vmware®

VMware Consolidated Backup
Centralized backup software for virtual machines

What Is VMware Consolidated Backup?

VMware® Consolidated Backup provides an easy to use, centralized backup facility for virtual machines. It enables virtual machine contents to be backed up from a centralized Microsoft® Windows 2003 proxy server rather than directly from ESX Server. Consolidated Backup allows IT organizations to:

- Reduce the load on ESX Server by allowing it to run more efficiently and run more virtual machines.
- Improve manageability of IT resources by using a single agent running on the proxy server rather than an agent on every virtual machine.
- Eliminate backup traffic on the local area network by utilizing Fibre Channel tape devices for virtual machine backups
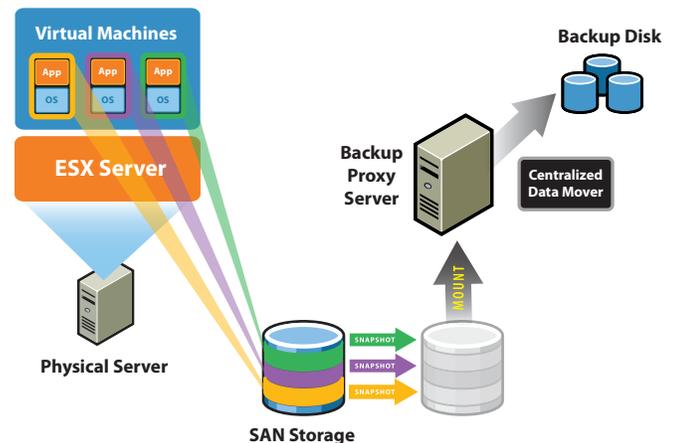
How Is VMware Consolidated Backup Used in the Enterprise?

VMware Consolidated Backup enables:

- Full image backup of virtual machines for disaster recovery
- Full and incremental file backup of virtual machines running Microsoft® Windows operating systems for recovery of individual files and directories

How Does VMware Consolidated Backup Work?

Consolidated Backup provides a set of drivers and scripts that enable LAN-free backup of virtual machines running any supported operating system from a centralized Microsoft® Windows 2003 proxy server using an industry-standard backup agent. Consolidated Backup includes pre-backup and post-backup scripts for integration with most major backup providers. A backup job is created for each virtual machine and that job is dispatched on a Consolidated Backup proxy. The pre-backup script takes a virtual machine snapshot and mounts the snapshot to the proxy server directly from the SAN. For virtual machines running Microsoft® Windows operating systems, the pre-backup script also quiesces NTFS inside the virtual machine. The backup client then backs up the contents of the virtual

VMware Consolidated Backup provides agentless backup of virtual machines.

machine as a virtual disk image. For virtual machines running Microsoft Windows operating systems, the backup client can also back up the contents of the virtual machines as a set of files and directories. Finally, the post-backup script tears down the mount and takes the virtual disk out of snapshot mode.

Key Features of VMware Consolidated Backup

- **Fibre Channel tape support.** Eliminate backup traffic with LAN-free virtual machine backup.
- **Backup proxy server.** Remove load from ESX Server by consolidating backup load and management onto a backup proxy server.
- **File level full and incremental backup** (for virtual machines running Microsoft® Windows operating system). Recover individual files and directories.
- **Image level backup** (for virtual machines running any operating system). Recover entire virtual machine image in the event of disaster.
- **Built in integrations with most major backup providers.** Leverage existing investment in backup agents to move virtual machine data from the Consolidated Backup proxy server to tape devices.

How Can I Purchase VMware Consolidated Backup?

• Consolidated Backup is included in VMware Infrastructure 3 Enterprise.

• Consolidated Backup can also be purchased a la carte with VMware Infrastructure 3 Standard.

• Consolidated Backup is not available with VMware Infrastructure 3 Starter.

Product Specifications and System Requirements

For detailed product specifications and system requirements refer to the VMware Infrastructure Backup Software Compatibility Guide located at http://www.vmware.com/support/pubs/vi_pubs.html.