OVF – Migration Tool

Quick Guide

Contents

Introduction:

Open Virtualization Format (OVF) is an open standard for packaging and distributing virtual appliances or, more generally, software to be run in virtual machines. In VMware OVF Tool is a command line utility that supports importing and exporting of OVF packages, VMX files, or virtual machines from ESXi hosts and other VMware products. OVF also uses a technique called delta disk compression to achieve better compression

OVF is a file format that supports exchange of virtual appliances across products and platforms. OVA is a single file distribution of the same file package.

The OVF and OVA formats offer the following advantages:

1. OVF and OVA files are compressed, allowing for faster downloads.
2. The vSphere Web Client validates an OVF or OVA file before importing it, and ensures that it is compatible with the intended destination server.
3. If the appliance is incompatible with the selected host, it cannot be imported and an error message appears.

GUI OVF TOOL:

The purpose behind the tool is to provide a wrapper on the top of the OVF command line tool.

This wrapper solves the following the problems for the customers.

1. Windows power users can benefit from the Simple and Intuitive User Interface provided by the tool.
2. The workflow is simple and elegant. Care was taken to make sure it's dumb down and very easy to understand and use.
3. All major functionality of the OVF command line tool has been mimicked in the Wrapper thereby eliminating the user from using the cumbersome and heavy switch commands via the command line tool.

Pre-requisites:

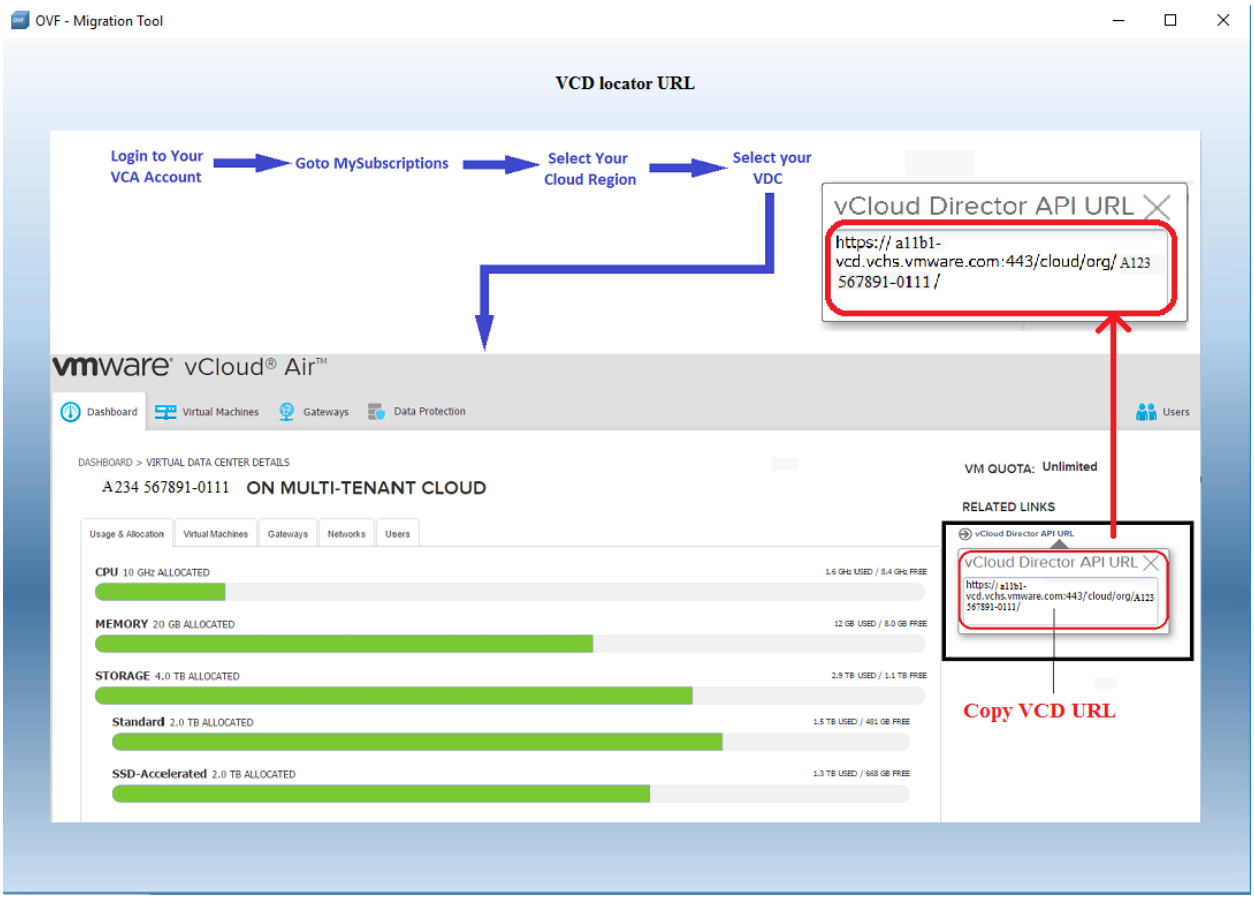
Software requirements:

- OVF Tool
- cURL application

Note:

- Please make sure the OVF Tool is installed in the Default Location i.e. C:\ProgramFiles\VMware\VMware OVF Tool
- Maintain the cURL application Folder in specified path i.e. C:\ProgramFiles
- cURL application is available as part of the software please make sure you
- copy it in the specified path
- OVF Tool if not installed please install it and maintain it in the default location.

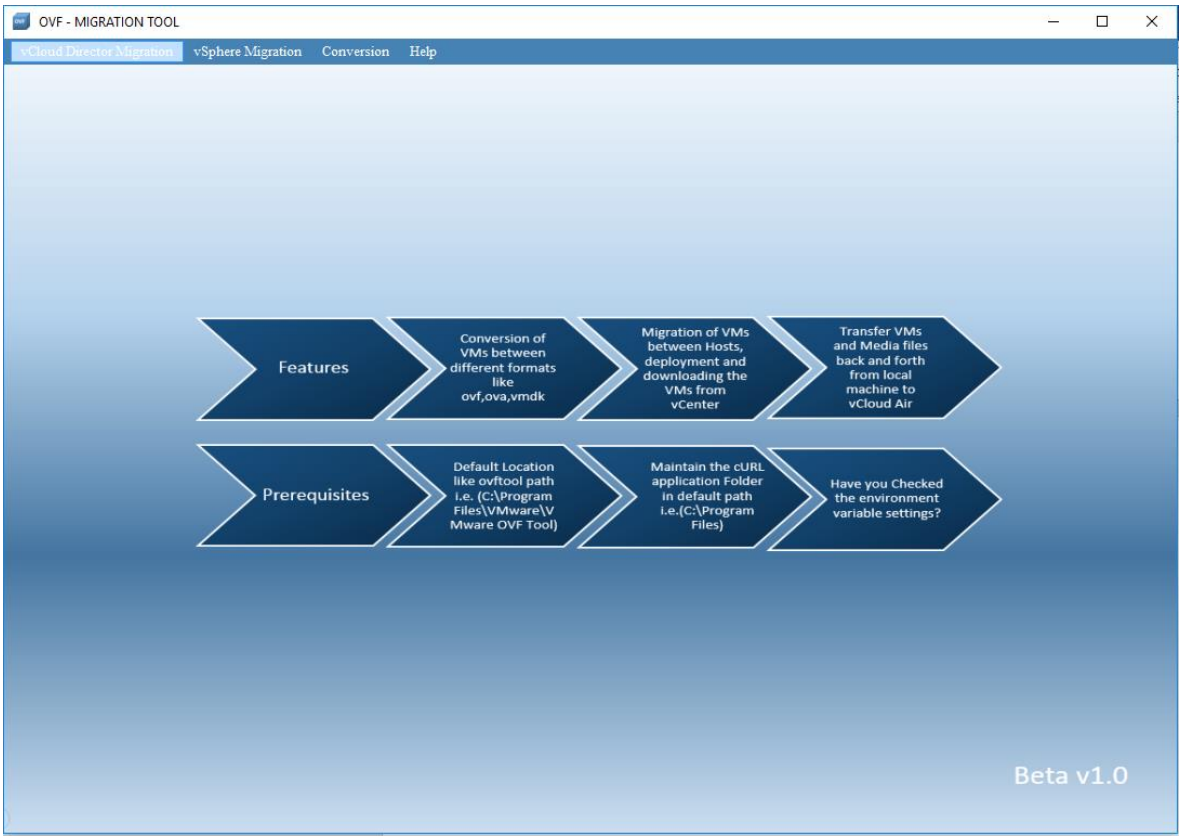
How to find vCloud Air API URL:



Screenshots:

The Main page of the GUI OVF Tool displays menu strip shows the different functionalities that are available for the user.

1. Conversion
2. vSphere Migration
3. vCloud Director Migration
4. Help



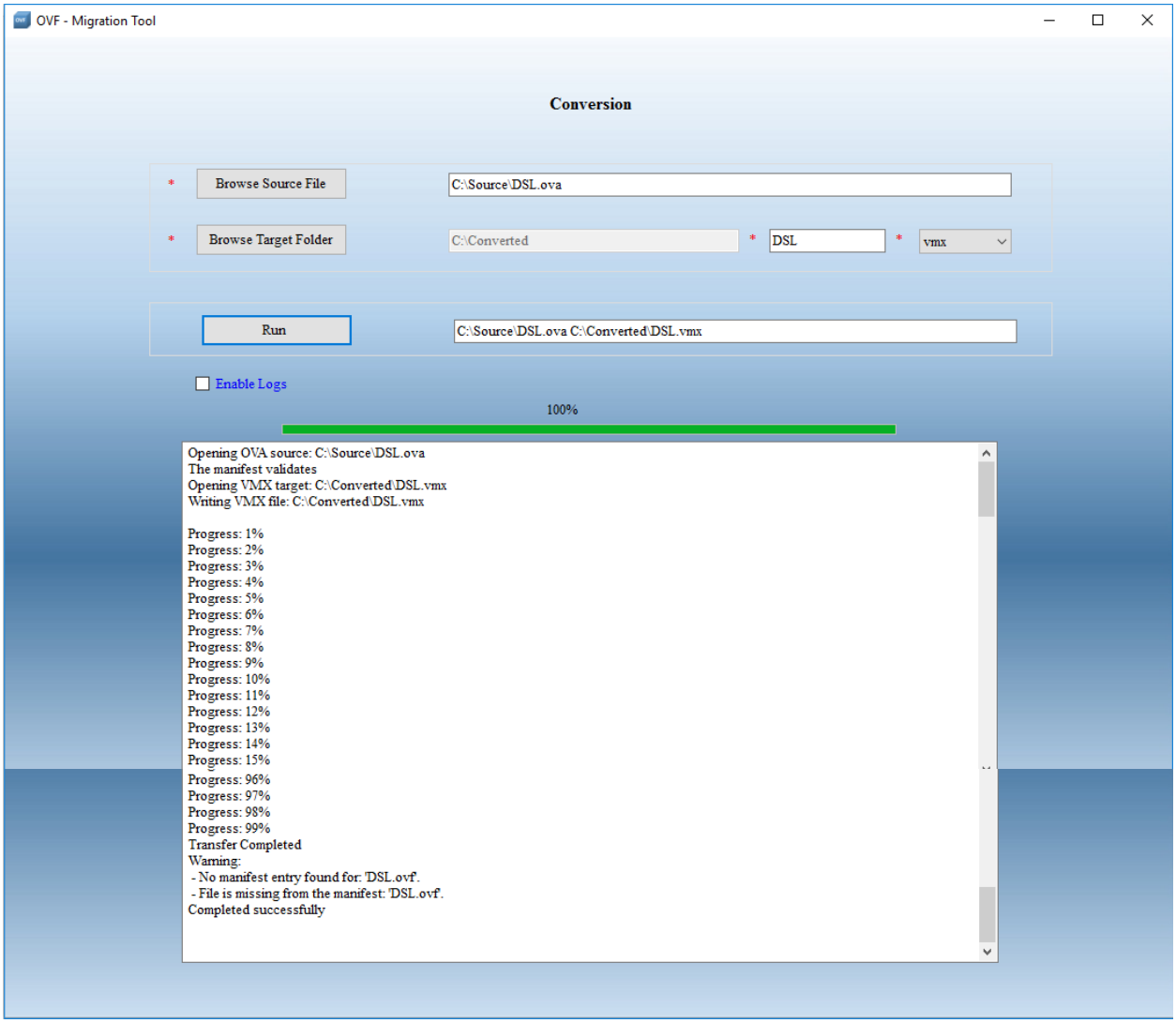
Conversion:

Conversion includes three options, All the three does the Conversion of one of the file format to any of the two formats.

a. OVA-OVF/VM
b. OVF-OVA/VM
c. VM-OVF/OVA

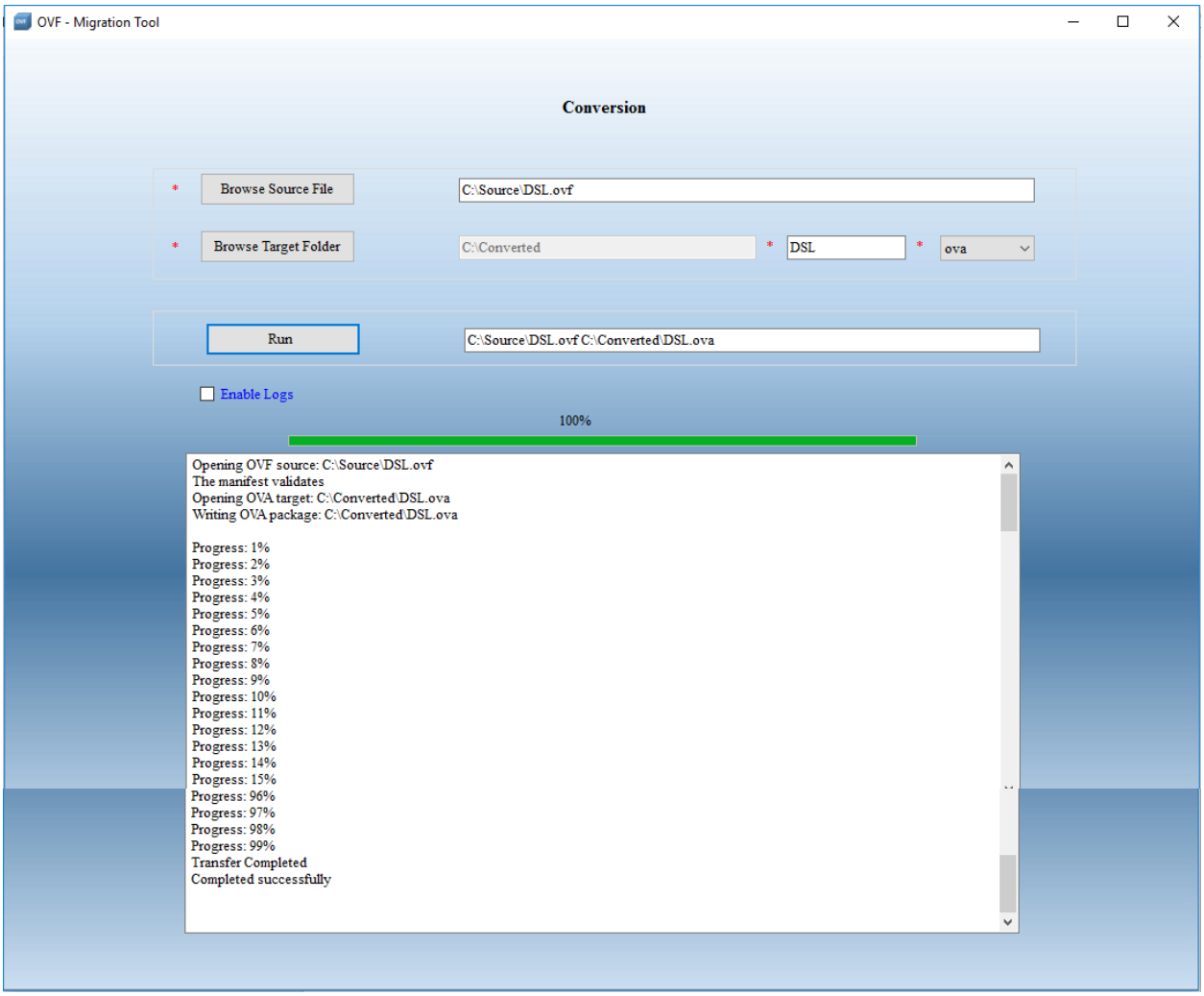
Conversion of OVA-OVF/VM:

Conversion of OVA file format to formats like OVF or VM is shown below.



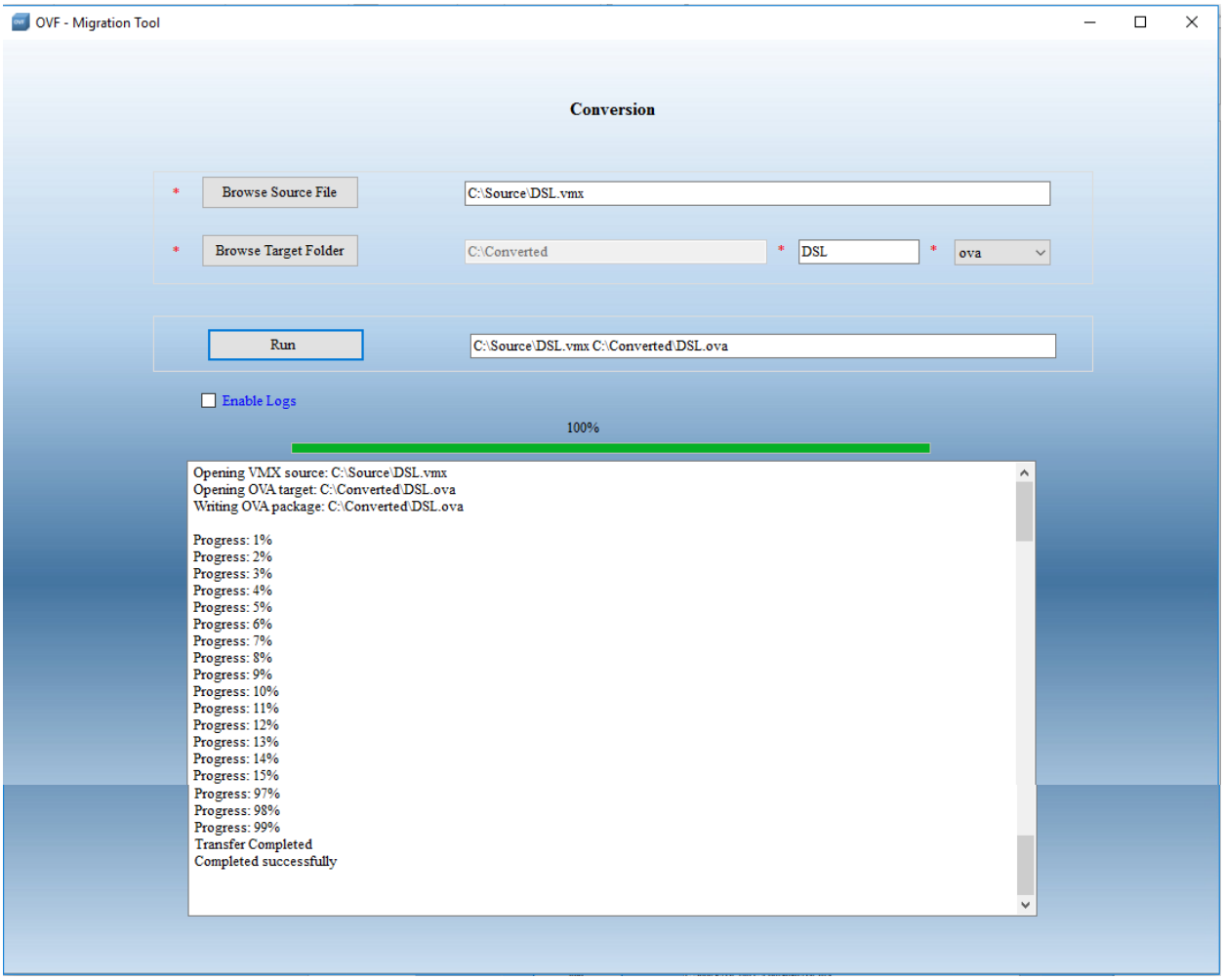
Conversion of OVF-OVA/VM:

Conversion of OVF file format to formats like OVA or VM is shown below.



Conversion of VM-OVF/OVA :

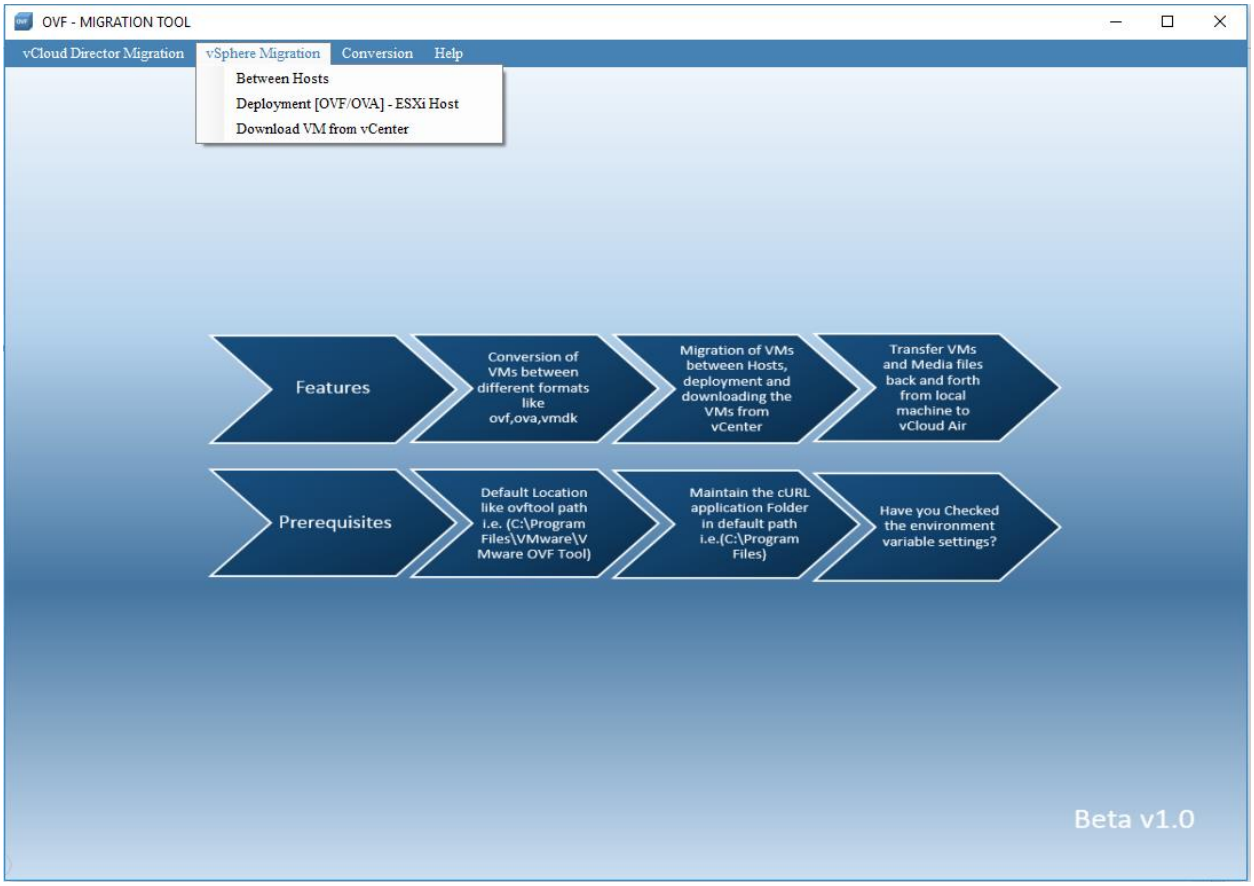
Conversion of VM file format to formats like OVF or OVA is shown below.



