

# VMware Validated Designs v5.0 on Dell EMC VxRail Appliance

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## Planning Guide

### Abstract

This planning guide provides detailed information about the software, tools, and external services that are required to implement a standard Software-Defined Data Center (SDDC) on Dell EMC VxRail hyper-converged infrastructure appliances.

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## Document purpose

This planning guide provides detailed information about the software, tools, and external services that are required to implement a Standard Software-Defined Data Center (SDDC) on Dell EMC VxRail hyper-converged infrastructure appliances.

Two VxRail clusters support the VVD standard design in which management and tenant workloads run in different workload domains.

Before you start deploying the components of this VMware Validated Design, you must set up a VxRail environment that has a specific compute, storage, and network configuration, and that provides services to the components of the SDDC. Carefully review this documentation at least two weeks ahead of deployment to avoid costly rework and delays.

## Audience

This planning guide is intended for cloud architects, infrastructure administrators, and cloud administrators who are familiar with and want to use VMware software to deploy and manage a VxRail SDDC that meets the requirements for capacity, scalability, backup and restore, and extensibility for disaster recovery support.

## Required software

Ensure that your environment meets the requirements for this deployment.

### Dell EMC software

The products described in this document have been validated with the VxRail 4.7.110 software release. VVD 5.0 is supported on VxRail 4.7.110 and later release versions.

### VMware software

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#### Note

This installation requires vCenter Appliance 6.7 U1b 11726888.

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Download and license the following VMware scripts and tools:

**Table 1** VMware scripts and tools

SDDC Layer	Product Group	Script/Tool	Download Location	Description
SDDC	VMware Validated Design Cloud Builder	Deployment Parameters XLS files: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Region A: vvd-rega-deployment-parameter.xlsx</li><li>Region B: vvd-regb-deployment-parameter.xlsx</li></ul>	Downloadable through <a href="https://myvmware.com">myvmware.com</a> or through VMware Validated Design Cloud Builder UI.	The Deployment Parameters XLS files are excel workbooks populated with the custom environment configuration. You use these files to generate the necessary run parameters for automated deployment of SDDC components.
SDDC	All	CertGenVVD 3.0.4	<a href="#">VMware Knowledge Base article 2146215</a>	Use this tool to generate Certificate Signing Request

**Table 1** VMware scripts and tools (continued)

SDDC Layer	Product Group	Script/Tool	Download Location	Description
				(CSR), OpenSSL CA-signed certificates, and Microsoft CA-signed certificates for all VMware products that are included in the VMware Validated Design. In the context of VMware Validated Design, use the CertGenVVD tool to save time in creating signed certificates.

The *VMware Validated Design for Software-Defined Data Center Release Notes* provides more information about supported product versions.

#### Other software

Download and license the following third-party software products.

**Table 2** Required third-party software

SDDC Layer	Required by VMware Component	Vendor	Product Item	Product Version
Virtual Infrastructure	Windows host machine in the data center that has access to the ESXi management network.	Microsoft	Any Supported	Operating system for VxRail and VVD deployment.
Cloud Management	vRealize Automation	Microsoft	Windows 2016	Windows Server 2016 (64-bit)
		Microsoft	SQL Server 2017	SQL Server 2017 Standard or higher edition (64-bit)
		Redhat	Red Hat Enterprise Linux 6	Red Hat Enterprise Linux 6 (64-bit)
Business Continuity	Site Recovery Manager	Microsoft	Windows 2016	Windows Server 2016 (64-bit)

## Hardware requirements

VVD is qualified to run on VxRail nodes that satisfy the requirements in this section.

### Management Workload Domain

Dual-region or single-region SDDC requires the management workload domain in each region to contain a management cluster that meets the following hardware requirements.

**Table 3** Hardware Requirements for the Management Cluster per Region

Component	Requirement per Region
Servers	Four VxRail P or E nodes. For more information, see the <a href="#">VMware Compatibility Guide</a> .
CPU per server	Dual-socket, 8 cores per socket
Memory per server	192 GB
Storage per server	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>16 GB SSD for booting</li> <li>300 GB of Flash Device capacity for the caching tier <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Class D Endurance</li> <li>Class E Performance</li> </ul> </li> <li>6 TB of magnetic HDD capacity for the capacity tier <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10K RPM</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>See <a href="#">Designing and Sizing a vSAN Cluster</a> from the VMware vSAN documentation for guidelines about cache sizing.</p>
NICs per server	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Four 10 GbE or two 25 GbE NDC NICs</li> <li>One 1 GbE BMC NIC</li> </ul>

## Virtual Infrastructure Workload Domain

In a dual-region or single-region SDDC, the virtual infrastructure workload domain contains shared-edge and compute clusters, which must meet certain requirements.

Ensure that your infrastructure meets the requirements listed in the following table.

**Table 4** Hardware Requirements for the Shared Edge and Compute Cluster per Region

Component	Requirement per Region
Servers	Four 14G VxRail nodes
CPU, memory, and storage per server	Supported configurations
NICs per server	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Four 10 GbE or 25 GbE NICs</li> <li>One 1 GbE BMC NIC</li> </ul>

For information about supported servers, CPU, storage, IO devices, and so on, see vSAN Ready Nodes in the [VMware Compatibility Guide](#).

### Note

If you scale out the environment with compute-only clusters, each server must meet the same requirements as a server in the shared edge and compute cluster. You can use as many compute servers as required.

## Primary Storage Options

This design uses and is validated against vSAN as primary storage. However, in a workload domain you can use a supported storage solution that matches the requirements of your organization. Verify that the storage design supports the capacity and performance capabilities of the vSAN configuration in this design. Appropriately adjust the deployment and operational guidance.

## External Services

Before you deploy the components of this VVD, you must provide a set of external services.

The required external services include Active Directory (AD), Dynamic Host Control Protocol (DHCP), Domain Name Services (DNS), Network Time Protocol (NTP), Simple Mail Transport Protocol (SMTP) Mail Relay, File Transfer Protocol (FTP), and Certificate Authority (CA).

### Active Directory

This VMware Validated Design uses Active Directory (AD) for authentication and authorization to resources in the `rainpole.local` domain.

For a multi-region deployment, use a domain and forest structure to store and manage Active Directory objects per region.

**Table 5** Active Directory Requirements

Requirement	Domain Instance	DNS Zone	Description
Active Directory configuration	Parent Active Directory	rainpole.local	Contains Domain Name System (DNS) server, time server, and universal groups that contain global groups from the child domains and are members of local groups in the child domains.
	Region-A child Active Directory	sfo01.rainpole.local	Contains DNS records that replicate to all DNS servers in the forest. This child domain contains all SDDC users, and global and local groups.
	Region-B child Active Directory	lax01.rainpole.local	Contains DNS records that replicate to all DNS servers in the forest. This child domain contains all SDDC users, and global and local groups.
Active Directory users and groups	-		All user accounts and groups from the <a href="#">Active Directory users and groups</a> on page 24 documentation must exist in the Active Directory before installing and configuring the SDDC.
Active Directory connectivity	-		All Active Directory domain controllers must be accessible by all management components within the SDDC.

### DHCP

This Validated Design requires Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP) support for the configuration of each VMkernel port of an ESXi host with an IPv4 address. The configuration includes the VMkernel ports for the VXLAN (VTEP).

**Table 6** DHCP Requirements

Requirement	Description
DHCP server	The subnets and associated VLANs that provide IPv4 transport for VXLAN (VTEP) VMkernel ports must be configured for IPv4 address auto-assignment by using DHCP.

## DNS

For a multi-region deployment, you must provide a root and child domains that contain separate DNS records.

**Table 7** DNS Server Requirements

Requirement	Domain Instance	Description
DNS host entries	rainpole.local	Resides in the rainpole.local domain.
	sfo01.rainpole.local and lax01.rainpole.local	Reside in the sfo01.rainpole.local and lax01.rainpole.local domains.  Configure both DNS servers with the following settings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dynamic updates for the domain set to <b>Nonsecure and secure</b>.</li> <li>Zone replication scope for the domain set to <b>All DNS server in this forest</b>.</li> <li>Create all hosts listed in the <a href="#">Host names and IP addresses in Region A</a> on page 13 documentation.</li> </ul>

If you configure the DNS servers correctly, all nodes from the Validated Design are resolvable by FQDN as well as IP address.

## NTP

All components in the SDDC must be synchronized against a common time by using the Network Time Protocol (NTP) on all nodes. Important components of the SDDC, such as vCenter Single Sign-On, are sensitive to a time drift between distributed components. See [Time synchronization](#) on page 23.

