



PowerCLI Workshop

From Beginner to Advanced

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Agenda

- What are PowerShell and PowerCLI?
- The Lingo Dictionary
- Setup and Configuration
- Starting to Code
- Writing Logic Statements
- Lab Time



What are PowerShell and PowerCLI?



“Windows PowerShell is a **task automation and configuration management framework** from Microsoft, consisting of a command-line shell and associated **scripting language** built on the .NET Framework.”

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Windows_PowerShell



PowerShell

A simple and straight-forward path to automation

- Already installed on all modern Windows Operating Systems
- Integrated and rich help system

PowerShell 6.0 (aka. Core) available for Linux and MacOS

- <https://github.com/PowerShell/PowerShell>





PowerShell

Modular and object-oriented

- The best of a programming language melded with a scripting language
- True portability of code via modules (and snap-ins)
- Objects = Properties + Methods



VMware PowerCLI

VMware's command-line and scripting tool built on Windows PowerShell

Features more than 700 cmdlets for managing and automating vSphere, vCloud, and Horizon environments

One of the most robust and complete PowerShell deployments in the world

Over 10 years “young”!



PowerCLI Compatibility

VMware PowerCLI	11.4.0
▼ VMware vSAN™	
6.7 U3	✓
6.7 U2	✓
6.7 U1	✓
6.7	✓
6.6.1 U3	✓
6.6.1 U2	✓
6.6.1	✓

VMware PowerCLI	11.4.0
▼ VMware NSX-T Data Center	
2.4.2	✓
2.4.1	✓
2.4.0	✓
2.3.1	✓
2.3.0	✓
2.2.0	✓

VMware PowerCLI	11.4.0
▼ VMware vCenter Server	
6.7 U3	✓
6.7 U2	✓
6.7 U1	✓
6.7.0	✓
6.5 U3	✓
6.5 U2	✓
6.5 U1	✓
6.5.0	✓
6.0 U3	✓
6.0.0 U2	✓
6.0.0 U1	✓
6.0.0	✓

VMware PowerCLI	11.4.0
▼ VMware Horizon 7	
7.9.0	✓
7.8.0	✓
7.7.0	✓
7.6.0	✓
7.5.2	✓
7.5.1	✓
7.5.0	✓
7.4.1	✓
7.4.0	✓
7.3.3	✓
7.3.2	✓
7.3.1	✓
7.3.0	✓
7.2.0	✓
7.1.0	✓
7.0.3	✓
7.0.2	✓



The Lingo Dictionary



Common Terms

- Cmdlet (“Command let”)
 - A single command
 - Usually written and compiled in .NET
- Function
 - A single command
 - Usually written in PowerShell
- Script
 - Series of commands stored in a PS1 file
- Module
 - Package of related commands



Command Structure

- Cmdlets and Functions use properly formatted verbs
 - Use Get-Verb to see the available options
- Most features follow a very simple pattern
 - Get = Gather data
 - Set = Change data
 - New = Create data
 - Remove = Delete data



Object Management

- Variable
 - Saves objects for later reference
 - Uses '\$' as the initial character
- Example: `$Name = "Kyle Ruddy"`
- Pipeline
 - Passes objects from one command to the next
 - Declared with '|' character
 - Example: `Get-User -Name $Name | Get-Beard`



PowerCLI Object Management

- PowerShell and PowerCLI work with objects
- Not all objects are equal
 - .Net objects
 - vSphere objects

.Net objects	vSphere objects
PowerCLI cmdlet	PowerCLI cmdlet – indirect
Selection of properties	All vSphere properties
PowerCLI methods	All vSphere methods
Get-Help/Get-Command	API Reference
Starter + Intermediate	Intermediate + Advanced



Setup and Configuration



Setting Up PowerShell

- Native to all modern Windows deployments
- Latest version is 5.1
 - Use `$PSVersionTable` to see what you're running

```
Windows PowerShell
PS C:\> $PSVersionTable
```

