Simplify Your Transition from VMware

Advanced management and automation simplify diverse cloud infrastructures and streamline migrations

NUTANIX

Increasing management complexity makes it difficult for IT teams to deal with the realities of on-premises and cloud operations, virtualized and containerized applications, and costly new mandates to implement technologies like generative AI.

Nutanix addresses these challenges with a unified platform that seamlessly integrates infrastructure and management to enable smooth operations of data and apps across cloud, edge and core. This enables your team to accomplish more in less time.

Unfortunately, if you're a VMware customer, you might be faced with an entirely new set of challenges – pricing uncertainty, lack of innovation and declining service levels. Nutanix can help you overcome these challenges as well.

Many organizations are mitigating the risks arising from Broadcom's acquisition of VMware by:

Diversifying your environment.
Adding a second vendor to your datacenters enables you to transition some workloads away from VMware. This limits exposure while ensuring you have the best platform for modern workloads, such as cloud-native and AI apps. Diversification reduces risk and gives you the flexibility and scale to adapt to infrastructure changes and accommodate newly emerging apps well into the future.

Extending to the public cloud.
Rebalancing workloads across on-premises and the cloud also reduces risk. Public clouds and cloud service providers can be an attractive alternative because they can deliver greater flexibility and agility – including a wealth of services that can be leveraged to build new apps and enhance existing ones.

Transitioning from VMware.
For some organizations, the best strategy may be to transition from VMware altogether, which requires careful planning. Important considerations include like-for-like capabilities, the ability to support all workloads, well-articulated migration pathways, and professional migration services that can ease the transition.

No matter which path you follow, Nutanix is uniquely positioned to help you find your way forward without sacrificing infrastructure compatibility or increasing management complexity. This eBook examines Nutanix management capabilities and explains how Nutanix can help you diversify, extend, or transition your VMware operations.

How Nutanix Solves Infrastructure and Management Challenges

Nutanix pioneered hyperconverged infrastructure (HCI) – converging compute, storage, networking, and virtualization – with an initial focus on delivering simpler and more efficient infrastructure for running VMware.

Today, Nutanix is known for its commitment to hybrid multicloud operations and open systems, offering customers the freedom to choose the right technologies for their business needs while minimizing vendor lock-in and providing the services and support necessary to ensure success.

Infrastructure Compatibility

Nutanix offers a number of innovations that enable infrastructure compatibility between VMware and Nutanix environments. These capabilities increase your options and give you greater agility to navigate transitions within IT operations.

Support for AHV and VMware ESXi
Because the Nutanix Cloud Platform (NCP) solution can run the Nutanix AHV hypervisor and the VMware ESXi hypervisor, choosing Nutanix gives you greater flexibility to create a plan that meets your needs and migration objectives.

Choice of a Wide Range of Infrastructure
NCP runs on a wide range of supported hardware from leading OEMs, AWS and Azure clouds, and at leading service providers, including Equinix, OVHcloud, and Cyxtera.

Cross-hypervisor Mobility

Having a choice of hypervisors is only useful if it's easy to move VMs between them. The Nutanix Move tool, our free cross-hypervisor mobility solution, makes it simple to transfer VMs between VMware ESXi and Nutanix AHV while minimizing cutover time so that critical operations aren't disrupted.

Supported VMware migration paths include:

- VMware ESXi to Nutanix AHV
- VMware ESXi to Nutanix Cloud Clusters (NC2) on AWS
- VMware ESXi to NC2 on Microsoft Azure
- VMware ESXi on three-tier infrastructure to VMware ESXi on NCP

" When we did the cost analysis for going with Nutanix AHV, it was far better than VMware and the hypervisor stuff we had in the past.

Bob Fishtrom,
Mountain View Los Altos High School District

Management Flexibility

If not handled correctly, the transition from VMware can have a lot of undesirable downstream effects – including increased stress on your team, a need to hire new staff members with hard-to-find skills, increased costs, and an increased likelihood of operator error.

Nutanix mitigates these management challenges by design. Administrators accustomed to VMware products typically adapt to Nutanix operations quickly with minimal retraining. This means administrators can be immediately productive and minimizes the need to add staff with new skills.

> It's extremely simple to migrate everything to AHV. All you need is a five-minute window for a reboot and everything's back up and running.