**Table 8** NTP Server Requirements

Requirement	Description
NTP	An NTP source, for example, on a Layer 3 switch or router, must be available and accessible from all nodes of the SDDC.  Use the ToR switches in the Management Workload Domain as the NTP servers or the upstream physical router. These switches should synchronize with different upstream NTP servers and provide time synchronization capabilities in the SDDC. As a best practice, make the NTP servers available under a friendly FQDN, for example, ntp.sfo01.rainpole.local.



### SMTP Mail Relay

Certain components of the SDDC send status messages to operators and end users by email.

**Table 9** SMTP Server Requirements

Requirement	Description
SMTP mail relay	An open mail relay instance, which does not require user name-password authentication, must be reachable from each SDDC component over plain SMTP (no SSL/TLS encryption). As a best practice, limit the relay function to the IP range of the SDDC deployment.

### Certificate Authority

The majority of the components of the SDDC require SSL certificates for secure operation. The certificates must be signed by an internal enterprise CA or by a third-party commercial CA. In either case, the CA must be able to sign a Certificate Signing Request (CSR) and return the signed certificate. All endpoints within the enterprise must also trust the root CA of the CA.

**Table 10** Certificate Authority Requirements

Requirement	Description
Certificate Authority	<p>CA must be able to ingest a Certificate Signing Request (CSR) from the SDDC components and issue a signed certificate.</p> <p>For this VMware Validated Design, use the Microsoft Windows Enterprise CA that is available in the Windows Server 2012 R2 operating system of a root domain controller. The domain controller must be configured with the Certificate Authority Service and the Certificate Authority Web Enrollment roles.</p>

### SFTP Server

Dedicate space on a remote SFTP server to save data backups for the NSX Manager instances in the SDDC.

**Table 11** SFTP Server Requirements

Requirement	Description
SFTP server	An SFTP server must host NSX Manager backups. The server must support SFTP and FTP. NSX Manager instances must have connection to the remote SFTP server.

### Windows Host Machine

Provide a Microsoft Windows virtual machine or physical server that works as an entry point to the data center.

**Table 12** Windows Host Machine Requirements

Requirement	Description
Windows host machine	Microsoft Windows virtual machine or physical server must be available to provide connection to the data center and store software downloads. The host must be connected to the external network and to the VxRail management network.

## Physical network requirements

Before you can deploy the SDDC, you must provide the physical network configuration.

The following table lists the required network configurations.

**Table 13** SDDC physical network requirements

Requirement	Feature
IGMP snooping querier	Required for the following traffic types: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>VXLAN</li> <li>VxRail Management</li> </ul>
Jumbo frames	Required for the following traffic types: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>vSAN</li> <li>vSphere vMotion</li> <li>VXLAN</li> <li>vSphere Replication</li> <li>NFS</li> </ul>
BGP adjacency and BGP autonomous system (AS) numbers	Dynamic routing in the SDDC

## VLANs, IP subnets, and application virtual networks

Before you start deploying the SDDC, you must allocate VLANs and IP subnets to the different types of traffic in the SDDC, such as ESXi management, vSphere vMotion, and others. You must plan separate IP subnets for application virtual networks.

### VLAN IDs and IP subnets

This VxRail deployment and VMware Validated Design requires that you allocate certain VLAN IDs and IP subnets for the traffic types in the SDDC.

#### Note

Use these VLAN IDs and IP subnets as examples. Configure the actual VLAN IDs and IP subnets according to your environment.

### VLANs and IP subnets in Region A

To meet the requirements of this VMware Validated Design, you must have VLANs and IP subnets in Region A as described in the following table.

**Table 14** VLAN and IP Subnet Configuration in Region A

Cluster in Region A	VLAN Function	VLAN ID	Portgroup Name	Subnet	Gateway
Management Cluster	Management network	1611	sfo01-m01-vds01-management	172.16.11.0/24	172.16.11.253
	vMotion	1612	sfo01-m01-vds01-vmotion	172.16.12.0/24	172.16.12.253
	vSAN	1613	sfo01-m01-vds01-vsan	172.16.13.0/24	172.16.13.253
	VXLAN	1614	VXLAN (VTEP) - DHCP Network	172.16.14.0/24	172.16.14.253
	NFS	1615	sfo01-m01-vds01-nfs	172.16.15.0/24	172.16.15.253
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>vSphere Replication</li><li>vSphere Replication NFC</li></ul>	1616	sfo01-m01-vds01-replication	172.16.16.0/24	172.16.16.253
	Uplink01	2711	sfo01-m01-vds01-uplink01	172.27.11.0/24	172.27.11.253
	Uplink02	2712	sfo01-m01-vds01-uplink02	172.27.12.0/24	172.27.12.253
Shared Edge and Compute Cluster	Management	1631	sfo01-w01-vds01-management	172.16.31.0/24	172.16.31.253
	vMotion	1632	sfo01-w01-vds01-vmotion	172.16.32.0/24	172.16.32.253
	vSAN	1633	sfo01-w01-vds01-vsan	172.16.33.0/24	172.16.33.253
	VXLAN	1634	VXLAN (VTEP) - DHCP Network	172.16.34.0/24	172.16.34.253
	NFS	1625	sfo01-w01-vds01-nfs	172.16.25.0/24	172.16.25.253
	Uplink01	1635	sfo01-w01-vds01-uplink01	172.16.35.0/24	172.16.35.253
	Uplink02	2713	sfo01-w01-vds01-uplink02 S	172.27.13.0/24	172.27.13.253

### VLAN IDs and IP subnets in Region B

If you expand your design to two regions later, you must have VLANs and IP subnets in Region B, as described in the following table.

**Table 15** VLAN and IP Subnet Configuration in Region B

Clusters in Region B	VLAN Function	VLAN ID	Portgroup Name	Subnet	Gateway
Management Cluster	Management	1711	lax01-m01-vds01-management	172.17.11.0/24	172.17.11.253
	vMotion	1712	lax01-m01-vds01-vmotion	172.17.12.0/24	172.17.12.253
	vSAN	1713	lax01-m01-vds01-vsan	172.17.13.0/24	172.17.13.253
	VXLAN	1714	VXLAN (VTEP) - DHCP Network	172.17.14.0/24	172.17.14.253
	NFS	1715	lax01-m01-vds01-nfs	172.17.15.0/24	172.17.15.253
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>vSphere Replication</li> <li>vSphere Replication NFC</li> </ul>	1716	lax01-m01-vds01-replication	172.17.16.0/24	172.17.16.253
	Uplink01	2714	lax01-m01-vds01-uplink01	172.27.14.0/24	172.27.14.253
	Uplink02	2715	lax01-m01-vds01-uplink02	172.27.15.0/24	172.27.15.253
Shared Edge and Compute Cluster	ESXi Management	1731	lax01-w01-vds01-management	172.17.31.0/24	172.17.31.253
	vSphere vMotion	1732	lax01-w01-vds01-vmotion	172.17.32.0/24	172.17.32.253
	vSAN	1733	lax01-w01-vds01-vsan	172.17.33.0/24	172.17.33.253
	VXLAN	1734	VXLAN (VTEP) - DHCP Network	172.17.34.0/24	172.17.34.253
	NFS	1725	lax01-w01-vds01-nfs	172.17.25.0/24	172.17.25.253
	Uplink01	1735	lax01-w01-vds01-uplink01	172.17.35.0/24	172.17.35.253
	Uplink02	2721	lax01-w01-vds01-uplink02	172.27.21.0/24	172.27.21.253

## Names and IP subnets of application virtual networks

You must allocate an IP subnet to each application virtual network and the management applications that are in this network.

### Note

Use these IP subnets as samples. Configure the actual IP subnets according to your environment.

The following table lists the subnet addresses for region A and region B.

**Table 16** IP subnets for the application virtual networks

Application Virtual Network	Subnet in Region A	Subnet in Region B
Mgmt-xRegion01-VXLAN	192.168.11.0/24	192.168.11.0/24
Mgmt-RegionA01-VXLAN	192.168.31.0/24	-
Mgmt-RegionB01-VXLAN	-	192.168.32.0/24

## Host names and IP addresses

Before you deploy the SDDC following this VMware Validated Design, you must define the host names and IP addresses for each of the management components deployed. Some of these host names must also be configured in DNS with a fully qualified domain names (FQDN) that maps the hostname to the IP address.

In a multi-region deployment with domain and forest structure, you must assign IP subnets and DNS configuration to each sub-domain, `sfo01.rainpole.local` and `lax01.rainpole.local`. The only DNS entries that reside in the `rainpole.local` domain are the records for the virtual machines within the network containers that support disaster recovery failover between regions such as vRealize Automation and vRealize Operations Manager.

