



Migrating Workloads on GCP / GCVE

NetApp Solutions

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Table of Contents

Migrating Workloads on GCP / GCVE.....	1
Migrate workloads to NetApp Cloud Volume Service datastore on Google Cloud VMware Engine using VMware HCX - Quickstart guide	1
VM Migration to NetApp Cloud Volume Service NFS Datastore on Google Cloud VMware Engine using Veeam Replication feature	18

Migrating Workloads on GCP / GCVE

Migrate workloads to NetApp Cloud Volume Service datastore on Google Cloud VMware Engine using VMware HCX - Quickstart guide

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Overview: Migrating virtual machines with VMware HCX, NetApp Cloud Volume Service datastores, and Google Cloud VMware Engine (GCVE)

One of the most common use cases for the Google Cloud VMware Engine and Cloud Volume Service datastore is the migration of VMware workloads. VMware HCX is a preferred option and provides various migration mechanisms to move on-premises virtual machines (VMs) and its data to Cloud Volume Service NFS datastores.

VMware HCX is primarily a migration platform that is designed to simplify application migration, workload rebalancing, and even business continuity across clouds. It is included as part of Google Cloud VMware Engine Private Cloud and offers many ways to migrate workloads and can be used for disaster recovery (DR) operations.

This document provides step-by-step guidance for provisioning Cloud Volume Service datastore followed by downloading, deploying, and configuring VMware HCX, including all its main components in on-premises and the Google Cloud VMware Engine side including Interconnect, Network Extension, and WAN optimization for enabling various VM migration mechanisms.

 VMware HCX works with any datastore type as the migration is at the VM level. Hence this document is applicable to existing NetApp customers and non-NetApp customers who are planning to deploy Cloud Volume Service with Google Cloud VMware Engine for a cost-effective VMware cloud deployment.

High-level steps

This list provides the high-level steps necessary to pair & Migrate the VMs to HCX Cloud Manager on the Google Cloud VMware Engine side from HCX Connector on-premises:

1. Prepare HCX through the Google VMware Engine portal.
2. Download and deploy the HCX Connector Open Virtualization Appliance (OVA) installer in the on-premises VMware vCenter Server.
3. Activate HCX with the license key.
4. Pair the on-premises VMware HCX Connector with Google Cloud VMware Engine HCX Cloud Manager.
5. Configure the network profile, compute profile, and service mesh.
6. (Optional) Perform network extension to avoid re-IP during migrations.
7. Validate the appliance status and ensure that migration is possible.
8. Migrate the VM workloads.

Prerequisites

Before you begin, make sure the following prerequisites are met. For more information, see this [link](#). After the prerequisites, including connectivity, are in place, download HCX license key from the Google Cloud VMware Engine portal. After the OVA installer is downloaded, proceed with the installation process as described below.