Bret Snyder,
Senior Server Engineer at Ruffalo Noel Levitz

Whether you're operating Nutanix on-premises or in the cloud, management remains consistent, including networking and security. This has profound implications, especially for customers that run Nutanix on-premises and in one or more public clouds.

When you deploy a hybrid or multicloud environment on Nutanix, you are able to operate with the same management tools everywhere, dramatically reducing management complexity. You can move apps across environments with confidence they will run as expected.

Replacing VMware Aria Suite

Many VMware customers use a variety of additional VMware tools – such as VMware Aria Operations, VMware Aria Automation, and Tanzu CloudHealth – in addition to vCenter. The Nutanix Cloud Manager (NCM) solution provides a full suite of capabilities for customers moving away from these products.

NCM delivers all the functionality to manage complex hybrid multicloud environments, simplifying the transition from VMware and making it simpler to license exactly what you need (see Figure 1). NCM replaces the sometimes frustrating complexity of VMware Aria with a powerful suite of capabilities that simplify your transition while delivering much faster time to value.

> We've driven down operational costs using the AHV hypervisor and further lowered support overhead with Nutanix Cloud Manager, which is enabling us to automate day-to-day management tasks and move forward with confidence to a multicloud future.

Rick Jagger,
Technical Services Manager at Bupa

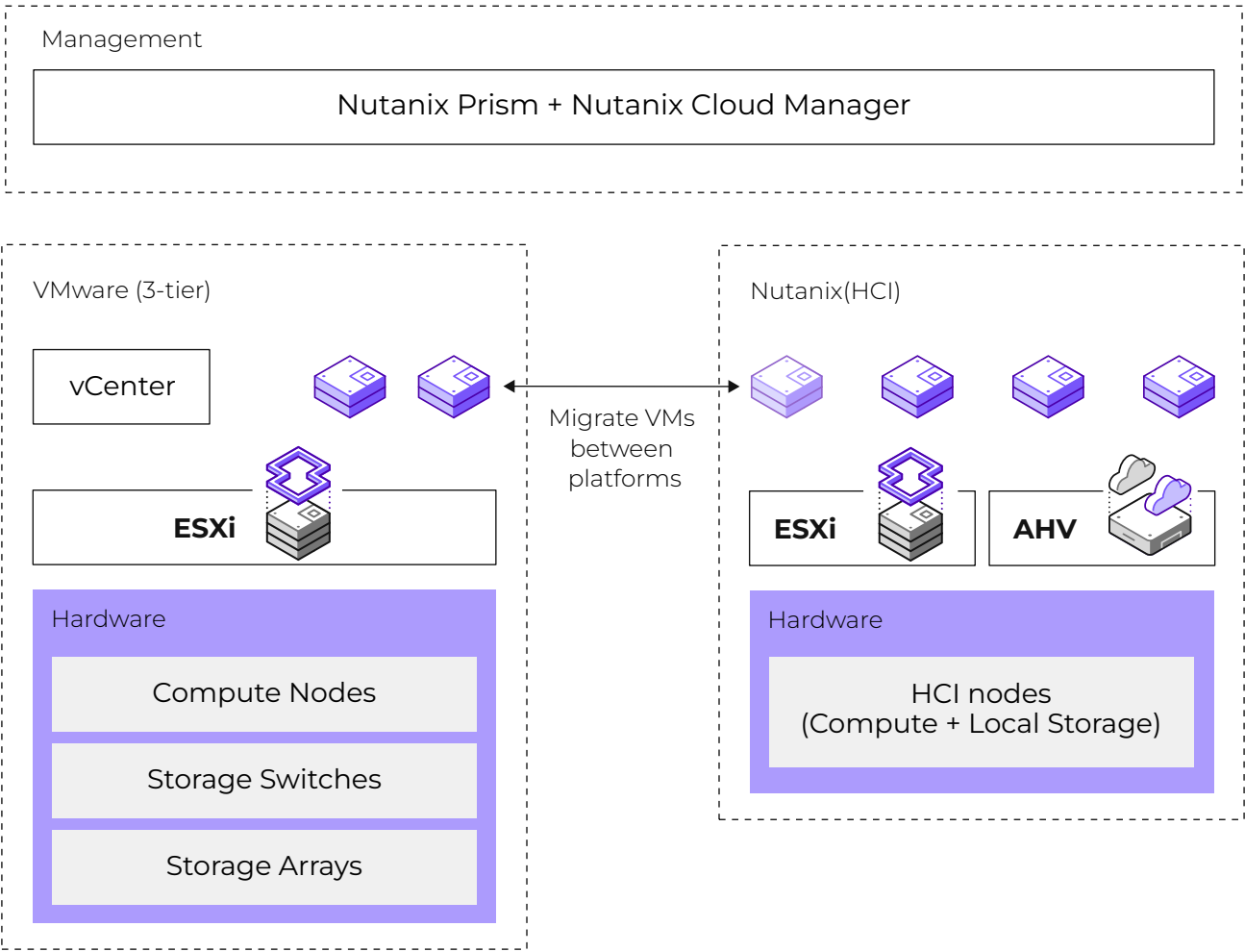| VMware Product	Comparable Nutanix Product
VMware Aria Operations	NCM Intelligent Operations
VMware Aria Automation	NCM Self-Service
Tanzu CloudHealth	NCM Cost Governance
VMware Aria Operations for Networks	Nutanix Security Central

