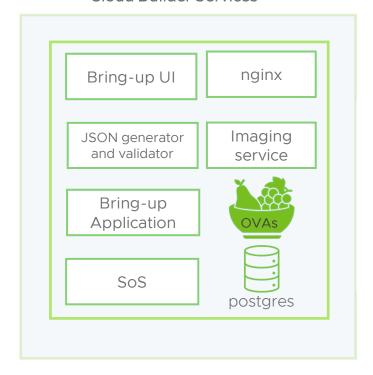


Standard Architecture



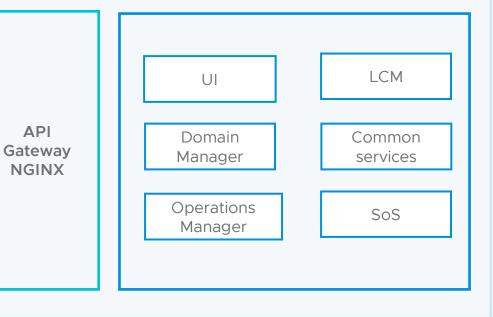
### Software Components of Cloud Builder and SDDC Manager

#### **Cloud Builder Services**





# SDDC Manager Services



### SDDC Manager services

A summary of what each service is responsible for

#### Domain Manager

- Host and Cluster
- VI Domain
- Network
- Storage
- > Stretch Cluster
- ➤ VMware NSX Edge™ cluster
- > WCP
- VxRail Manager

#### Operations Manager

- Certificate
- Credential
- Commission/ decommission
- License
- Backup/Recovery
- > DNS/NTP
- Resource Aggregator

#### Lifecycle Manager

- Precheck
- Manifests
- Upgrades
- Image Management
- Bundle Management
- Skip level upgrade

# Common Services

- > Lock
- > Task
- Inventory
- Credential Store
- Identity
- Network pool
- Appliance

```
root@sddc-manager
                    /var/log/vmware/vcf ]# ls -1
total 28
drwxrwxr-x 2 vcf commonsvcs
                                          4096 Jul 20 12:00
                                                             ceip
drwxr-x--- 3 vcf commonsvcs
                                          4096 Jul 20 01:13
                                     vcf
                                                             commonsvcs
drwxr-x--- 3 vcf domainmanager
                                     vcf
                                          4096 Jul 20 00:00
                                                             domainmanager
drwxr-x--- 4 vcf lcm
                                     vcf
                                          4096 Jul 20 01:13
drwxr-x--- 3 vcf operationsmanager
                                          4096 Jul 20 01:13
                                                            operationsmanager
                                     vcf
drwxr-x--- 5 vcf sddc manager ui app vcf
                                          4096 Jul 20 02:25
                                                             sddc-manager-ui-app
                                                            sddc-support
drwxr-xr-x 2 root
                                     root 4096 Jul 11 17:19
root@sddc-manager [ /var/log/vmware/vcf ]#
```





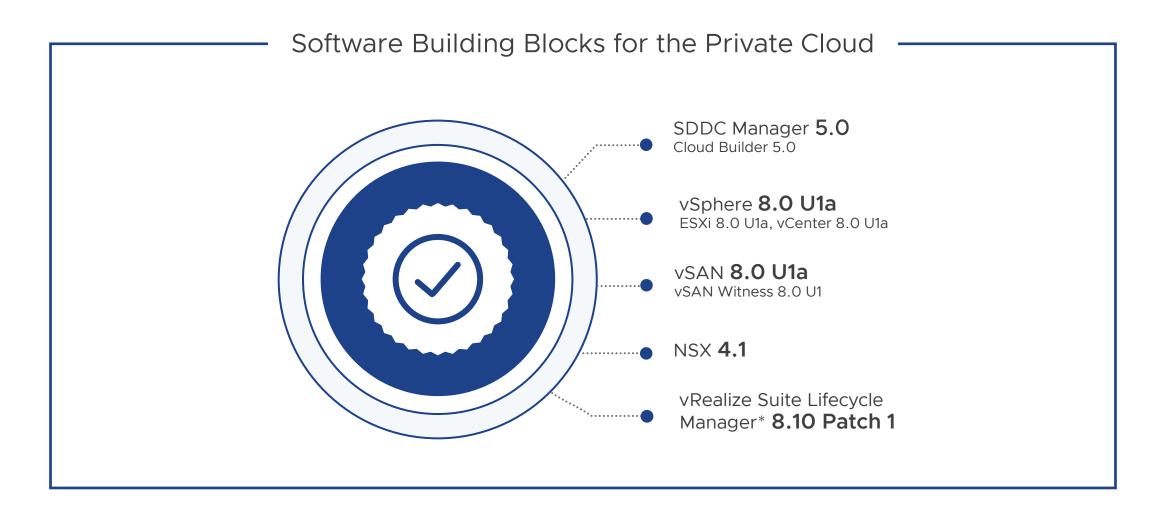
### **VMware Cloud Foundation Evolution**

	Aug 2021	Feb 2022	Oct 2022	June 2023
Features	4.3	4.4	4.5.1	5.0
Kubernetes Workload Management	•	•	•	•
vLCM Firmware Lifecycle Management	• _	• _	• ,	• ,
RBAC User Roles	•	• _	•	•
Automated NSX-Edge Deployment	•	•	• ,	• ,
Extended Principal Storage support (vVols, 2-node, HCI Mesh)	•	• _	•	•
Parallelization (Deployment & Upgrades)	•	•	• ,	•
Enhanced Prechecks & Skip-level Upgrades	• .	• _	•	•
Multi-pNIC Deployment		•	• ,	• ,
NSX Federation Support (manual guidance)		• _	• _	• _
Security Enhancements		•	• _	• _
vGPU Support with NVIDIA AI Ent Suite		•	• _	• _
Parallel Cluster Upgrade			•	•
BOM product re-licensing				•
Isolated WLDs and Identity Management				•