### Host names and IP addresses in Region A

In Region A of the SDDC, you must define the host names and IP addresses of the management components before the SDDC deployment. For some components, you must configure fully qualified domain names (FQDN) that map to their IP addresses on the DNS servers.

#### Host names and IP addresses for external services in Region A

Allocate host names and IP addresses to all external services required by the SDDC according to this VMware Validated Design.

Allocate host names and IP addresses to the following components in Region A and configure DNS with an FQDN that maps to the IP address where defined:

Components	Requires DNS Configuration
NTP	X
Active Directory	X

**Table 17** Host Names and IP Addresses for the External Services

Component Group	Host Name	DNS Zone	IP Address	Description
NTP	ntp	sfo01.rainpole.local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>172.16.11.251</li><li>172.16.11.252</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>NTP server selected using Round Robin</li><li>NTP server on a ToR switch in the management cluster</li></ul>
	0.ntp	sfo01.rainpole.local	172.16.11.251	NTP server on a ToR switch
	1.ntp	sfo01.rainpole.local	172.16.11.252	NTP server on a ToR switch
AD/DNS/CA	dc01rpl	rainpole.local	172.16.11.4	Windows 2016 host that contains the Active Directory configuration and DNS server for the <code>rainpole.local</code> domain, and the Microsoft Certificate Authority for signing management SSL certificates.

**Table 17** Host Names and IP Addresses for the External Services (continued)

Component Group	Host Name	DNS Zone	IP Address	Description
	dc01sfo	sfo01.rainpole.local	172.16.11.5	Active Directory and DNS server for the sfo01 child domain.

## Host names and IP addresses for the virtual infrastructure layer in Region A

Allocate host names and IP addresses to all components you deploy for the virtual infrastructure layer of the SDDC according to this VMware Validated Design.

Allocate host names and IP addresses to the following components in Region A and configure DNS with an FQDN that maps to the IP address where defined:

Components	Requires DNS Configuration
VMware Cloud Builder	X
Platform Services Controllers	X
vCenter Servers	X
NSX Managers	X
NSX Edge Services Gateways	-

**Table 18** Host Names and IP Addresses for the virtual infrastructure layer in Region A

Component Group	Host Name	DNS Zone	IP Address	Description
VMware Cloud Builder	sfo01cb01	sfo01.rainpole.local	172.16.11.60	Automation appliance for deployment and configuration of SDDC components in Region A
vSphere	sfo01m01psc01	sfo01.rainpole.local	172.16.11.61	Platform Services Controller for the management cluster
	sfo01m01vc01	sfo01.rainpole.local	172.16.11.62	Management vCenter Server
	sfo01m01esx01	sfo01.rainpole.local	172.16.11.101	ESXi hosts in the management cluster
	sfo01m01esx02	sfo01.rainpole.local	172.16.11.102	
	sfo01m01esx02	sfo01.rainpole.local	172.16.11.103	
	sfo01m01esx04	sfo01.rainpole.local	172.16.11.104	
	sfo01w01psc01	sfo01.rainpole.local	172.16.11.63	Platform Services Controller for the shared edge and compute cluster
	sfo01w01psc01	sfo01.rainpole.local	172.16.11.64	Compute vCenter Server
	sfo01w01esx01	sfo01.rainpole.local	172.16.31.101	ESXi hosts in the shared edge and compute cluster
	sfo01w01esx02	sfo01.rainpole.local	172.16.31.102	
	sfo01w01esx03	sfo01.rainpole.local	172.16.31.103	
	sfo01w01esx04	sfo01.rainpole.local	172.16.31.104	

**Table 18** Host Names and IP Addresses for the virtual infrastructure layer in Region A (continued)

Component Group	Host Name	DNS Zone	IP Address	Description
NSX for vSphere	sfo01m01nsx01	sfo01.rainpole.local	172.16.11.65	NSX Manager for the management cluster
	sfo01m01nsxc01	-	172.16.11.118	NSX Controller instances for the management cluster
	sfo01m01nsxc02	-	172.16.11.119	
	sfo01m01nsxc03	-	172.16.11.120	
	sfo01w01nsx01	sfo01.rainpole.local	172.16.11.66	NSX Manager for the shared edge and compute cluster
	sfo01w01nsxc01	-	172.16.31.118	NSX Controller instances for the shared edge and compute cluster
	sfo01w01nsxc02	-	172.16.31.119	
	sfo01w01nsxc03	-	172.16.31.120	
	sfo01psc01	sfo01.rainpole.local	172.16.11.71	NSX Edge device for load balancing the Platform Services Controller instances
	sfo01m01lb01	-	192.168.11.2	NSX Edge device for load balancing management applications
	sfo01m01esg01	-	172.27.11.2 172.27.12.3 192.168.10.1	ECMP-enabled NSX Edge device for North-South management traffic
	sfo01m01esg02	-	172.27.11.3 172.27.12.2 192.168.10.2	ECMP-enabled NSX Edge device for North-South management traffic
	sfo01m01udlr01	-	192.168.10.3 192.168.11.1 192.168.31.1	Universal Distributed Logical Router (UDLR) for East-West management traffic
	sfo01w01esg01	-	172.16.35.2 172.27.13.3 192.168.100.1 192.168.101.1	ECMP-enabled NSX Edge device for North-South compute and edge traffic
	sfo01w01esg02	-	172.16.35.3 172.27.13.2 192.168.100.2 192.168.101.2	ECMP-enabled NSX Edge device for North-South compute and edge traffic

**Table 18** Host Names and IP Addresses for the virtual infrastructure layer in Region A (continued)

Component Group	Host Name	DNS Zone	IP Address	Description
	sfo01w01udlr01	-	192.168.100.3	Universal Distributed Logical Router (UDLR) for East-West compute and edge traffic
	sfo01w01dlr01	-	192.168.101.3	Distributed Logical Router (DLR) for East-West compute and edge traffic

## Host names and IP addresses for the operations management layer in Region A

Allocate host names and IP addresses to all components you deploy for the operations management layer of the SDDC according to this VMware Validated Design.

Allocate host names and IP addresses to the following components in Region A and configure DNS with an FQDN that maps to the IP address where defined:

Components	Requires DNS Configuration
vRealize Suite Lifecycle Manager	X
vRealize Operations Manager	X
vRealize Log Insight	X

**Table 19** Host Names and IP Addresses for Operations Management Layer in Region A

Component Group	Host Name	DNS Zone	IP Address	Description
vRealize Suite Lifecycle Manager	vrslcm01svr01a	rainpole.local	192.168.11.20	vRealize Suite Lifecycle Manager Appliance
vRealize Operations Manager	vrops01svr01	rainpole.local	192.168.11.35	VIP address of load balancer for the analytics cluster of vRealize Operations Manager
	vrops01svr01a	rainpole.local	192.168.11.31	Master node of vRealize Operations Manager
	vrops01svr01b	rainpole.local	192.168.11.32	Master replica node of vRealize Operations Manager
	vrops01svr01c	rainpole.local	192.168.11.33	Data node 1 of vRealize Operations Manager
	sfo01vropsc01a	sfo01.rainpole.local	192.168.31.31	Remote Collector 1 of vRealize Operations Manager
	sfo01vropsc01b	sfo01.rainpole.local	192.168.31.32	Remote Collector 2 of vRealize Operations Manager
vRealize Log Insight	sfo01vrli01	sfo01.rainpole.local	192.168.31.10	VIP address of the integrated load balancer of vRealize Log Insight
	sfo01vrli01a	sfo01.rainpole.local	192.168.31.11	Master node of vRealize Log Insight



**Table 19** Host Names and IP Addresses for Operations Management Layer in Region A (continued)

Component Group	Host Name	DNS Zone	IP Address	Description
	sfo01vrli01b	sfo01.rainpole.local	192.168.31.12	Worker node 1 of vRealize Log Insight
	sfo01vrli01c	sfo01.rainpole.local	192.168.31.13	Worker node 2 of vRealize Log Insight

## Host names and IP addresses for the cloud management layer in Region A

Allocate host names and IP addresses to all components you deploy for the cloud management layer of the SDDC according to this VMware Validated Design.

