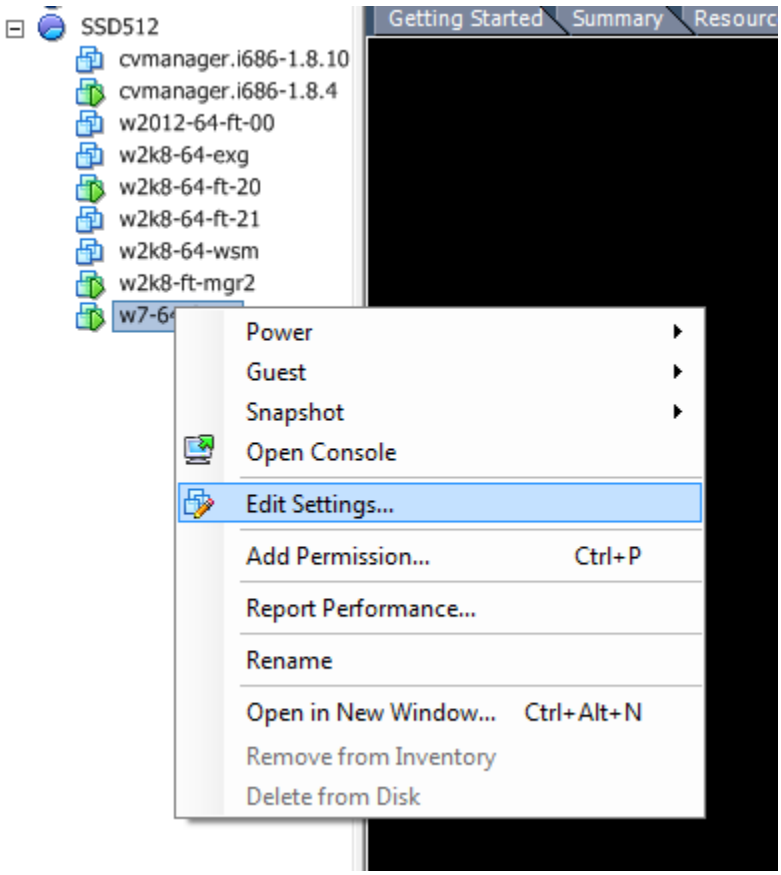
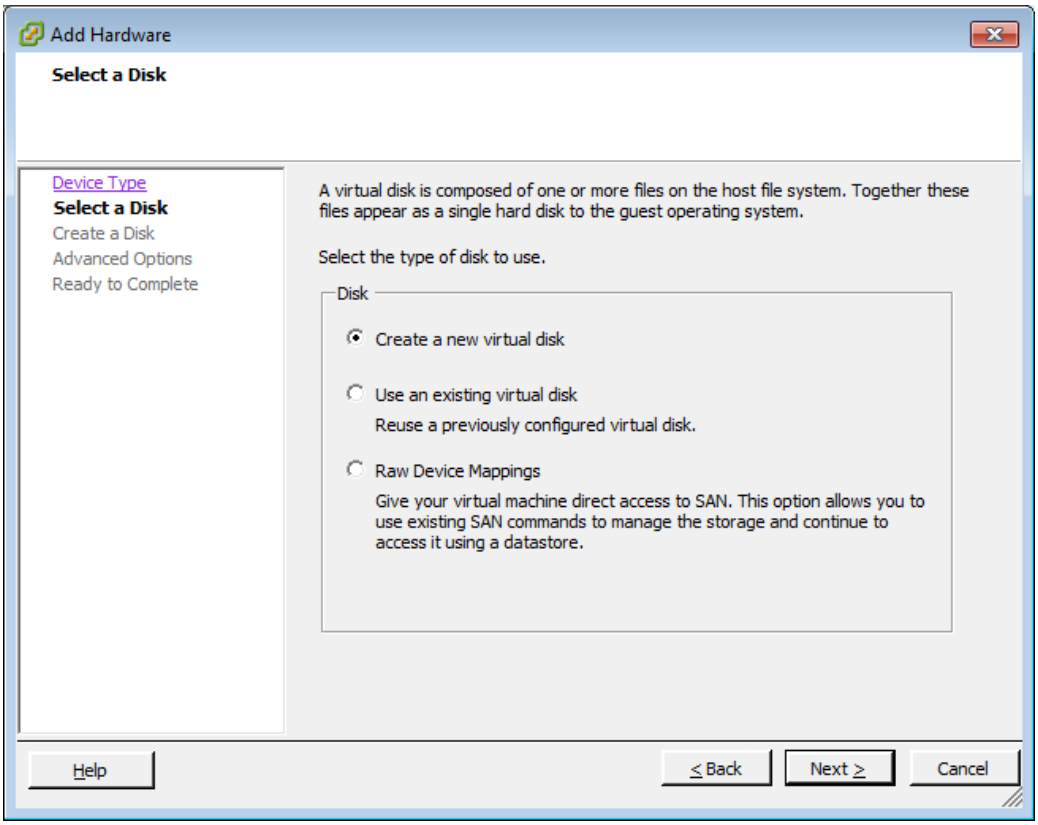
How to create CloudVolumes VMDK template:

1) From ESX or VCenter, select one VM to create this template VMDK. This VM should not have CloudVolumes Agent installed. It could be Win7, Win2008 or newer.

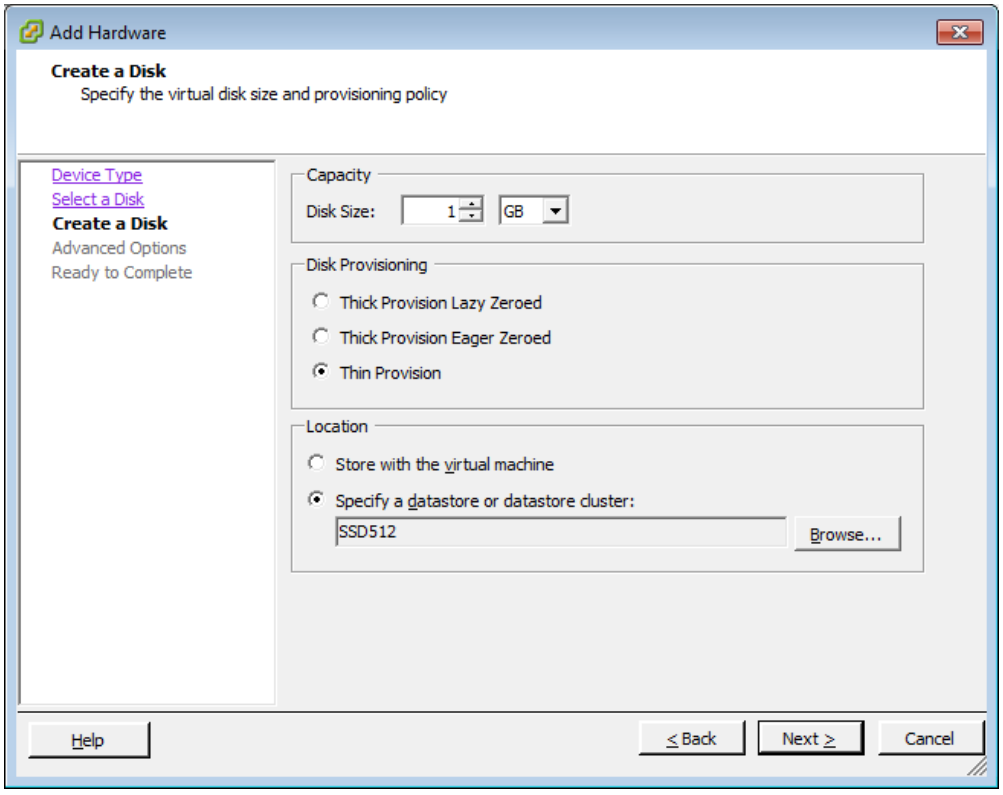
2) Right click this VM and select “Edit Settings”