### Software Bill of Materials

VMware Cloud Foundation 5.0 contains the following VMware products





## Navigating VMware Cloud Foundation





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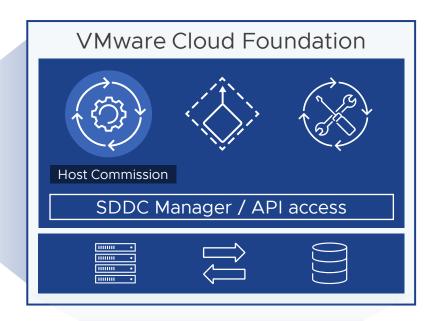
### Automation and Scaling

Day N operation workflows overview

- Add multiple host to SDDC manager
- Create Workload Domains
- ✓ Create/Expand Cluster
- Deploy/ ExpandEdge cluster



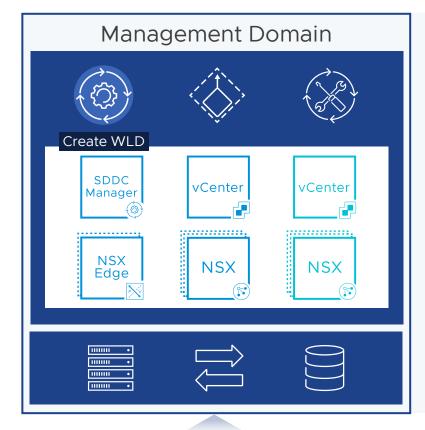
**ESXi Hosts** 





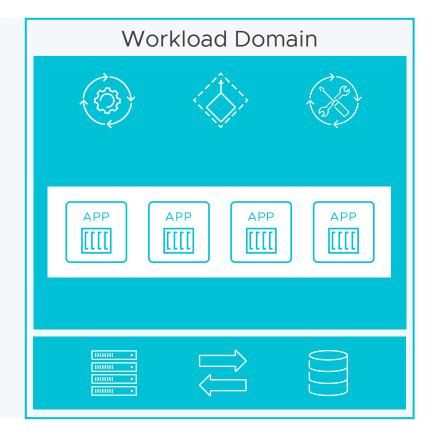
### Creating Workload Domain

Automate the deployment of an application ready SDDC





- ✓ Deploying a new vCenter Instance
- ✓ Instantiating a new SSO Domain or join existing domain
- Creates a vSphere Cluster and adds the commissioned ESXi hosts
- Creates vSAN disk groups and configures a vSAN datastore for the cluster
- Deploys the NSX Managers and configures NSX in the cluster



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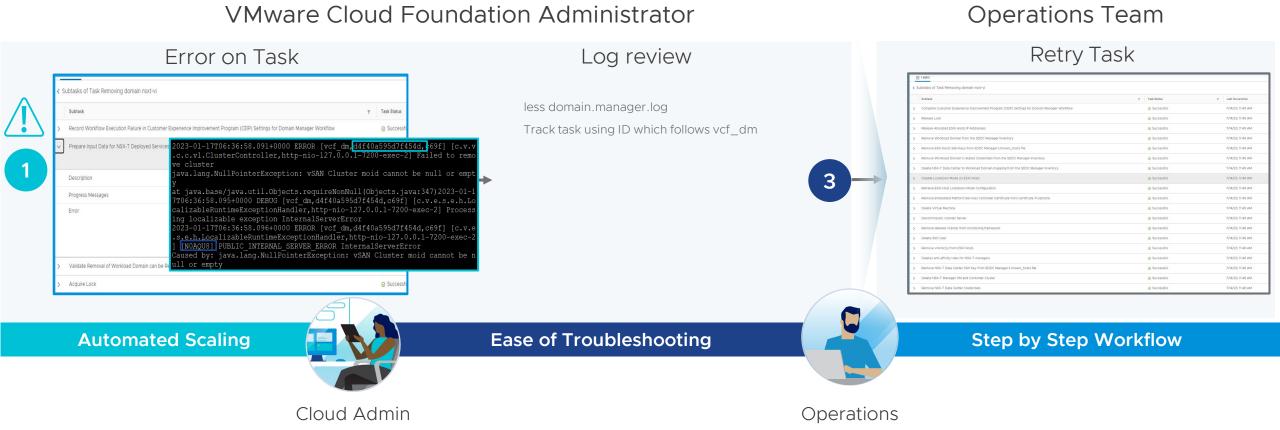