Allocate host names and IP addresses to the following components in Region A and configure DNS with an FQDN that maps to the IP address where defined:

Components	Requires DNS Configuration
vRealize Automation	X
Microsoft SQL Server for vRealize Automation	X
vRealize Business for Cloud	X

**Table 20** Host names and IP addresses for the cloud management layer in Region A

Component Group	Host Name	DNS Zone	IP Address	Description
vRealize Automation	vra01svr01a	rainpole.local	192.168.11.51	vRealize Automation Server Appliances
	vra01svr01b	rainpole.local	192.168.11.52	
	vra01svr01c	rainpole.local	192.168.11.50	
	vra01svr01	rainpole.local	192.168.11.53	VIP address of the vRealize Automation Server
	vra01iws01a	rainpole.local	192.168.11.54	vRealize Automation IaaS Web Servers
	vra01iws01b	rainpole.local	192.168.11.55	
	vra01iws01	rainpole.local	192.168.11.56	VIP address of the vRealize Automation IaaS Web Server
	vra01ims01a	rainpole.local	192.168.11.57	vRealize Automation IaaS Manager Service and DEM Orchestrators
	vra01ims01b	rainpole.local	192.168.11.58	
	vra01ims01	rainpole.local	192.168.11.59	VIP address of the vRealize Automation IaaS Manager Service

**Table 20** Host names and IP addresses for the cloud management layer in Region A (continued)

Component Group	Host Name	DNS Zone	IP Address	Description
	vra01dem01a	rainpole.local	192.168.11.60	vRealize Automation DEM Workers
	vra01dem01b	rainpole.local	192.168.11.61	
	sfo01ias01a	sfo01.rainpole.local	192.168.31.52	vRealize Automation Proxy Agents
	sfo01ias01b	sfo01.rainpole.local	192.168.31.53	
Microsoft SQL Server	vra01mssql01	rainpole.local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>172.16.11.72 (VM Network)</li> <li>192.168.11.62 (VXLAN)</li> </ul>	Microsoft SQL Server for vRealize Automation
vRealize Business for Cloud	vr01svr01	rainpole.local	192.168.11.66	vRealize Business for Cloud Server Appliance
	sfo01vrbc01	sfo01.rainpole.local	192.168.31.54	vRealize Business for Cloud Data Collector

## Host names and IP addresses for the business continuity layer in Region A (dual-region deployment)

Allocate host names and IP addresses to all components you deploy for the business continuity layer of the SDDC according to this VMware Validated Design.

For a dual-region SDDC, allocate host names and IP addresses to the nodes that run Site Recovery Manager and vSphere Replication in Region A and configure DNS with an FQDN that maps to the IP address where defined:

Components	Requires DNS configuration
Site Recovery Manager	X
vSphere Replication	X

**Table 21** Host Names and IP Addresses for the Business Continuity Layer in Region A

Component group	Host name	DNS zone	IP address	Description
Site Recovery Manager	sfo01m01srm01	sfo01.rainpole.local	172.16.11.124	Site Recovery Manager connected to the Management vCenter Server
vSphere Replication	sfo01m01vrms01	sfo01.rainpole.local	172.16.11.123	vSphere Replication connected to the Management vCenter Server

## Host names and IP addresses in Region B

In Region B of the SDDC, you must define the host names and IP addresses of the management components before the SDDC deployment. You must configure fully

qualified domain names (FQDNs) that map to component IP addresses on the DNS servers.

## Host names and IP addresses for external services in Region B

Allocate host names and IP addresses to all external services required by the SDDC according to this VMware Validated Design.

Allocate host names and IP addresses to the following components in Region B and configure DNS with an FQDN that maps to the IP address where defined:

Components	Requires DNS configuration
NTP	X
Active Directory	X

**Table 22** Host names and IP addresses for the external services

Component group	Host name	DNS zone	IP address	Description
NTP	ntp	lax01.rainpole.local	172.17.11.251 172.17.11.252	NTP server selected using Round Robin
	0.ntp	lax01.rainpole.local	172.17.11.251	NTP server on a ToR switch
	1.ntp	lax01.rainpole.local	172.17.11.252	NTP server on a ToR switch
AD/DNS/CA	dc51rpl	rainpole.local	172.17.11.4	Windows 2016 host that contains the Active Directory configuration and DNS server for the <code>rainpole.local</code> domain, and the Microsoft Certificate Authority for signing management SSL certificates.
	dc51lax	lax01.rainpole.local	172.16.11.5	Active Directory and DNS server for the <code>sfo01</code> child domain.

## Host names and IP addresses for the virtual infrastructure layer in Region B

Allocate host names and IP addresses to all components you will deploy for the virtual infrastructure layer of the SDDC.

Allocate host names and IP addresses to the following components in Region B and configure DNS with an FQDN that maps to the IP address where defined:

Components	Requires DNS configuration
VMware Cloud Builder	X
Platform Services Controllers	X
vCenter Servers	X

Components	Requires DNS configuration
NSX Managers	X
NSX Edge Services Gateways	-

**Table 23** Host names and IP addresses for the virtual infrastructure layer in Region B

Component group	Host name	DNS zone	IP address	Description
VMware Cloud Builder	lax01cb01	lax01.rainpole.local	172.17.11.60	Automation appliance for deployment and configuration of SDDC components in Region B
vSphere	lax01m01psc01	lax01.rainpole.local	172.17.11.61	Platform Services Controller for the management cluster
	lax01m01vc01	lax01.rainpole.local	172.17.11.62	Management vCenter Server
	lax01m01esx01	lax01.rainpole.local	172.17.11.101	ESXi hosts in the VxRail management cluster
	lax01m01esx02	lax01.rainpole.local	172.17.11.102	
	lax01m01esx03	lax01.rainpole.local	172.17.11.103	
	lax01m01esx04	lax01.rainpole.local	172.17.11.104	
	lax01w01psc01	lax01.rainpole.local	172.17.11.63	Platform Services Controller for the shared edge and compute cluster
	lax01w01vc01	lax01.rainpole.local	172.17.11.64	Compute vCenter Server
	lax01w01esx01	lax01.rainpole.local	172.17.31.101	ESXi hosts in the VxRail shared edge and compute cluster
	lax01w01esx02	lax01.rainpole.local	172.17.31.102	
	lax01w01esx03	lax01.rainpole.local	172.17.31.103	
	lax01w01esx04	lax01.rainpole.local	172.17.31.104	
NSX for vSphere	lax01m01nsx01	lax01.rainpole.local	172.17.11.65	NSX Manager for the management cluster
	lax01m01nsxc01	-	172.17.11.118	NSX Controller instances for the management cluster
	lax01m01nsxc02	-	172.17.11.119	
	lax01m01nsxc03	-	172.17.11.120	
	lax01w01nsx01	lax01.rainpole.local	172.17.11.66	NSX Manager for the shared edge and compute cluster
	lax01w01nsxc01	-	172.17.31.118	NSX Controller instances for the shared edge and compute cluster
	lax01w01nsxc02	-	172.17.31.119	
	lax01w01nsxc03	-	172.17.31.120	
	lax01psc01	lax01.rainpole.local	172.17.11.71	NSX Edge device for load balancing the Platform Services Controller instances
	lax01m01esg01	-	172.27.14.2 172.27.15.3 192.168.10.50	ECMP-enabled NSX Edge device for North-South management traffic

**Table 23** Host names and IP addresses for the virtual infrastructure layer in Region B (continued)

Component group	Host name	DNS zone	IP address	Description
	lax01m01esg02	-	172.27.14.3 172.27.15.2 192.168.10.51	ECMP-enabled NSX Edge device for North-South management traffic
	lax01w01esg01	-	172.17.35.2 172.27.21.3 192.168.100.50 192.168.102.1	ECMP-enabled NSX Edge device for North-South compute and edge traffic
	lax01w01esg02	-	172.17.35.3 172.27.21.2 192.168.100.51 192.168.102.2	ECMP-enabled NSX Edge device for North-South compute and edge traffic
	lax01w01dlr01	-	192.168.102.3	Distributed Logical Router (DLR) for East-West compute and edge traffic.
	lax01m01lb01	-	192.168.11.2	NSX Edge device for load balancing management applications

## Host names and IP addresses for the operations management layer in Region B

Allocate host names and IP addresses to all components you will deploy for the operations management layer of the SDDC.

Allocate host names and IP addresses to the following components in Region B and configure DNS with an FQDN that maps to the IP address where defined:

Components	Requires DNS configuration
vRealize Operations Manager	X
vRealize Log Insight	X

**Table 24** Host Names and IP Addresses for Data Protection and Operations Management Layer in Region B

Component group	Host name	DNS zone	IP address	Description
vRealize Operations Manager	lax01vropsc01a	lax01.rainpole.local	192.168.32.31	Remote Collector 1 of vRealize Operations Manager
	lax01vropsc01b	lax01.rainpole.local	192.168.32.32	Remote Collector 2 of vRealize Operations Manager
vRealize Log Insight	lax01vrli01	lax01.rainpole.local	192.168.32.10	VIP address of the integrated load balancer of vRealize Log Insight
	lax01vrli01a	lax01.rainpole.local	192.168.32.11	Master node of vRealize Log Insight

**Table 24** Host Names and IP Addresses for Data Protection and Operations Management Layer in Region B (continued)

Component group	Host name	DNS zone	IP address	Description
	lax01vrli01b	lax01.rainpole.local	192.168.32.12	Worker node 1 of vRealize Log Insight
	lax01vrli01c	lax01.rainpole.local	192.168.32.13	Worker node 2 of vRealize Log Insight

## Host names and IP addresses for the cloud management layer in Region B

Allocate host names and IP addresses to all components you will deploy for the cloud management layer of the SDDC.

