Managing Today’s Hybrid Cloud

VMware vRealize Business for Cloud Advanced provides service cost and usage metrics for consumption of virtual and cloud infrastructure, giving Service Providers visibility into key usage trends in their cloud environment and allowing complete cost transparency to tenants.

It also provides the ability to automatically price services for inclusion in as a service catalog and to benchmark their cloud services against public cloud alternatives in order to remain competitive.

Automated Cost Tracking for Cloud Infrastructure

VMware vRealize Business for Cloud Advanced enables Service Providers to automatically track the primary cost drivers associated with cloud infrastructure components. Costs cover the full scope of infrastructure-related expenses including servers, storage, and network infrastructure. Reference costs also address the cost of facilities that host the infrastructure, labor to manage the infrastructure, and the cost of software licenses and maintenance for the operating systems and applications. The cloud costing capability displays cost details including reference costs, actual costs, and monthly trends.

Once you identify the VMware vCenter™ server to manage, vRealize Business for Cloud Advanced discovers the vCenter inventory configuration and stores detailed, vendor-specific cost information in the reference database, which is then used to populate the graphs and reports. The cost data in the reference database allows vRealize Business for Cloud Advanced to quickly calculate the fully loaded cloud cost for the discovered inventory and provide a detailed breakdown for each cost driver. Reference costs can be manually updated with user-defined metrics to adjust costs up or down as needed.

To calculate the base rates for CPU and memory, cluster utilization is automatically measured or can be manually provided. The base rates are used to determine the cost of the VM based on its actual resource consumption. The higher the expected cluster utilization, the lower the asset cost for the base rates will be.

Automated infrastructure usage metering is supported at the VM level. vRealize Business for Cloud Advanced aggregates the usage metrics daily. Detailed cost breakdowns are provided by resource, along with the VM cost details for each server including actual CPU, memory, and storage consumption as well as any direct costs such as OS licenses and labor costs.

vRealize Business for Cloud Advanced allows various ways to allocate costs and usage—automatic hierarchy creation based on vCenter, VMware vCloud Director®, and vRealize Automation blueprints is supported. Integration with vCloud Director enables support for organizational constructs such as Org, Org VDC and VM, and vApp. It can also be configured to provide cost and usage information by tenant with drill-down capabilities.
Automated Pricing Policies

vRealize Business for Cloud Advanced enables Service Providers to establish pricing policies to be used for their service catalog and for any showback/chargeback reporting. Price rates can be set for each policy including compute rates per vCPU daily and per GB RAM daily, as well as storage rates per GB daily. vRealize Business for Cloud Advanced supports customizable pricing policies and makes pricing recommendations based on running costs.

Complete Cloud Cost Transparency

vRealize Business for Cloud Advanced allows Service Providers to fully understand which products and services each tenant is consuming and their associated costs.

Overview dashboards provide a comprehensive view of total monthly costs and key trends such as who are the top consumers, which applications or services consume the most resources, and the day-to-day, week-to-week, and month-to-month consumption trends across tenants.

To enable in-depth analysis, or use by other financial and billing systems, reports can be viewed, printed, or exported for all cost details collected and stored in the vRealize Business for Cloud Advanced database. A public API allows data sharing of the usage, pricing and costing data with external business processes and systems.

Multi-tenant style showback also allows Service Providers to grant tenants online, role-based access to “near real-time” cloud showback statements with granular charges by tenant, trend analysis and flexible reporting.

Power of the Portfolio—Supported Integrations

Through integrations with VMware vCenter Server™, vCloud Director or vRealize Automation, vRealize Business for Cloud Advanced can import resource categorizations, hierarchies, folder structures, and vCenter tags to associate cloud resource usage with specific tenants, projects, Virtual Data Centers (VDC), vCloud Director organizational constructs, or vRealize Automation service blueprints.

Integration with vSAN enables support for allocated storage and storage cost analysis as well as vSphere storage policy support for storage categorization.

vRealize Operations integration also gives Service Providers the ability to visualize the cost of used and remaining capacity by datacenter.

For Service Providers who use vRealize Automation, the base rates from vRealize Business for Cloud Advanced can be used to automatically populate the cost profiles for the compute resources that are managed by both vRealize Business for Cloud Advanced and vRealize Automation. By adding a vCenter Server connection to vRealize Business for Cloud Advanced and adding the same vCenter Server to vRealize Automation as an endpoint, vRealize Automation can auto-populate the cost profile for the compute resources with the base rates calculated by vRealize Business for Cloud Advanced. Based on actual resource consumption, actual monthly vCPU, memory, and storage costs are calculated by vRealize Business for Cloud Advanced and imported and converted to daily compute resource costs by vRealize Automation. A fixed price could also be input into vRealize Business for Cloud Advanced to maintain a constant daily resource cost.

For full enterprise-level IT Business Management capabilities that span physical, virtual, and cloud resources, Service Providers should utilize the enhanced capabilities of vRealize Business Enterprise Edition. This edition provides a direct connection to corporate financial management systems and data sources, allowing more complex cost modeling, cost analysis, budgeting, planning, benchmarking, reporting, and service-quality management. All cost and inventory data collected by vRealize Business for Cloud Advanced can be imported into the vRealize Business Enterprise Edition.

Learn More

For more information or to purchase VMware products, call 1-877-4-VMWARE (outside North America, +1-650-427-5000).

Visit www.vmware.com/products/vrealize-business/ or search online for an authorized reseller.