VMware Cloud Foundation Inventory



## Simplified Troubleshooting Workflow

Deployment and scale workflows





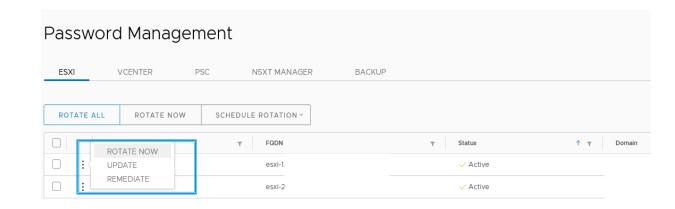
### Security

Password management

#### Option types

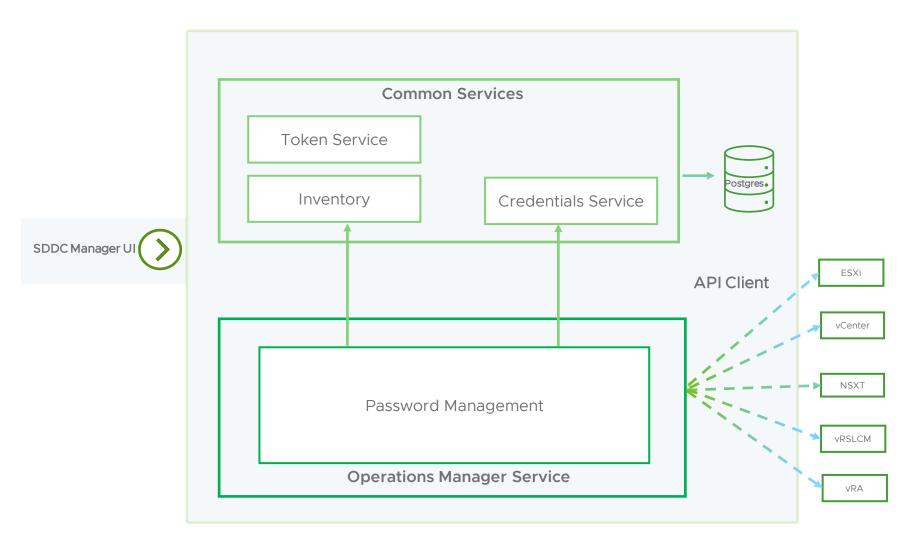
- 1. Rotate- generates randomized passwords
- Update you provide the new password manually
- 3. Remediate manually reset the password in the component product and update that password in the SDDC

#### On SDDC Manager UI



### Password Management Module

Password management blueprint



- Operationsmanager service takes charge of retrieving payload and performs password task
- Connection check-Spring cron job runs password check refresh task
- Everyday 1AM UTC default

### Disconnected accounts

As part of troubleshooting check for below:

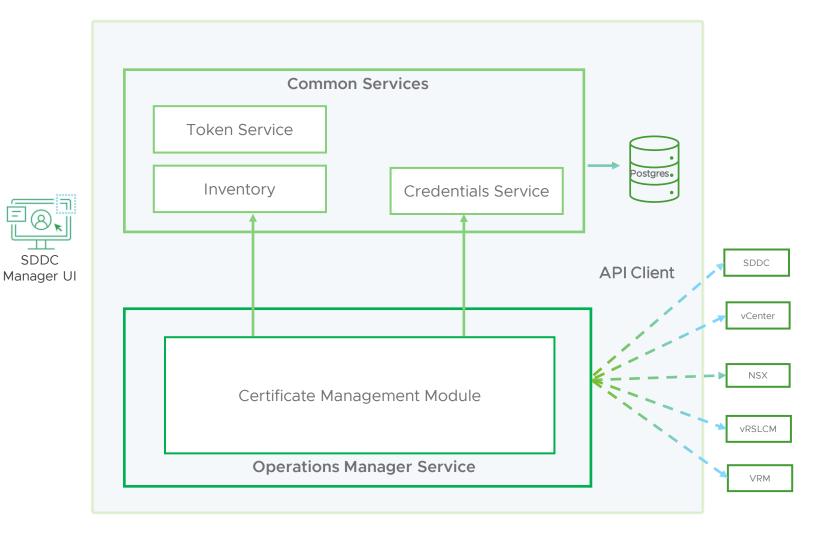
- Appliance state
- Communication to the component from SDDC manager, primarily we use SSH
- Are the passwords changed outside of SDDC manager



	SSH	API
Platform Services Controller- SSO administrator@vsphere.local		<b></b>
ESXI root account		<b>-</b>
NSX Manager admin account		<b>-</b>
NSX Manager root account	<b>/</b>	<b>V</b>
VMware Aria Lifecycle Platform root account	<b>-</b>	<b>/</b>

