

# VMware vCenter Lab Manager

## Virtual Lab Automation System

### AT A GLANCE

VMware® vCenter Lab Manager provides a rapid provisioning portal and image library management system to automate the setup and teardown of even the most complex multi-machine software configurations. Lab Manager tightly integrates with VMware Infrastructure and VMware vCenter Server to increase service levels and simplify lab administration across multiple teams, projects and geographies from a central location.

### BENEFITS

- Reduce server sprawl and equipment-related capital and operating costs.
- Dramatically reduce provisioning times for single and multi-tiered system configurations.
- Increase resource availability, streamline processes and improve productivity.
- Improve communication and collaboration among geographically distributed teams.
- Simplify administration of corporate lab infrastructure for the entire organization.

### What is VMware vCenter Lab Manager?

VMware vCenter Lab Manager is the ideal solution for IT administrators responsible for supporting teams and individuals that require intermittent access to frequently reprovisioned machines and systems. Building on VMware Infrastructure 3, Lab Manager provides a rapid provisioning and library management system for multi-machine system configurations with an optional self-service portal for users. By implementing VMware Lab Manager, you can improve service levels and deliver significant cost and time savings to your organization, including:

- Dramatic reduction in time-consuming, repetitive provision tasks.
- Elimination of server sprawl and reduction of hardware-related equipment costs.
- Increase in service availability through an image library and an optional self-service portal.
- Simplified management, monitoring and administration of systems and resources.

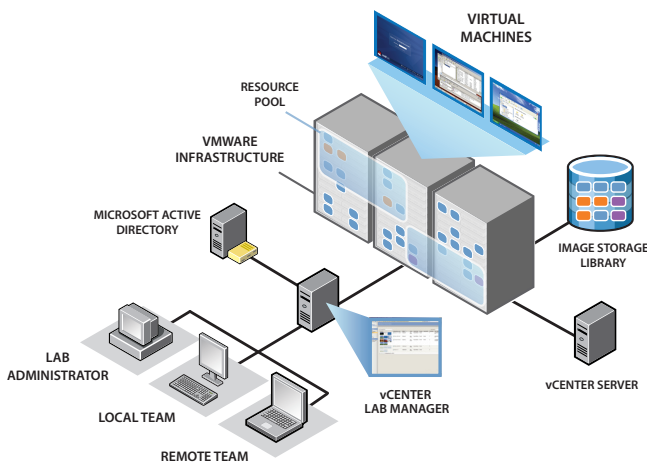
Lab Manager tightly integrates with VMware Infrastructure and vCenter Server to deliver the highest level of performance, scalability and reliability required for enterprise IT and lab environments.

### How Does VMware vCenter Lab Manager Work?

Lab Manager provides a self-service portal for users to create, capture and share complete multitiered software configurations on demand and with only a few mouse clicks – while IT staff remains in control of access rights, storage quotas and deployment policies.

With advanced networking capabilities, lab users can design, simulate and test even the most complex system and network configurations needed to support multitiered applications and service-oriented architectures (SOAs). Lab Manager provides graphical configuration diagrams to demystify complex designs. The Network Fencing feature allows users to work in parallel by deploying multiple instances of those configurations simultaneously, without causing network conflict.

Lab Manager simplifies lab administration with support for multiple teams, projects and geographic locations from a single installation. With customizable user roles and access rights, flexible resource pools and high availability, IT administrators can increase the quality of service for the entire organization.



*Using VMware vCenter Lab Manager, Avaya was able to decommission 200 machines and 100 monitors, decrease physical space requirements by 80 percent, and reduce power consumption by 50 percent.*

*"We've become hugely reliant on Lab Manager. Ultimately, we've found that VMware not only offers invaluable tools but a way of life."*

*Jay Leone, Lab Manager, Avaya*

## How is VMware vCenter Lab Manager Used in the Enterprise?

### Application Development and Testing

VMware vCenter Lab Manager streamlines application development and testing by giving every engineer the equivalent of his or her own personal datacenter. In a matter of seconds, Lab Manager deploys, captures and shares any system configuration through the self-service portal and image library, enabling teams to prototype new applications rapidly; test software releases on a broader range of system configurations; and capture, reproduce and resolve defects more easily. The Lab Manager API, as well as integrations with leading test and build management tools, provide additional automation benefits to allow for continuous testing and integration of software applications. This capability shortens delivery schedules and increases software quality.

### Support and Help Desk Operations

Lab Manager enables your entire support organization to rapidly retrieve software releases and host platforms, recreate customer environments, and share those environments with other teams. As a result, support engineers close tickets more quickly while increasing software quality and customer satisfaction.

### Training and Education

Lab Manager makes it easy to set up, tear down and re-image lab equipment to support hands-on learning with minimal effort from the IT organization. Instructors can quickly deploy virtual lab systems to their students, and create and update virtual machines shortly before each class. Students can interact with their lab systems directly through the Web browser from any computer with network access, suspend the virtual training environment and continue at a later time.

### Demo Labs

Sales engineers, product managers and tradeshow staff rely on Lab Manager to give software product demonstrations in a reliable and repeatable manner. Users can set up, capture and reset demo environments in seconds--even multitiered systems can be provisioned with ease. Users can access demo lab resources remotely through a secure connection to the corporate network, making your demo equipment portable and available around the clock.

## Key Features of VMware vCenter Lab Manager

### Rapid Provisioning Portal

- Create multi-machine configurations in seconds using machine templates and interact with them on a single browser page - no limit on machine count, no manual adjustments.

- Act on machines in a configuration as a unit: Suspend, multi-snapshot, revert to, shutdown, turn on, turn off, suspend, reset, deploy, undeploy, clone, capture to library and modify properties.
- Deploy multiple instances of the same configuration simultaneously using the Network Fencing feature.
- Connected configurations to multiple physical and virtual networks, each with its own subnet and VLAN characteristics.
- Share multi-machine configurations as "LiveLinks" between users.

### Configuration Library

- Check out of configurations with memory and CPU state preserved, almost instantaneously
- Identify configurations as "gold master" images for more prominent display in the library.
- Combine, split and selectively deploy configurations for increased flexibility and combinatorial use cases.
- Minimize storage footprint and maximize library entries per storage server with support for both linked and full clones.

### Multi-Organization Support

- Create distinct groups of users with either dedicated or shared resources and virtual machine configurations.
- Use Active Directory or OpenLDAP for user authentication and to map users and groups to organizations.
- Define visibility and access rights to shared virtual machine configurations and templates across users and organizations.

### Simplified Administration

- Leverage flexible resource pools from VMware vCenter Server to provide dedicated or shared infrastructure based on user needs.
- Eliminate lab downtime due to hardware failures or maintenance tasks with VMware HA, VMware DRS and VMware vMotion™.
- Set expiration dates to remove unused configurations.
- Display a graphical view of disk space consumption and optimize how virtual machine files are distributed across multiple datastores
- Utilize packaged integrations available for third-party test automation tools or build custom integrations with the SOAP API.

## Find Out More

For information or to purchase VMware products, call 1-877-4VMWARE (outside of North America dial +1-650-427-5000), visit [www.vmware.com/labmanager](http://www.vmware.com/labmanager), or search online for an authorized reseller. For detailed product specifications and systems requirements, please refer to the VMware vCenter Lab Manager online documentation.