



Migrate

SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere

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Migrate

Migration options and supported paths

You use the SnapCenter Windows PowerShell cmdlets to migrate SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere metadata from the Windows-based SnapCenter Server to the Linux-based SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere virtual appliance.

Migration options

There are two migration options:

- Migrating from SnapCenter

You must migrate metadata for the following from Windows-based SnapCenter:

- VM-consistent backups performed by the SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere when the plug-in was running as a Windows-based component of SnapCenter.
- Application-consistent data protection metadata of virtualized databases or file systems performed by a SnapCenter application-based plug-in with support from the SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere when the plug-in was running as a Windows-based component of SnapCenter.

To migrate, you use the Windows SnapCenter PowerShell cmdlet `invoke-SCVOVAMigration`.

You can only migrate metadata from SnapCenter 4.0 or later.

- Migrating from VSC

You can migrate VSC 6.2.x (SMVI) metadata for backup jobs that are not integrated with SnapCenter.

To migrate, you use the NetApp ToolChest: NetApp Import Utility for SnapCenter and Virtual Storage Console. Make sure to select the VSC to SnapCenter migration option.

You can only migrate metadata for existing backups. For example, if you do not have existing backups, then you cannot migrate policies only.

Supported migration paths

See the [SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere Release Notes](#) for information on supported upgrade and migration paths.

Migration overview

The migration command migrates metadata from SnapCenter 4.0 and later only. If you are using an earlier version of SnapCenter then you must first upgrade before you can migrate.

What is migrated

SnapCenter metadata, which includes storage systems, customized throttles, and email settings in the SnapCenter configuration file, policies, resource groups, backup metadata, and mounts. (the migration fails when it encounters prescripts or postscripts)

What is not migrated

- Pre- and post-scripts that are configured for resource groups
- Active guest file restore sessions, guest file restore credentials, and proxy VMs
- Customized configuration settings in the `sabr.override` configuration file
- If you begin migration when a guest file restore session is active, the session is deleted and the attached disk is not unmounted. You might have to delete the attached disk manually.

SnapCenter hosts are suspended

To ensure migration success, the migration command suspends all hosts that are registered with SnapCenter. After the migration process finishes successfully, SnapCenter hosts are resumed.

Where metadata is stored

Metadata for application-based VMDK backups is stored in the SnapCenter Server repository. Metadata for VM and datastore backups is stored in the SnapCenter VMware plug-in MySQL repository.

Migration workflow

You must use the Windows Powershell cmdlet `invoke-SCVOVAMigration` for each instance of the SnapCenter VMware plug-in that is registered with SnapCenter.

The cmdlet does the following:

1. Suspends all schedules to prevent job failures during the migration. After a successful migration, schedules are automatically re-enabled.
2. Migrates storage connections and metadata.
3. Creates backup schedules for post-migration backups.
4. Uninstalls the existing SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere from the Windows host.

If the SnapCenter VMware plug-in is installed on the SnapCenter Server host and protection is configured for the SnapCenter repository, then the migration process also uninstalls the Windows-based plug-in package that contains the SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere and the SnapCenter Plug-in for Windows, and then reinstalls the latest version of SnapCenter Plug-in for Windows to support the repository protection. The host type in the SnapCenter GUI changes from “vsphere” to “Windows”.

5. Removes the vSphere host and resource groups from the Windows SnapCenter Server.
6. Activates the backup jobs on the Linux-based SnapCenter VMware plug-in.
7. Registers the vSphere host for the SnapCenter VMware plug-in with SnapCenter to support application-based backups of virtualized databases and file systems (application over VMDK backups).

Prerequisites for migration

Before you migrate to SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere, make sure all prerequisites are completed.

- You must be running SnapCenter Server 4.2 or later.
- You must use Admin credentials.
- The SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere virtual appliance must be deployed with the SnapCenter VMware plug-in enabled and registered on vCenter.
- On the SnapCenter VMware plug-in dashboard, the status for SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere must be “connected.”
- You must have created a Linux type Run As credential using the account that was specified during the deployment of the SnapCenter VMware plug-in.
- All guest file restore sessions must be deleted.
- SnapCenter hosts must be configured with IP addresses, not fully qualified domain names (FQDN).

In a Linked Mode environment, you must migrate all linked nodes together.

- Names for storage VMs must resolve to management LIFs. If you added `etc` host entries for storage VM names in SnapCenter, you must verify that they are also resolvable from the virtual appliance.

Migrate from Windows-based SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere

If you are using the Windows-based SnapCenter VMware plug-in and want to use the features provided by the SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere virtual appliance, you must deploy the virtual appliance and migrate your backup metadata.

Before you begin

- Your backups of virtualized databases and filesystems must be integrated with SnapCenter.
- If the SnapCenter server is a VM, then it is a best practice to take a VMware-based snapshot before upgrading.
- Make sure the SnapCenter server is upgraded. See the [SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere Release Notes](#) for information on supported upgrade paths.

About this task

There are four basic steps:

1. Download the SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere .ova file.
2. Suspend backup jobs for the Windows-based SnapCenter VMware plug-in.
3. Deploy the SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere OVA.
4. Migrate the Windows-based VMware backup metadata.

Steps

1. Download the SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere .ova file.

- a. Log in to the NetApp Support Site (<https://mysupport.netapp.com/products/index.html>).
 - b. From the list of products, select **SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere**, then click the **DOWNLOAD LATEST RELEASE** button.
 - c. Download the .ova file to any VM.
2. Suspend backup jobs.