Allocate host names and IP addresses to each of the following components in Region B and configure DNS with an FQDN that maps to the IP address where defined:

Components	Requires DNS configuration
vRealize Automation	X
vRealize Business for Cloud	X

**Table 25** Host Names and IP Addresses for the Cloud Management Components in Region B

Component group	Host name	DNS zone	IP address	Description
vRealize Automation	lax01ias01a	lax01.rainpole.local	192.168.32.52	vRealize Automation Proxy Agents
	lax01ias01b	lax01.rainpole.local	192.168.32.53	
vRealize Business for Cloud	lax01vrbc01	lax01.rainpole.local	192.168.32.54	vRealize Business for Cloud Data Collector

## Host names and IP addresses for the business continuity layer in Region B

Allocate host names and IP addresses to all components you will deploy for the business continuity layer of the SDDC.

For a dual-region SDDC, allocate host names and IP addresses to the nodes that run Site Recovery Manager and vSphere Replication in Region B and configure DNS with an FQDN that maps to the IP address where defined:

Components	Requires DNS configuration
Site Recovery Manager	X
vSphere Replication	X

**Table 26** Host Names and IP Addresses for Disaster Recovery Applications in Region B

Component group	Host name	DNS zone	IP address	Description
Site Recovery Manager	lax01m01srm01	lax01.rainpole.local	172.17.11.124	Site Recovery Manager connected to the Management vCenter

**Table 26** Host Names and IP Addresses for Disaster Recovery Applications in Region B (continued)

Component group	Host name	DNS zone	IP address	Description
vSphere Replication	lax01m01vrms01	lax01.rainpole.local	172.17.11.123	vSphere Replication connected to the Management vCenter

## Time synchronization

Synchronized systems over NTP are essential for the validity of vCenter Single Sign-On and other certificates. Consistent system clocks are important for the proper operation of the components in the SDDC because in certain cases they rely on vCenter Single Sign-on.

Using NTP also makes it easier to correlate log files from multiple sources during troubleshooting, auditing, or inspection of log files to detect attacks.

### Requirements for time synchronization

All management components must be configured to use NTP for time synchronization.

#### NTP server configuration

- Configure two time sources per region that are external to the SDDC. These sources can be physical radio or GPS time servers, or even NTP servers running on physical routers or servers.
- Ensure that the external time servers are synchronized to different time sources to ensure desirable NTP dispersion.

#### DNS configuration

Configure a DNS Canonical Name (CNAME) record that maps the two time sources to one DNS name.

**Table 27** NTP Server FQDN and IP Configuration in Region A

NTP server FQDN	Mapped IP address
ntp.sfo01.rainpole.local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 172.16.11.251</li> <li>• 172.16.11.252</li> </ul>
0.ntp.sfo01.rainpole.local	172.16.11.251
1.ntp.sfo01.rainpole.local	172.16.11.252

**Table 28** NTP Server FQDN and IP configuration in Region B

NTP server FQDN	Mapped IP address
ntp.lax01.rainpole.local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 172.17.11.251</li> <li>• 172.17.11.252</li> </ul>
0.ntp.lax01.rainpole.local	172.17.11.251

**Table 28** NTP Server FQDN and IP configuration in Region B (continued)

NTP server FQDN	Mapped IP address
1.ntp.lax01.rainpole.local	172.17.11.252

#### Time synchronization on the SDDC nodes

- Synchronize the time with the NTP servers on the following systems:
  - AD domain controllers
  - Virtual appliances of the management applications
  - ESXi hosts - automatically set by VxRail Manager during bring up
- Configure each system with the two regional NTP server aliases
  - ntp.sfo01.rainpole.local
  - ntp.lax01.rainpole.local

#### Time synchronization on the application virtual machines

- Verify that the default configuration on the Windows VMs is active, that is, the Windows VMs are synchronized with the NTP servers.
- As a best practice, for time synchronization on virtual machines, enable NTP-based time synchronization instead of the VMware Tools periodic time synchronization because NTP is an industry standard and ensures accurate timekeeping in the guest operating system.

## Configure NTP-based time synchronization on Windows hosts

Ensure that NTP has been configured properly in your Microsoft Windows Domain.

See <https://blogs.technet.microsoft.com/nepapfe/2013/03/01/its-simple-time-configuration-in-active-directory/>.

## Active Directory users and groups

Before you deploy and configure the SDDC in this VMware Validated Design, you must provide a specific configuration of Active Directory users and groups. You use these users and groups for application login, for assigning roles in a tenant organization and for authentication in cross-application communication.

In a multi-region or single-region environment that has parent and child domains in a single forest, store service accounts in the parent domain and user accounts in each of the child domains. By using the group scope attribute of Active Directory groups, you can manage resource access across domains.

#### Active Directory Administrator Account

Certain installation and configuration tasks require a domain administrator account that is referred to as `svc-domain-join` in the Active Directory domain.

## Active Directory groups

To grant user and service accounts the access that is required to perform their task, create Active Directory groups according to certain rules.

Create Active Directory groups according to the following rules:



1. Add user and service accounts to universal groups in the parent domain.
2. Add the global groups in each child domain to the universal groups.
3. Where applicable, assign access rights and permissions to the global groups, located in the child domains, and the universal groups, located in the parent domain (rainpole.local) to specific products according to their role.

### Universal groups in the parent domain

In the `rainpole.local` domain, create the following universal groups:

**Table 29** Universal groups in the rainpole.local parent domain

Group name	Group scope	Description
ug-SDDC-Admins	Universal	Administrative group for the SDDC
ug-SDDC-Ops	Universal	SDDC operators group
ug-vCenterAdmins	Universal	Group with accounts that are assigned vCenter Server administrator privileges.
ug-vra-admins-rainpole	Universal	Tenant administrators group
ug-vra-archs-rainpole	Universal	Tenant blueprint architects group
ug-vROAdmins	Universal	Groups with vRealize Orchestrator Administrator privileges

### Global groups in the child domains

In each child domain, add the role-specific universal group from the parent domain to the relevant role-specific global group in the child domain.

**Table 30** Global Groups in the Child Domains

Group name	Group scope	Description	Member of groups
SDDC-Admins	Global	Administrative group for the SDDC	RAINPOLE\ug-SDDC-Admins
SDDC-Ops	Global	SDDC operators group	RAINPOLE\ug-SDDC-Ops
vCenterAdmins	Global	Accounts that are assigned vCenter Server administrator privileges.	RAINPOLE\ug-vCenterAdmins

## Active Directory users

A service account provides non-interactive and non-human access to services and APIs to the components of the SDDC. You must create service accounts for accessing functionality on the SDDC nodes, and user accounts for operations and tenant administration.

### Service accounts

A service account is a standard Active Directory account that you configure in the following way:

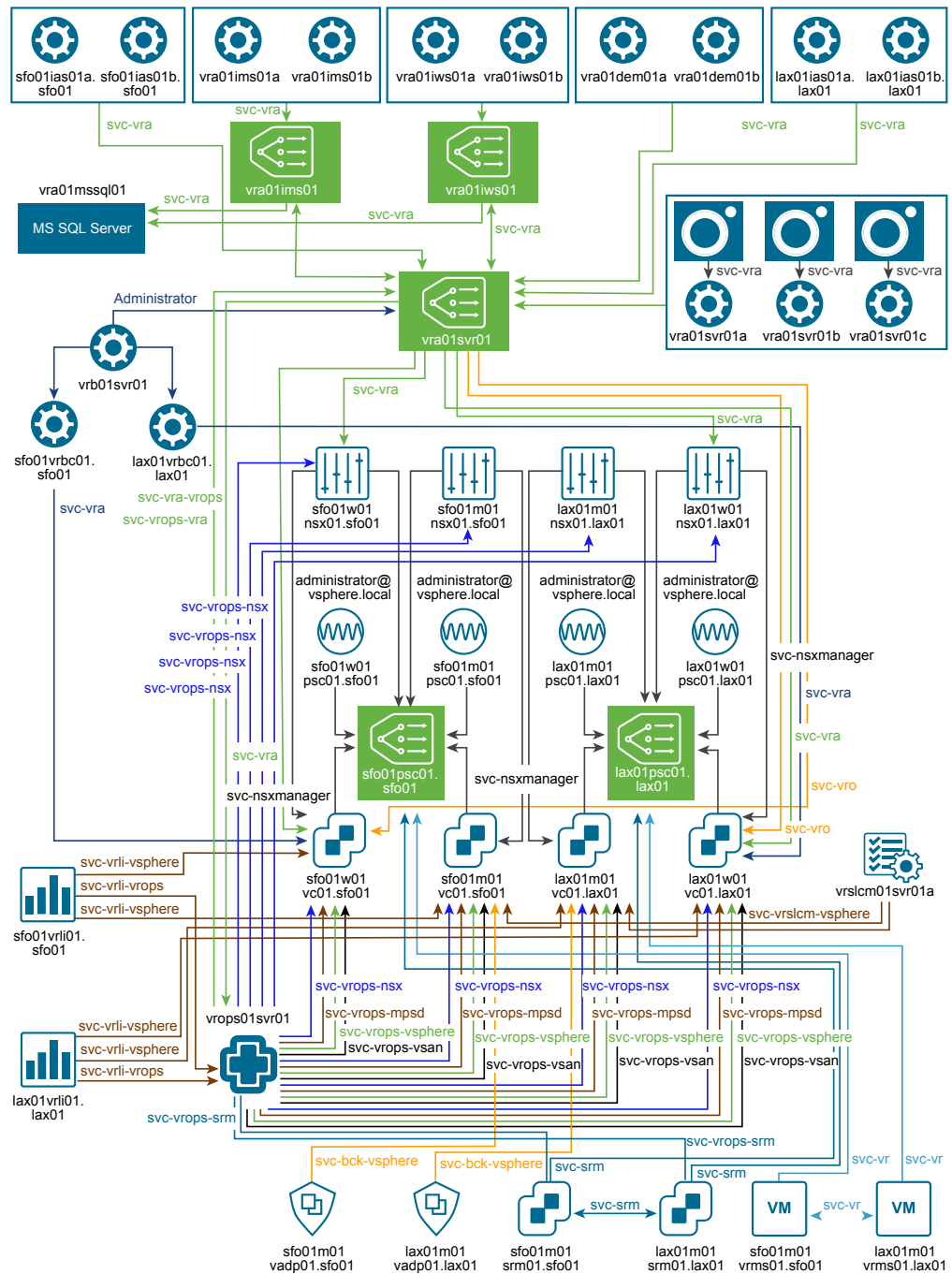
- The password never expires.
- The user cannot change the password.

In addition, a special service account is also required to perform domain join operations if a component registers itself in Active Directory as a computer object. This account must have the right to join computers to the Active Directory domain.

**Service accounts in this VMware Validated Design**

This Validated Design introduces a set of service accounts that are used in a one- or bidirectional fashion to enable secure application communication. You use custom roles to ensure that these accounts have only the least permissions that are required for authentication and data exchange.

**Figure 1** Service accounts in VMware Validated Design for Software-Defined Data Center



**Table 31** Application-to-application or application service accounts in the VMware Validated Design

User name	Source	Destination	Description	Required role
svc-domain-join	Various management components (one-time domain join action)	Active Directory	Service account for performing domain-join operations from certain SDDC management components.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Account Operators Group</li> <li>Delegation to Join Computers to Domain for parent and child domains</li> </ul>
svc-nsxmanager	NSX for vSphere Manager	vCenter Server	Service account for registering NSX Manager with vCenter Single Sign-on on the Platform Services Controller and vCenter Server	Administrator
svc-vrli	vRealize Log Insight	Active Directory	Service account for using the Active Directory as an authentication source in vRealize Log Insight	-
svc-vrli-vsphere	vRealize Log Insight	vCenter Server	Service account for connecting vRealize Log Insight to vCenter Server and ESXi for forwarding log information	Log Insight User (vCenter Server)
svc-vrli-vrops	vRealize Log Insight	vRealize Operations Manager	Service account for connecting vRealize Log Insight to vRealize Operations Manager for log forwarding, alerts, and for Launch in Context integration	Administrator
svc-vrslcm-vsphere	vRealize Suite Lifecycle Manager	vCenter Server	A service account for deploying and managing the lifecycle of vRealize Suite components on the Software-Defined Data Center management cluster	vRealize Suite Lifecycle Manager User (Custom)
svc-bck-vsphere	vSphere Storage API - Data Protection	vCenter Server	Service account for performing backups using the vSphere Storage API - Data Protection with vCenter Server for the management cluster	VADP Backup Solution Requirements
svc-srm	Site Recovery Manager	vCenter Server	Service account for connecting Site Recover Manager to vCenter Server and for pairing sites in Site Recovery Manager	Single Sign-On Administrator
svc-vr	vSphere Replication	vCenter Server	Service account for connecting vSphere Replication to vCenter Server and for pairing vSphere Replication instances	Single Sign-On Administrator
svc-vra	vRealize Automation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>vCenter Server</li> </ul>	Service account for access from vRealize Automation to vCenter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Administrator</li> </ul>

**Table 31** Application-to-application or application service accounts in the VMware Validated Design (continued)

User name	Source	Destination	Description	Required role
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>vRealize Automation</li> </ul>	Server and NSX. This account is part of the vRealize Automation setup process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>vRealize Orchestrator Administrator</li> </ul>
svc-vro	vRealize Orchestrator	vCenter Server	Service account for access from vRealize Orchestrator to vCenter Server	Administrator
svc-vrops	vRealize Operations Manager	Active Directory	Service account for integration of Active Directory in vRealize Operations Manager for user authentication	-
svc-vrops-vsphere	vRealize Operations Manager	vCenter Server	Service account for monitoring and collecting general metrics about vSphere objects, including infrastructure and virtual machines, from vCenter Server in to vRealize Operations Manager. Also to perform actions on vCenter Server objects it manages.	vSphere Actions User
svc-vrops-nsx	vRealize Operations Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>vCenter Server</li> <li>NSX for vSphere</li> </ul>	Service account that is available in the Active Directory domain and locally on NSX Manager for collecting data in vRealize Operations Manager from the NSX Manager instances about virtual networking.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read-Only (vCenter Server)</li> <li>Enterprise Administrator (NSX)</li> </ul>
svc-vrops-vsan	vRealize Operations Manager	vCenter Server	Service account for monitoring and collecting metrics about vSAN datastores from vCenter Server in to vRealize Operations Manager	MPSD Metrics User
svc-vrops-mpsd	vRealize Operations Manager	vCenter Server	Service account for storage device monitoring of the vCenter Server instances in the SDDC from vRealize Operations Manager	MPSD Metrics User
svc-vrops-srm	vRealize Operations Manager	Site Recovery Manager	Service account for monitoring site recovery of the Management vCenter Server from vRealize Operations Manager	SRM Read-only
svc-vrops-vra	vRealize Operations Manager	vRealize Automation	Service account for collecting data in vRealize Operations Manager about the workloads in vRealize Automation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IaaS Administrator</li> <li>Infrastructure Architect</li> <li>Software Architect</li> </ul>

**Table 31** Application-to-application or application service accounts in the VMware Validated Design (continued)

User name	Source	Destination	Description	Required role
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tenant Administrator</li> <li>Fabric Administrator</li> </ul>
svc-vra-vrops	vRealize Automation	vRealize Operations Manager	Service account for retrieving statistics from vRealize Operations Manager in vRealize Automation for workload reclamation	Read-Only

#### User accounts in the parent domain

Create the following user accounts in the parent Active Directory domain rainpole.local:

**Table 32** User Accounts in the rainpole.local Parent Domain

User name	Description	Service account	Member of groups
vra-admin-rainpole	Tenant administrator role in the SDDC for configuring vRealize Automation according to the needs of your organization including user and group management, tenant branding and notifications, and business policies	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RAINPOLE\ug-vra-admins-rainpole</li> <li>RAINPOLE\ug-vROAdmins</li> </ul>
vra-arch-rainpole	Tenant blueprint architect role in the SDDC for creating the blueprints that tenants request from the service catalog	No	RAINPOLE\ug-vra-archs-rainpole

#### Users in the child domains

Create the following accounts for user access in each of the child Active Directory domain to provide centralized user access to the SDDC. In the Active Directory, you do not assign any special rights to these accounts other than the default ones.

**Table 33** User accounts in the child domains

User name	Description	Service account	Member of groups
SDDC-Admin	Global administrative account across the SDDC.	No	RAINPOLE\ug-SDDC-Admins

# Datastore requirements

Certain features of the SDDC, such as back up and restore, log archiving, and content library, require a secondary storage device.

vRealize Automation supports any secondary storage device type, but vRealize Log Insight requires an NFS datastore for log archiving. VxRail does not offer native NFS storage, therefore, you must provide a validated NFS datastore to support the secondary storage requirements.

