

Recover ESXi password in Veeam



29 posts • Page 1 of 1

Recover ESXi password in Veeam

by **vmNik** » Apr 18, 2016 1:21 pm

Good morning.

Is it possible to view/recover via SQL a password for an ESXi host attached to VBR? A remote host password has been forgotten but has a Veeam system in place there, attached with the ESXi host in question and able to backup, restore, etc. Looking at SQL table [dbo.Credentials] in VBR8, the list of users is shown. Is there a means to get a password from SQL?

Thank you.

VCP5-DCV

Re: Recover ESXi password in Veeam

by nielsengelen » Apr 18, 2016 2:21 pm

You can't recover passwords from the database.

Personal blog: https://foonet.be
GitHub: https://github.com/pielse

GitHub: https://github.com/nielsengelen



vmNik Novice

Posts: 6 Liked: never

Joined: Apr 10, 2015 12:14 am

Contact: 💬



nielsengelen

Product Manager

Posts: 5766 Liked: 1211 times

Joined: Jul 15, 2013 11:09 am Full Name: Niels Engelen

Contact: 💬

Gostev

Chief Product Officer

Re: Recover ESXi password in Veeam

🖹 by **Gostev** » Apr 19, 2016 2:32 pm 🔥 1 person likes this post

Correct, using the product UI you certainly cannot look up stored passwords.

But the code itself obviously can do this (to be able to actually leverage those credentials), so generally speaking, it is doable. But it is a manual procedure that has to be performed on backup server using some system calls. Our support can do this for you (ask them to ask me if they've never done it before).

66

Posts: 31690 Liked: 7200 times

Joined: Jan 01, 2006 1:01 am Location: Baar, Switzerland

Contact: 💬

[MERGED] Recover password for CIFS share

by **omfk** » Feb 10, 2017 11:23 am

Hello,

is there a way to recover the password which I set for giving B&R for a copy job towards a CIFS share?

BR Frank 66

omfk

Expert

Posts: 110 Liked: 9 times

Joined: Nov 30, 2016 9:48 pm Full Name: Frank Knappe

Contact: 💬

[MERGED] Re: Recover password for CIFS share

by **PTide** » Feb 10, 2017 11:50 am

Hi,

Unfortunately that is not possible from the UI, however you can contact our support team and ask them to help you.

Thanks

PTide

Product Manager

Posts: 6526 Liked: 761 times

Joined: May 19, 2015 1:46 pm

Contact: 💬

Re: [MERGED] Re: Recover password for CIFS share

by **omfk** » Feb 10, 2017 7:31 pm

Thanks for the reply. I'll give it a try on Monday.

66

omfk Expert

Posts: 110 Liked: 9 times

Joined: Nov 30, 2016 9:48 pm Full Name: Frank Knappe

Contact: 💬

Re: [MERGED] Re: Recover password for CIFS share

by **omfk** » Feb 13, 2017 7:56 pm



omfk Expert

Posts: 110 Liked: 9 times **66** PTide wrote:

Hi.

Unfortunately that is not possible from the UI, however you can contact our support team and ask them to help you.

Thanks

The answer from the support team was negative:

"Unfortunatelly it's not possible to recover passwords from Veeam B&R 9.5. Passwords stored in Veeam are encrypted and it's not possible to recover them."

Correct or not?

BR

Frank

Re: Recover ESXi password in Veeam

by **Gostev** » Feb 13, 2017 8:08 pm

Not correct, but it is possible that they simply misunderstood your inquiry, and thought that you are talking about backup file password (and not ESXi host password).



Gostev Chief Product Officer

Posts: 31690 Liked: 7200 times

Joined: Jan 01, 2006 1:01 am Location: Baar, Switzerland

Joined: Nov 30, 2016 9:48 pm Full Name: Frank Knappe

Contact: 💬

Contact: 💬

Re: Recover ESXi password in Veeam

by **omfk** » Feb 14, 2017 7:27 am

I replied to their email with a picture showing the dialog in question. I'll keep vou informed.

