



Overview of OnCommand Workflow Automation

OnCommand Workflow Automation 5.0

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Table of Contents

- Overview of OnCommand Workflow Automation 1
- WFA features 1
- WFA license information 1
- OnCommand Workflow Automation deployment architecture 1
- OnCommand Workflow Automation installation and setup overview 2
- Known limitations for OnCommand Workflow Automation 3

Overview of OnCommand Workflow Automation

OnCommand Workflow Automation (WFA) is a software solution that helps to automate storage management tasks, such as provisioning, migration, decommissioning, data protection configurations, and cloning storage. You can use WFA to build workflows to complete tasks that are specified by your processes. WFA supports ONTAP.

A workflow is a repetitive and procedural task that consists of sequential steps, including the following types of tasks:

- Provisioning, migrating, or decommissioning storage for databases or file systems
- Setting up a new virtualization environment, including storage switches and datastores
- Setting up storage for an application as part of an end-to-end orchestration process

Storage architects can define workflows to follow best practices and meet organizational requirements, such as the following:

- Using required naming conventions
- Setting unique options for storage objects
- Selecting resources
- Integrating internal configuration management database (CMDB) and ticketing applications

WFA features

- Designer portal to build workflows

The designer portal includes several building blocks, such as commands, templates, finders, filters, and functions, that are used to create workflows. The designer enables you to include advanced capabilities to workflows such as automated resource selection, row repetition (looping), and approval points.

The designer portal also includes building blocks, such as dictionary entries, cache queries, and data source types, for caching data from external systems.

- Execution portal to execute workflows, verify status of workflow execution, and access logs
- Administration/Settings option for tasks such as setting up WFA, connecting to data sources, and configuring user credentials
- Web services interfaces to invoke workflows from external portals and data center orchestration software
- Storage Automation Store to download WFA packs

WFA license information

No license is required for using the OnCommand Workflow Automation server.

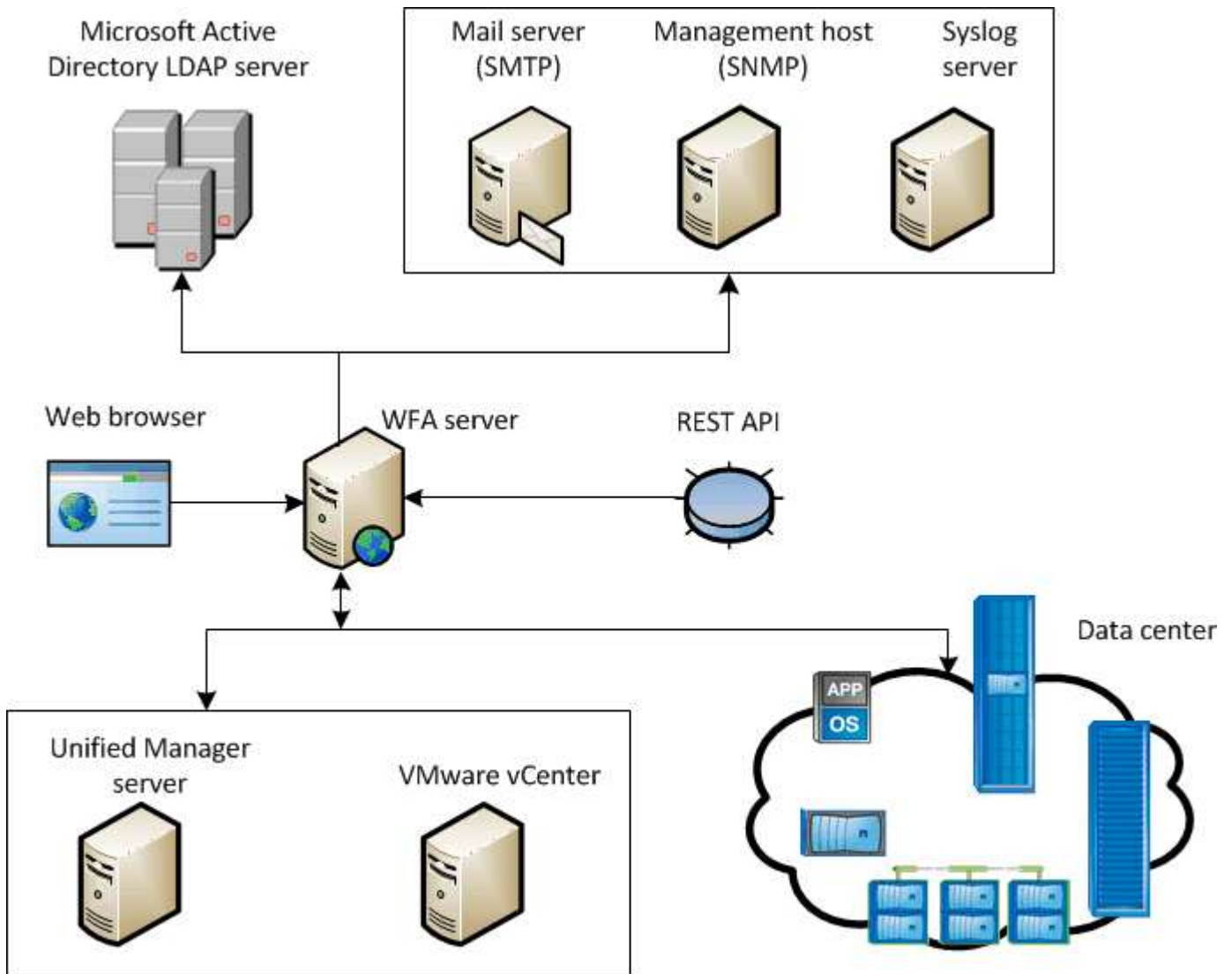
OnCommand Workflow Automation deployment architecture