### Security

#### Certificate management

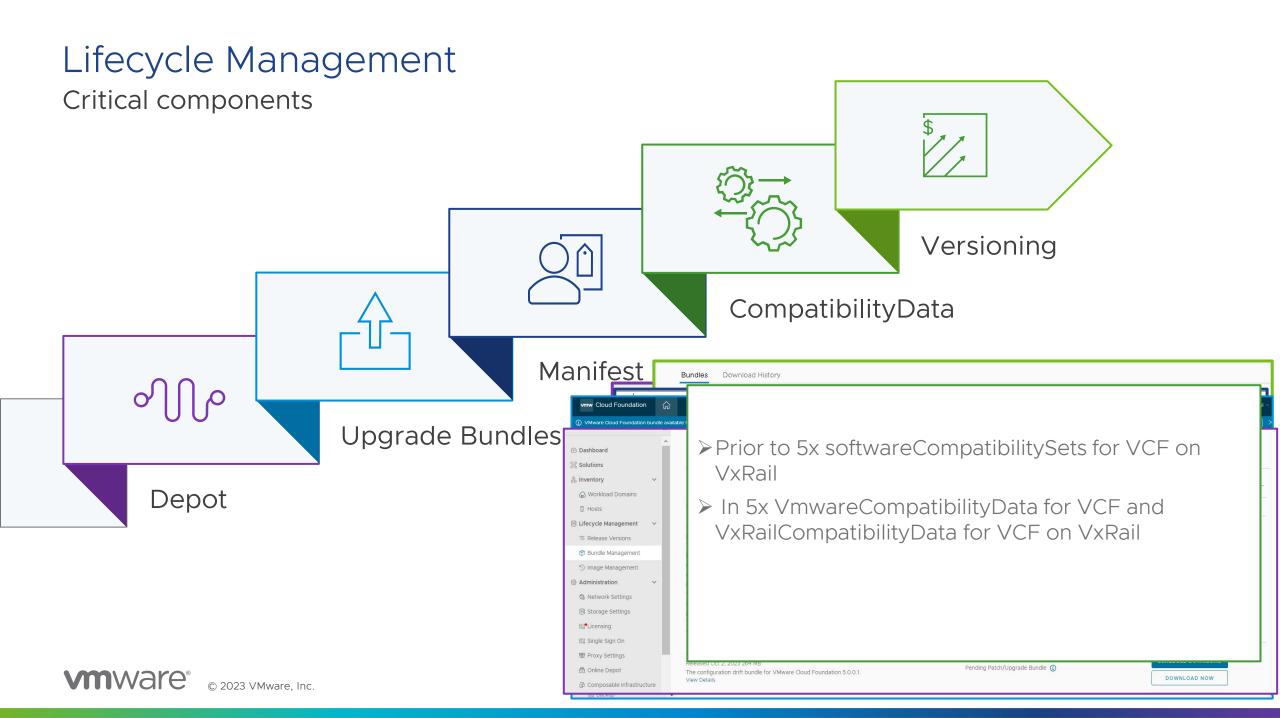


#### **Options**

- > Fully automated
  - ✓ Microsoft CA
  - ✓ OpenSSL(internal only) CA
- Partially automated
  - ✓ Third-Party CA

#### **Enhancements**

- UI decodes and validates the certificate for invalid chain or key
- Trust certificate option on certificates tab incase not present in store



### Lifecycle Management

Upgrade workflow

LCM Manifest polls upgrade bundles available in the depot

Remove existing bundle make \_\_\_\_\_\_next component bundle available

Update your SDDC

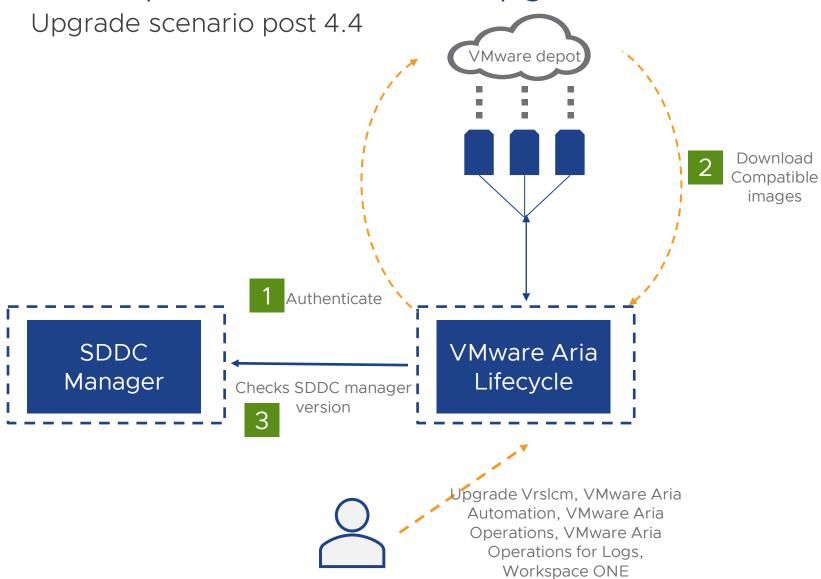
Lifecycle Management Check the list of available bundles and bundleElementPreviousVersion

Check the component state ,version and if it violates compatibility, VVS

Bundle available ->Schedule /Upgrade



### Decoupled VMware Aria Upgrades

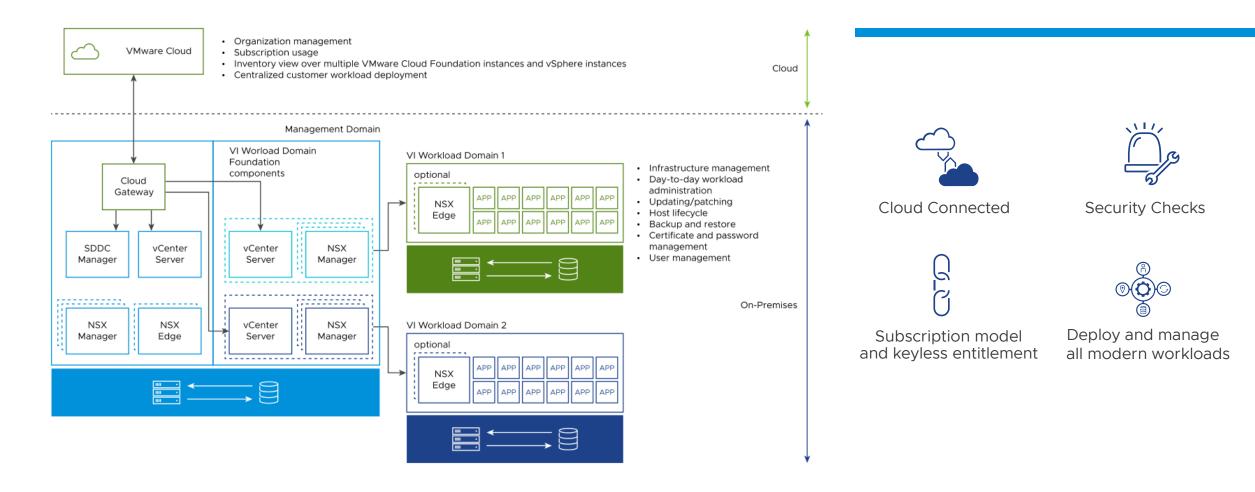


- Upgrades
   availability
   depends on cross
   compatibility with
   VMware Cloud
   Foundation and
   VMware Aria Suite
   Lifecycle version
- Refer 88829

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#### **VMware Cloud Foundation+**

#### On-premises to cloud



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## Tools for Troubleshooting and Management









