CirrusData®

"Cirrus Migrate On-Premises allows for much greater features and capabilities than the other VMware migration solution and is an easy and excellent product to perform VMware migrations."
-- Storage Specialist

THE CHALLENGE

Corporations looking to upgrade storage on older VMware environments often run into a particular challenge when trying to use vMotion for the upgrade - vMotion doesn't allow any-to-any migrations from older vCenter Server instances to newer vCenter versions, and has only recently offered version 6.0+ upgrade functionality while migrating.
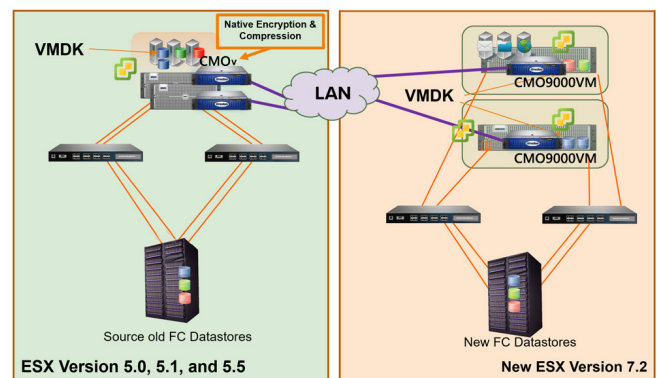
When looking for a solution to these restrictions when it was undergoing a storage upgrade, one of the largest pharmacy store chains in America - specializing in prescriptions, health and wellness products, health information, and photo services - was referred to Cirrus Data. The pharmacy chain needed to migrate out of its VMware 5.0/5.1 environment directly to VMware 6.7 easily and quickly with minimal downtime and impact to its business.

ESX Version 5.0, 5.1, and 5.5 — Source old FC Datastores
New ESX Version 7.2 — New FC Datastores

THE SOLUTION

Cirrus Data's Cirrus Migrate On-Premises (CMO) facilitates migration from any vCenter to any other vCenter, regardless of version number. It also updates the VM hardware profile and can even update VMware Tools and the datastore on which the VM resides to the latest level upon cutover.

The CMO Intelligent QoS feature (iQoS) allows the maximum use of all available bandwidth for copying data without impacting production I/O quality, automatically throttling migration when the LUN is too busy.

These advanced features of Cirrus Migrate were the convincing factors that led the chain's migration technicians to use Cirrus.

When moving from HPE source storage to EMC target storage, the company also upgraded its VMware environment to VMware 6.7 easily and quickly with minimal downtime and impact to production. In the end, 150TB assigned to 300 VMs was migrated to the new EMC storage - on-time and on-budget.

Cirrus Migrate On-Premises is the only solution that provides an easy solution for any-to-any vCenter/VMware version migration where the hardware profile of the VM and its related datastore are upgraded during the cutover process, helping VMware and vCenter projects to be completed on-time and on-budget.

Cirrus Migrate On-Premises allows for much greater features and capabilities than the native VMware migration solution and is an easy and excellent product to perform VMware migrations.

QUICK FACTS

Customer Type
Major US Pharmacy Chain

Source Storage
HPE

Target Storage
EMC

Number of Hosts
300+ ESX VMs

Total Data Migrated
150TB

Replication Type
Local

Number of appliances
2 Cirrus Migrate On-Prem receiver appliances attached to target storage, Cirrus Migrate CMOv agents at source site

Insertion Method
CMOv Virtual

CHALLENGES

- No vMotion upgrades possible from vCenter v5.0/5.1 to newer versions
- Limited on-site staff available for migrations and cutovers
- Migrations required minimum impact on production performance
- Migration team required SME support with Cirrus migration solution

SOLUTION

- Cirrus Migrate On-Premises allowed upgrades to vCenter and VMware datastores to be accomplished that native VMware products did not allow
- All vCenter and VMware migrations could be performed fully remote
- Migration performance and its impact to production could be monitored and tweaked remotely

RESULTS

- Cirrus Migrate On-Premises successfully allowed upgrades to vCenter and VMware versions during the migration process
- Cirrus Data's support on the migration engagement was deemed to be excellent by the customer across the entire migration project
- No onsite support staff was needed during installation, migration, and cutover
- Migration project completed on-time and on-budget

ABOUT CIRRUS DATA

Cirrus Data Solutions Inc. is a leading technology provider of next-generation solutions for data mobility, specializing in block data migration and protection. The company distributes its solutions through systems integrators, managed service providers, channel resellers, and partners including HPE, IBM, Dell Technologies, Microsoft Azure, AWS, Hitachi, NetApp, Pure Storage, Infinidat, AEBS, AHEAD, CDW, SHI, Park Place, Presidio, ePlus, Insight, Computacenter, Sirius, WWT and many others. Cirrus Data Solutions is headquartered in Syosset, New York and has offices located in Dublin, Ireland, and Nanjing with sales and support offices in Boston and Chicago.

To begin your digital data transformation, visit Cirrus Data Solutions online.

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