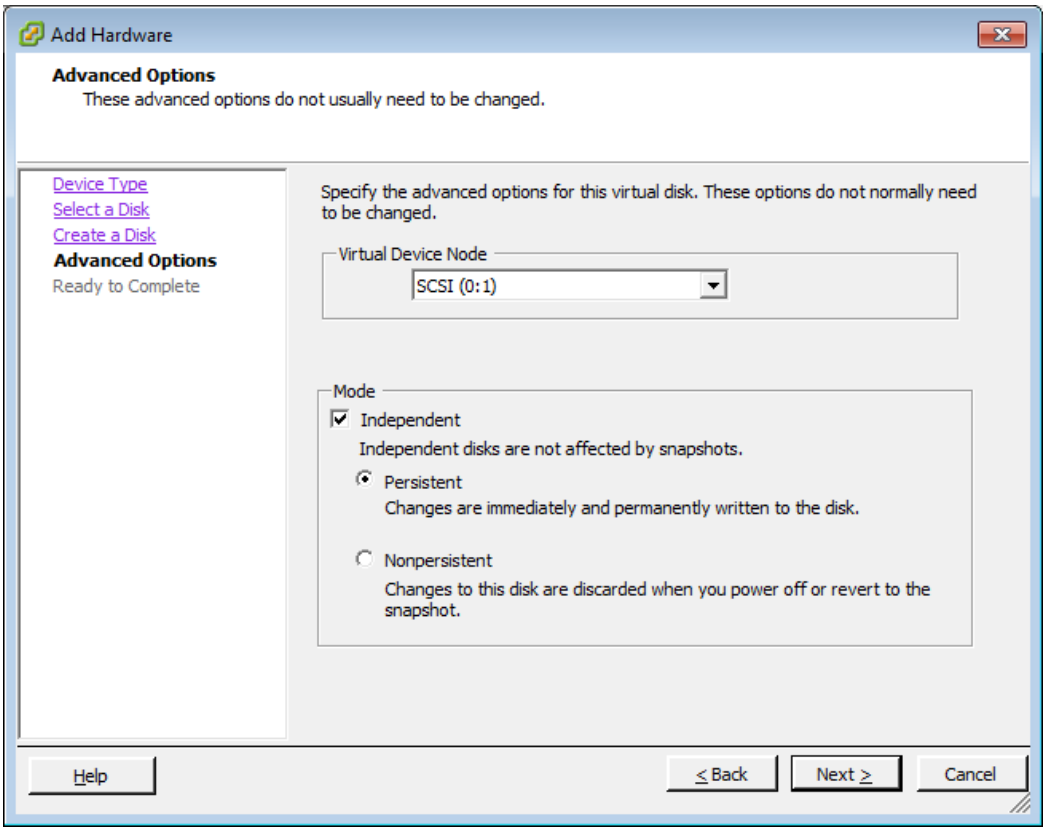
3) Add a new hardware disk and select “create new virtual disk”



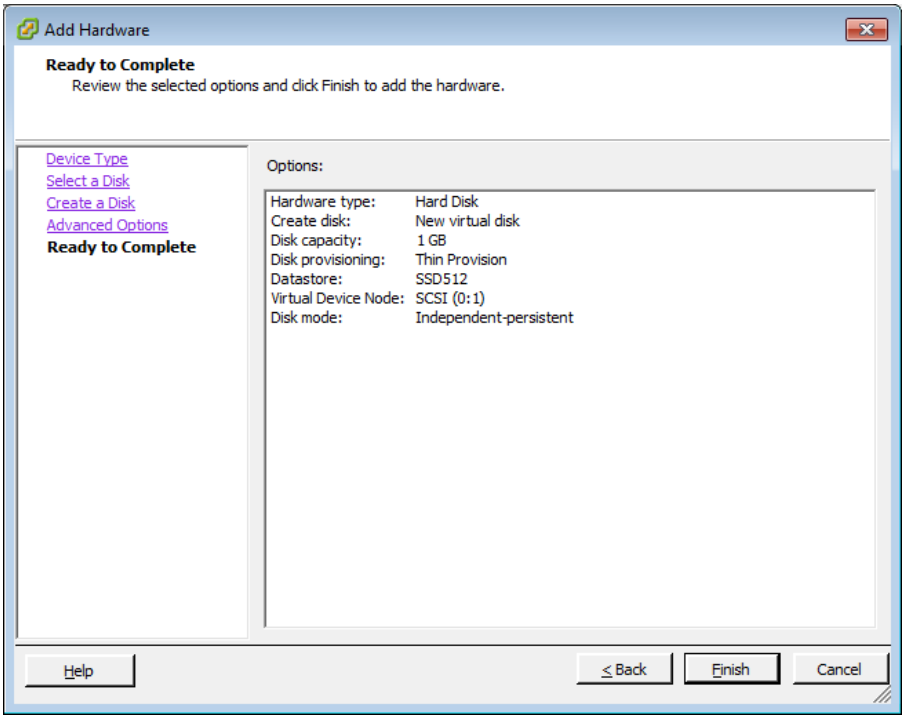
4) Specify the size of the disk, and pick “thin provision”. Also specify the target datastore where you want to save this disk temporarily.