vSphere Migration:

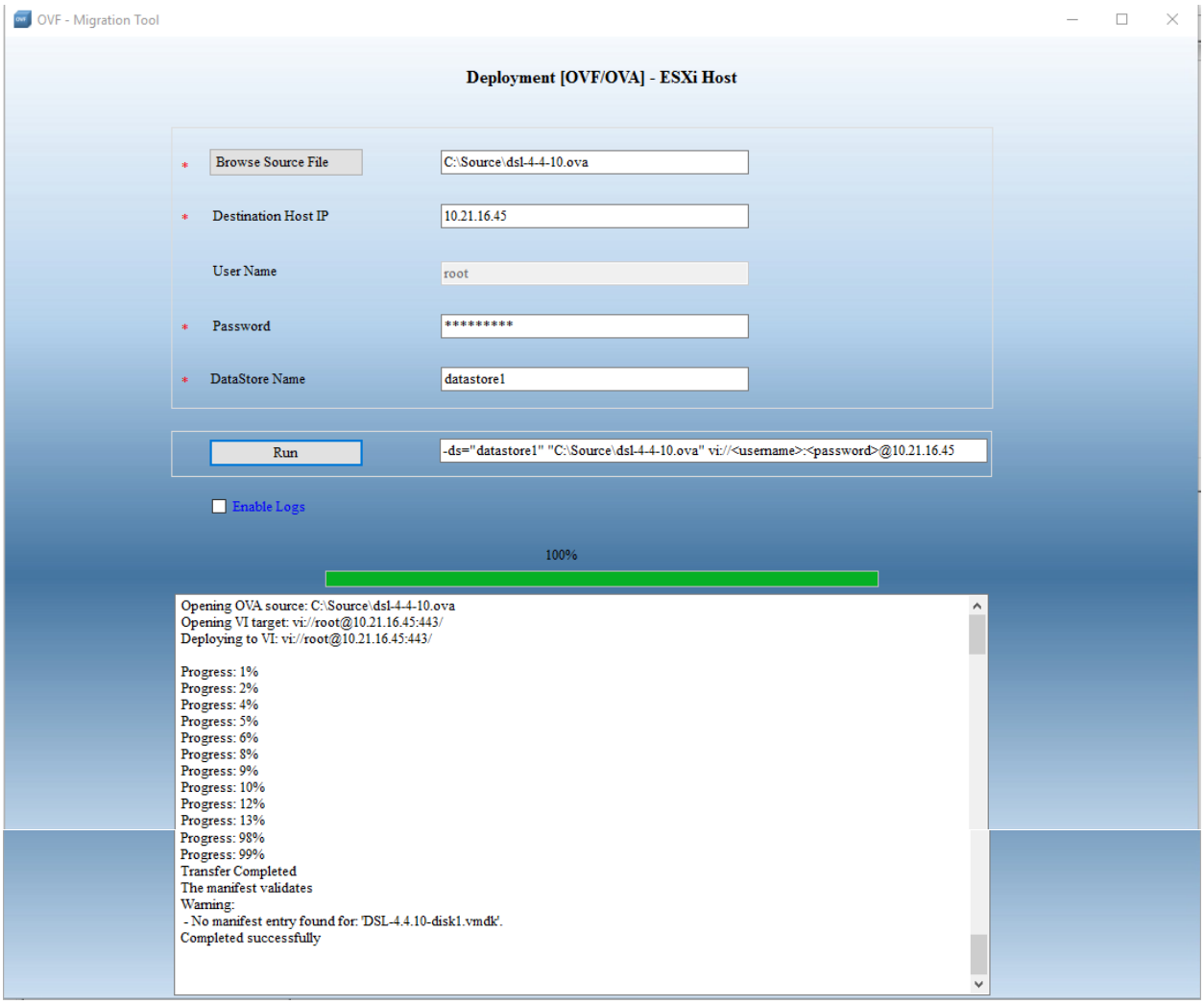
vSphere Migration has three options:

1. Deployment [OVF/OVA]-ESXi Host.
2. Between Hosts
3. Download from vCenter.

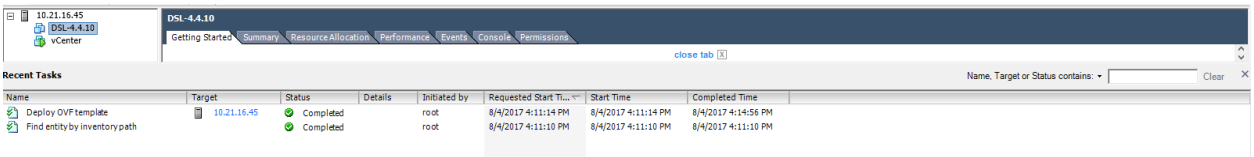


Deploying OVF/OVA templates on a ESXi host:

Deployment of OVF template from Local Machine to ESXi Host can be done by providing the source location and the target Host details.

