

# Free ESXi Automation Limitations? ...

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[ajstiles](#) 1 posts since

Jul 14, 2008

I'm waiting for a box to arrive on which I can install ESXi. I'm trying to hammer out the scripting/automation functionalities and limitations of using ESXi without Foundation or Infrastructure. We're currently using VMware Server and the Perl API to do things like load files into running VMs, run scripts inside VMs, and periodically restart VMs. Is it possible to script any of these functions using the Perl API (or other API) using ESXi free? Thanks!

Adam Tags: 3.5i, esxi\_3.5



[rmrobert](#) 58 posts since

Nov 2, 2007 **1. Re: Free ESXi Automation Limitations?** Sep 12, 2008 10:17 AM

Yes, all of that should be possible, ESXi isn't crippled in any way.



[lberc](#) 26 posts since

Sep 1, 2006 **2. Re: Free ESXi Automation Limitations?** Sep 13, 2008 4:37 AM

Automation is supported via the VI SDK, which is a remote interface. Bindings are available for [Perl](#) , [PowerShell](#) , [Java](#), etc. The packages are available on the [VMware SDK download site](#). You can also use the Remote CLI which is similar to ESX Classic COS commands. [Here is a thread](#) about configurig with PowerShell (and some Perl) and [here is a sketch for integrating with PXE](#) .