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Distributed Computing Meeting: 10/7/14 and 10/10/14

For this week, we figured out how to get ESXi installed and start the web client to spool up some VM's. We are installing a VM as our main vSphere vCenter server. We may have a dedicated server as our vSphere vCenter management platform but as of now we are playing around with deploying and provisioning VM's. Our main focus as of now is to get a feel of vCenter to deploy some machines on the ESXi bare metal platform. Since we have a very powerful server, why not try to push as many out as we can. Secondly, vSphere (formerly) VMWare Infrastructure III supports intelligent SMP for the aggregation of resources on the Server node. Although this isn't CPU scavenging, it is a way to utilize all resources. On a smaller scale, we could deploy ESXi on OEM desktops and have labs that can utilize some VM's with this proof of concept. Then again, this is just another after thought. This is similar to deploying a very small vCloud platform.

As of now, were just trying to see what we can do with this. Ryan suggested nesting ScaleMP's vSMP on multiple virtual machines and trying to see if it can recognise a virtual cluster on top of the ESXi platform to do the intensive smp capabilities it is known for.

This week, we may want to sit back and do some more research on moving forward without working with the hardware. Maybe continue deeper research and using a different model. We don't want to push something just "because" we might just be too excited with this new hardware.