Veeam Support - Case # 02067079

BR

Frank



omfk Expert

Posts: 110 Liked: 9 times

Joined: Nov 30, 2016 9:48 pm Full Name: Frank Knappe

Contact: 💬

Re: Recover ESXi password in Veeam

by omfk » Mar 02, 2017 8:13 pm 🖒 1 person likes this post

Update:

I had a remote session with Veeam support and using a power shell script it was



omfk Expert

Posts: 110 Liked: 9 times

Joined: Nov 30, 2016 9:48 pm Full Name: Frank Knappe

Contact: 💬



possible to display the password(s) in question.

Thx again Frank

[MERGED] Get ESX password out off veeam

by peter84 » Aug 18, 2017 1:05 pm

Hello,

The backup on our ESX host is running fine at this moment. But my colleague forgot to save our esx password in our database.

So is it possible to get the password out of veeam?



peter84

Service Provider

Posts: 2 Liked: never

Joined: Dec 28, 2015 3:27 pm Full Name: Peter Doesberg Location: Netherlands

Re: Get ESX password out off veeam

by **DGrinev** » Aug 18, 2017 2:27 pm

Hi Peter and welcome to the community!

You cannot do that yourself using Veeam Backup & Replication UI, however, if you open a support case our team should be able to assist you with this task. Thanks!



DGrinev

Veteran

Posts: 1943 Liked: 247 times

Joined: Dec 01, 2016 3:49 pm Full Name: Dmitry Grinev Location: St.Petersburg

Contact: 💬

Re: Recover ESXi password in Veeam

by signal » Jan 05, 2018 12:33 pm

From a security perspective, how are the passwords stored? Are they encrypted?

I see them in the database, they are not in cleartext, but different passwords share some similar characteristics, so it can't be any form of strong encryption as that would and should produce dissimilar strings.



signal Enthusiast

Posts: 65 Liked: 4 times

Joined: Oct 06, 2016 1:19 pm

Contact: 💬

Re: Recover ESXi password in Veeam

by **Gostev** » Jan 06, 2018 2:55 pm

We do use strong encryption of Microsoft CryptoAPI to encrypt passwords using machine-specific encryption key, which is an industry-standard approach. It basically guarantees that the decryption can only be performed on the specific machine, so there's no need to worry if someone steals the configuration database, or takes a picture of those values, etc. Thanks!



Gostev

Chief Product Officer

Posts: 31690 Liked: 7200 times

Joined: Jan 01, 2006 1:01 am Location: Baar, Switzerland

Contact: 💬

Re: Recover ESXi password in Veeam

by **signal** » Jan 11, 2018 12:46 pm

Which CSP is used?

Which algorithm and key length is used?



signal

Enthusiast

Posts: 65 Liked: 4 times

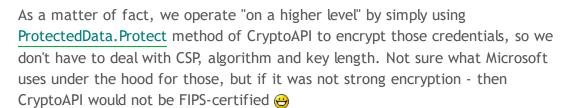
Joined: Oct 06, 2016 1:19 pm

Contact: 💬



Re: Recover ESXi password in Veeam

by **Gostev** » Jan 11, 2018 2:40 pm 🔥 2 people like this post





Gostev

Chief Product Officer

Posts: 31690 Liked: 7200 times

Joined: Jan 01, 2006 1:01 am Location: Baar, Switzerland

Contact: 💬

Re: Recover ESXi password in Veeam

by **bolnetworks** » Jan 12, 2018 1:52 pm

We have the same issue. Can you recover the password for us also? I've contacted support and they told me to write a reply in this topic.



bolnetworks

Influencer

Posts: 13 Liked: never

Joined: Aug 03, 2010 11:39 am

Full Name: Bol Networks

Contact: 💬

Re: Recover ESXi password in Veeam

by **veremin** » Jan 13, 2018 1:36 pm

It's support team that performs password recovery, not the team behind these forums. You might refer to the previously reported ticket 02067079 or escalate the ticket to the higher tier. Thanks.