## NFS exports for management components

The management applications in the SDDC use NFS exports with the following paths:

**Table 34** NFS export configuration

Region	VLAN	Server	Export	Size	Map As	Cluster	Component
Region A	1615	172.16.15.251	/ VVD_vRLI_MgmtA_400GB	400 GB	NFS datastore for log archiving in vRealize Log Insight	Management cluster	vRealize Log Insight
	1615	172.16.15.251	/ VVD_backup01_nfs01_MgmtA_6TB	6 TB	sfo01-m01-bkp01	Management cluster	VADP-based Backup Solution
	1625	172.16.25.251	/ VVD_vRA_ComputeA_1TB	1 TB	sfo01-w01-lib01	Shared edge and compute cluster	vRealize Automation
Region B	1715	172.17.15.251	/ VVD_vRLI_MgmtB_400GB	400 GB	NFS mount for log archiving in vRealize Log Insight	Management cluster	vRealize Log Insight
	1715	172.17.15.251	/ VVD_backup01_nfs01_MgmtB_6TB	6 TB	lax01-m01-bkp01	Management cluster	VADP-based Backup Solution
	1725	172.17.25.251	/ VVD_vRA_ComputeB_1TB	1 TB	lax01-w01-lib01	Shared edge and compute cluster	vRealize Automation

## Customer-specific datastore for the shared-edge and compute clusters

Before you begin implementing your SDDC, to enable the deployment of virtual appliances that are a part of the NSX deployment you must size the resource requirements and align them with the VxRail design. VxRail is vSAN based and provides a single datastore for all of the Shared Edge and Compute resources as well as the workload VMs. Additional storage such as NFS can be used with products such as Avamar or Data Domain for workload protections. *Shared Storage Design* in the *VMware Validated Design Architecture and Design* documentation provides additional planning considerations for the storage design.

# Deployment specification

A deployment specification consists of one or more Microsoft Excel spreadsheet (XLS) files. As part of the preparation for deploying the SDDC, configure the physical infrastructure, network, storage, and external services, and obtain the product licenses. Provide this data to VMware Cloud Builder as a deployment specification.

## Complete the Deployment Parameters spreadsheet

Before you run an automated SDDC deployment by using VMware Cloud Builder, provide a deployment specification as a set of Deployment Parameters XLS files.

Configure a Deployment Parameters XLS file for each region. The parameters in the spreadsheets are pre-configured according to the VMware Validated Design documentation. Modify them according to your environment. If you use the default values, VMware Cloud Builder deploys an SDDC according to the original design in this VMware Validated Design.

### Procedure

1. Download the Deployment Parameters XLS file for each region from [my.vmware.com](https://my.vmware.com).

Region	Deployment Parameters XLS File
Region A	vvd-rega-deployment-parameter.xlsx
Region B	vvd-regb-deployment-parameter.xlsx

2. In each spreadsheet, change the pre-defined values of the deployment parameters according to the hardware, software, and external services requirements of VMware Validated Design.

**Table 35** VVD spreadsheet

Parameters	Tab in the Deployment Spreadsheet	Requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Footprint of the management workloads</li><li>• License keys</li></ul>	Management Workloads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Footprint data is automatically calculated.</li><li>• Obtain license keys for the VMware products in the management stack.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Service accounts in Active Directory and default passwords</li><li>• Default passwords for local application accounts</li></ul>	Users and Groups	<a href="#">Password complexity for application and service accounts</a> on page 33
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• VLAN ID, gateway address, MTU, and IP subnet for each network for the management cluster and for the shared edge and compute cluster</li><li>• Network-specific IP addresses for each host in the management cluster and in the shared edge and compute cluster</li></ul>	Hosts and Networks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">VLANs, IP subnets, and application virtual networks</a> on page 10</li><li>• <a href="#">Host names and IP addresses for the virtual infrastructure layer in Region A</a> on page 14</li><li>• <a href="#">Host names and IP addresses for the virtual infrastructure layer in Region B</a> on page 19</li></ul>



**Table 35** VVD spreadsheet (continued)

Parameters	Tab in the Deployment Spreadsheet	Requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deployment and configuration of the external services, such as Active Directory, DNS, and SMTP</li> <li>Deployment and configuration of the management components of the SDDC</li> </ul>	Deploy Parameters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">External Services</a> on page 7</li> <li><a href="#">Host names and IP addresses in Region A</a> on page 13</li> <li><a href="#">Host names and IP addresses in Region B</a> on page 18</li> <li><a href="#">Active Directory groups</a> on page 24</li> <li><a href="#">Active Directory users</a> on page 25</li> <li><a href="#">Requirements for time synchronization</a> on page 23</li> </ul>
Configuration of the infrastructure components for the Rainpole tenant in vRealize Automation	vRA Configuration	-
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deployment of management components and features in the SDDC</li> <li>Size configuration of the management components</li> </ul>	Run Parameters	Leave default values selected
List of certificate files that VMware Cloud Builder uses to upload CA-signed certificates on the management products. You generate these files at deployment by using the VMware Validated Design certificate utility.	CertConfig	The setup of configuration files is automatically filled in.

## Password complexity for application and service accounts

Because you deploy an SDDC stack, you must consider the requirements for password complexity of each management product in the stack. Because VMware Cloud Builder deploys the SDDC in a single operation, provide the default passwords for the products according to the requirements before you run the deployment operation.

You enter the default passwords for the application and service accounts on the **Users and Groups** tab of the Deployment Parameters XLS file for each region.

Passwords can be different per account or common across multiple accounts.

You set passwords for both required Active Directory users and local accounts. For information on the usage, names, and required roles for the accounts in Active Directory, see [Active Directory Users](#).

**Table 36** Password complexity requirements for SDDC products

SDDC layer	User account or service account	Complexity category
Virtual Infrastructure Layer	ESXi root account	ESXi
	Default administrator account for the vCenter Single Sign-On domain	SSO
	Root account for the vCenter Server Appliance	Standard

**Table 36** Password complexity requirements for SDDC products (continued)

SDDC layer	User account or service account	Complexity category
	Root account for the Platform Services Controller appliances	SSO
	Service account for joining systems to the Active Directory domain	Standard
	Default administrator account for NSX Manager	Standard
	Privileged user account for NSX Manager to perform console commands.	Standard
	Service account for registering NSX Manager with vCenter Single Sign-On on the Platform Services Controller and vCenter Server for the management cluster and for the shared compute and edge cluster	Standard
Operations Management Layer	Default administrator account for vRealize Suite Lifecycle Manager	Standard
	Root account for vRealize Suite Lifecycle Manager	Standard
	Service account for deploying and managing the lifecycle of vRealize Suite components on the Software-Defined Data Center management cluster	Standard
	Local service account for configuring the vSphere Update Manager Download Service on the host virtual machine	Standard
	Default administrator account for vRealize Operations Manager	Standard
	Root account for the vRealize Operations Manager appliances	Standard
	Service account integration of Active Directory in vRealize Operations Manager for user authentication	Standard
	Service account for monitoring and collecting general metrics about vSphere objects, including infrastructure and virtual machines, from vCenter Server in to vRealize Operations Manager	Standard
	Local service account for collecting data in vRealize Operations Manager from the NSX Manager instances about virtual networking	Standard
	Service account for monitoring of non-vSAN storage devices accessible by the vCenter Server instances in the SDDC from vRealize Operations Manager	Standard
	Service account for monitoring and collecting metrics about vSAN datastores from vCenter Server in to vRealize Operations Manager	Standard
	Service account for collecting data in vRealize Operations Manager about the workloads in vRealize Automation	Standard
	Service account for monitoring site recovery of the Management vCenter Server from vRealize Operations Manager	Standard

