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Check whether you meet the criteria for a full migration

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Check whether you can migrate only your configuration

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Figure out whether you'll need expert help in migrating your existing vCenter Operations Manager instance

#4

Remember to upgrade vCenter Operations Manager before you configure or migrate to vRealize Operations Manager

#5

Don't forget to check out VMware's online vRealize Operations Manager Documentation Center

Top 5 Tips for Migrating to VMware's vRealize Operations Manager

Turning the promise of cloud into positive IT outcomes

VMware's new vRealize™ Operations Manager 6.0 extends the power of VMware's vCenter Operations Manager to offer more powerful predictive analytics, smarter alerts, a scaled-out deployment architecture, enhanced reporting, automated remediation, and more.

While vRealize Operations Manager builds upon the vCenter Operations Management suite of products, it is also different enough that users of vCenter Operations Manager v5.x shouldn't simply apply a vRealize v6.x update to their existing environments. Customers with little historical data and only default policies might well be able to install and begin using vRealize Operations Manager immediately. But those with deep historical data and advanced configuration/policies will first need to migrate existing data and configuration information from their vCenter Operations Manager v5.x instance. Here are 5 key tips that can help you find the right migration path as you implement vRealize Operations Manager.

#1. Check whether you meet the criteria for a full migration

You are a candidate for a full (data and configuration) migration from vCenter Operations Manager if you meet ANY ONE of these criteria:

- You have already operationalized capacity planning in vCenter Operations Manager 5.8.x. i.e. you are:
 - Actively reclaiming waste
 - Reallocating resources
 - Acting upon performance alerts generated by vCenter Operations Manager
- One or more aspects of data in vCenter Operations Manager are feeding another production system. These could be raw metrics, alerts, reports, emails, etc..
- You have a company policy to retain monitoring data. Note: Your current vCenter Operations Manager instance might fall into this category if it's running in 'test.'

#2. Check whether you can migrate only your configuration

You are a candidate for configuration-only migration if ALL the following are true:

- You are happy with your current configuration (i.e. with your dashboard, policies, users, super Metrics etc.).
- You do not need to save the data you have already collected. Remember, this could be running in a test environment or proof-of-concept you have refined and find useful.
- You are not yet using any data that you have been collecting.

If you do not meet any of the criteria in tips #1 and #2, you are ready to try vRealize Operations Manager without needing to migrate any existing data or configuration information.

#3. Figure out whether you'll need expert help in migrating your existing vCenter Operations Manager instance

For many, migrating existing data and configuration information from an existing vCenter Operations Manager instance into vRealize Operations Manager will be a relatively simple procedure. But several factors can complicate migration and might require consultation with a VMware services professional to insure a successful migration.

A **Simple Migration**, handled by the vRealize Operations Manager migration process, will likely work for you if ALL of the following apply:

- You have a single instance of vCenter Operations Manager v5.8.x
- You have only GREEN management packs as outlined by the vRealize Operations Manager Compatibility Guide posted to the VMware Solutions Exchange.
- The sizing guide in the vRealize Operations Manager vApp Deployment and Configuration Guide does not suggest that you require a multi-node vRealize Operations Manager instance.

You are facing **Complicating Factors**—and therefore should contact your VMware account team or services rep—if ANY of the following are true:

- You have more than one instance of vCenter Operations Manager v5.8.x
- You have one or more YELLOW management packs (as outlined by the vRealize Operations Manager Compatibility Guide) in place.
- The vRealize Operations Manager vApp Deployment and Configuration Guide sizing guide suggests that more than one node may be required due to size of the environment to be monitored.
- One or more of your vCenter Operations Manager v5.8.x instances are manually configured for more than the default 6 months of historical data or adjusted the polling frequency.
- One or more of your vCenter Operations Manager v5.8.x instances is installed on Windows or Linux (i.e. not installed with the vCenter Operations Manager v5.8.x virtual appliance).
- You would like your new vRealize Operations Manager instance to be highly available.
- You have one or more remote collectors running as part of the vCenter Operations Manager v5.8.x instance.

You require a **Complicated Deployment**—and are thus strongly advised to contact your account team or services rep—if ANY of the following are true:

- You would like to migrate a vCenter Operations Manager v5.8.x instance currently being used to monitor one or more virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI) environments.
- You have one or more RED management packs (as outlined by the vRealize Operations Manager Compatibility Guide) in use.
- The sizing guide in the vRealize Operations Manager vApp Deployment and Configuration Guide suggests more than one cluster or instance of vRealize Operations Manager v6.0. is required due to the size of the environment to be monitored.
- One or more of the vCenter Operations Manager instances to be migrated was installed by VMware or another professional services group. The instances may contain custom work that will need to be manually replicated on the new vRealize Operations Manager instance.

#4. Remember to upgrade vCenter Operations Manager before you configure or migrate to vRealize Operations Manager

It's a simple one, but easily overlooked: To migrate data and/or configuration from an existing vCenter Operations Manager instance, that instance must be running at least v.5.8.1, preferably v5.8.3 or higher. So check your instance and upgrade if needed.

#5. Don't forget to check out VMware's online vRealize Operations Manager Documentation Center

A full discussion of migration planning and procedures is available online in the vRealize Operations Manager Customization and Administration Guide. In addition, you'll find detailed information on issues such as configuring data sources, configuring users and groups, planning resources, and metric definition.

Take the next step

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