API and SOS utility



SHD



Upgrade Prechecks



VDT

# Patching SDDC Manager Components

> Vulnerability

Bugs

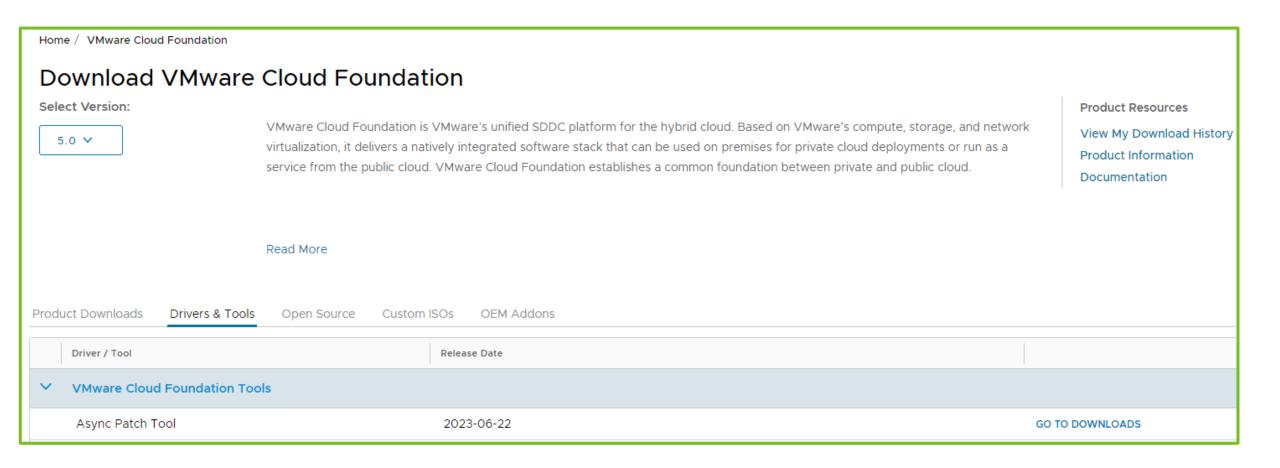




> No custom ISO version



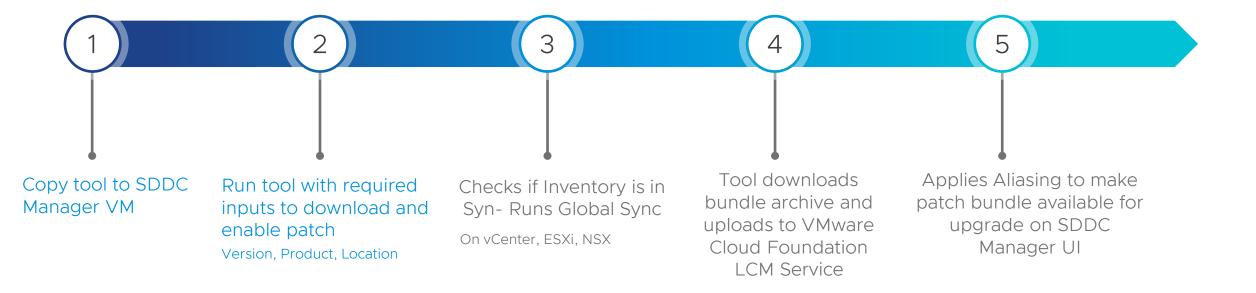
# Patching SDDC Manager Components





### Enable Async Patches

Online depot- if SDDC Manager is connected to depot.vmware.com





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## Async Patch Tool

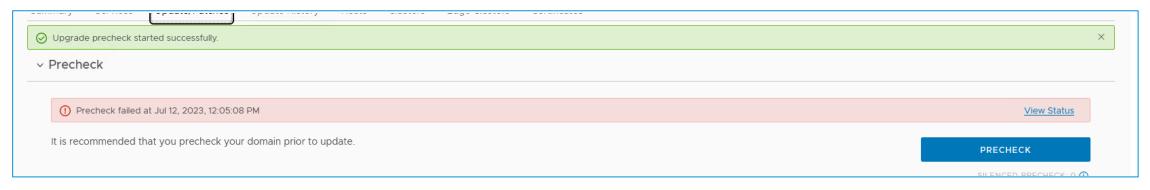
#### List patches

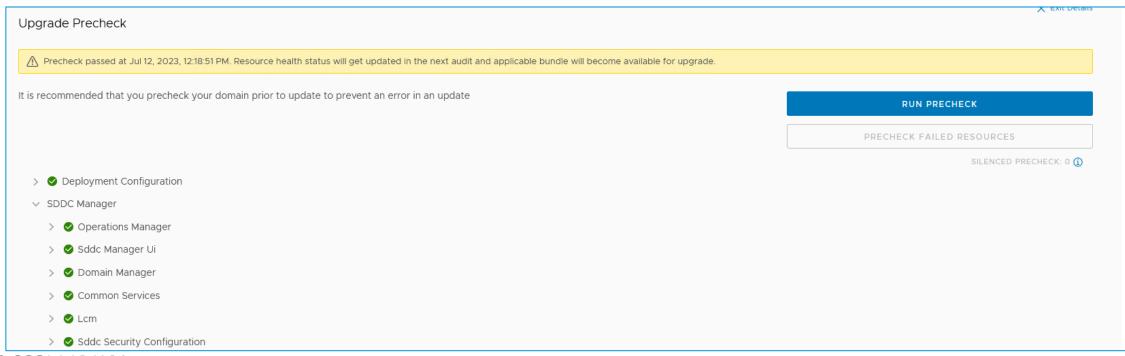
```
2023-07-26 14:24:11.054 [INFO ] Telemetry data collection is not enabled
     Enter Depot User Password:
     2023-07-26 14:24:21.571 [WARN
                                       Download directory was not provided, defaulting to directory /nfs/vmware/vcf/nfs-mount/apToolBundles
     2023-07-26 14:24:23.018
                               [INFO
                                       Validating list asyncpatch input spec
vcf@s 2023-07-26 14:24:23.048
                                       Downloading latest LCM manifest from depot
                               [INFO
phere 2023-07-26 14:24:25.107
                              [INFO
                                       Successfully downloaded latest LCM manifest
                                       Default manifest file found, attempting to read into manifest object.
     2023-07-26 14:24:25.108 [INFO
Docum
                          7.0.2-19290878
                                                                          bundle-56553
     ESX HOST
                          7.0.1-19324898
                                                [VCF]
                                                                          bundle-55488
     ESX HOST
                          7.0.3-20036589
                                                [VCF]
                                                                          bundle-58889
     ESX HOST
                          7.0.3-20328353
                                                [VCF]
                                                                          bundle-60929
     ESX HOST
                          7.0.3-20842708
                                                [VCF]
                                                                          bundle-66405
2023-ESX HOST
                          7.0.3-21053776
                                                [VCF]
                                                                          bundle-69531
                                                [VCF]
                                                                          bundle-70817
     ESX HOST
                          7.0.3-21313628
                                                                          bundle-72874
     ESX HOST
                          7.0.3-21424296
                                                [VCF]
     ESX HOST
                          7.0.3-21686933
                                                [VCF]
                                                                          bundle-78085
Refer<sub>ESX</sub> HOST
                          7.0.3-21930508
                                                [VCF]
                                                                          bundle-82836
Pleasvcenter
                          7.0.3.00500-19480866[VCF, VCF ON VXRAIL]
                                                                          bundle-55743
     VCENTER
                          7.0.3.00700-20051473[VCF,
                                                      VCF ON VXRAIL]
                                                                          bundle-58885
     VCENTER
                          7.0.3.00800-20150588[VCF, VCF ON VXRAIL]
                                                                          bundle-59284
     VCENTER
                          7.0.3.01000-20395099[VCF, VCF ON VXRAIL]
                                                                          bundle-61453
     VCENTER
                          7.0.3.01100-20845200[VCF, VCF ON VXRAIL]
                                                                          bundle-66401
     VCENTER
                          7.0.3.01200-20990077[VCF, VCF ON VXRAIL]
                                                                          bundle-67932
     VCENTER
                          7.0.3.01400-21477706[VCF, VCF ON VXRAIL]
                                                                          bundle-73797
     VCENTER
                          7.0.3.01500-21784236[VCF, VCF ON VXRAIL]
                                                                          bundle-81248
     VCENTER
                          8.0.1.00200-21860503[VCF, VCF ON VXRAIL]
                                                                          bundle-81347
     VX MANAGER
                          7.0.410-27831807
                                                [VCF ON VXRAIL]
                                                                          VXRAIL7-0-410-27831807R5P0C VxRail-7-0-410-Composite-Upgrade-Slim-Package-fo
     r-\overline{7}-0-x-zip
                                                                          VXRAIL7-0-411-27954264DF24Y VxRail-7-0-411-Composite-Upgrade-Slim-Package-fo
     VX MANAGER
                          7.0.411-27954264
                                                [VCF ON VXRAIL]
     r-\overline{7}-0-x-zip
     VX MANAGER
                          7.0.451-28053212
                                                [VCF ON VXRAIL]
                                                                          VXRAIL7-0-451-28053212NT43J VxRail-7-0-451-Composite-Upgrade-Slim-Package-fo
     r-\overline{7}-0-x-zip
                          3.1.3.7.4-19762317
     NSX
                                                [VCF, VCF ON VXRAIL]
                                                                          bundle-57417
```