OnCommand Workflow Automation (WFA) server is installed to orchestrate the workflow

operations across several datacenters.

You can centrally manage your automation environment by connecting your WFA server to several Active IQ Data Center Manager deployments and VMware vCenters.

The following illustration shows a deployment example:

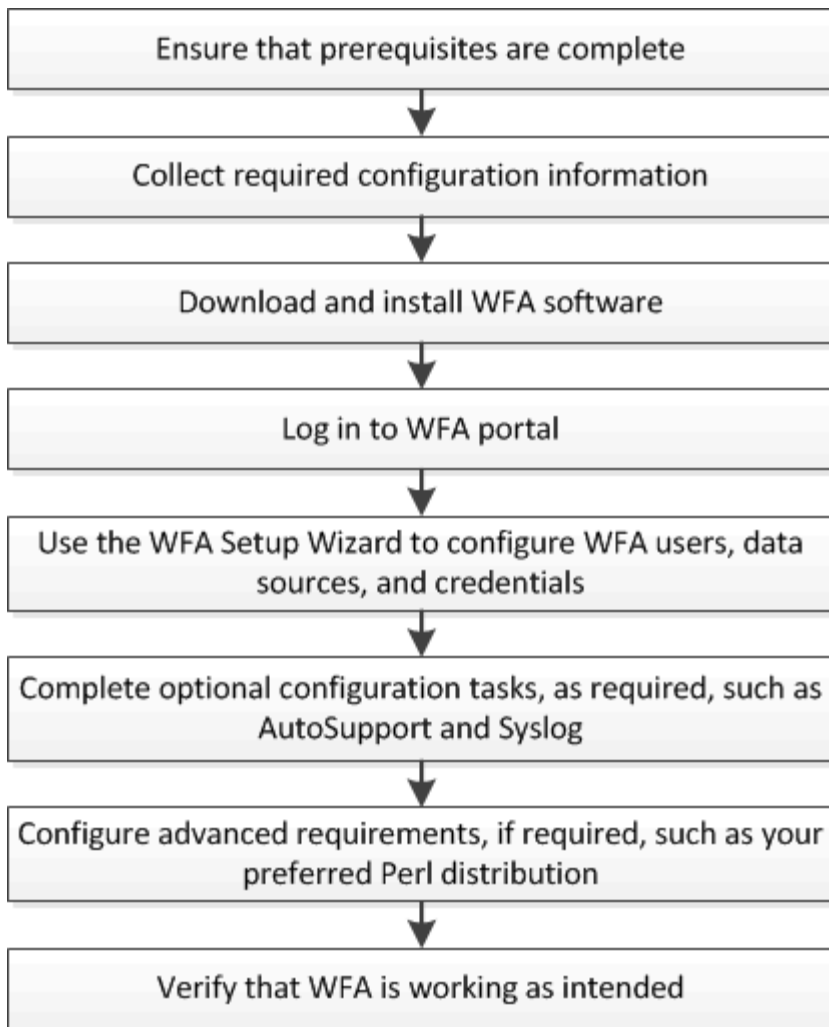


OnCommand Workflow Automation (WFA) deployment

OnCommand Workflow Automation installation and setup overview

Installing OnCommand Workflow Automation (WFA) includes performing tasks such as preparing for the installation, downloading the WFA installer, and running the installer. After the installation is complete, you can configure WFA to meet your requirements.

The following flowchart illustrates the installation and configuration tasks:



Known limitations for OnCommand Workflow Automation

OnCommand Workflow Automation (WFA) 5.0 includes some limitations and unsupported features that you should be aware of before you install and configure WFA.

LDAP authentication

- You can use only Microsoft Active Directory Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP) server for LDAP authentication.
- You must not use an LDAP user name that is part of a hierarchical structure of multiple domains for authentication or notification.



Microsoft Active Directory Lightweight Directory Services (AD LDS) is not supported.

WFA data sources types

Active IQ Data Center Manager 6.0, 6.1, and 6.2 data source types are deprecated in the WFA 4.1 release, and these data source types will not be supported in future releases.

WFA installed on Linux

- Certified content from Data ONTAP operating in 7-Mode is currently not available.

- Commands that include only PowerShell code are not compatible with Linux.
- Certified commands for 7-Mode and VMware are currently not ported to Perl, and are therefore not compatible with Linux.

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