Name	Value
PSVersion	5.1.14393.693
PSEdition	Desktop
PSCompatibleVersions	{1.0, 2.0, 3.0, 4.0...}
BuildVersion	10.0.14393.693
CLRVersion	4.0.30319.42000
WSManStackVersion	3.0
PSRemotingProtocolVersion	2.3
SerializationVersion	1.1.0.1



Setting Up PowerShell Core

- Available through most package managers
- Latest version is 6.2.3
 - Use `$PSVersionTable` to see what you're running

```
kruddy — pwsh — 80x15
PS /Users/kruddy> $PSVersionTable

Name                           Value
----                           -
PSVersion                      6.2.3
PSEdition                      Core
GitCommitId                    6.2.3
OS                              Darwin 18.7.0 Darwin Kernel Version 18.7.0: Tue...
Platform                      Unix
PSCompatibleVersions           {1.0, 2.0, 3.0, 4.0...}
PSRemotingProtocolVersion      2.3
SerializationVersion           1.1.0.1
WSManStackVersion              3.0

PS /Users/kruddy>
```



Installation of PowerCLI is from the PowerShell Gallery and is done directly from within PowerShell

Prerequisites:

1. PowerShell 5.x (OR manually install PowerShellGet)
2. Uninstall PowerCLI 6.5 R1 (OR any other previous versions)
3. Internet Connectivity

Installation:

1. Open a PowerShell Session
2. Run: `Install-Module VMware.PowerCLI -Scope CurrentUser`

Modules are deployed to: `$home\Documents\WindowsPowerShell\Modules`





Starting to Code





Safe vs Non-Safe Commands

- Suggest starting with cmdlets that pull or display data
 - These are “Safe” in that they are unable to modify data
- This is helpful for learning the PowerShell syntax
 - Which... is a never ending journey!



Identify Safe Commands

Safe means that there is no data modification

```
PS C:\Users\kruddy> Get-Cluster
```

Name	HAEnabled	HAFailover Level	DrsEnabled	DrsAutomationLevel
MGMT	True	1	True	FullyAutomated
TPA	False	1	True	FullyAutomated
AUS	True	1	True	FullyAutomated
IND	True	1	True	FullyAutomated

```
PS C:\Users\kruddy> Get-VMHost -Name esx-tpa-01.cpbu.lab
```

Name	ConnectionState	PowerState	NumCpu	CpuUsageMhz	CpuTotalMhz	MemoryUsageGB	MemoryTotalGB	Version
esx-tpa-01.cpbu.lab	Connected	PoweredOn	16	387	41584	27.921	255.967	6.5.0



Additional Safeguards

- Whatif
 - Shows you what WOULD happen without actually modifying data
 - Switch
- Confirm
 - Asks you to confirm before any changes are made
 - Boolean (\$true or \$false)



Additional Safeguards

```
PS C:\Users\kruddy> Set-VM -VM Demo -NumCpu 4 -WhatIf
What if: Proceed to configure the following parameters of the virtual machine with name 'Demo'?
New NumCpu: 4
PS C:\Users\kruddy> _
```

```
PS C:\Users\kruddy> Set-VM -VM Demo -NumCpu 4 -Confirm:$true

Confirmation
Proceed to configure the following parameters of the virtual machine with name 'Demo'?
New NumCpu: 4
[Y] Yes [A] Yes to All [N] No [L] No to All [S] Suspend [?] Help (default is "Y"): _
```




Writing Logic Statements



Sample Use Case

- Cluster configuration
 - What values are currently configured?
 - Changing a few of them to match our desired state
- DRS Settings
 - HA is **Enabled**
 - DRS Automation Level is **Fully Automated**