Figure 1: Nutanix offers not only a smaller data center footprint but also the ability to move existing VM and Applications from ESXi hypervisor on 3-Tier to an ESXi hypervisor on Nutanix HCI.

NCM Intelligent Operations offers functionality similar to VMware Aria Operations (formerly vRealize Operations).

NCM Intelligent Operations provides an end-to-end management and operations solution. Through task automation, machine learning algorithms and predictive analytics, it allows your team to automate operations, optimize resources, forecast capacity needs, and proactively detect performance anomalies. It also provides ticketing system integration and constant system monitoring.

NCM Self-Service replaces VMware Aria Automation (formerly vRealize Automation) with an easier-to-use automation solution that enables you to deliver faster outcomes. For example, NCM makes it simple to automate routine infrastructure-as-a-service tasks such as provisioning a single VM.

NCM Self-Service streamlines the way you provision, scale and manage new and existing apps across multiple environments. It includes tools for consumption and governance management, as well as blueprint creation, lifecycle automation, and management.

NCM Cost Governance takes the place of Tanzu CloudHealth (formerly vRealize Aria powered by CloudHealth), providing industry-leading multicloud cost-governance capabilities with full visibility from a single console. It delivers cost metering and a comprehensive view from on-premises to the public cloud infrastructure through a single pane of glass. NCM also provides cost optimization actions and recommendations that can translate to immediate savings on cloud cost.

55%
plan to gain better visibility into their cloud consumption and cost[*]

85%
consider cloud cost control a challenge[*]

Source: 6th Annual Nutanix Enterprise Cloud Index

Nutanix Security Central replaces the functionality of VMware Aria Operations for Networks. It provides a single dashboard to plan, manage and govern workload security in any cloud without the need for deep cybersecurity training or additional personnel. This solution also uses intelligent analysis to automate incident response and aid regulatory compliance for strategic security initiatives.

How Nutanix Helps You Diversify

Compatibility is essential when you're adding a second virtualization vendor to your datacenter. Ideally, you'd like to simply move a VM from VMware to the new platform and have it run as expected with no performance or reliability surprises.

This is exactly what Nutanix can deliver. We make it simple to appropriately size and allocate resources for your VMs and move them into the Nutanix environment with no surprises – while delivering significant cost benefits. Nutanix reduces costs and minimizes risk by simplifying management and improving resilience.

> "
> We used Nutanix Move to migrate from our VMware servers to Nutanix and the process was fairly simple. For the most part, all of our low-impact servers were migrated within hours.
>
> Bob Fishtrom,
> Mountain View Los Altos High School District

Running VMware ESXi and vSphere on Nutanix gives you greater flexibility. Many customers begin by putting new workloads like modern apps and AI on Nutanix AHV and transitioning additional VMware workloads as infrastructure ages. You can continue to enjoy value from your existing VMware investments while testing AHV as an alternative.

As you diversify your IT environment, NCM extends across VMware and Nutanix environments to keep management simple. For instance, NCM Self-Service offers application lifecycle management for existing VMware deployments running on three-tier infrastructure in addition to Nutanix, while NCM Intelligent Operations provides capacity planning, anomaly detection and rightsizing of vCenter-managed VMs.

How Nutanix Helps you Extend to the Public Cloud

Organizations are moving to the public cloud to leverage important cloud services and accelerate the delivery of new apps and features. It can take significant effort to get the same performance from a converted VM running on a public cloud versus on-premises.

