

Vir Center and lic on the esx srv? ...



[ly9cs](#) 40 posts since

Apr 20, 2005 Can Virtual Center and the License server run on the esx server or must it be on other hardware? I want to have the virtual center and the licens server inside the vmware world. Is this possibel



[oreeh](#) 9,872 posts since

Nov 30, 2005 **1. Re: Vir Center and lic on the esx srv?** Jul 18, 2007 11:39 AM

You can install VC and the license server inside a VM.

There's a paper from VMware about this (<http://www.vmware.com/vmtn/resources/798>)



[Dave.Mishchen...](#) 8,943 posts since

Nov 15, 2005 **2. Re: Vir Center and lic on the esx srv?** Jul 18, 2007 11:40 AM

You can run VC in a VM - here's a document with some notes on that: http://www.vmware.com/pdf/vi3_vc_in_vm.pdf



[Texiwill](#) 10,205 posts since

Jan 13, 2004 **3. Re: Vir Center and lic on the esx srv?** Jul 18, 2007 11:59 AM

 in response to: [Dave.Mishchen...](#) Hello,

Even though you can run it from a VM you may wish to consider if you should. VC is not much of an issue from a VM but I think the License manager is more troublesome. I ran both from a VM and had quite a few issues that I moved the license server to a physical box. I even use a laptop as my ultimate backup.

I had so many issues that this works out. The main issue was keeping the license server and VC server running. Many times I came in and did not realize the license server was down and after 14 days of this VMs would not start. So had to restart the license server a few times until I built a physical box to host it, VC, and its db.

The license server is a catch 22, if it is not reachable you can not start a VM, yet if the license server resides on a VM it will not be reachable.

Best regards,

Edward



[MR-T](#) 4,146 posts since

Apr 19, 2005 **4. Re: Vir Center and lic on the esx srv?** Jul 18, 2007 12:32 PM

 in response to: [Texiwill](#) I disagree with this.

Although you obviously had issues, seperating the licence server from the VC isn't the best idea. Not least because you've now got to manage another server (a physical one at that).

I recently setup an environment using both VC and the licence server as virtual machines and it's proved to be a great success.

Vir Center and lic on the esx srv? ...


I've now got local protection for my VC using HA and I have a replicated copy to a remote site should I need to failover.

The only thing I would suggest when implementing a VC in a VM solution is to keep the database on a separate VM. I then used an affinity rule to keep them together.



[Texiwill](#) 10,205 posts since

Jan 13, 2004 **5. Re: Vir Center and lic on the esx srv?** Jul 18, 2007 1:00 PM

 in response to: [MR-T](#) Hello,

My VC/License Manager is a physical machine. It also happens to be my HPSIM server. It is an older box with lots of memory that is not very useful as an ESX server but I can still eek out some usage. I have a backup VM, just in case I loose the machine and a backup license manager in case I loose that. Just enough license on it to start the required VM.

My concern is that you need a license to even start the License Manager VM. An external source needs to be that license server in this rare case. Hence why I just use a laptop configured and waiting to go. No real power to the device but it works when this need arises.

Consider your setup with HA. Which I like, but if for some reason you did not know the target ESX server lost its license connection to the License manager and it is now 14 days later. YOur License manager/VC VM can not be started without that license. Granted, this I hope is a very rare occurrence, but when it occurred on my HA setup twice.... I moved things around.

Best regards,

Edward



[MR-T](#) 4,146 posts since

Apr 19, 2005 **6. Re: Vir Center and lic on the esx srv?** Jul 18, 2007 1:08 PM

 in response to: [Texiwill](#) Yeah I can see where you're coming from.


In fact when you build an environment which uses VM's for both VC and the licence server you need to start with a host licence.

This way, you have a starting point.



[oreeh](#) 9,872 posts since


Nov 30, 2005 **7. Re: Vir Center and lic on the esx srv?** Jul 18, 2007 1:08 PM

 in response to: [Texiwill](#) To circumvent failures like this I have an additional host based license file "at hand" - though I never had to use it.



[sbeaver](#) 7,719 posts since

Nov 1, 2004 **8. Re: Vir Center and lic on the esx srv?** Jul 18, 2007 1:43 PM

 in response to: [oreeh](#) That what I do also. The main reason is the DR builds and being able to start the VM's and VC wich is one of them

Vir Center and lic on the esx srv? ...



Texiwill 10,205 posts since

Jan 13, 2004 9. **Re: Vir Center and lic on the esx srv?** Jul 19, 2007 6:09 AM

👤 in response to: [sbeaver](#) Hello,

Host only licenses are great that way. But having a laptop in the closet with licenses already installed gets me the same thing without needing to pay for more licenses. (I already had the laptop and it is way underpowered in today's world). I think either method works and depends on the costs, benefits, and what you have laying around in hardware that could fit the need. So far I have had to use it twice.

At a DR site, it would be a very inexpensive tool to have for bootstrapping an environment. Or even a VM running in vmplayer could fulfill the same need.

Just pointing out alternatives and what works for me.

Best regards,

Edward