Gathering Cluster Data

Variables

```
$cluster = 'Cluster Name'
```

Gather Cluster Data

```
$clusterConfig = Get-Cluster -Name $cluster
```





Gathering Cluster Data

```
PS C:\Users\kruddy> $cluster = "TPA"
PS C:\Users\kruddy> $clusterConfig = Get-Cluster -Name $cluster
PS C:\Users\kruddy> $clusterConfig
```

Name	HAEnabled	HAFailover Level	DrsEnabled	DrsAutomationLevel
TPA	False	1	True	Manual

```
PS C:\Users\kruddy> _
```



Decision Making Logic

#Adding logic to test values

```
if ($clusterConfig.DrsAutomationLevel -ne 'FullyAutomated') {
```

Display a warning message indicating the DRS Automation level is incorrect

```
Write-Warning -Message 'DRS Automation Level is wrong!'
```

```
}
```



Decision Making Logic

```
PS C:\Users\kruddy> if ($clusterConfig.DrsAutomationLevel -ne 'FullyAutomated') {  
>> Write-Warning -Message 'DRS Automation Level is wrong!'  
>> }  
WARNING: DRS Automation Level is wrong!  
PS C:\Users\kruddy> _
```



Decision Making Logic

Add logic to modify these values

```
if ($clusterConfig.DrsAutomationLevel -ne 'FullyAutomated') {
```

Display a warning message that the DRS Automation level is incorrect

```
Write-Warning -Message 'DRS Automation Level is wrong!'
```

Change the cluster configuration to be the proper level for DRS

```
Set-Cluster -Cluster $cluster -DrsAutomationlevel FullyAutomated
```

```
}
```



Gathering Cluster Data

```
PS C:\Users\kruddy> if ($clusterConfig.DrsAutomationLevel -ne 'FullyAutomated') {  
>> Write-Warning -Message 'DRS Automation Level is wrong!'  
>> Set-Cluster -Cluster $cluster -DrsAutomationLevel FullyAutomated  
>> }  
WARNING: DRS Automation Level is wrong!  
  
Perform operation?  
Configure cluster 'TPA' with the following parameters:  
  DrsAutomationLevel: FullyAutomated  
[Y] Yes  [A] Yes to All  [N] No  [L] No to All  [S] Suspend  [?] Help (default is "Y"): Y  
  
Name                HAEnabled  HAFailover  DrsEnabled  DrsAutomationLevel  
----                -  
TPA                  False      1           True        FullyAutomated  
  
PS C:\Users\kruddy> _
```




Lab Time!



VMware Hands On Labs

The lab for today's workshop:

HOL-2012-01-SDC - VMware vSphere Automation – PowerCLI

Link: <https://labs.hol.vmware.com/HOL/>

Even after today, if you don't have your own lab - Use ours!



More Advanced Topics



Try-Catch-Finally

- The “forced” terminating error
- Use Try-Catch(-Finally)
 - Part of your repertoire!

```
$vNic = Get-VM -Name $vmName | Get-NetworkAdapter -Name $nicName
if (-not $vNic)
{
    $vNic = New-NetworkAdapter -VM $vmName -NetworkName $pgName -Type $nicType
}
elseif ($vNic.Type -ne $nicType)
{
    $vNic = Set-NetworkAdapter -NetworkAdapter $vNic -Type $nicType -Confirm:$false
}
```



Try-Catch-Finally

```
try
{
    $vNic = Get-VM -Name $vmName |
    Get-NetworkAdapter -Name $nicName -ErrorAction Stop |
    Set-NetworkAdapter -NetworkName $pgName -Type $nicType
}
catch
{
    $vNic = Get-VM -Name $vmName |
    New-NetworkAdapter -NetworkName $pgName -Type $nicType
}
```