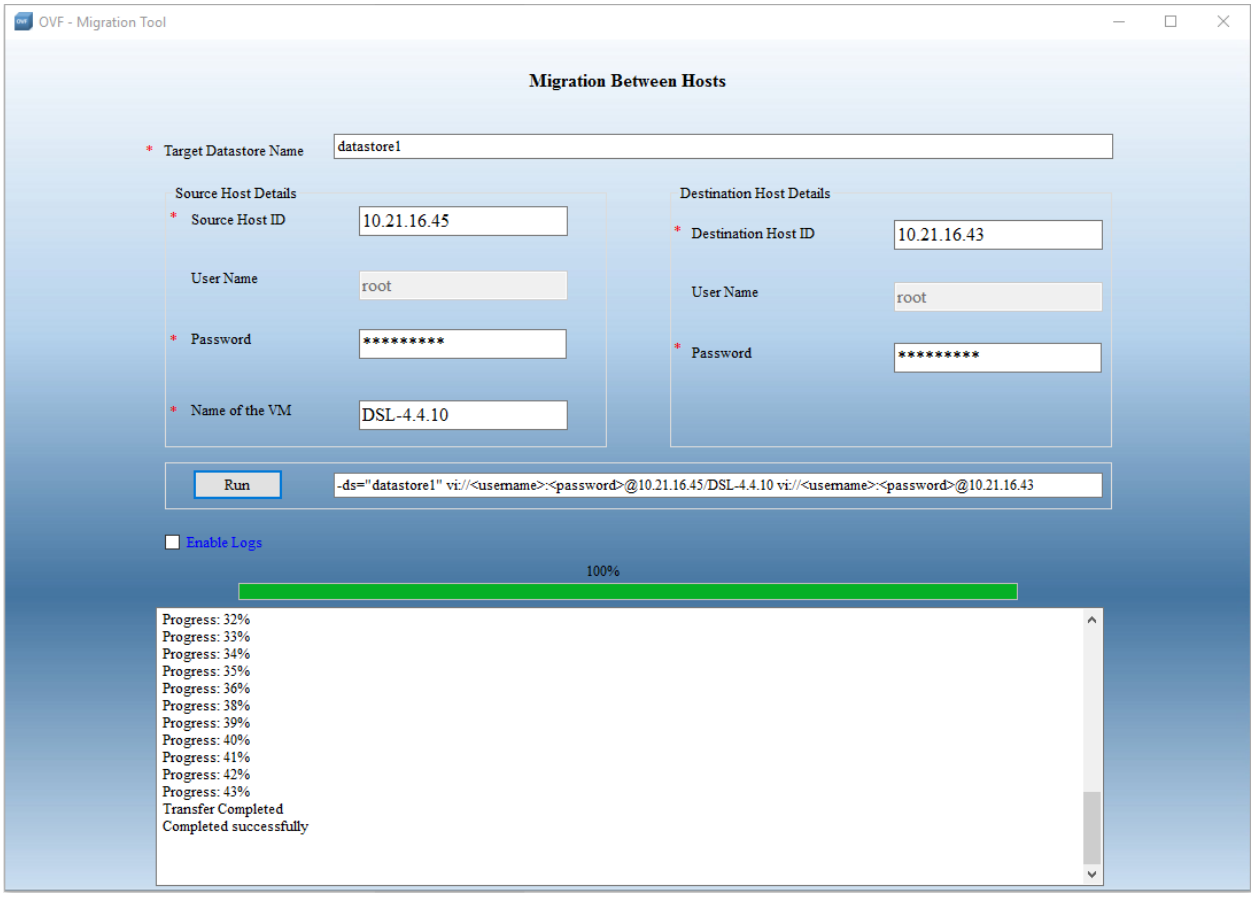


Verify the deployment in the ESXi host.



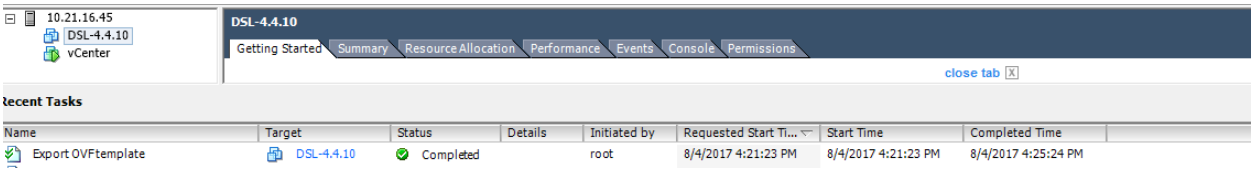
Migration between Hosts:

The Migration of the OVF and OVA files can be done between one Host to the other Host by providing Source and Destination Host details.

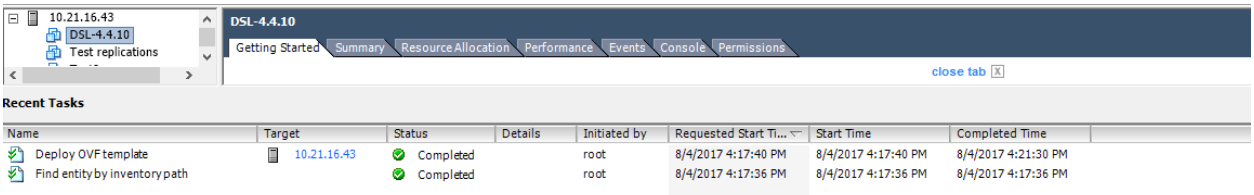


Verify the migration task on both source and destination Hosts.

Source Host:

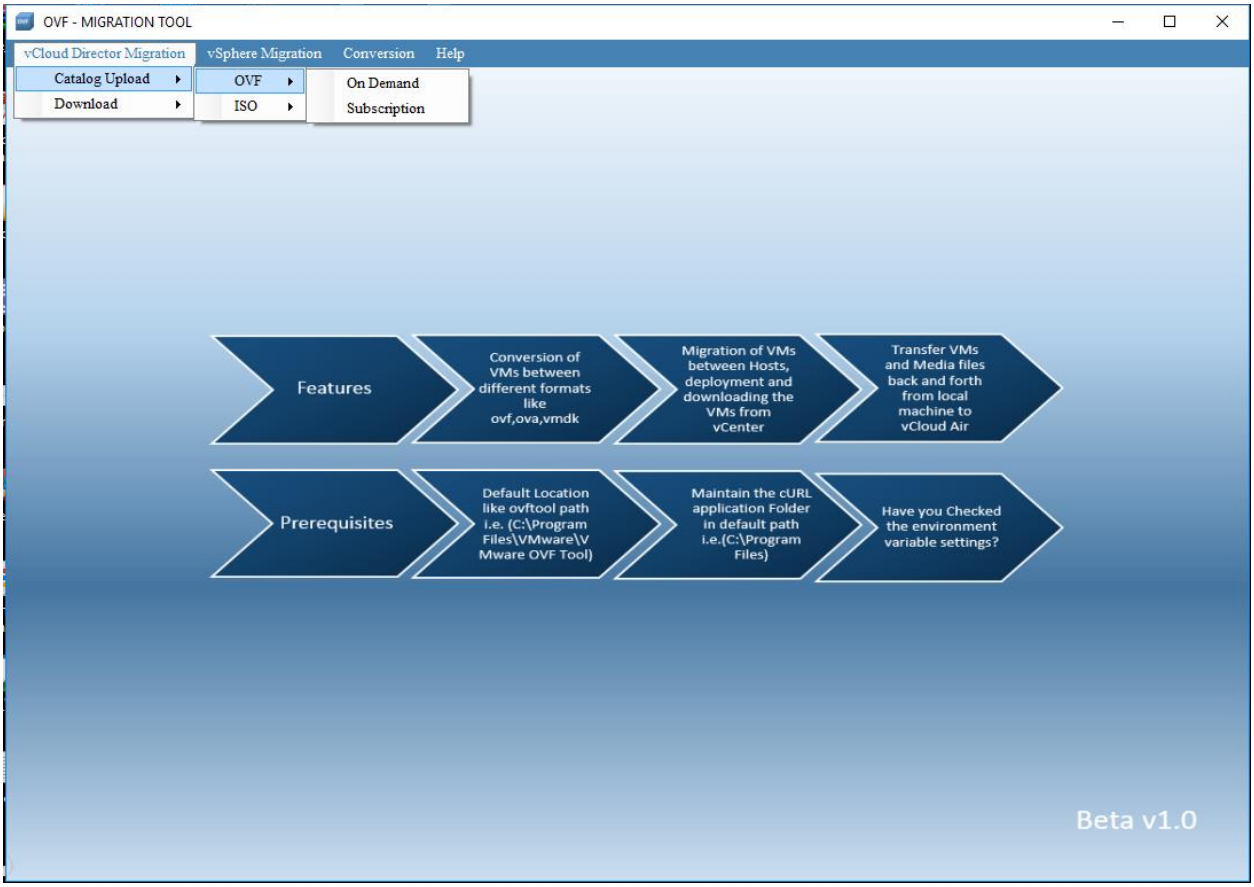


Destination Host:



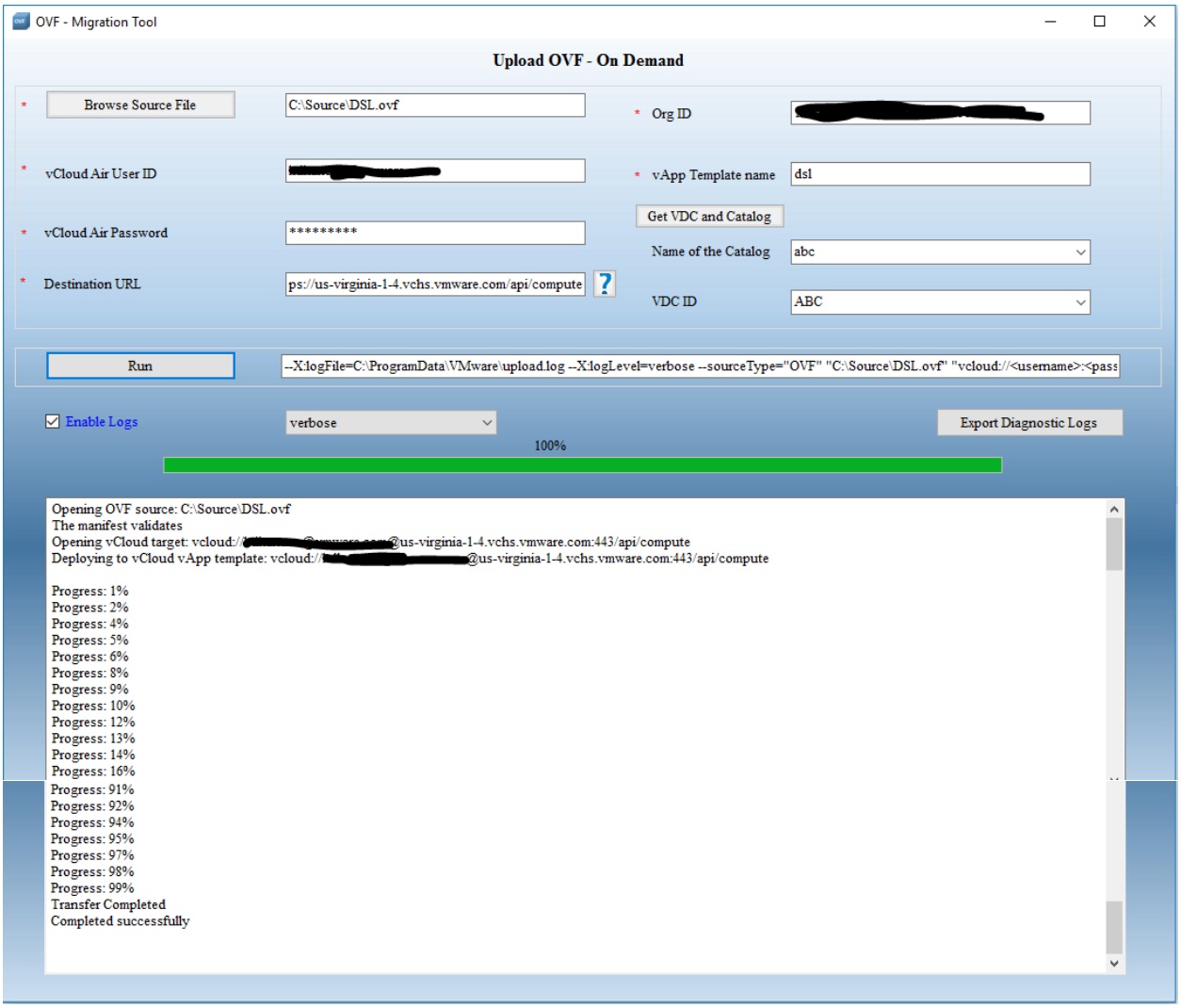
vCloud Director Migration:

1. Catalog Upload
2. Downloading VM from VCD



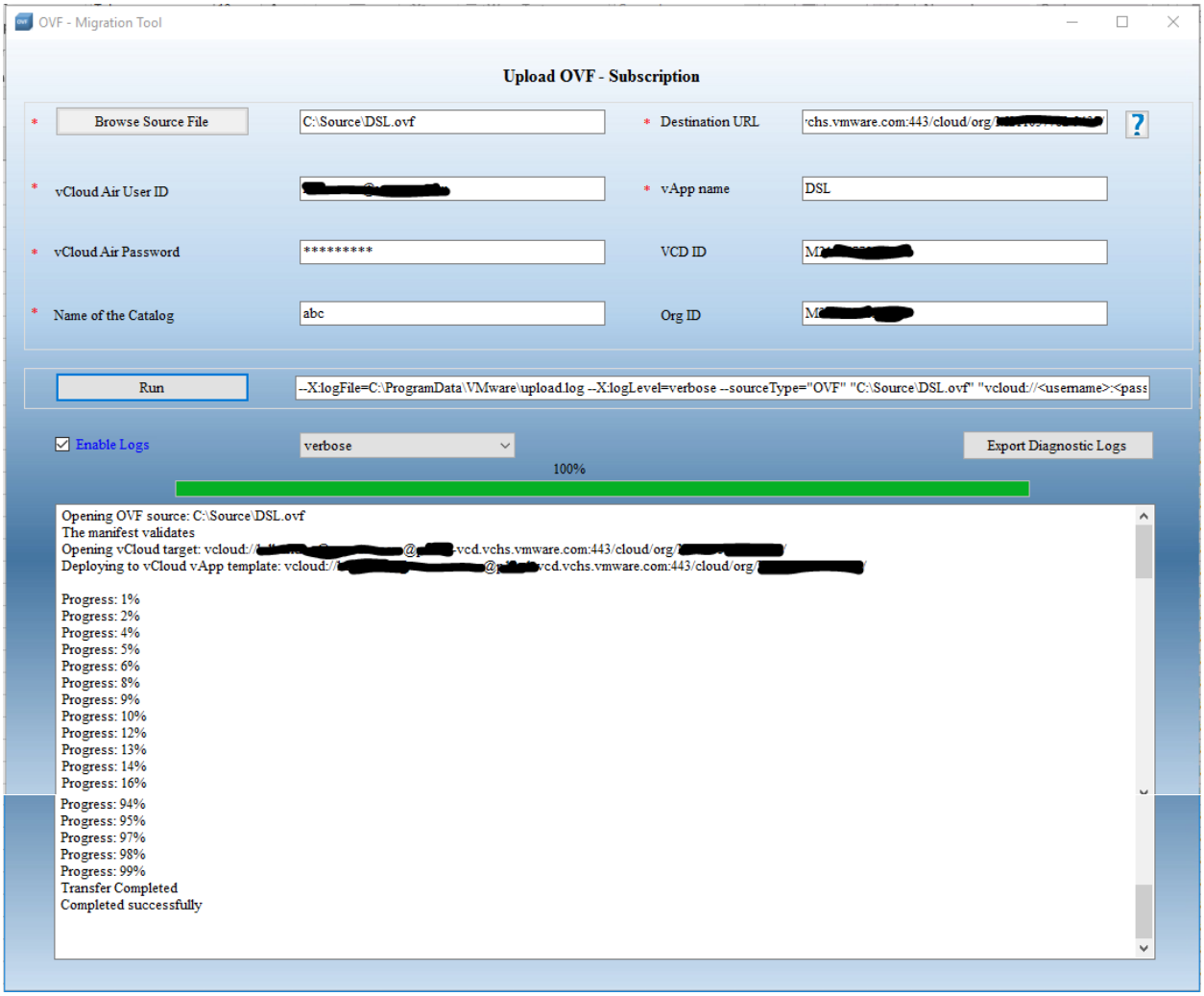
Uploading an OVF to a vCloud Air On-Demand Environment:

Uploading an OVF to vCloud Air On-Demand Environment can be done by providing vCloud Air API URL and vCA User Credentials.



