



Release Notes

SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere 4.8

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Release Notes

Release Notes provide important information about the SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere 4.8 release, including licensing requirements, known issues, cautions, limitations, and any documentation updates or corrections.

What's new in this release

SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere 4.8 adds the following features:

New features

- **ONTAP Certificate Based Authentication**
SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere 4.8 version supports certificate based authentication to authenticate and communicate with the storage system along with credentials based authentication.
- **Remote Plug-in**
The SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere is migrated from local plug-in architecture to remote plug-in architecture. The remote plug-in runs outside of the vCenter server and is hosted on its own plug-in server.
- **Product download changes**
In VMware vCenter 7.0.3 versions and higher, the open virtual appliance (OVA) signed by the Entrust certificate is no longer trusted. The SCV OVA is packaged as a TAR that contains the OVA file and Entrust Root and Intermediate certificates. Refer to the product documentation for instructions on how to add the certificate to the vCenter.
- **Audit logs**
SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere 4.8 supports capability to audit all key operations performed in product through GUI, API, Maint console, and Admin console.
You can view operation audit in the audit logs. The audit logs are downloaded with the Support bundle.

Fixed issues

It is a good practice to review the known issues fixed in a release before upgrading to it. If a Bugs Online report is available, the bug ID contains a hyperlink to the report.

Bug ID	Description
1491844	Secondary disk attachment for Virtual Volumes (vVOL) fails in case of ONTAP All-Flash Fabric Attached Storage (AFF). It works for ONTAP Fabric Attached Storage (FAS).

Supported SnapCenter releases

For the latest information about supported versions, see the [NetApp Interoperability Matrix Tool \(IMT\)](#).

Licensing

SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere is a free product if you are using the following storage systems:

- FAS
- AFF
- Cloud Volumes ONTAP
- ONTAP Select

You do not need to purchase the Premium Bundle to use SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere. However, the SnapRestore license is required for primary destinations for restore, mount, and attach operations.



It is recommended, but not required, that you add SnapCenter Standard licenses to secondary destinations. If SnapCenter Standard licenses are not enabled on secondary systems, you cannot use SnapCenter after performing a failover operation.

Upgrade paths



Upgrade to SCV 4.8 is supported only on VMware vCenter server 7 update 1 and later versions, for VMware vCenter server prior to version 7 update 1, you should continue to use SCV 4.7. The upgrade is disruptive on unsupported versions of VMware vCenter server.

For VMs and datastores only



To migrate data from the Windows-based SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere to the Linux-based virtual appliance, you must upgrade to SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere 4.5 and complete your migration before upgrading to SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere 4.6 or later.

If you are using...	You can do the following...
SCV* 4.7	Upgrade to SCV 4.8
SCV 4.6	Upgrade to SCV 4.7
SCV 4.5	Upgrade to SCV 4.6

*SCV = SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere

For virtualized databases and file systems that are integrated with SnapCenter

If you are using SnapCenter 4.8

If your VMware plug-in is...	You can do the following...
SCV 4.7	Upgrade to SCV 4.8

If you are using SnapCenter 4.7

If your VMware plug-in is...	You can do the following...
SCV 4.6	Upgrade to SCV 4.7

If you are using SnapCenter 4.6

If your VMware plug-in is...	You can do the following...
SCV 4.5	Upgrade to SCV 4.6P1

*SCV = SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere

If you are using VSC SMVI backups that are not integrated with SnapCenter

The NetApp Import Utility for SnapCenter and Virtual Storage Console is not supported by SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere 4.6 and later.

Known limitations

Known limitations identify platforms, devices, or functions that are not supported by this release of the product, or that do not interoperate correctly with it. Review these limitations carefully.

Platforms, devices, or functions not supported

- Restore for FT-enabled VMs

Restore operations to original or alternate locations are not supported for VMs that are configured as fault tolerant (FT).

- Storage VM disaster recovery

You can restore from a backup but you cannot perform storage VM disaster recovery operations.

- PCI or PCIe devices

The SnapCenter VMware plug-in provides limited support of shared PCI or PCIe devices (for example, NVIDIA Grid GPU) due to a limitation of the virtual machines in supporting Storage vMotion. For more information, see the vendor's document Deployment Guide for VMware.

The SnapCenter VMware plug-in does not support backup operations of PCI or PCIe devices that are accessed from the Guest OS using vSphere Direct Path I/O. Examples of such devices include Nvidia Grid GPUs and sound cards.

- Datastore extents
- Windows dynamic disks
- VMware RUC tool
- NFS

The SnapCenter VMware plug-in does not support NFS 4.1 configured with Kerberos authentication on ESXi and storage.

Although SnapCenter VMware plug-in supports NFS datastores with duplicate NFS IP addresses across multiple storage VMs, the NFS export path in the storage VM must be unique for those datastores. Duplicate NFS LIF addresses are supported.

- pNFS
- VSAN or vVol datastores (SAN and NAS datastores are supported)

The SnapCenter VMware plug-in does not support discovery or backup operations of VSAN datastores, local datastores, other vendor arrays/SDS solutions, or vVol datastores.

- Virtual Machine Templates

The SnapCenter VMware plug-in does not support attach and detach operations for Virtual Machine Templates.

- RDM devices, physical or virtual

The SnapCenter VMware plug-in does not support RDMs for VM backups. If a VM contains RDM LUNs, those LUNs are skipped during backups. To back up RDM LUNs, you must use a SnapCenter application-based plug-in.

- Datastores that contain only ISO files

To back up datastores that contain only ISO files, you must create a dummy VM in the datastore and then back up that VM.

