

Limitations of Managing VMware vSphere with MS System Center Virtual Machine Manager 2012

Why trying to use SCVMM 2012 will frustrate vSphere administrators

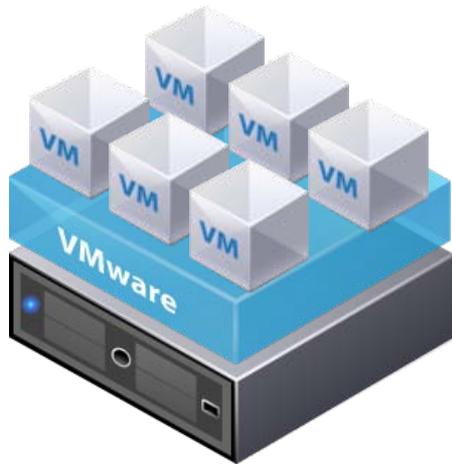
Overview

Microsoft is trying to convince vSphere administrators to manage their VMware environment using System Center Virtual Machine Manager 2012 (SCVMM 2012). However, vSphere administrators will find that SCVMM 2012 -

1. Increases Complexity While Adding Little Value
2. Is Not a “Single Pane Of Glass Interface”, vCenter Server Is Still Required
3. Adds New Overheads, Delivers Little Benefit
4. Degrades Operational Efficiency, Frustrating Administrators

SCVMM 2012 offers only rudimentary management capabilities for VMware environments and introduces unnecessary complexity, overhead and frustration for vSphere administrators.

1. Increases Complexity While Adding Little Value



SCVMM Only Offers Basic VM Management Capabilities

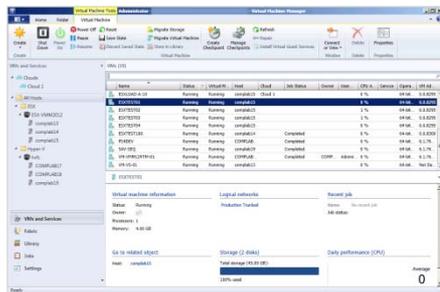


- With SCVMM 2012, vSphere administrators will NOT be able to manage
 - vSphere hosts, storage and networking infrastructure
 - Advanced vSphere features such as DRS, Storage DRS, Auto-Deploy and Host Profiles.
- Administrators are unable to perform routine tasks such as network and storage provisioning, configuring hosts/clusters, and applying patches
- Adversely affects the productivity of administrators who depend on these capabilities to effectively perform day-to-day tasks

SCVMM 2012 complicates vSphere administration and provides no real benefit.

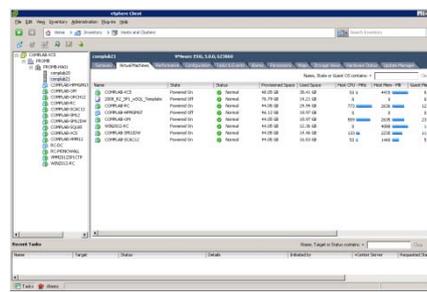
2. Not a “Single Pane Of Glass” Interface; vCenter Still Required

SCVMM NOT a “single pane of glass” interface for vSphere

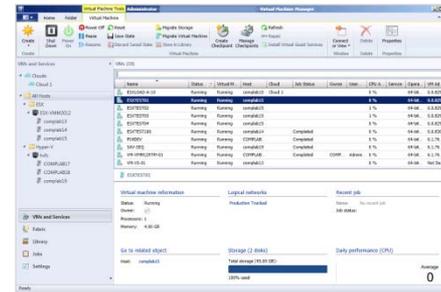


SCVMM Console

Full vCenter Server installation required to manage vSphere



vCenter Console



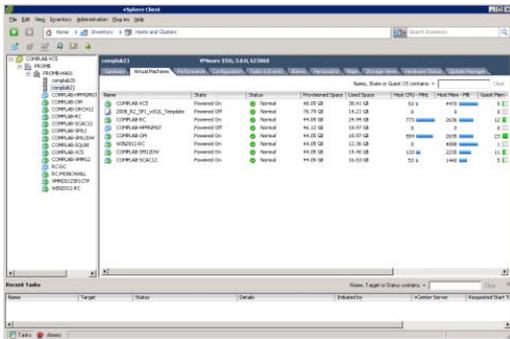
SCVMM Console

- Administrators will continue to rely on native VMware interfaces for many common management and configuration tasks, like:
 - Configuring vSphere hosts, clusters, and resource pools
 - Provisioning storage, networking
 - Deploying Linux VMs from templates
 - Installing VMware Tools
 - Hot-expanding virtual disks and other vSphere-specific VM capabilities