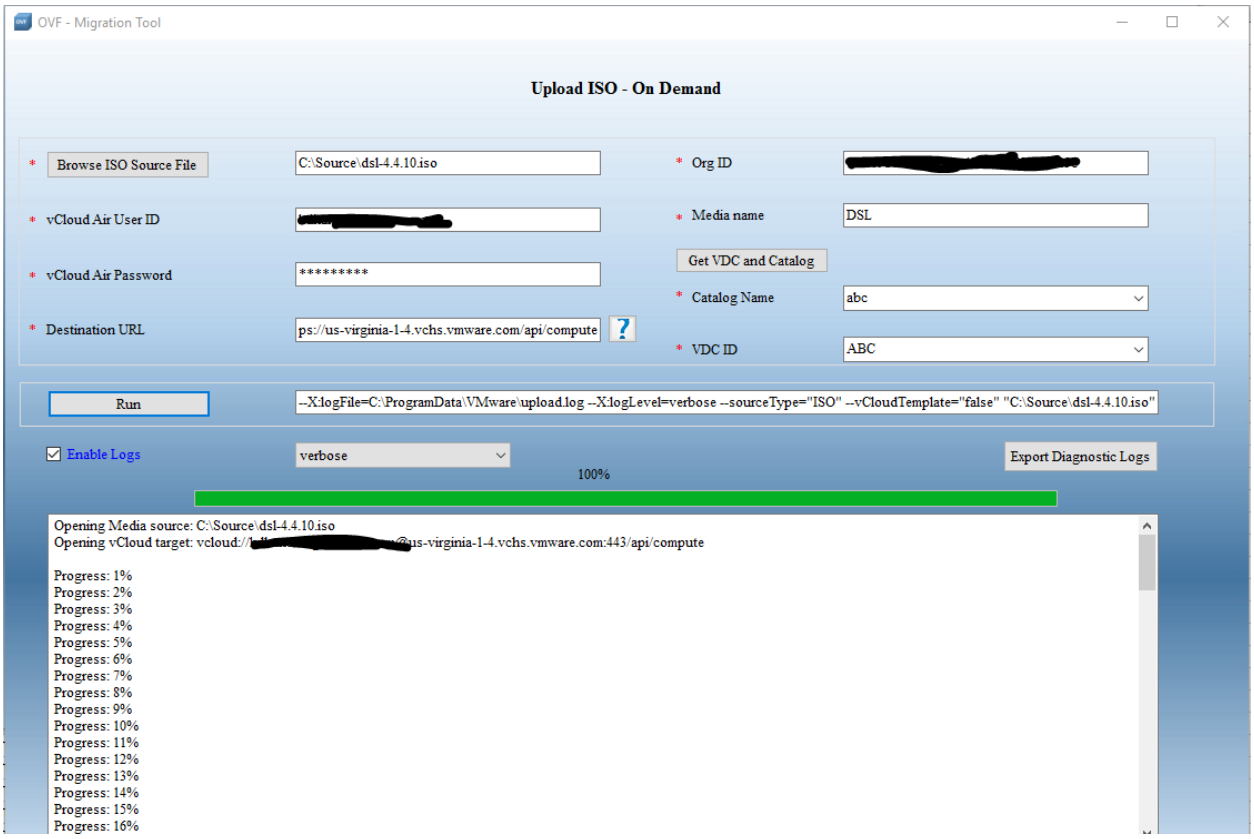
Uploading an OVF to a vCloud Air Subscription Environment:

Uploading an OVF to vCloud Air Subscription Environment can be done by providing vCloud Air API URL and vCA User Credentials.



Uploading an ISO to a vCloud Air On-Demand Environment:

Uploading an ISO to vCloud Air On-Demand Environment can be done by providing vCloud Air API URL and vCA User Credentials.