- Connect disk operations to a LUN without a file

If you attempt a disk connect operation to a LUN that does not contain a file system, the operation fails.

- Virtual machine entities like Independent Persistent Disks or .VSWP files that reside on nonNetApp datastores.
- Adding new iSCSI controllers when all unit numbers are used

When more than 16 iSCSI VMDKs or 64 VMware Paravirtual (PVSCSI) disks are attached to an iSCSI controller, the SnapCenter VMware plug-in cannot locate VMDK unit numbers higher than 15 due to VMware restrictions. In this case, add the iSCSI controllers manually, and then try the attach operation again.

- Mixed management and data LIFs

The SnapCenter VMware plug-in can only manage storage VMs with LIFs that are either management LIFs or data LIFs, but not a mix of both. For example, you cannot add a cluster (specifying a cluster LIF), then backup the cluster, then delete that cluster, and then add a storage VM (specifying a management LIF) that was in the cluster, and then try to restore the storage VM from the cluster backup.

- MetroCluster (MCC)

The SnapCenter VMware plug-in does not support a storage VM DR in an MCC configuration.

- Microsoft Internet Explorer browser version 11

The SnapCenter VMware plug-in provides only limited support for IE 11; not all functions on the user interface are supported. The recommended browsers are Microsoft Edge, Chrome, or Firefox.

- Common base Snapshot copy for relationship cannot be deleted

If you have a resource with a mirror-vault protection policy, you cannot delete a backup on demand when that backup is a common base Snapshot copy for the relationship. ONTAP does not return an error message in this case.

- SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere does not support Multi-admin verification feature.

Guest file restore limitations

- You cannot restore dynamic disk types inside a guest OS.
- If you restore an encrypted file or folder, the encryption attribute is not retained. You cannot restore files or folders to an encrypted folder.
- The Guest File Browse page displays the hidden files and folder, which you cannot filter.
- Restoring from a Linux guest OS is not supported.

You cannot restore files and folders from a VM that is running Linux guest OS. The [NetApp Interoperability Matrix Tool \(IMT\)](#) contains the latest information about supported guest OS.

- Restore operations from an NTFS file system to a FAT file system is not supported.

When you try to restore from NTFS-format to FAT-format, the NTFS security descriptor is not copied because the FAT file system does not support Windows security attributes.

You cannot restore guest files from a cloned VMDK.

- You cannot restore from secondary backups if the backup was performed on a system running ONTAP 9.2 or later and if the VMware consistency option was on.

REST API limitations

The following operations are not supported by the REST APIs for SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere:

- Guest file restore
- Deployment and configuration of the virtual appliance
- Assignment of RBAC roles or access to users

Known issues

Known issues identify problems that might prevent you from using this release of the product successfully. NetApp Bugs Online provides complete information for most known issues, including any workarounds.

[NetApp Bugs Online](#)

If a Bugs Online report is available, the bug ID contains a hyperlink to the report.

Known issues identified in this release

Bug ID	Description
1413677	SCV does not delete all of VMware snapshots. When the <code>createSnapshot</code> task is a success in VMware but fetching the <code>TaskInfo</code> fails due to a <code>SocketTimeout</code> exception, then SCV marks the <code>createSnapshot</code> task as failed. Because the task is failed, it is not deleted during the unquiesce task, which leaves stale snapshots.
1438333	If you rename a vVol datastore to a name that is different from the backup storage container name, then the error <code>Unable to connect to ONTAP tools for VMware</code> is returned.
1452473	Encrypted VM restore to alternate datastore location failed; SCV job monitor does not show the error.
1481870	RTAL selection fails when vCenter server not resolving from SCV. The destination vCenter in the Restore To alternate Location field must be DNS resolvable.

Known issues identified in previous releases

Bug ID	Description
1132385	Japanese characters in directory or file names are replaced with "?????" in SFR email notification.
1186091	Backup operations fail when the vServer password is changed. To change a vServer password, you must update the password for the storage connection in the SnapCenter GUI and then restart the SMcore service on the plug-in.

Bug ID	Description
1319877	FlexGroup datastore backups might fail with the warning: `Unable to quiesce on SCV: Exception occurred when quiescing virtual machines: 96.Please check 'Create virtual machine snapshot' task on vSphere Web Client or SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere logs for detailed error message. Workaround: For FlexGroup datastore backups, use a backup policy with VM Consistency set to Off.
1320238	Multiple “_recent” Snapshots can occur on secondary storage when a backup is triggered immediately. However, parallel backups of a resource group with the recent setting enabled are not supported.
1371168	Creating / Renaming _recent backup fails when using custom snapshot naming format The custom snapshot naming format must include the resource group and the policy variables, in addition to other variables, to make sure the name is unique.
1450727	The VM storage policy is not retained after a VM restore operation.
N.A.	VMware Snapshot copies might not be deleted when you back up a resource group that uses a policy in which the VM consistency option is selected and a VMware Snapshot copy fails for one of the VMs in the resource group. This option quiesces the VMs in the resource group before the backup is performed. When a VM Snapshot copy fails, the <code>VMquiesce</code> flag is set to false, which prevents the VMware Snapshot copies from getting deleted. This situation can cause out-of-diskspace conditions. There is no workaround for this issue.
N.A.	You attempted to start a guest file restore session but the request timed out during validation because a VM clone operation was in progress. The error <code>Could not access HTTP invoker remote service at [null]; nested exception is java.net.SocketTimeoutException: Read timed out</code> is returned. This issue is valid for SnapCenter Plug-in for VMware vSphere 4.4 and earlier releases. There is no workaround for this issue. You must wait until the clone operation ends.

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