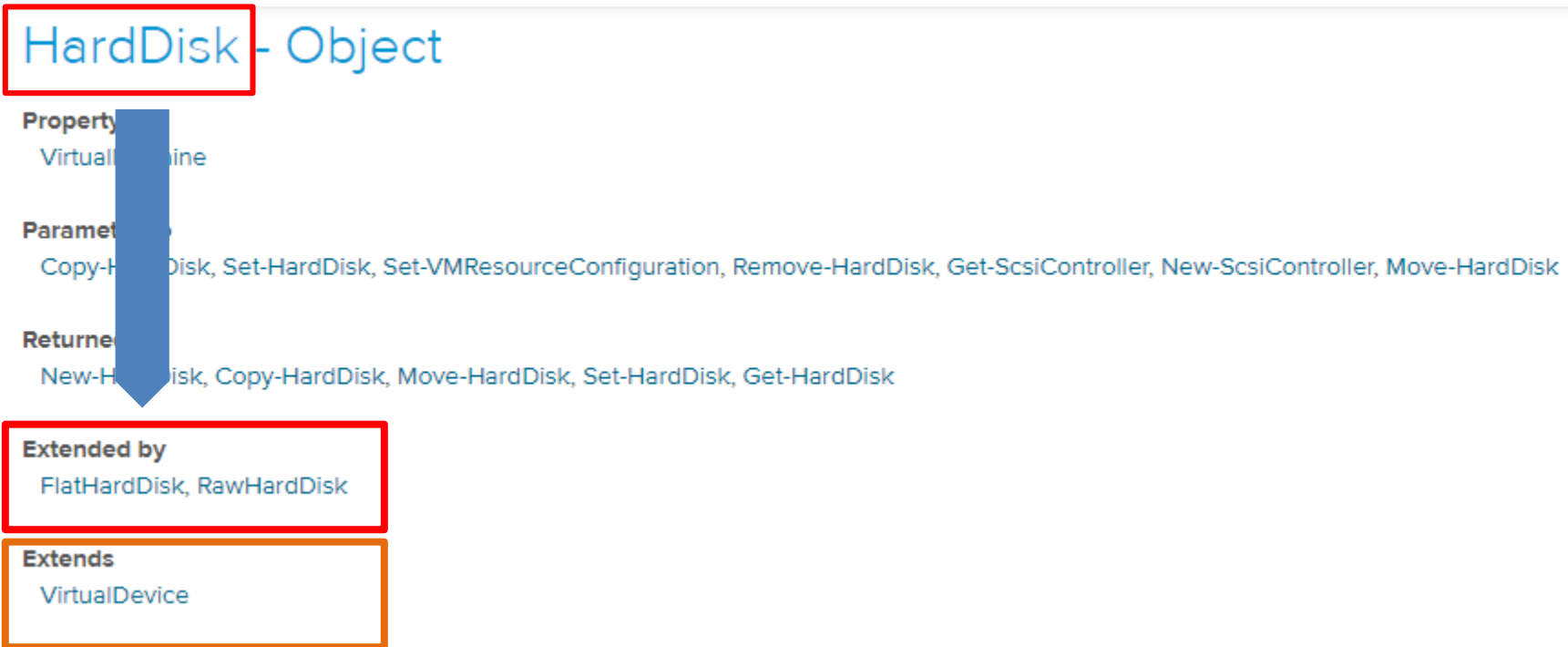
Try-Catch-Finally

```
try
{
    $vNic = Get-VM -Name $vmName |
        Get-NetworkAdapter -Name $nicName -ErrorAction Stop
}
catch
{
    $vNic = Get-VM -Name $vmName |
        New-NetworkAdapter -NetworkName $pgName
}
finally
{
    Set-NetworkAdapter -NetworkAdapter $vNic -WakeOnLan:$true -Confirm:$false
}
```