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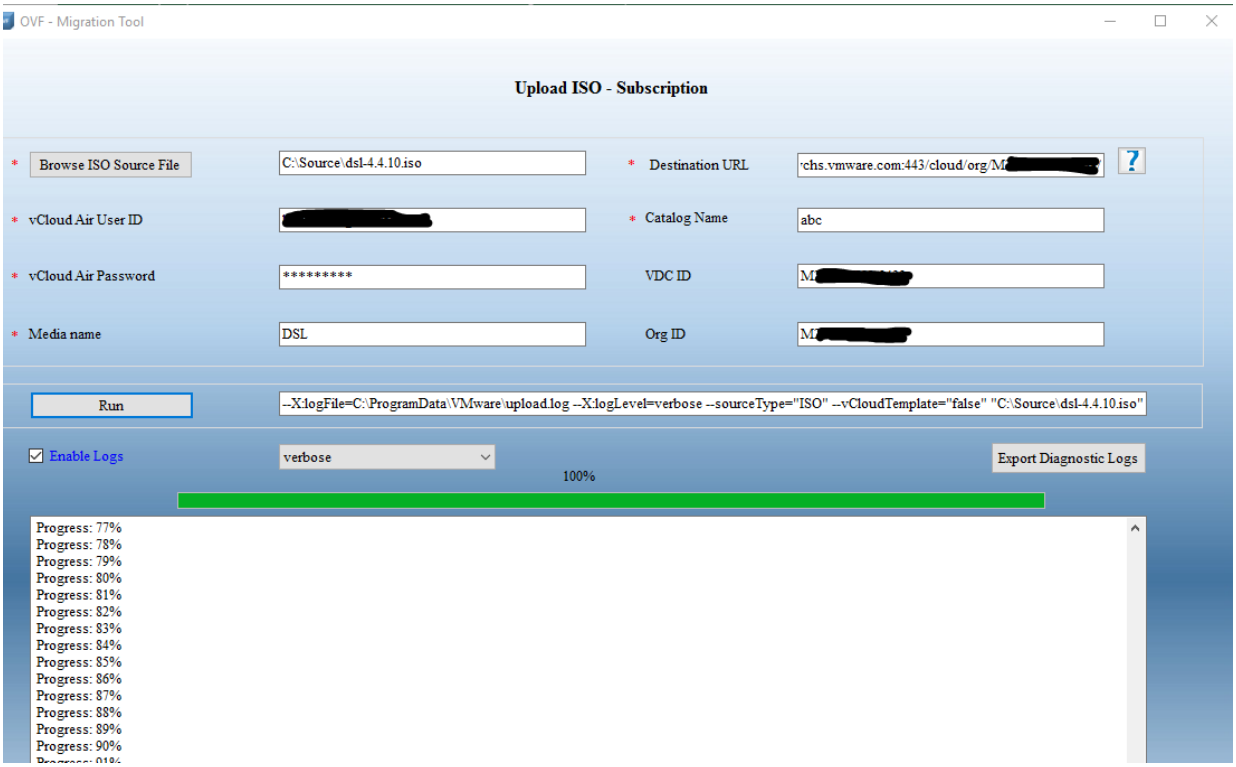
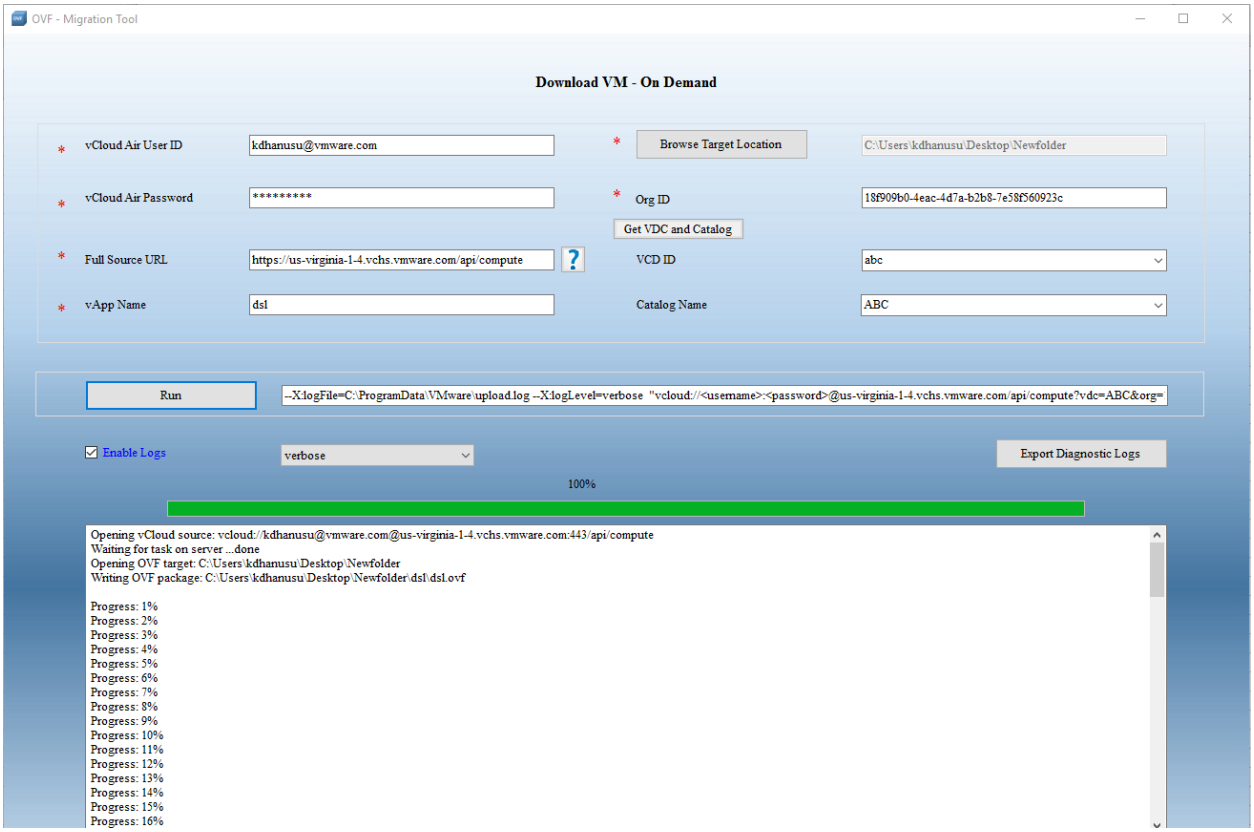


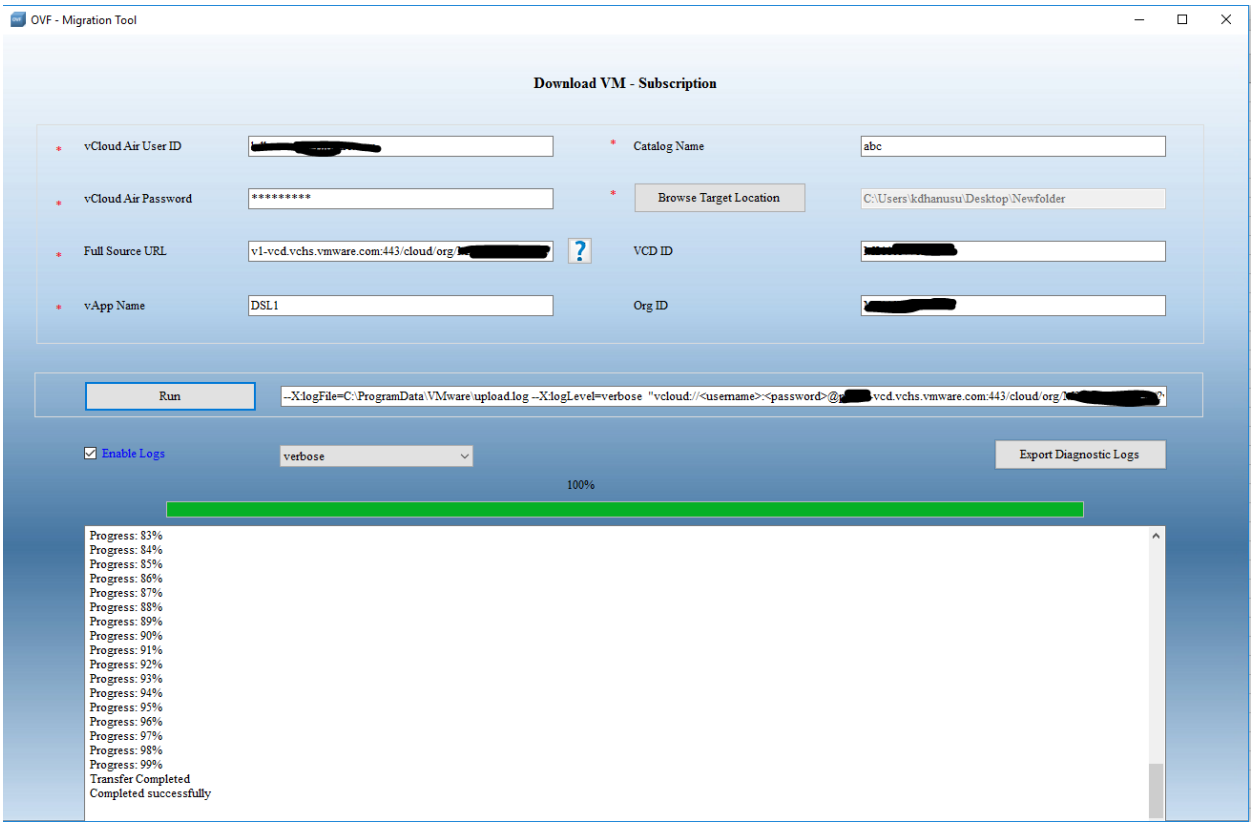
Downloading a vAPP template from vCloud Air On-Demand Environment:

Downloading a vAPP template from vCloud Air On-Demand by by providing vCloud Air API URL and vCA User Credentials.



Downloading a vAPP template from vCloud Air Subscription Environment

Downloading a vAPP template from vCloud Air Subscription by providing vCloud Air API URL and vCA User Credentials



Troubleshooting:

When the log file option is checked, there comes an option to export the log file, the users can open read and save the log file to the specific location (C:\Program Data\VMware\Upload.log) for troubleshooting purpose.

It is recommended to increase the timeout value of OVFtool for large workload migration to vCloud Air, the default timeout value for OVFtool is 60 mins. To increase the timeout valve please follow the KB article:

https://kb.vmware.com/kb/2082152