And all the major clouds use different native hypervisors. AWS uses a Xen-based hypervisor, Azure uses Microsoft Hyper-V and GCP is KVM-based. This is not ideal when you want to run the same app in multiple clouds or move apps quickly and easily between clouds.

In the past, you might have chosen a VMware-based cloud solution to minimize these challenges. But VMware's ongoing commitment to its cloud operations is less clear today, making the prospect of lifting and shifting apps into VMware Cloud on AWS, Azure VMware Solution or a VMware Cloud Service Provider less attractive. With VMC now requiring a subscription and [Broadcom ending the VMware Cloud Service Provider Program](#) some customers are scrambling to avoid the potential fallout.

Nutanix offers a fast, secure, and cost-effective path to the cloud that dramatically simplifies the public cloud infrastructure build-out process while leaving the control in your hands. You can more easily leverage cloud resources for disaster recovery, EUC, capacity bursting, and other use cases, without resorting to time-consuming and expensive refactoring.

Currently available for AWS and Microsoft Azure, NC2 can meet tough performance and resiliency service-level agreements while providing a superb alternative to VMware running in the cloud.

Using Nutanix Move, the free cross-hypervisor mobility solution, enables you to migrate VMware apps from an on-premises datacenter to NC2 and AHV without refactoring, re-architecting or replatforming. And apps running in the public cloud on NC2 can be [up to 53% lower cost than native public cloud.](#)

Choosing Nutanix to extend to the cloud provides a management environment based on concepts familiar to administrators accustomed to VMware products. It also minimizes the cloud-specific skills your team would otherwise need to learn and makes it easier for them to operate in the cloud environment error-free.

Whether you use Nutanix on-premises or in the cloud, NCM capabilities easily manage both environments using a simple suite of tools that deliver one-click intelligent operations to your hybrid multicloud environment.

To keep cloud costs to a minimum, NCM Cost Governance uses advanced machine learning algorithms to automatically detect cost anomalies. It takes fast, proactive measures to rightsize resources and keep cloud costs under control and delivers cost governance on-premises.

How Nutanix Helps You Transition from VMware

If you plan to transition from VMware entirely to avoid the specter of rising costs and uncertainty, Nutanix offers similar capabilities in a modern platform suitable for all workloads. Easy-to-use migration toolkits and professional migration services enable you to size and migrate workloads quickly and efficiently.

Nutanix can also provide training, bootcamps, certifications, and test drives to get you up to speed fast. Our one-click approach to cloud infrastructure management and security makes learning the ne`w platform simple.

The biggest challenge with any technology transition is always the in-between state when you've implemented the new technology but haven't completely phased out the old one. Management complexity increases and it can be difficult to find the cycles to keep the transition moving forward.

Nutanix management capabilities provide a smooth transition, enabling you to minimize the time you spend in limbo. Administrators typically find the transition to Nutanix to be intuitive and Nutanix provides cross-platform management capabilities that make it incredibly simple.

As you transition from VMware to Nutanix, it becomes progressively easier to leverage NCM capabilities to manage the entire environment until the desired results are achieved.

Nutanix is the Solution to Your VMware Challenges

Whether you're seeking to diversify your operations, extend to the public cloud or transition away from VMware, Nutanix enables you to migrate VMs from VMware to Nutanix in less time and with fewer surprises. Nutanix Move, the free cross-hypervisor mobility solution, automates and simplifies migrations whether you're moving one VM or one thousand.

NCM delivers the advanced management capabilities needed to manage your entire hybrid multicloud environment, offering a full-featured replacement for VMware Aria with significant benefits for longtime VMware customers:

- **Unified management.** Manage AHV, ESXi and vCenter/vSphere from a single console.

- **Full lifecycle automation.** Automate and manage the entire application lifecycle with less effort.

- **Seamless migration and automation.** Avoid disruptive migrations by transitioning existing automations to NCM thereby simplifying the process for future automations.

- Faster time to value. Achieve greater value in much less time with intuitive NCM tools.

Don't let anything stand between you and success. If you'd like to try Nutanix firsthand, take a test drive and experience the Nutanix difference for yourself.

Take a Test Drive

Visit nutanix.com to learn more. You can also contact Nutanix at info@nutanix.com or send us a request at nutanix.com/demo to set up your own customized briefing.

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