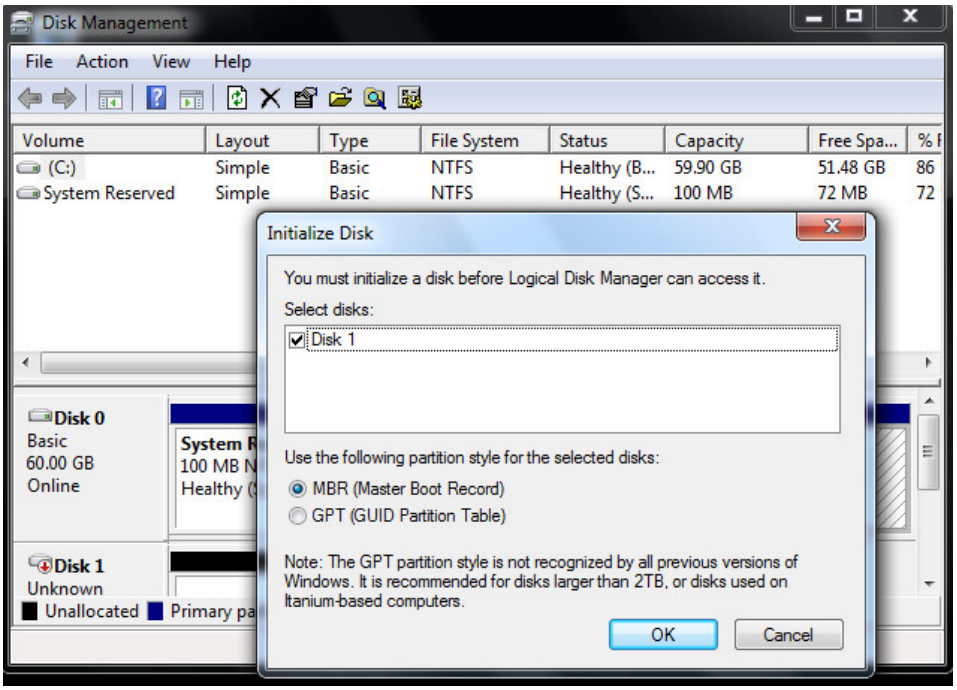


5) Go “next”, make this disk “independent” and “persistent”.