It makes little sense for vSphere administrators to use two separate interfaces to manage their VMware environment when vCenter Server alone is more than sufficient.

3. SCVMM Adds New Overheads, Delivers No Benefits

Tasks accomplished by one click in vCenter...



Single Step in vCenter

... Will require multiple steps to get done in SCVMM



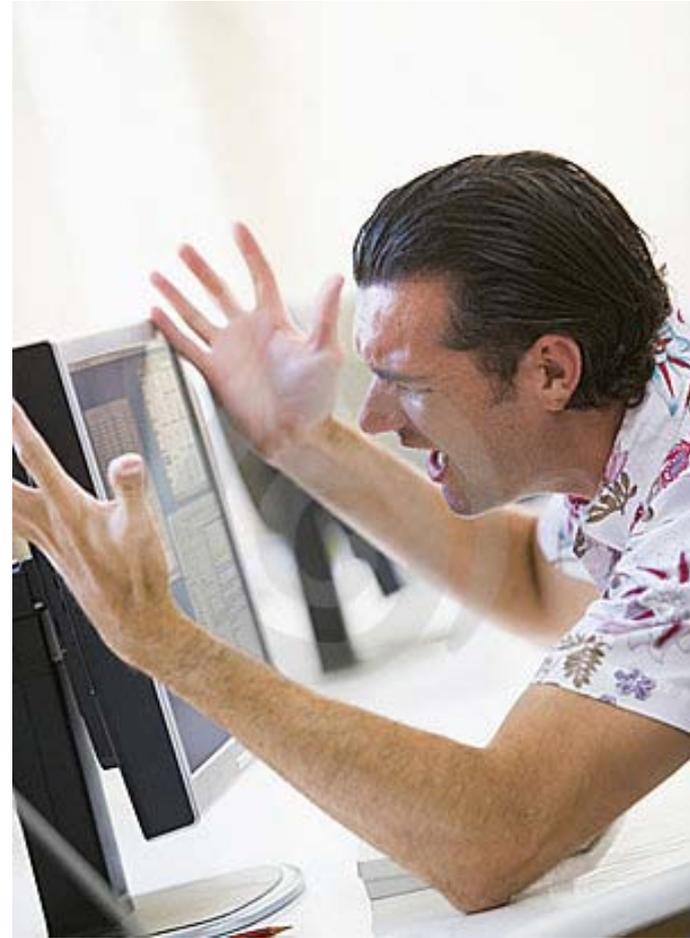
Multiple Steps in SCVMM 2012

- vSphere administrators who are used to the simple, automated functionality provided by VMware solutions will find SCVMM 2012 cumbersome in terms of usability. For example –
 - SCVMM 2012 will require administrators to perform manual sync of RBAC, VM templates and networks across parallel environments
 - Disparate backup and DR capabilities require different administrator skills and procedures
 - Additions to the vSphere infrastructure (such as new hosts) not automatically reflected in SCVMM

The operational overhead added by SCVMM 2012 in VMware environments will far exceed any gains claimed by Microsoft's marketing

4. Degrades Operational Efficiency, Frustrating Administrators

- SCVMM 2012 lacks any useful VM or host performance metrics for vSphere.
- Limited integration with vSphere can lead to incorrect reporting of key data like virtual disk usage, as well as inefficient resource utilization, for example, when handling shared ISO images.
- vSphere administrators will have to expend considerable time and resources to identify and solve these issues.



With SCVMM 2012, vSphere administrators will NOT be able to get a clear understanding of the health of their VMware environment or be able to root cause and solve issues quickly