Make sure that no backup jobs are running in the Windows-based SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere.

3. Deploy the SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere OVA.

Because this is a new installation of the Linux-based SnapCenter VMware plug-in, follow the steps for deploying the OVA.

[Deploy SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere](#)

[Post deployment required operations and issues](#)

4. Migrate the Windows-based VMware backup metadata.

[Migrate Windows-based SnapCenter VMware backup metadata](#)

Migrate Windows-based SnapCenter VMware backup metadata

You use the SnapCenter Windows PowerShell cmdlets to migrate SnapCenter VM-consistent backup metadata and SnapCenter application-consistent for virtualized data backup metadata to the SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere virtual appliance.

Steps

1. Back up the MySQL database and then copy and move that backup to a different location to make sure it does not get deleted due to the retention policy.

[Back up the SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere MySQL database](#)

2. Log on to the VMware vSphere web client and verify that no jobs are running.
3. Log on to the SnapCenter GUI using the SnapCenter Admin username.

Do not use any other username to log in, even if that username has all permissions, because it might cause a migration error.

4. In the Windows SnapCenter GUI left navigation pane, click **Settings**, then click the **Credential** tab, and then click **Add** to add credentials for the virtual appliance.
5. Create the name of the Run As credential to be used in the ``invoke-SCVOVAMigration`` cmdlet.



You must select Linux for the Authentication field.

This step adds the credentials that SnapCenter Server uses to access the virtual appliance during the migration.

6. Open a Windows PowerShell window and run the following cmdlets:

```
Open-SmConnection
```

```
invoke-SCVOVAMigration -SourceSCVHost <old-SCV-host-IP> -DestinationSCVOVAHost  
<new-appliance-IP> -OVACredential <appliance-credentials>  
-ByPassValidationCheck -Overwrite -ContinueMigrationOnStorageError  
-ScheduleOffsetTime <time-offset>
```

For an overview of the migration workflow, see [Migration workflow](#)



The optional `-Overwrite` parameter enables faster migration for large environments. This parameter overwrites data in the MySQL database on the SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere host.

Do not use the `-Overwrite` parameter more than once. If your migration was a partial migration, using the `-Overwrite` parameter again might overwrite existing migrated data. If you run `invoke-SCVOVAMigration` more than once without the `-Overwrite` parameter, previously migrated data will be duplicated.



Use the `ScheduleOffsetTime` parameter if the source SnapCenter host and the destination SnapCenter VMware virtual appliance host are in different time zones. The value can be a positive or negative time offset to adjust scheduled backup run times. Specify the time difference in the format `hh:mm:ss`; for example, `06:00:00`, or `-06:00:00` for a negative value.

Post migration

Issues you might encounter after you migrate backup metadata to the SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere.

- Migration log bundle

Download the migration log bundle from the `App_Data/MigrationLog` directory in the SnapCenter installation folder. Keep the migration log bundle until you are sure that the migration was successful.

- Job details on the Dashboard

Information on the migrated backups is listed in the VMware vSphere web client recent jobs pane but detailed information is not displayed in the Dashboard until backups are performed after the migration.

- Authentication errors

If you do not use Admin credentials, you might encounter an authentication error.

[Manage authentication errors](#)

- Backup names

Backup names before migration have the format `RGName_HostName_Timestamp`. For example, `-NAS_DS_RG_perflserver_07-05-2019_02.11.59.9338`.

Backup names after migration have the format `RGName_Timestamp`.

For example, `-NAS_VM_RG_07-07-2019_21.20.00.0609`.

- Pre- and post-scripts

Scripts that are configured for resource groups are not migrated. Because scripts written for Windows systems might not run on the Linux-based virtual appliance, you might need to recreate all or part of the scripts and add those scripts after migration. For example, file paths in Windows do not exist in Linux, and an `invoke` for a `.bat` batch file does not work in Linux.

One solution is to put an existing Windows-based script on the Linux-based virtual appliance and test whether the script works with no changes. If it does not work correctly, then replace each Windows-based command in the script with a corresponding Linux compatible command.

- Guest file restore credentials

Guest file restore credentials are not migrated. Therefore, you must create new guest file credentials after the migration.

- `scbr.override` configuration file

If you have customized settings in the `scbr.override` configuration file, then you must move that file to the SnapCenter VMware plug-in virtual appliance and restart the web client service.

- Upgrade SnapCenter application-based plug-ins

If you use the SnapCenter VMware plug-in to support other SnapCenter plug-ins, then you must update those plug-ins to 4.2 or later.

- Uninstall SnapCenter Server

If you use SnapCenter only for VM-consistent or crash-consistent data protection, then after all VM backups are migrated to the SnapCenter VMware plug-in, you can uninstall SnapCenter Server on the Windows host

Correct “Bad Gateway” errors during migration

There are several reasons why you might encounter a “Bad Gateway” error.

Scenario 1

You manually added files or other content to the SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere and then tried to migrate. In this scenario, there is not enough space in the appliance for the migration process.

To correct this error, remove any manually added files.

Scenario 2

The SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere connection was stopped, or the service was stopped during the migration.

The SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere connection status must be “connected” during the migration process. You can also manually update the time out configuration in the virtual appliance.

Manage authentication errors

If you do not use the Admin credentials, you might receive an authentication error after deploying the SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere or after migrating. If you encounter an authentication error, you must restart the service.

Steps

1. Log on to the SnapCenter VMware plug-in management GUI using the format <https://<OVA-IP-address>:8080>.
2. Restart the service.

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