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Kemp® LoadMaster®

Feature Description VMware Tools Add On Package

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Introduction

It is possible to install add-on packages in the LoadMaster. Add-on packages provide features that are additional to those already included in the LoadMaster.



The Virtual LoadMaster is VMware ready. The VMware Tools add-on package comes pre-installed on all new VMware Virtual LoadMasters as of firmware version 7.0-14. It is not possible to install add-on packages on pre-7.0-14 firmware. If needed, you can upgrade the LoadMaster firmware to version 7.0-14 or above and then install the add-on package.

Note: If the VMware Tools Add-On package was pre-installed on the LoadMaster it is not possible to delete it.

Note: In **System Configuration > System Administration > Update Software** screen, if an installed add-on package cannot be started, the text will display in red the hover text will say the package could not be started.

This add-on package provides additional functionality in VMware vSphere, Workstation and Player. It provides the ability to shut down and restart the guest cleanly.

Contents

- Document Purpose
- Intended Audience

Document Purpose

The purpose of this document is to educate the reader about the VMware Tools Add-On package.

Intended Audience

This document is intended to be read by anyone who is interested in learning about the VMware Tools add-on package.

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VMware Tools Add-On Package

The additional functionality provided by the VMware Tools add-on package is described below.

Contents

- Power Off vs. Shut Down Guest
- Shut Down/Restart Guest in vSphere
- Shut Down Guest in Workstation
- Additional Information on Summary Screen in vSphere
- Update the VMware Tools Add-on

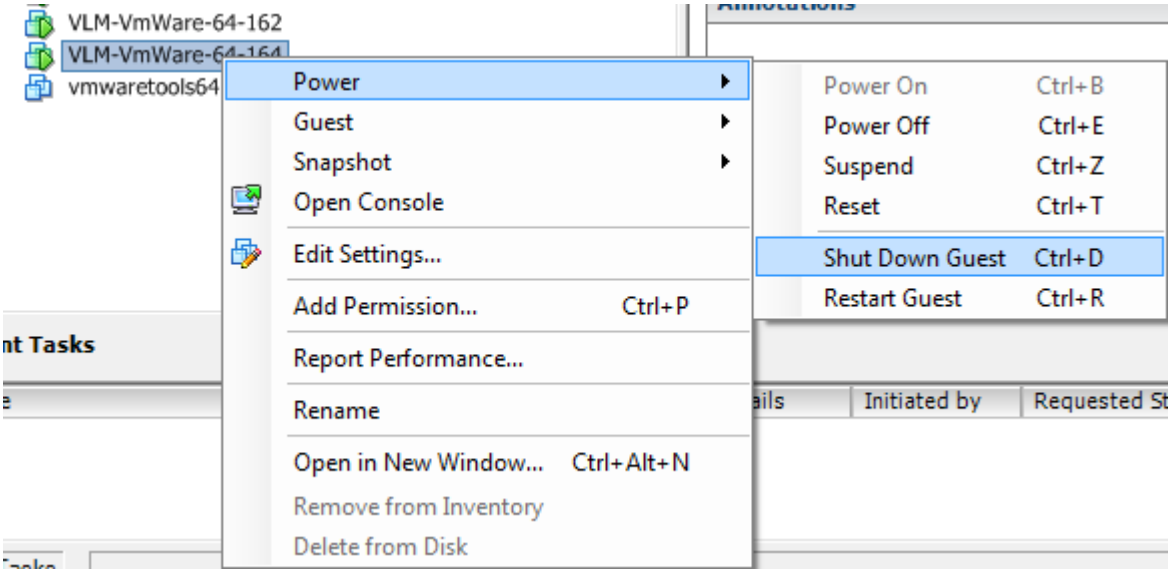
Power Off vs. Shut Down Guest

Using the power off button abruptly powers off the Virtual Machine, with no consideration for work in progress. This can damage the file system. If a Virtual Machine is writing to disk when it receives a Power Off command, data corruption may occur.

Shutting down the guest ensures that the operating system recognizes the signal and shuts down gracefully. This protects the file system.

The Progress Kemp VMware Tools add-on package allows you to shut down or restart the guest, as opposed to abruptly powering off or restarting.

