VM Storage Presentation Methods

By Joe Grant, Principal Architect

There are several different ways to present storage to a VM, with different pros and cons for each type available. Simply choosing the presentation method that supplies the fastest storage is not always the best choice. You will want to weigh performance with manageability and other features such as NetApp's Snap Shot technologies. In general, House of Brick recommends using VMDKs whenever possible, however additional tooling at the SAN and/or network layers may influence the final decision for how storage is presented for a specific VM. More than one storage presentation option can be used for any given VM, for example the OS disk for a VM can be a VMDK and the data volumes can be RDM.   Read More

The Oracle Parking Garage

by Nathan Biggs (@nathanbiggs), CEO

As we work with our customers to virtualize Oracle on VMware, we hear how Oracle is telling them that they have to license every node in a cluster, or every node accessing common storage, or even every node in the whole enterprise, even though that Oracle workload will never run in those other areas. The comic below is how we view this strategy - Oracle licensing as a parking garage - let us know what you think.

An Interview - Backups & Recoverability - Part 1
by Jim Hannan, Principal Architect
     Joe Grant, Principal Architect

Jim Hannan recently interviewed his colleague, and fellow Principal Architect Joe Grant, who has completed over 100 restores in his more than 10 years as an Oracle DBA for his insights regarding best practices for backups and recoverability.   Read More

An Interview - Backups & Recoverability - Part 2
by Jim Hannan, Principal Architect
     Joe Grant, Principal Architect

In the second part of their interview, Jim and Joe discuss what makes up a good RMAN backup script, how to get started with RMAN, what constitutes a good recovery strategy, and Joe's thoughts on opening a service request (SR) during a restore event.   Read More

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