## Upgrade Prechecks

### Prior to upgrade

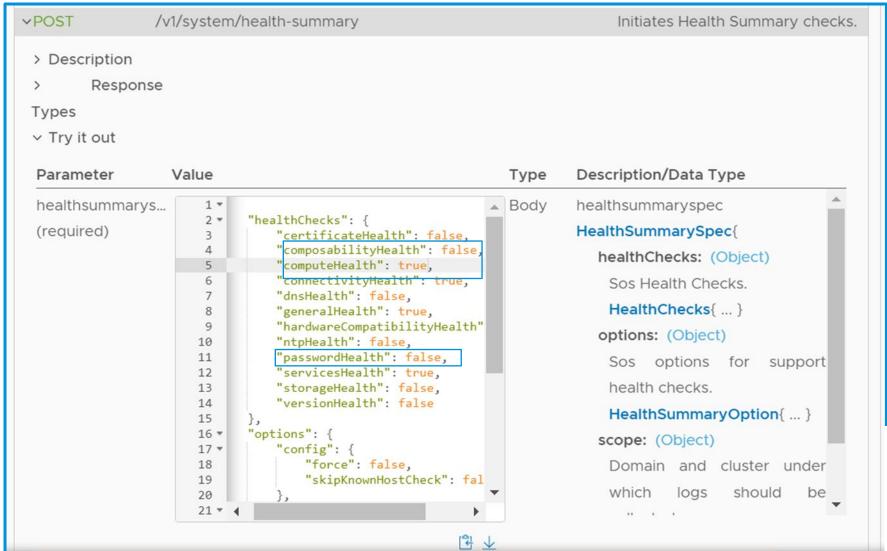






### API

#### Developer center





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### SOS utility

#### Command line health checks

#### VCF, has two different SOS utilities:

- 1. Included with Cloud Builder
- 2. Included with the SDDC Manager

#### Options and features are different between the two versions

- One of the primary uses of the SOS utility is to create a support bundle
- utilize the SOS utility to perform a health-check on the system
- perform a platform audit on everything or specific modules (like networking, storage, passwords, or ...)

```
Log Collections Options:
                       Collect ESXi logs
 --esx-logs
                       Collect vCenter Server logs
 --vc-logs
                      Collect SDDC-Manager logs
--sddc-manager-logs
 --vxrail-manager-logs
                       Collect VxRail-Manager logs(Applicable for VxRail)
 --psc-logs
                       Collect PSC logs
--nsx-logs
                       Collect NSX logs
 --wcp-logs
                       Collect Log WCP cluster logs
 --vrealize-logs
                       Collect vRealize components logs (vRSLCM)
 --no-clean-old-logs
                      Do not clean old log folder
 --test
                       Sanity test logs collected by verifying the files
                       Skip Health Check executed as part of SoS log
 --no-health-check
                       collection
                       Collect output from APIs
 --api-logs
                       Collect all VM screenshots
 --vm-screenshots
 --system-debug-logs
                      Collect System logs to help debug in abnormal
                       scenarios like memory leak
 --collect-all-logs
                       Collect logs for all components, excluding WCP and
                       system-debug-logs pass --domain-name DOMAINNAME, For
                       all domains pass --domain-name ALL (Default:
                       MANAGEMENT)
Fix-It-Up Options:
 --enable-ssh-esxi
                       Enable ssh on all esxi nodes in a domain, pass
                       --domain-name DOMAINNAME, For all domains pass
                       --domain-name ALL (Default: MANAGEMENT)
 --disable-ssh-esxi
                       Disable ssh on all esxi nodes in a domain, pass
                       --domain-name DOMAINNAME, For all domains pass
```

root@sddc-manager [ / ]# /opt/vmware/sddc-support/sos --vc-logs --sddc-manager-logs --zip
Welcome to Supportability and Serviceability(SoS) utility!
Performing SoS operation for sddctd-1001 domain components
Logs : /var/log/vmware/vcf/sddc-support/sos-2023-07-27-02-26-43-7741
Log file : /var/log/vmware/vcf/sddc-support/sos-2023-07-27-02-26-43-7741/sos.log
Progress : 25%, Completed tasks : [VCF-SUMMARY]