veremin

Product Manager

Posts: 20352 Liked: 2284 times

Joined: Oct 26, 2012 3:28 pm Full Name: Vladimir Eremin

Contact: 💬

Re: Recover ESXi password in Veeam

by **mcz** » Jan 16, 2018 7:45 am



mcz

Veeam Legend

Posts: 934 Liked: 214 times

Joined: Jul 19, 2016 8:39 am

Full Name: Michael Location: Rheintal, Austria

Contact: 💬

Gostev wrote:

As a matter of fact, we operate "on a higher level" by simply using ProtectedData.Protect method of CryptoAPI to encrypt those credentials

+1 for sharing used API's with us



vveeaamm Lurker

Re: Recover ESXi password in Veeam

by vveeaamm » Mar 22, 2019 10:06 am 🖒 2 people like this post

Here is a quick .NET code to recover the pass:

```
CODE: SELECT ALL
using System;
using System.Collections.Generic;
using System. Security. Cryptography;
using System. Text;
namespace Main
internal static class Program
        private static void Main(string[] args)
                 {
                         string encrypted = "<pass from dbo_Credenti
```

Posts: 1 Liked: 2 times

Joined: Mar 22, 2019 10:04 am

Full Name: ESX

```
Re: Recover ESXi password
in Veeam
```

by ialvarez » May 30, 2019 9:45 pm 🖒 5 people like this post

Connect to sql management studio and to the db for veeam

Run this query.

SELECT TOP (1000) [id]

,[user_name]

,[password]

,[usn]

,[description]

,[visible]

,[change_time_utc]

FROM [VeeamBackup].[dbo].[Credentials]

Get the password hash from the results (match the description to the one you need) then run this in powershell on the server running the db/veeam service the BR server with the hash you grabbed.

Add-Type -Path "C:\Program Files\Veeam\Backup and

Replication\Backup\Veeam.Backup.Common.dll"

\$encoded = 'hashed string from above'

[Veeam.Backup.Common.ProtectedStorage]::GetLocalString(\$encoded)

66

ialvarez

Lurker

Posts: 1 Liked: 5 times

Joined: May 30, 2019 9:41 pm

Full Name: Isaac Alvarez

Contact: 💬

vcocaud Service Provider

Re: Recover ESXi password in Veeam

by vcocaud » Jun 12, 2019 3:06 pm





I'm trying to recover a backup encryption password, is it possible with this method or another one?

66

Posts: 2 Liked: never

Joined: Sep 03, 2013 4:50 pm Full Name: Valentin COCAUD

Contact: 💬

Re: Recover ESXi password in Veeam

by mcz » Jun 18, 2019 8:11 am

can you share a screenshot with us?



mcz Veeam Legend

Posts: 934 Liked: 214 times

Joined: Jul 19, 2016 8:39 am

Full Name: Michael Location: Rheintal, Austria

Contact: 💬



,[change_time_utc]

by **Moebius** » Jun 08, 2020 1:36 pm



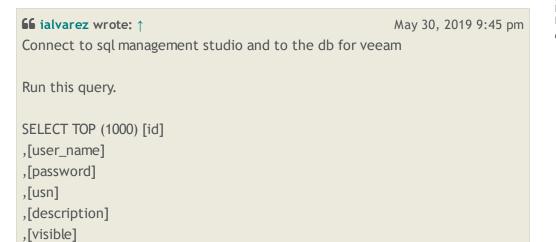
Moebius

Veeam ProPartner

Posts: 206 Liked: 28 times

Joined: Jun 09, 2009 2:48 pm Full Name: Lucio Mazzi Location: Reggio Emilia, Italy

Contact: 💬



FROM [VeeamBackup].[dbo].[Credentials]

Get the password hash from the results (match the description to the one you need) then run this in powershell on the server running the db/veeam service the BR server with the hash you grabbed.

Add-Type -Path "C:\Program Files\Veeam\Backup and

Replication\Backup\Veeam.Backup.Common.dll"

\$encoded = 'hashed string from above'

[Veeam.Backup.Common.ProtectedStorage]::GetLocalString(\$encoded)

This has been working great for me! Also working in v10. Thank you!