Inheritance

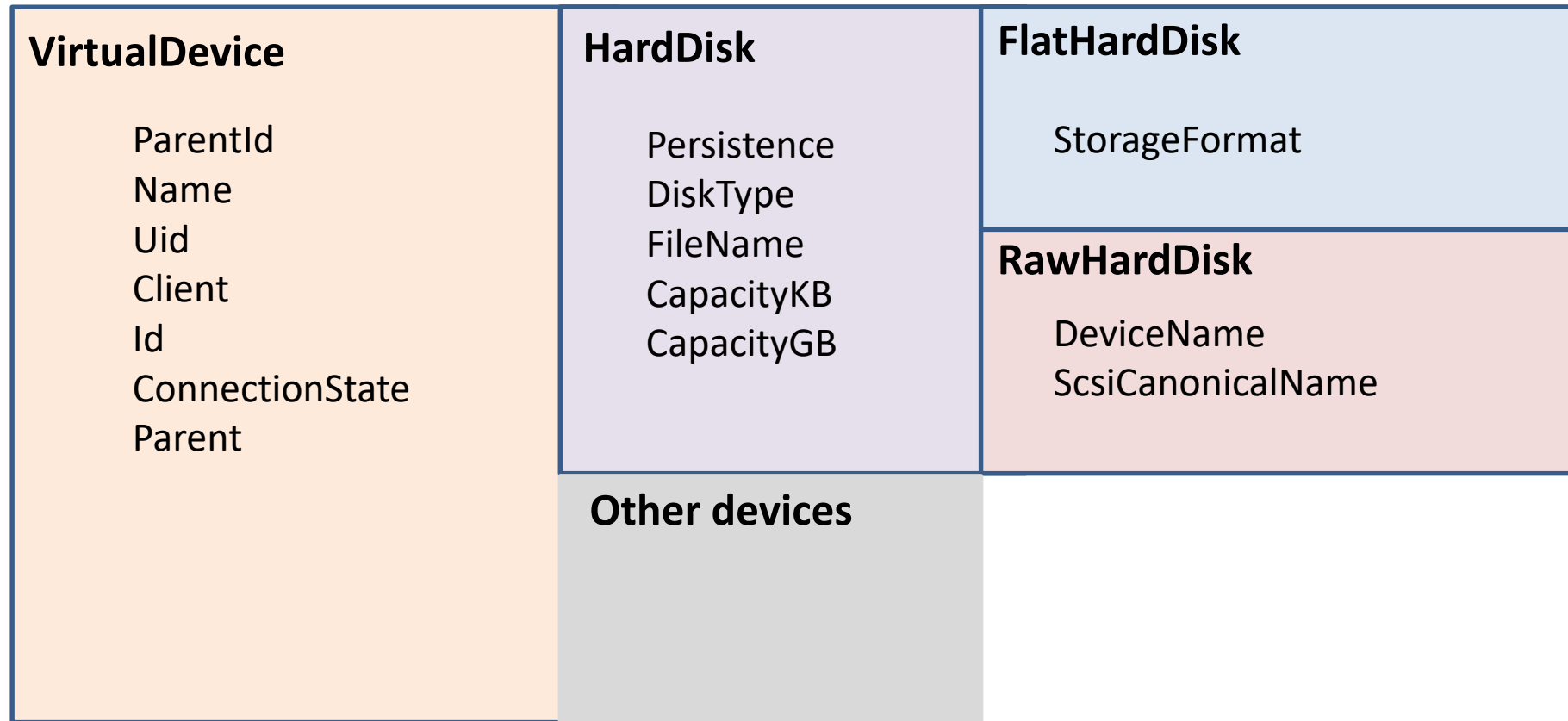
- No, not that kind!
- Most objects use an inheritance scheme





Interitance

- Chain of objects, sum of properties





Inheritance

- What is in it for me?
- Simplify your code
- Understand why some code will not work
 - ... and how to fix it