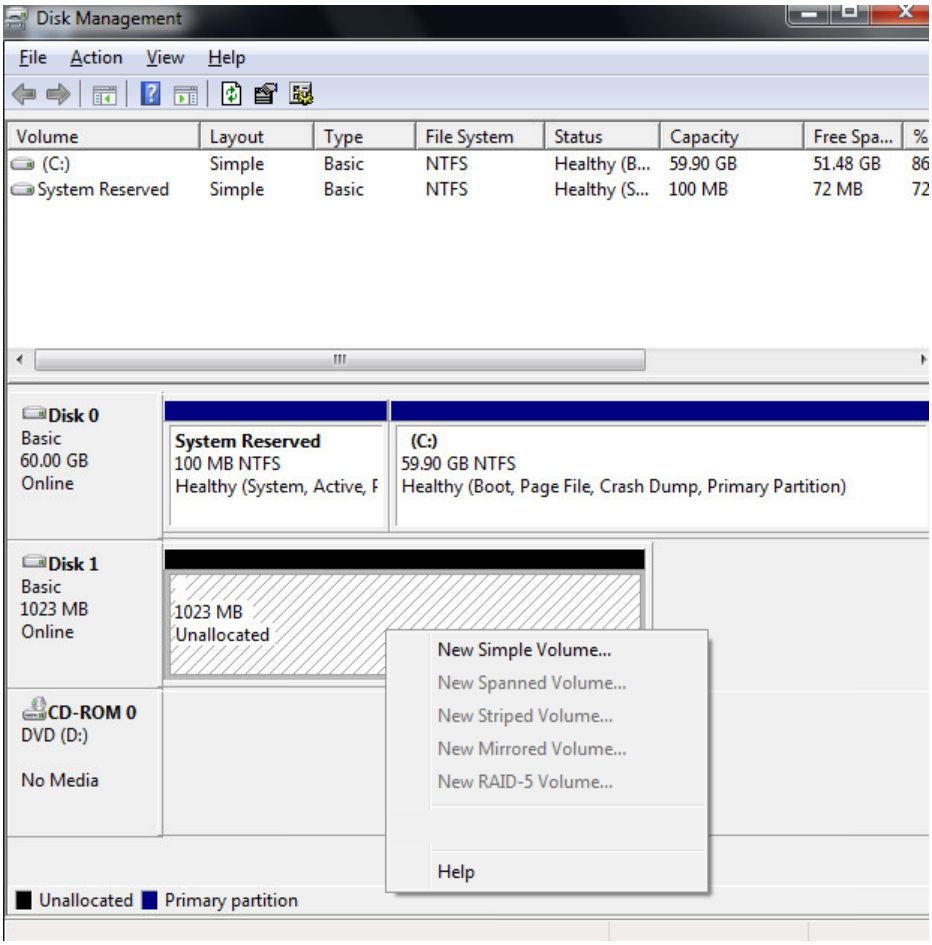


6) Finish disk creation. Then open the “disk manager” of windows, you will see a pop up telling a new disk was there, continue to click “ok” to initialize this disk.

