VeeamON 2019

The chance to win an event pass to VeeamON and possibly airfare and hotel peeked my interest so I decided to give this a shot. I have been a user of Veeam for 4+ years and have great success with what my company purchased it for. I have yet to utilize both Backup and Replication to its fullest potential. I will explain why I feel VeeamON will provide me and my company with the most engaging and meaningful content if I receive this honor.

Veeam was purchased for a specific use case, to be the primary resource for replication for DR specific scenarios. A few years ago we went through a core conversion upgrade/migration and we needed a DR scenario that was not included in the project plan. This meant additional costs to have the vendor we were working with set up a DR environment for our new servers/applications. I had been pitching Veeam to my supervisors for 2 years after seeing the product at VMworld. With cost in mind (and not our cost center) and up to our department to provide a solution, I was asked to purchase Veeam. It didn’t take much convincing after comparing the cost of Veeam vs. what the vendor would charge to build us a DR environment. Now, let’s hope it works!!!

Veeam was an easy install and configuration and we immediately had our new VMs replicated. After some testing with my group, we were ready to show it off to application owners. Needless to say, everything went as planned (except for the network team not having all of the FW ports open). We have successfully tested over 30 DR scenarios using Veeam to failover servers to our DR environment with no issues. We have tested web apps, SQL, and multiple apps that integrate with each other with no issue. With all of this success, we decided to review our entire data protection scenario.

At the end of 2018 we looked at our backup and replication products and came the conclusion we needed to consolidate. We were paying for too many similar products and duplicating efforts. After reviewing what we had, we felt Veeam, if it meets our needs, was the most cost effective and efficient product. Currently we are in talks with Veeam and going over a plan to replicate all of our VMs and use that to replace our current backup solution. Today we only replicate about 25% of our VMs with Veeam. The plan to start is to eliminate our current storage replication and use Veeam to replicate everything. After that we will look into eliminating our pricy backup solution and use Veeam for that as well.

This is a huge step for us in both data protection and cost savings and we can see both benefits already. I am looking forward to moving forward with Veeam and increasing our environments reliability and reduce costs. As you can see, attending VeeamON would be very beneficial to my current plan and I would definitely be engaging with the other Veeam users and engineers. Also, as being new to public speaking, I would be happy to present my transition to Veeam at any events or VMUG UserCons.