Inheritance

```
Get-VM -Name VM1 | Get-HardDisk |  
Where-Object {  
    $_ -is  
        [VMware.VimAutomation.ViCore.Types.V1.VirtualDevice.FlatHardDisk] -or  
    $_ -is  
        [VMware.VimAutomation.ViCore.Types.V1.VirtualDevice.RawHardDisk]  
}
```

```
Get-VM -Name VM1 | Get-HardDisk |  
Where-Object {  
    $_ -is  
        [VMware.VimAutomation.ViCore.Types.V1.VirtualDevice.VirtualDisk]  
}
```



Inheritance

```
Get-VM -Name VM1 | Get-HardDisk | `
    Select-Object -Property Name, FileName, ScsiCanonicalName
```

Name	Filename	ScsiCanonicalName
----	-----	-----
Hard disk 1	[vsanDatastore] 6b44515d-2237-11e1-2646-0050569cd2ee/VM1.vmdk	
Hard disk 2	[vsanDatastore] 6b44515d-2237-11e1-2646-0050569cd2ee/VM1_1.vmdk	naa.60003ff44dc75adc8a8545aa4f696c11

```
Get-VM -Name VM1 | Get-HardDisk | Export-Csv -Path .\report.csv
Import-csv -Path .\report.csv | `
    Select-Object -Property Name, FileName, CanonicalName
```

Name	Filename	CanonicalName
----	-----	-----
Hard disk 1	[vsanDatastore] 6b44515d-2237-11e1-2646-0050569cd2ee/VM1.vmdk	
Hard disk 2	[vsanDatastore] 6b44515d-2237-11e1-2646-0050569cd2ee/VM1_1.vmdk	?



Inheritance

- Export-Csv takes the 1st object as template, if no explicit properties given

```
$hd = Get-VM -Name VM1 | Get-HardDisk  
$props = $hd | % { $_.psobject.properties.name } | Sort-Object -Unique  
$hd | Select-Object -Property $props | Export-Csv -Path .\report.csv
```

```
Import-csv -Path .\report.csv | `n  
    Select-Object -Property Name, FileName, ScsiCanonicalName
```

Name	Filename	ScsiCanonicalName
----	-----	-----
Hard disk 1	[vsanDatastore] 6b44515d-2237-11e1-2646-0050569cd2ee/VM1.vmdk	
Hard disk 2	[vsanDatastore] 6b44515d-2237-11e1-2646-0050569cd2ee/VM1_1.vmdk	naa.60003ff44dc75adc8a8545aa4f696c11



Wait For It

- Template + OSCustomizationSpec → VM
- But when is it really available?
 - Use the Events (Luke)!
- Simple VM deployment

```
$sVM = @{  
    Name = $vmName  
    Template = Get-Template -Name $templateName  
    ResourcePool = Get-Cluster -Name $clusterName  
    Datastore = Get-Datastore -Name $dsName  
    OSCustomizationSpec = Get-OSCustomizationSpec -Name $custName  
}  
New-VM @sVM | Start-VM -Confirm:$false
```



Wait For It

- Analyze the timeline

```
$sEvent = @{  
    Entity = Get-VM -Name $vmName  
    MaxSamples = [int]::MaxValue  
    Start = (Get-Date).AddMinutes(-30)  
}
```

```
Get-VIEvent @sEvent |  
where{$_ -is [VMware.Vim.VmEvent]} |  
Sort-Object -Property CreatedTime |  
Select CreatedTime,@{N='Type';E={$_.GetType().Name}},FullFormattedMessage
```



