

ESX 3.5 Virtual Switch Logs. Do they ...



[J_Wood](#) 29 posts since

Mar 27, 2006

I have been asked to provide the logs from the virtual switches on one of my ESX 3.5 hosts. I am not aware of the existence of any such logs. Can anyone confirm this or set me straight?

Thanks!

[James Wood | Systems](#)

[Administrator | Arizona Department of Transportation](#) Tags: 3.5, networking



[weinstein5](#) 6,320 posts since

Nov 19, 2005 **1. Re: ESX 3.5 Virtual Switch Logs. Do they exist?** Jun 11, 2008 11:22 AM

What sort of information are you looking for? Because with 3.5 the virtual switches now support Cisco Discovery Protocol -



[J_Wood](#) 29 posts since

Mar 27, 2006 **2. Re: ESX 3.5 Virtual Switch Logs. Do they exist?** Jun 11, 2008 11:29 AM

👤 in response to: [weinstein5](#) They are troubleshooting a very high number of retransmit requests between our mainframe and a virtual machine running ftp services.

[James Wood | Systems Administrator | Arizona Department of Transportation](#)



[gary1012](#) 431 posts since

Feb 20, 2008 **3. Re: ESX 3.5 Virtual Switch Logs. Do they exist?** Jun 11, 2008 11:34 AM

👤 in response to: [J_Wood](#) I've never seen a transactional log that outlines connections built/torn-down within ESX. It might be best to sniff the network traffic using an analyzer or something like WireShark.



[weinstein5](#) 6,320 posts since

Nov 19, 2005 **4. Re: ESX 3.5 Virtual Switch Logs. Do they exist?** Jun 11, 2008 11:38 AM

👤 in response to: [J_Wood](#) I do not know the existence of a log for the vswitches - As gary indicated perhaps some sort of network sniffer to monitor traffic - what do the logs on the FTP server say? The other thing you might monitor is the network traffic - I am wondering if you are saturating your nic ports - how is the network configured?



[gary1012](#) 431 posts since

Feb 20, 2008 **5. Re: ESX 3.5 Virtual Switch Logs. Do they exist?** Jun 11, 2008 11:42 AM

👤 in response to: [weinstein5](#) Also, you may have to enable promiscuous mode on the vSwitch to perform the sniff.

ESX 3.5 Virtual Switch Logs. Do they ...



[Texiwill](#) 10,205 posts since

Jan 13, 2004 6. **Re: ESX 3.5 Virtual Switch Logs. Do they exist?** Jun 11, 2008 11:49 AM

👤 in response to: [gary1012](#) Hello,

You can also look at the traffic logs on the physical switch involved as well. Is the database inside the virtualization layer?

There are no vSwitch logs similar to what you will find on a pSwitch.

Best regards,

Edward L. Haletky

VMware Communities User Moderator

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Author of the book 'VMWare ESX Server in the Enterprise: Planning and Securing Virtualization Servers', Copyright 2008 Pearson Education. CIO Virtualization Blog: <http://www.cio.com/blog/index/topic/168354>, As well as the Virtualization Wiki at <http://www.astroarch.com/wiki/index.php/Virtualization>



[J_Wood](#) 29 posts since

Mar 27, 2006 7. **Re: ESX 3.5 Virtual Switch Logs. Do they exist?** Jun 11, 2008 11:57 AM

👤 in response to: [gary1012](#) We are setting up the protocol analyzers now. We are monitoring the mainframe port and the switch ports on our core switch to this particular host.

I have two NICs on this particular network, one to each of two core data center switches. Utilization on the team is nominal, 275 Mbps or just less than 30% of one NIC.

[James Wood | Systems](#)

[Administrator | Arizona Department of Transportation](#)



[Texiwill](#) 10,205 posts since

Jan 13, 2004 8. **Re: ESX 3.5 Virtual Switch Logs. Do they exist?** Jun 12, 2008 5:58 AM

👤 in response to: [J_Wood](#) Hello,

Look at the pSwitches directly connected to the VMware ESX hosts. Once a customer had the wrong negotiation settings and these showed a huge number of errors. Also, ensure that for all ports connected to VMware ESX that portfast is enabled otherwise you will have issues if you are using STP (which I would assume is the case). In general, ESX likes to autonegotiate.

Best regards,

Edward L. Haletky

VMware Communities User Moderator

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ESX 3.5 Virtual Switch Logs. Do they ...

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