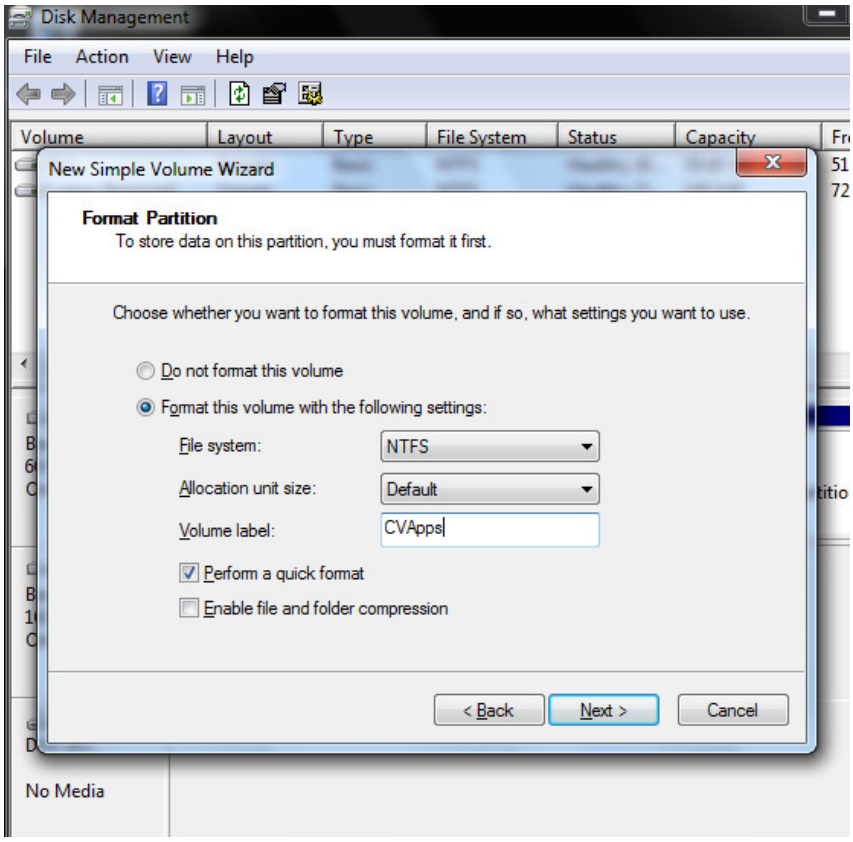




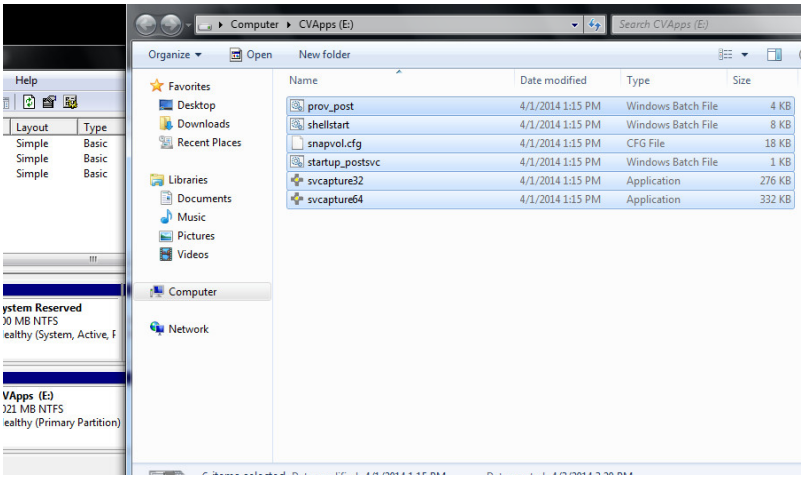
7) Right click this new disk and select “new simple volume”



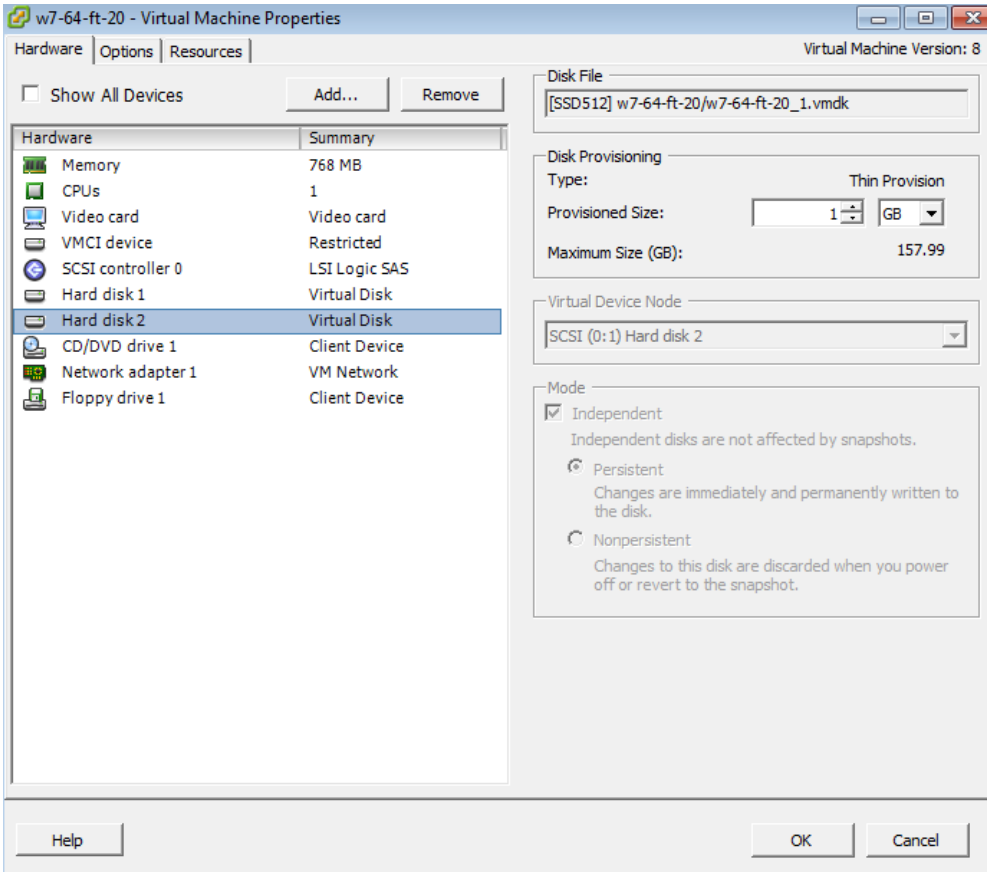
8) Format and finish this volume, give volume label as “CVApps”.