Wait For It

CreatedTime	Type	FullFormattedMessage
-----	----	-----
12-Aug-19 20:08:29	VmBeingDeployedEvent	Deploying PhotonTest on host esx3.local.1
12-Aug-19 20:08:29	VmInstanceUuidAssignedEvent	Assign a new instance UUID (50304d3e-ddb1
12-Aug-19 20:08:29	VmUuidAssignedEvent	Assigned new BIOS UUID (4230c7f5-a351-626
12-Aug-19 20:08:47	VmReconfiguredEvent	Reconfigured PhotonTest on esx3.local.lab
12-Aug-19 20:08:47	VmDeployedEvent	Template photon deployed on host esx3.loc
12-Aug-19 20:08:48	VmReconfiguredEvent	Reconfigured PhotonTest on esx3.local.lab
12-Aug-19 20:08:50	VmBeingRelocatedEvent	Relocating PhotonTest in DC from esx3.loc
12-Aug-19 20:08:54	VmRelocatedEvent	Completed the relocation of the virtual m
12-Aug-19 20:08:54	VmStartingEvent	PhotonTest on host esx1.local.lab in DC i
12-Aug-19 20:08:56	VmMessageEvent	Message on PhotonTest on esx1.local.lab i
12-Aug-19 20:08:57	VmPoweredOnEvent	PhotonTest on esx1.local.lab in DC is po
12-Aug-19 20:09:07	CustomizationStartedEvent	Started customization of VM PhotonTest. C
12-Aug-19 20:09:20	CustomizationSucceeded	Customization of VM PhotonTest succeeded.



Wait For It

- We wait for: Succeeded or Failed
- We capture the CustomizationEvent object

Data Object - CustomizationEvent(vim.event.CustomizationEvent)

Extended by

CustomizationFailed CustomizationStartedEvent, CustomizationSucceeded

Extends

VmEvent



Wait For It

```
1 $vm = New-VM @sVM | Start-VM -Confirm:$false
   $sEvent = @{
2       Entity = $vm
       MaxSamples = [int]::MaxValue
       Start = (Get-Date).AddSeconds(-5)
   }
3 $condition = {
    $_ -is [VMware.Vim.CustomizationSucceeded] -or
    $_ -is [VMware.Vim.CustomizationFailed]
}
   Do {
4       Start-Sleep -Seconds 5
       $custEvents = (Get-VIEvent @sEvent).Where($condition)
   } until ($custEvents)
```



At Your Fingertips

- How often did/do you execute any of these?
 - `$global:DefaultViServer`
 - `$PSVersionTable`
 - `pwd`
 - `Get-Module -Name VMware.PowerCLI -ListAvailable`
 - ...
- Useful while coding and when asking for guidance
- Can be automated





At Your Fingertips

- Meet your “power(cli)” profile
- A lot of info at your fingertips

User/Admin

Account/Host

PS version

PowerCLI version

vSphere Server

Repo/branch

➤ User LOCAL\lucd@WS1 - PS-64: Desktop/5.1.18362.145 - PCLI: 11.3.0.13990089 - VC: vcsa.local.lab-VSPHERE.LOCAL\Administrator [1] - git: dscr-for-vmware/dev-vss-composite

```
[11:43:07][00:00:00.0199] D:\..\dscr-for-vmware\Build> Get-VM | out-null  
[11:43:10][00:00:00.0119] D:\..\dscr-for-vmware\Build>
```

Current time

Execution time

Current folder



At Your Fingertips

```
function prompt
{
    # Shorted PWD
    $path = $pwd.Path.Split('\')
    if ($path.Count -gt 3)
    {
        $path = $path[0], '..', $path[-2], $path[-1]
    }
    Write-Host -Object "$($path -join '\')" -NoNewline
}
```





At Your Fingertips

```
if ($global:defaultviserver)
{
    $vcObj = (Get-Variable -Scope global -Name 'DefaultVIServer').Value
    if ($vcObj.ProductLine -eq 'vpx'){ $vcSrv = 'VC' }
    else{ $vcSrv = 'ESXi' }
    $vc = " - $($vcSrv): $($vcObj.Name)-$($vcObj.User)"
    $vc = "[ $($global:DefaultVIServers.Count) ]"
}

# Update the Window's title
$host.ui.RawUI.WindowTitle = "$user$ps$pcli$vc$gitStr"
```





