

CA Virtual Automation



The application of new technology and innovation to your business production or product delivery environment can be the differentiator in today's competitive environment. Today's successful IT innovators in areas of integration, consolidation, and virtualization will be the successful market leaders of tomorrow. With such innovations, they will be better positioned to meet the requisite measures of time-to-market, flexible access, and customer satisfaction in the delivery of customer products or services quickly, efficiently, and cost-effectively. One of the current trends and more noteworthy opportunities for IT operations today is the ability to expand beyond their current virtualization efforts to embrace the potential of server and application virtualization.

Business value

CA Virtual Automation is designed to help end users meet their own VM needs, enable IT staff to improve service quality, and offer managers greater cost control. It delivers VM lifecycle management to help meet the "virtualization-specific" needs of both emerging and large enterprises. The value builds as companies mature in their understanding and appreciation of well-implemented virtualization and virtualization management. As a business and IT operations platform, well-managed virtualization can offer operational flexibility, automation and control, and OPEX/CAPEX savings that cannot be ignored.

The other side of this opportunity and value is how critically important automated virtualization management becomes as virtualization deployments continue to grow. In virtualization's success is the implicit need for automation. Just because it's virtual does not mean it does not need to be managed, and in many cases neither existing staff nor the addition of a few new resources will be able to cope with issues such as manual VM lifecycle processes.

Product overview

CA Virtual Automation is a stand-alone product that provides automated, self-service virtual machine (VM) provisioning, management of resource pools, and individual VM tracking with chargeback accounting and reporting.

Key capabilities include:

- Automated VM Lifecycle Management, including resource pool management and template-based VM provisioning, approval, chargeback, and retirement.
- Self-service VM request fulfillment, with authentication and approvals, and automatic configuration, for delivery of high-speed VM provisioning.
- Menu-driven VM configuration allocates requested CPU count, RAM, and disk, with support for custom configuration profiles.
- Chargeback and usage reporting of VM assignment and utilization

Portfolio approach

CA Virtual Automation is also a component within CA's virtualization management portfolio, a comprehensive set of solutions that are designed to address the "virtualization-specific" needs of emerging and large enterprises, providing the full lifecycle capabilities needed to support a virtualization environment. CA's virtualization management portfolio (with components launching now and into the CY2010) will include provisioning, performance monitoring, chargeback, configuration, and backup. The portfolio can also be expanded by acquiring CA Spectrum® Automation Manager to support large customers that need visibility and control across their company-wide physical and virtual environments. These solutions together help enable organizations of all sizes to gain greater control, higher quality of service, reduced risk, and the agility needed to run their business more effectively.

Benefits

Applying CA Virtual Automation to fulfill the self-service provisioning of virtual machines for IT staff and end users helps automate and simplify the often complex, labor-intensive task of VM provisioning and is the foundation for VM utilization chargeback and reporting. CA Virtual Automation's management of your virtualization resources is facilitated through these key features and their resulting benefits:

Key Feature	Benefit
Heterogeneous VM automation	Designed to provide VM Administrators and IT Operations with an automation solution to build and manage a private cloud infrastructure
Self-service reservation management	Designed to allow VM requestors to rapidly provision new VMs from a predefined list, helping reduce IT intervention, provisioning delays, and staff costs
Integrated chargeback	Designed to apply lease rates to specific services to allow IT to track, allocate, and even recoup VM usage and associated costs
Detailed resource and user reporting	Designed to provide better resource utilization by tracking utilization trends and managing capacity within and across resource pools
Migration path to CA Spectrum Automation Manager	Designed to allow organizations of any size to meet "virtualization-specific" needs, while offering the capability to migrate to a broad enterprise solution
Easy to deploy, easy to use	Designed to enable quick time-to-value, reduce reliance on specialized expertise (especially for routine activities), and drive lower virtualization management costs

Why CA

CA has 30 years of recognized expertise in robust, reliable, scalable, and secure enterprise-class IT management software. CA has made an unparalleled commitment to emerging technologies and IT delivery models such as virtualization, automation, SaaS, and cloud. Additionally, CA solutions deliver forward-thinking best management technologies garnered through strategic acquisition and developed from within. More importantly, CA has earned industry recognition in virtualization management leadership, and has forged “virtualization-specific” industry partnerships with VMware, Microsoft, Cisco, Oracle/Sun, Citrix, Red Hat, and so on.

In addition, CA Technology Services™ and its partners can help you assess your current IT situation, define your goals, and implement solutions to gain measurable results. To keep your CA solutions operating at peak performance, CA support delivers unparalleled technical and customer support worldwide, and we offer training and certification through CA Education.

Copyright ©2010 CA. All rights reserved. All trademarks, trade names, service marks, and logos referenced herein belong to their respective companies.

This document is for your informational purposes only. CA assumes no responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of the information. To the extent permitted by applicable law, CA provides this document “as is” without warranty of any kind, including, without limitation, any implied warranties of merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose, or noninfringement. In no event will CA be liable for any loss or damage, direct or indirect, from the use of this document, including, without limitation, lost profits, business interruption, goodwill, or lost data, even if CA is expressly advised in advance of the possibility of such damages.

Certain information in this publication may outline CA’s general product direction. However, CA may make modifications to any CA product, software program, method or procedure described in this publication at any time without notice, and the development, release, and timing of any features or functionality described in this publication remain at CA’s sole discretion. CA will support only the referenced products in accordance with (i) the documentation and specifications provided with the referenced product, and (ii) CA’s then-current maintenance and support policy for the referenced product. Notwithstanding anything in this publication to the contrary, this publication shall not: (i) constitute product documentation or specifications under any existing or future written license agreement or services agreement relating to any CA software product, or be subject to any warranty set forth in any such written agreement; (ii) serve to affect the rights and/or obligations of CA or its licensees under any existing or future written license agreement or services agreement relating to any CA software product; or (iii) serve to amend any product documentation or specifications for any CA software product.