Dell PowerEdge Systems Running VMware vSphere Getting Started Guide

Notes, Cautions, and Warnings

NOTE: A NOTE indicates important information that helps you make better use of your computer.

CAUTION: A CAUTION indicates either potential damage to hardware or loss of data and tells you how to avoid the problem.

WARNING: A WARNING indicates a potential for property damage, personal injury, or death.

2013 - 04

Rev. A01

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Getting Started With VMware vSphere

This document helps you in setting up your Dell PowerEdge system running VMware vSphere for the first time.

> **NOTE:** If you had ordered VMware ESXi with your PowerEdge system, it is pre-installed on your system. The ESXi installer media is required only for the recovery of a corrupted image. If you did not order ESXi with your system, you can order the Internal Dual SD Module kit (for supported PowerEdge systems) at **dell.com** and download the ESXi installation media from **dell.com/support**.

Downloading The ESXi Installer Media

You can download the Dell-customized ESXi installer image from **dell.com/support**. To create the ESXi installer media:

1. Navigate to **dell.com/support**.
2. Enter your PowerEdge service tag and click **Submit**.
   See [Locating Your System Service Tag](#).
3. Navigate to the **Drivers & Downloads** section.
4. Select your operating system as **ESXi** and download the ISO image.

Configuring ESXi On The PowerEdge System

1. Set up your PowerEdge system.
   For more information, see the Getting Started Guide and the Rack Installation Instructions that shipped with your system.
2. Connect the network cables to the appropriate LOM NIC connectors.
   For a 4-port LOM, connect the VMware management network cable to LOM1 port, the virtual machine network cable to LOM2 port and LOM3 port, and the optional storage network cable to LOM4 port.
   For a 2-port LOM, connect the VMware management network cable to LOM1 port and the virtual machine network cable to LOM2 port.
3. Turn on the system.
   The ESXi console loads.
4. Press <F2> at the ESXi console screen to configure the software.
   Configuring the software includes changing the root password and setting a static IP address.

   > **NOTE:** By default, the system obtains an IP address using the dynamic host configuration protocol.

5. Select **Configure Password** from the main menu to change the root password.
   The root password manages the system on a one-to-one basis.
6. Select **Configure Management Network** → **IP Configuration** → **Set static IP address and network configuration** to configure a static IP address.

   > **NOTE:** Record the host IP address.

If you purchased the ESXi hypervisor-based vSphere Standard, Enterprise, Enterprise Plus, Essentials Plus software, or Acceleration kits from Dell, you must have received the Partner Activation Code certificate with the server. To use the ESXi software and receive subscription services, follow the instructions in your Partner Activation Code certificate with the server.

NOTE: By using the VMware software, you are agreeing to the VMware End User License Agreement (EULA) at **vmware.com/downloads/eula**. For more information on license keys and VMware software licensing configuration, see the VMware documentation at **vmware.com/support/pubs**.

Related Information

NOTE: For Dell VMware documentation, see **dell.com/virtualizationsolutions**.

NOTE: For Dell OpenManage documentation, see **dell.com/openmanagemanuals**.

NOTE: For all PowerEdge and Dell PowerVault documentation, go to **dell.com/support/manuals** and enter the Service Tag of your system to get your system documentation. To locate the Service Tag of your system, see the topic Locating Your System Service Tag in this document.

Your product documentation at **dell.com/virtualizationsolutions** includes the following:

Getting Started Guide	Provides basic configuration information for running ESXi on a PowerEdge system.
Deployment Guide	Provides information on downloading, installing, and configuring ESXi. The document also includes the supported hardware configurations for running ESXi on PowerEdge systems.
Release Notes	Provides list of issues encountered and documented while running ESXi on PowerEdge systems and their resolutions and workarounds.
VMware VMotion and 64-bit Virtual Machine Support Compatibility Matrix	Provides information about PowerEdge systems and compatibility with VMotion.
ESXi 5.x Image Customization Information	Provides ESXi ISO image customization information.
Dell PowerEdge and Storage Systems Compatibility Matrix For Running ESXi	Provides information about PowerEdge and PowerVault compatibility for running ESXi.

Technical Support Resources

- **vmware.com/support**
- **dell.com/support**
- **dell.com/services**

Discussion Forums

- **vmware.com/communities/content**
- **en.community.dell.com/techcenter/virtualization/w/wiki/vmware.aspx**

- dellcommunity.com

Knowledge Base

vmware.com/support/kb

Contacting Dell

> **NOTE:** Dell provides several online and telephone-based support and service options. If you do not have an active Internet connection, you can find contact information on your purchase invoice, packing slip, bill, or Dell product catalog. Availability varies by country and product, and some services may not be available in your area.
>
> To contact Dell for sales, technical support, or customer-service issues:

1. Go to **dell.com/contactdell**.
2. Select your country or region from the interactive world map.
   When you select a region, the countries for the selected regions are displayed.
3. Select the appropriate language under the country of your choice.
4. Select your business segment.
   The main support page for the selected business segment is displayed.
5. Select the appropriate option depending on your requirement.

Locating Your System Service Tag

Your system is identified by a unique Express Service Code and Service Tag number. The Express Service Code and Service Tag are found on the front of the system by pulling out the information tag. This information is used by Dell to route support calls to the appropriate personnel.

Documentation Feedback

If you have feedback for this document, write to **documentation_feedback@dell.com**. Alternatively, you can click on the **Feedback** link in any of the Dell documentation pages, fill up the form, and click **Submit** to send your feedback.