At Your Fingertips

 Admin LOCAL\lucd@WS1 - PS-64: Desktop/5.1.18362.145 - PCLI: 11.3.0.13990089

```
Windows PowerShell  
Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.  
  
Try the new cross-platform PowerShell https://aka.ms/pscore6  
  
[12:01:00]C:\WINDOWS\system32>
```

 User LOCAL\lucd@WS1 - PS-64: Core/6.2.0 - PCLI: 11.3.0.13990089 - VC: vcsa.local.lab-LOCAL\lucd [1]

```
[12:01:53][00:00:00.1141] C:\Users\lucd.LOCAL.000>
```

Windows PowerShell

Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

Try the new cross-platform PowerShell <https://aka.ms/pscore6>

PS C:\Users\VMworld> █



Code Capture

Turn UI Actions into Executable Code

- Available
 - vSphere 6.7 U2
 - vSphere HTML 5 Fling
 - Currently Supports vSphere 6.5
- Output Type: PowerCLI
- Never use as-is!
- Refer to Code Later
 - Copy to Clipboard
 - Download as Script

```
1 #----- Start of code capture -----
2
3 <#
4 .SYNOPSIS
5 Gets VI server connection by a given server uuid.
6
7 .DESCRIPTION
8 Gets VI server connection by a given server instance uuid from the default connected VI servers collection.
9 #>
10 function Get-VcConnection([string]$VcInstanceUuid) {
11     $DefaultVIServers | Where-Object {$_ .InstanceUuid -eq $VcInstanceUuid}
12 }
13
14 #-----ParentVApp-----
15 $_this = Get-View -Id 'VirtualMachine-vm-626' -Server (Get-VcConnection -VcInstanceUuid '87b30cb3-72b0-46f1-afb2
16 $_this.ParentVApp
17
18 #-----ShutdownGuest-----
19 $_this = Get-View -Id 'VirtualMachine-vm-626' -Server (Get-VcConnection -VcInstanceUuid '87b30cb3-72b0-46f1-afb2
20 $_this.ShutdownGuest()
21
22
23 #----- End of code capture -----
```




vcsa01.corp.local

▼ DemoDC

▼ Demo

⚠️ esx01.corp.local

⚠️ esx02.corp.local

⚠️ esx03.corp.local

⚠️ esx04.corp.local

🟢 admin01

🟢 app01

🟢 db01

🟢 file01

🟢 web01

Demo ACTIONS ▾

Summary

Monitor

Configure

Permissions

Hosts

VMs

Datastores

Networks

Hosts

Resource Pools

Filter

Name ↑	State	Cluster	Consumed CPU %	Consumed Memory %
⚠️ esx01.corp.local	Connected	Demo	5% <div><div></div></div>	45% <div><div></div></div>
⚠️ esx02.corp.local	Connected	Demo	5% <div><div></div></div>	57% <div><div></div></div>
⚠️ esx03.corp.local	Connected	Demo	3% <div><div></div></div>	65% <div><div></div></div>
⚠️ esx04.corp.local	Connected	Demo	3% <div><div></div></div>	48% <div><div></div></div>

Export | 4 items

Recent Tasks

Alarms

Task Name	Target	Status	Initiator	Start Time ↓
-----------	--------	--------	-----------	--------------

All ▾

More Tasks



Additional Information

Make use of the community:

- VMware PowerCLI Community: <https://vmware.com/go/powercli>
- VMware Code Slack Group: <https://code.vmware.com/web/code/join>

Example Scripts:

- Community Repo: <https://github.com/vmware/PowerCLI-Example-Scripts>
- Sample Exchange: <https://code.vmware.com/samples>





Additional Information

The Complete Guide to PowerShell Punctuation

- <https://www.simple-talk.com/sysadmin/powershell/the-complete-guide-to-powershell-punctuation/>

PowerCLI Info Page: <https://code.vmware.com/tool/vmware-powercli>

—Includes: Cmdlet Reference, User Guide, Change Log, Release Notes



The End



QUESTIONS?

OK

Cancel