root@se Welcome Perform Health Health	e to Supportabil ming SoS operat: Check : /var/lo	home/vcf ]# lity and Ser ion for mela og/vmware/vo ar/log/vmwar	/opt/vmware/sdc rviceability(Soc aniewants domain cf/sddc-support, re/vcf/sddc-supp	n components /healthcheck-2023-07-25-14-12 port/healthcheck-2023-07-25-1	-54-18098	
+ 	Stage	Sta	atus			
+	Bringup gement Domain St	tate   Compi	leted   leted   +			
	Component   Identity					
S	DDC-Manager er of Servers	10.0.0.4				
l'	e : RED		'	+		
SL#	•	Area		Title	State	
1 	1   ESXi : esxi-1.vrack.vsphere.local			ESXi Health Status	GREEN	
   2 	ESXi : esxi-2.vrack.vsphere.local			ESXi Health Status	GREEN     GREEN	
   3 	3   ESXi : esxi-3.vrack.vsphere.local			Check disks for partitions   License check   ESXi Health Status	GREEN     GREEN     GREEN	
   4 	4   ESXi : esxi-4.vrack.vsphere.local		Check disks for partitions   License check   ESXi Health Status	GREEN     GREEN		
   5 	ESXi : esxi-5.vrack.vsphere.local		Check disks for partitions   License check   ESXi Health Status	GREEN GREEN		
   6 	6   ESXi : esxi-6.vrack.vsphere.local			GREEN     GREEN     GREEN		
   7	vCenter: vcenter-1.vrack.vsphere.local			Check disks for partitions   Check Health Status	GREEN	

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Health Check completed successfully for : [VCF-SI



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## VMware Skyline Health Diagnostics

#### VM VMware Skyline Health Diagnostics Version: 4.0.0

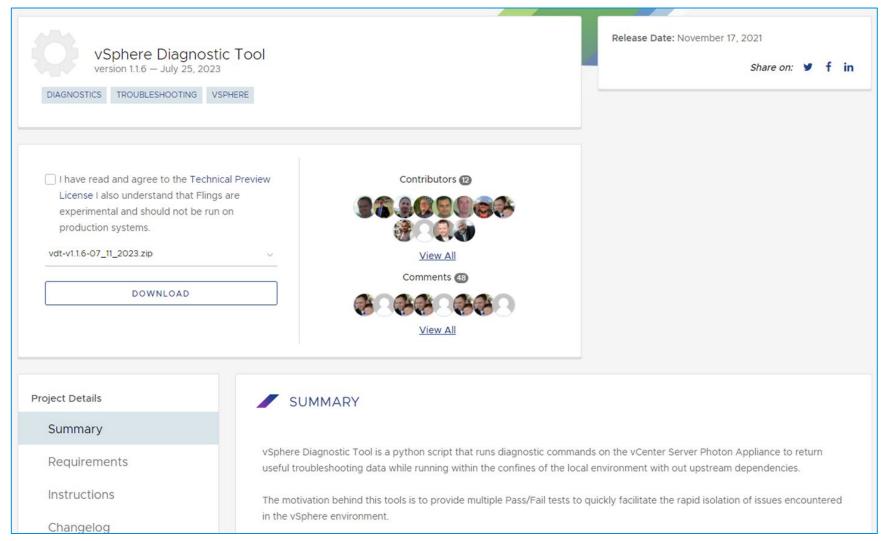
DC Name		vc1.gsslabs.org		
PNID	vc1.gsslabs.org			
Plugins S	ummary D	etails		
Status	Check Name		Message	КВ
GREEN	RootPassCheck		vCenter Server Appliance Root Password Status Check	75174
GREEN	VCADCheck		vCenter Active Directory Check	
GREEN	DiskUsageCheck		vCenter Server Appliance Storage Utilization Check	76563
GREEN	InodeChed	ck	vCenter Server Appliance Filesystem Inode Utilization Check	76563
GREEN	DBSpaceC	Check	vCenter Server Appliance Database table Space Utilization Check	2145603
GREEN	STSCertCh	neck	STS Signing Certificate Expiration Check	79248
GREEN	SSLCertCh	neck	PSC/vCenter SSL Certificate Expiration Check	82332
GREEN	LookupSe	rviceCheck	vCenter Server Appliance Lookup Service Check	80469
GREEN	ServiceStatusCheck		vCenter Service Status Check	2109887
GREEN	DNSCheck	(	vCenter Server Appliance DNS Configuration Check	
GREEN	NTPCheck		vCenter Server Appliance NTP Configuration Check	
GREEN	PortCheck		vCenter Server Appliance Port Check	2106283
GREEN	vCSAHealthCheck		vCenter Server Appliance Health Status Check	
GREEN	VmDirChe	ck	vCenter Server Appliance vmdir check	
GREEN	VECSStore	eExpCheck	Expiration Check of certificates in the Certificate Store (VECS)	2111411
GREEN	PGPassCh	eck	Password less login is working as expected	70979
GREEN	HostnameCheck		VMAFD DC Name matches the PNID	84355
GREEN	HostnameCheck		VMAFD DC Name matches the Hostname	84355
GREEN	HostnameCheck		PNID matches the Hostname	84355
GREEN	VECSStoreAlgoCheck		Signature Algorithm Check of certificates in the Certificate Store (VECS)	89424
GREEN	CertSANCheck		Certificate SAN DNS and FQDN Check	2097936