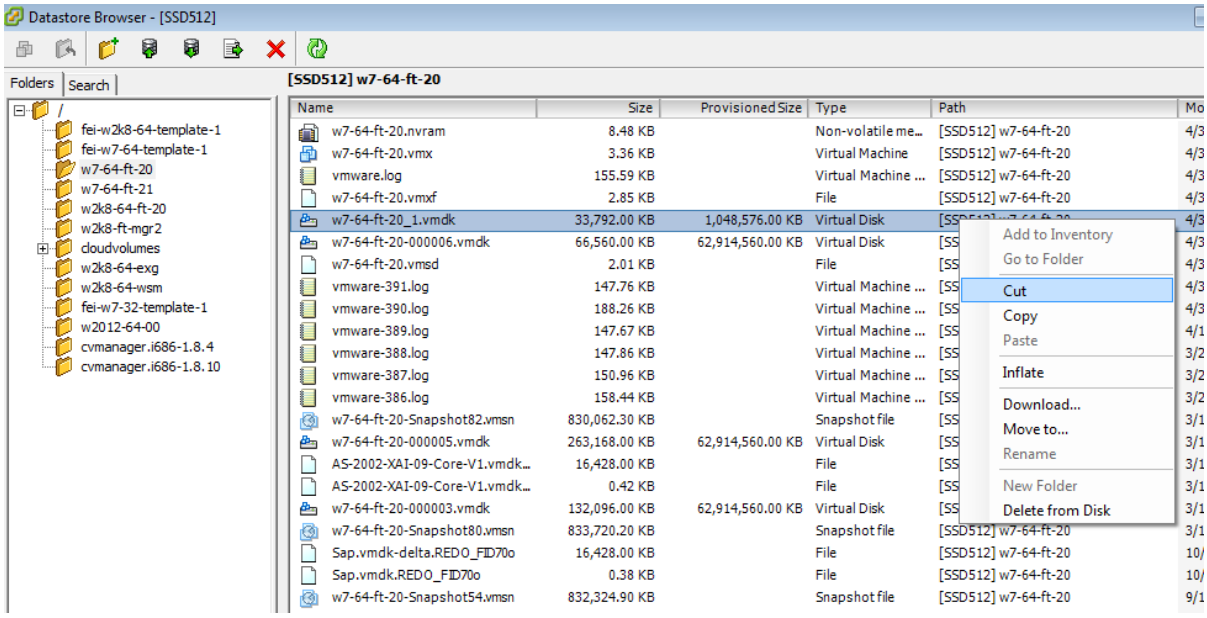
9) After done. There's will be a new drive appeared on windows. Use explorer.exe to browser this new volume, copy over all the policy files CloudVolumes provided into the root directory of this new volume (or copy from your existed VHD or VMDK template disk. Manually attaching the existed VHD/VMDK into a VM which doesn't have CloudVolumes Agent installed, then you will see these policy files on its root directory)



10) Now go back to "Edit Settings" of this VM, find this new disk and record it's "disk file path". Remove this new disk but still keep the file itself.



11) Browse the datastore where this VMDK was created, find out this disk file by "disk file path" in last step, now you can move this VMDK file to your CloudVolumes template location.



12)Rename this VMDK file if you want give it a different name. (Please follow this link for ESX VMDK file renaming: http://www.shofkom.com/2009/05/13/rename-a-vmdk-file-in-vmwares-esx-server/)

13)This new template was successfully created and it can be uploaded then used by CloudVolumes manager .