**Table 36** Password complexity requirements for SDDC products (continued)

SDDC layer	User account or service account	Complexity category
	Service account for retrieving statistics from vRealize Operations Manager in vRealize Automation for workload reclamation	Standard
	Service account for connecting vRealize Log Insight to vRealize Operations Manager for log forwarding, alerts, and for Launch in Context integration	Standard
	Default administrator account for vRealize Log Insight	Standard
	Root account for vRealize Log Insight	vRealize Log Insight
	Service account for connecting vRealize Log Insight to vCenter Server and ESXi for forwarding log information	Standard
	Service account for using the Active Directory as an authentication source in vRealize Log Insight	Standard
Cloud Management Layer	Root account for the vRealize Automation appliances	Standard
	Administrator account for the default tenant in vRealize Automation	Standard
	Service account for access from vRealize Automation to the Compute vCenter Server and NSX instance for the shared edge and compute cluster. This account is part of the vRealize Automation setup process.	Standard
	Service account for access from vRealize Orchestrator to the Compute vCenter Server	Standard
	Local account on the master Windows virtual machine for the IaaS components	Standard
	Root account for the vRealize Business appliances	Standard
	Tenant architect account in vRealize Automation	Standard
	Tenant administrator account in vRealize Automation	Standard
Business Continuity Layer	Local administrator account on the Windows virtual machine of Site Recovery Manager	Standard
	Service account for connecting Site Recover Manager to the Management vCenter Server and for pairing sites in Site Recovery Manager	Standard
	Root account for the vSphere Replication appliance	Standard
	Service account for connecting vSphere Replication to vCenter Server and for pairing vSphere Replication instances	Standard
VxRail Manager	Root	Standard
	Mystic	Standard - must be different than root password
	vxrail_admin_account	Standard

**Table 37** Categories of password complexity requirements

Password type	Password property	Requirements for complexity
ESXi	Length	8-40 characters
	Characters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Must include the following characters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A mix of upper-case and lower-case letters</li> <li>A number</li> <li>A special character such as @ ! # \$ % ^ ?</li> </ul> </li> <li>Must not include characters such as { } [ ] ( ) / \ ' " ` ~ , ; : . &lt; &gt;</li> </ul>
Standard	Length	8-12 characters
	Characters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Must include the following characters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A mix of upper-case and lower-case letters</li> <li>A number</li> <li>A special character such as @ ! # \$ % ^ ?</li> </ul> </li> <li>Must not include characters such as { } [ ] ( ) / \ ' " ` ~ , ; : . &lt; &gt;</li> </ul>
SSO (accounts in vsphere.local)	Length	8-20 characters
	Characters	<p>Must include the following characters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A mix of upper-case and lower-case letters</li> <li>A number</li> <li>A special character such as @ ! # \$ % ^ ?</li> </ul>
ESG	Length	12-255 characters
	Characters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Must include the following characters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A mix of upper-case and lower-case letters</li> <li>A number</li> <li>A special character such as @ ! # \$ % ^ ?</li> </ul> </li> <li>Must not include the following characters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Characters such as { } [ ] ( ) / \ ' " ` ~ , ; : . &lt; &gt;</li> <li>Words, for example, admin</li> <li>Characters repeated subsequently more than 3 times</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
vRealize Log Insight	Length	8-12 characters

**Table 37** Categories of password complexity requirements (continued)

Password type	Password property	Requirements for complexity
	Characters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Must include the following types of characters:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ A mix of upper-case and lower-case letters</li><li>▪ A number</li><li>▪ A special character such as @ ! # \$ % ^ ?</li></ul></li><li>• Must not include a character repeated subsequently more than 4 times</li></ul>

## My VMware account requirements

Register vRealize Suite Lifecycle Manager with My VMware to access product licenses and download product binaries to the local repository used during deployment and upgrade operations. The My VMware account is used to download content from the VMware Marketplace API service through the vRealize Suite Lifecycle Manager integration.

Use the *My VMware* integration to simplify, automate, organize, and update the repository. If your organization restricts outbound traffic from the management components of the SDDC, you can download the product binaries from *My VMware* and discover them in the vRealize Suite Lifecycle Manager user interface for inclusion in the repository.

To register vRealize Suite Lifecycle Manager with *My VMware*, invite a designated user to the entitlement account and limit the folder level permissions for the user.

- Refer to [KB 2070555](#) for details on inviting a user to a *My VMware* account.
- Refer to [KB 2006977](#) for details on assigning user permissions in a *My VMware* account.

You can structure the folders, user, and permissions in a *My VMware* entitlement account in any way that best serves the asset management and operations support needs of your business. The minimum requirements and permissions for the My VMware account used by vRealize Suite Lifecycle Manager include:

- A folder with the vRealize Suite product entitlements
- View License Keys & User Permissions
- Download Products

**Table 38** My VMware Account for vRealize Suite Lifecycle Manager

First Name	Last Name	User Email	Minimum Folder Permissions	Folder	Product Entitlement in Folder
vRealize Suite Lifecycle Manager User	at Rainpole	vvd-vrslcm@rainpole.local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>View License Keys &amp; User Permissions</li> <li>Download Products</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Home folder</li> <li>Child folder</li> </ul>	vRealize Suite

## Virtual Machine Specifications

This Validated Design uses a set of virtual machines for management components and tenant blueprints. Create these virtual machines, configure their virtual hardware, and install the required guest operating system.

### Management Virtual Machine Specifications

You must create virtual machines for Site Recovery Manager and Microsoft SQL Server before you start the deployment of these management components.

For information on the networking configuration of the virtual machines, such as host name, IPv4 address, default gateway, and so on, see [Host names and IP addresses in Region A](#) on page 13 and [Host names and IP addresses in Region B](#) on page 18.

**Table 39** Specifications of Management Virtual Machines in Region A

Attribute	Region	Site Recovery Manager	vSphere Update Manager Download Service	Microsoft SQL Server
Number of virtual machines	-	1	1	1
Guest OS	-	Windows Server 2016 (64-bit)	Ubuntu Server 18.04 LTS	Windows Server 2016 (64-bit)
VM name	Region A	sfo01m01srm01	sfo01umds01	vra01mssql01
VM folder	Region A	sfo01-m01fd-bcdr	sfo01-m01fd-mgmt	sfo01-m01fd-vra
Cluster	Region A	sfo01-m01-mgmt01	sfo01-m01-mgmt01	sfo01-m01-mgmt01
Datastore	Region A	sfo01-m01-vsan01	sfo01-m01-vsan01	sfo01-m01-vsan01
Number of CPUs	-	2	2	8
Memory (GB)	-	4	2	16
Disk space (GB)	-	40	120	200
SCSI Controller	-	LSI Logic SAS	LSI Logic SAS	LSI Logic SAS

**Table 39** Specifications of Management Virtual Machines in Region A (continued)

Attribute	Region	Site Recovery Manager	vSphere Update Manager Download Service	Microsoft SQL Server
Virtual machine network adapter	-	VMXNET3	VMXNET3	VMXNET3
Virtual machine network	Region A	sfo01-m01-vds01-management	Mgmt-RegionA01-VXLAN	Mgmt-xRegion01-VXLAN
Active Directory domain	Region A	sfo01.rainpole.local	sfo01.rainpole.local	rainpole.local
Service account	-	Windows administrator	svc-umds	svc-vra
VMware Tools	Latest version	Latest version	Latest version	Latest version

**Table 40** Specifications of Management Virtual Machines in Region B

Attribute	Region	Site Recovery Manager	vSphere Update Manager Download Service
Number of virtual machines	-	1	1
Guest OS	-	Windows Server 2016 (64-bit)	Ubuntu Server 18.04 LTS
VM name	Region B	lax01m01srm01	lax01umds01
VM folder	Region B	lax01-m01fd-bcdr	lax01-m01fd-mgmt
Cluster	Region B	lax01-m01-mgmt01	lax01-m01-mgmt01
Datastore	Region B	lax01-m01-vsan01	lax01-m01-vsan01
Number of CPUs	-	2	2
Memory (GB)	-	4	2
Disk space (GB)	-	40	120
SCSI Controller	-	LSI Logic SAS	LSI Logic SAS
Virtual machine network adapter	-	VMXNET3	VMXNET3
Virtual machine network	Region B	lax01-m01-vds01-management	Mgmt-RegionB01-VXLAN
Active Directory domain	Region B	lax01.rainpole.local	lax01.rainpole.local
Service account	-	Windows administrator	svc-umds
VMware Tools	Latest version	Latest version	Latest version

### Specifications for vRealize Automation IaaS and Tenant Blueprints virtual machines

To create a IaaS virtual machines and tenant blueprint in vRealize Automation, this Validated Design uses a set of virtual machines according to predefined specifications.

**Table 41** Specifications for the vRealize Automation IaaS and Blueprint VMs templates

Required by VMware Component	VM Template Name	Guest OS	CPUs	Memory (GB)	Virtual Disk (GB)	SCSI Controller	Virtual Machine Network Adapter	VMware Tools
vRealize Automation	redhat6-enterprise-64	Red Hat Enterprise Linux 6 (64-bit)	1	6	20	LSI Logic SAS	VMXNET3	Latest version
	windows-2012r2-64	Windows Server 2012 R2 (64-bit)	1	4	60	LSI Logic SAS	VMXNET3	Latest version
	windows-2012r2-64-sql2012	Windows Server 2012 R2 (64-bit)	1	8	100	LSI Logic SAS	VMXNET3	Latest version