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### **VDT**-Pulse

### vSphere





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#### VMware Cloud Foundation

```
oot@sddc-manager [ /home/vcf/vcf-vdt-main ]# python vcf vdt.py
    As such, it may contain bugs, errors, or incomplete features.
    Please use it with caution.
Today: Thursday, September 21 17:31:51
Version: 0.1.4
Log Level: INFO
BASIC INFO
   [] sddc-manager.vrack.vsphere.local
   [] 10.0.0.4
   [] 4.5.0.0-20612863
   [] 0.06, 0.10, 0.09
  [] 10.0.0.250
   [] 10.0.0.250, 10.0.0.250
   [] vcenter-1.vrack.vsphere.local | 10.0.0.6 | 7.0.3.01500-21784236
SERVICE CHECK
   [PASS] ACTIVE | 4.5.0-vcf4500RELEASE-20543095
   [PASS] ACTIVE | 4.5.0-vcf4500RELEASE-20543095
   [PASS] ACTIVE | 4.5.0-vcf4500RELEASE-20543094
   [PASS] ACTIVE | 4.5.0-vcf4500RELEASE-20543095
   [PASS] ACTIVE | 4.5.0-vcf4500RELEASE-20543095
ADDITIONAL DETAILS
   [] vsphere.local
   [] FIPS is NOT enabled.
Provide password for administrator@vsphere.local:
```

```
vip-nsx-mgmt.vrack.vsphere.local
  [PASS] Root Certificate is in both keystores of SDDC Manager.
  [PASS] Server Certificate expires in 753 days
  [PASS] Hostname and IP in SAN
nsx-mgmt-1.vrack.vsphere.local
  [PASS] Root Certificate is in both keystores of SDDC Manager.
  [PASS] Server Certificate expires in 753 days
  [PASS] Hostname and IP in SAN
Deployment Locks
  [PASS] No Deployment Locks detected.
Resource Locks
  [PASS] No Resource Locks detected.
  [PASS] No Invalid transactions for Credentials detected.
  [PASS] 1 Manifest file found in LCM DB.
COMPUTE MANAGER - SDDC MANAGER INVENTORY CHECK
  [PASS] Compute Manager vcenter-1.vrack.vsphere.local is in SDDC Manager Inventory.
       Report written to /var/log/vmware/vcf/vcf-vdt/vcf-vdt-report-2023-09-21-173247
       Please send feedback / feature requests to vcf-vdt@groups.vmware.com
```





### Summary

VMware Cloud Foundation Architecture Overview

Types of architecture | Domain types | Storage used | VMware Aria Suite integration

Service breakdown

Cloud builder services | Operations and SDDC manager services

Navigating VMware Cloud Foundation

Domain manager workflow | Password management module | Certificate blueprint | Upgrade elements | VMware Cloud Foundation+

Tools for troubleshooting and Management

Async Patch Tool | API and SOS utility | Skyline Diagnostics | Upgrade Precheck | VMware Cloud Foundation-VDT

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### Important Links

**Understanding Version Aliasing:** 

https://kb.vmware.com/s/article/89291

List of VMware Cloud Foundation Supported Async Patches

https://kb.vmware.com/s/article/88287

#### **VMware Cloud Foundation+**

https://docs.vmware.com/en/VMware-Cloud-Foundation/services/vcfplus/GUID-113FFEA8-9866-4185-A9FA-5280CD6A41CD.html

SDDC Manager Developer Center API

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https://vdc-download.vmware.com/vmwb-repository/dcr-public/60ff5385-d6ee-41d3-9ccf-b719a59f7971/b8ba0641-d8ae-4243-acf2-3639ca248783/index.html

#### SoS Utility

https://docs.vmware.com/en/VMware-Cloud-Foundation/4.5/vcf-admin/GUID-9EBC6D42-B799-4177-9EFF-78E98FDBA0FD.html

VMware Aria Suite Install and Upgrade Paths for VMware Cloud Foundation https://kb.vmware.com/s/article/88829



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Thank You