Shut Down/Restart Guest in vSphere



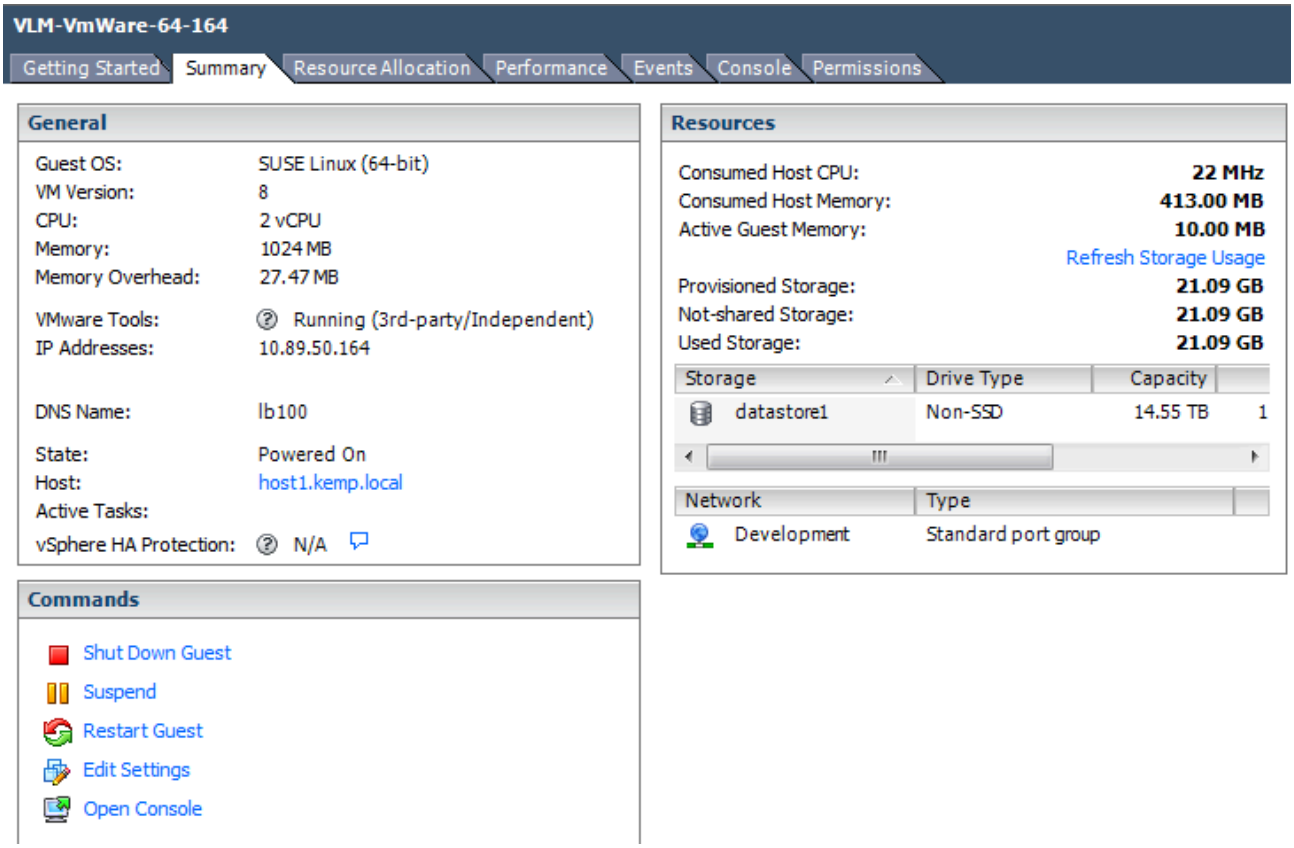
To shut down or restart the guest in vSphere, right-click the relevant Virtual Machine and select either **Shut Down Guest** or **Restart Guest**.

Note: These options will be greyed out if the VMware Tools add-on package is not installed on the LoadMaster.

Shut Down Guest in Workstation

To shut down the guest in VMware Workstation, select the Virtual Machine, select **VM > Power > Shut Down Guest**.

Additional Information on Summary Screen in vSphere



When the VMware Tools add-on package is installed, additional information will be displayed on the **Summary** screen in VMware vSphere, for example:

- The Guest OS will be SUSE Linux
- The VMware Tools field will say Running (3rd-party/Independent)
- The **IP Addresses** field will display the IP address of the LoadMaster WUI
- The **DNS Name** will be displayed
- There will be options to **Shut Down Guest** and **Restart Guest**

Update the VMware Tools Add-on

When you update the LoadMaster software, the VMware tools add-on pack does not automatically get updated to the latest version. To update the VMware tools add-on pack to the latest version, follow these steps:

1. Go to the following page: LoadMaster VMware Tools Add-On.

2. Download the relevant add-on (based on your LoadMaster firmware version).
3. Unzip the files.
4. In the LoadMaster User Interface (UI), go to **System Configuration > Update Software**.
5. Click **Choose File** next to **Addon Package File**.
6. Browse to and select the installation file.
7. If required, click **Choose File** next to **Verification File** and browse to and select the checksum XML file.
8. Click **Install Addon Package**.
9. Click **OK** to the success message.
10. You must then reboot the LoadMaster to activate the add-on package. Go to **System Configuration > System Administration > System Reboot** and click **Reboot**.

Note: If it is a High Availability (HA) or clustering setup, you must manually install the add-on (as with all add-ons) on each units.

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References

A useful related document link is as follows:

Web User Interface (WUI) Configuration Guide