Re: Recover ESXi password in Veeam

by daesiku » Sep 24, 2020 4:06 pm 🖒 1 person likes this post

This worked perfectly for my needs. It also serves to emphasize how important it is to secure your backup infrastructure.



daesiku

Novice

Posts: 6 Liked: 1 time

Joined: Nov 20, 2019 4:29 am

Contact: 💬

Re: Recover ESXi password in Veeam

by **xavierpitz** » Sep 30, 2021 3:30 pm



xavierpitz

Lurker

Posts: 2 Liked: never

Joined: Sep 30, 2021 3:24 pm

Full Name: Xavier Pitz

Contact: 💬

66 ialvarez wrote: ↑ May 30, 2019 9:45 pm

Connect to sql management studio and to the db for veeam

Run this query.

SELECT TOP (1000) [id]

,[user_name]

,[password]

,[usn]

,[description]

,[visible]

,[change_time_utc]

FROM [VeeamBackup].[dbo].[Credentials]

Get the password hash from the results (match the description to the one you need) then run this in powershell on the server running the db/veeam service the BR server with the hash you grabbed.

Add-Type -Path "C:\Program Files\Veeam\Backup and

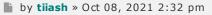
```
Replication\Backup\Veeam.Backup.Common.dll"
$encoded = 'hashed string from above'
[Veeam.Backup.Common.ProtectedStorage]::GetLocalString($encoded)
```

Thank you very much for this trick.

I was able to retrieve/resurect a private SSH key from table dbo.Ssh_creds with the same method and decrypting private_key/passphrase strings

SELECT TOP (1000) [id]
,[elevatetoroot]
,[rootpassword]
,[private_key]
,[passphrase]
FROM [Veeam].[dbo].[Ssh_creds]

Re: Recover ESXi password in Veeam





tiiash Lurker

Posts: 2 Liked: 1 time

Joined: Feb 04, 2021 5:25 pm

Contact: 💬

```
66 vcocaud wrote: ↑
```

Jun 12, 2019 3:06 pm

I tried to use ialvarez method but getting this error (english translation = "invalid data"):

```
CODE: SELECT ALL
```

I'm trying to recover a backup encryption password, is it possible with this method or another one ?

For what it's worth, I experienced the same error message today. As a penetration tester, I am probably not the main audience of this forum () but I figured this might be relevant for backup administrators as well. I understand that the decryption needs to be run on the same system that stores the encrypted passwords due to the data being tied to the local machine key. However, it seems that there can be situations in which the described process does not work as expected.

Since the Veeam backups are running happily everyday, there must be some way to decrypt the data successfully.

Re: Recover ESXi password in Veeam

by **Gostev** » Oct 08, 2021 3:32 pm

Please note that this thread is about recovering credentials specifically. No one ever said the same approach can be used for other encrypted entities, such as backup encryption passwords the person you're quoting is trying to recover.

Other than that, you are definitely an integral part of the main audience. Remember these are Veeam R&D forums and so we're particularly interested in opinions and findings of highly specialized professionals like yourself. Definitely way more than in "something broke in my environment yesterday and backups are no longer working, help!" type of posters :



Gostev

Chief Product Officer

Posts: 31690 Liked: 7200 times

Joined: Jan 01, 2006 1:01 am Location: Baar, Switzerland

Contact: 💬

Re: Recover ESXi password in Veeam

by tiiash » Nov 11, 2021 1:22 pm 🖒 1 person likes this post

Thanks Gostev, I just found your reply and now activated email notifications for this topic .

You are right that the user vcocaud, who I quoted, tried to decrypt backup encryption passwords. For me, the same error message occurred when trying to decrypt credentials which I retrieved from a Veeam backup server instance. The approach described in this topic has already helped me multiple times in escalating privileges in a client environment and ultimately, in showing them why it is dangerous to connect your backup infrastructure to your production domain. If this happens, I always link them to your great best practice guide: https://bp.veeam.com/vbr/Security/Security_domains.html

tiiash Lurker

Posts: 2 Liked: 1 time

Joined: Feb 04, 2021 5:25 pm

Contact: 💬

POST REPLY 🦴





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