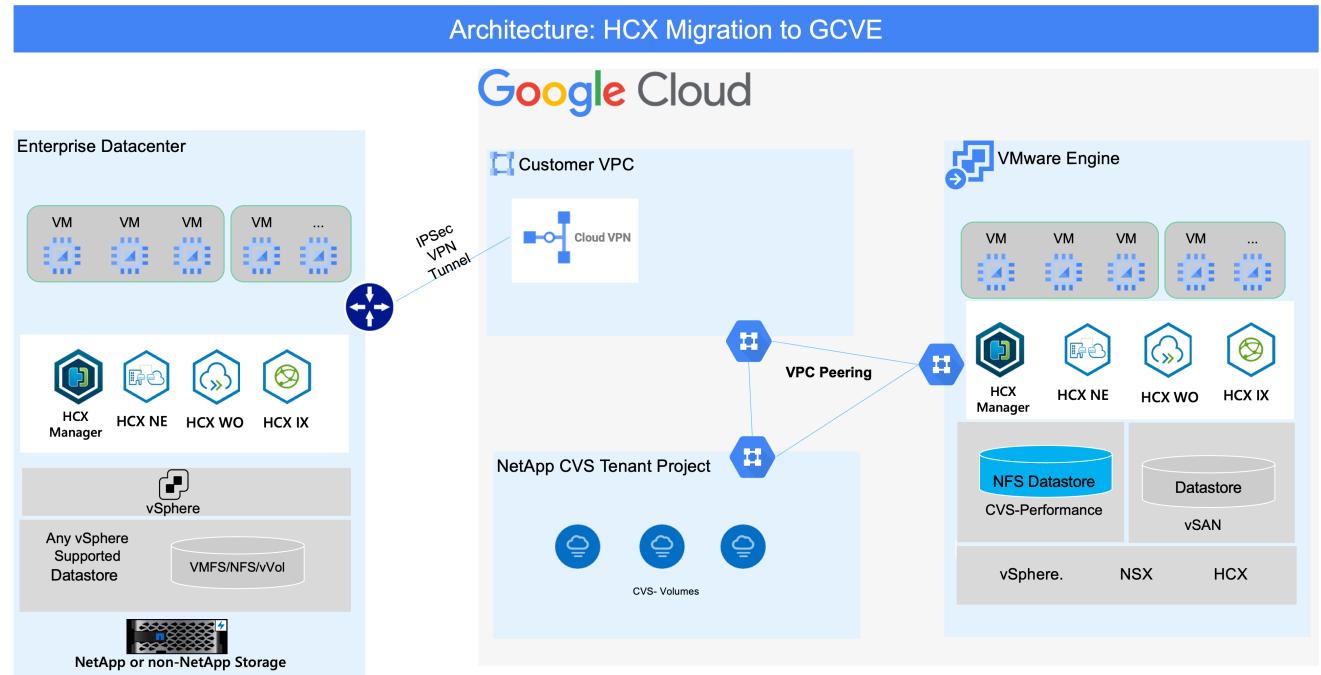


HCX advanced is the default option and VMware HCX Enterprise edition is also available through a support ticket and supported at no additional cost. Refer [this link](#)

- Use an existing Google Cloud VMware Engine software-defined data center (SDDC) or create a private cloud by using this [NetApp link](#) or this [Google link](#).
- Migration of VMs and associated data from the on-premises VMware vSphere- enabled data center requires network connectivity from the data center to the SDDC environment. Before migrating workloads, [set up a Cloud VPN or Cloud Interconnect connection](#) between the on-premises environment and the respective private cloud.
- The network path from on-premises VMware vCenter Server environment to the Google Cloud VMware Engine private cloud must support the migration of VMs by using vMotion.
- Make sure the required [firewall rules and ports](#) are allowed for vMotion traffic between the on-premises vCenter Server and SDDC vCenter.
- Cloud Volume Service NFS volume should be mounted as a datastore in Google Cloud VMware Engine. Follow the steps detailed in this [link](#) to attach Cloud Volume Service datastores to Google Cloud VMware Engines hosts.

High Level Architecture

For testing purposes, the lab environment from on-premises used for this validation was connected through a Cloud VPN, which allows on-premises connectivity to Google Cloud VPC.



For more detailed diagram on HCX, please refer [VMware link](#)

Solution Deployment

Follow the series of steps to complete the deployment of this solution:

Step 1: Prepare HCX through the Google VMware Engine Portal

HCX Cloud Manager component automatically gets installed as you provision private cloud with VMware Engine. To prepare for site pairing, complete the following steps:

1. Log in to the Google VMware Engine Portal and sign-in to the HCX Cloud Manager.

You can login to HCX Console either by clicking on the HCX version link

The screenshot shows the Google Cloud VMware Engine portal interface. The left sidebar has 'Resources' selected. The main area shows a cluster named 'gcve-cvs-hw-eu-west3'. Under the 'vSphere MANAGEMENT NETWORK' tab, there is a table with the following data:

Category	Value	Details
Name	gcve-cvs-hw-eu-west3	Status: Operational
Stretched	No	Primary Location: europe-west3 > v-zone-a > VE Placement Group 1
Cloud Monitoring	--	Private Cloud DNS Servers: 10.0.16.8, 10.0.16.9
IP Plan Version	1	vCenter login info: View, Reset password
Total nodes	3	Total CPU capacity: 108 cores
Total storage capacity	57.6 TB Raw, 9.6 TB Cache, All-Flash	Total RAM: 2304 GB
vSphere version	7.0u2	NSX-T Edition: NSX-T Advanced
Technology Stack		HCX Manager Cloud version: 4.2.2

or clicking on HCX FQDN under vSphere Management Network tab.

The screenshot shows the Google Cloud VMware Engine portal interface. The left sidebar has 'Resources' selected. The main area shows a table under the 'vSphere MANAGEMENT NETWORK' tab with the following data:

Type	Version	FQDN	IP Address
vCenter Server Appliance	7.0.2.19272235	vcse-57901f7458c8feurope-west3.gve.goog	10.0.16.6
NSX Manager	--	nsx-58041f7458c8feurope-west3.gve.goog	10.0.16.11
HCX	--	hcx-58042f7458c8feurope-west3.gve.goog	10.0.16.13
ESXi	7.0.2.18836573	esxi-57987f7458c8feurope-west3.gve.goog	10.0.16.15
ESXi	7.0.2.18836573	esxi-71844f7458c8feurope-west3.gve.goog	10.0.16.19
ESXi	7.0.2.18836573	esxi-57902f7458c8feurope-west3.gve.goog	10.0.16.16
DNS Server 2	--	ns2-57900f7458c8feurope-west3.gve.goog	10.0.16.9
DNS Server 1	--	ns1-57899f7458c8feurope-west3.gve.goog	10.0.16.8

2. In HCX Cloud Manager, go to **Administration > System Updates**.

3. Click **Request download link** and download the OVA file.

The screenshot shows the VMware HCX Cloud Manager interface. The left sidebar has 'System Updates' selected. The main area shows the 'System Updates' section with the following details:

Pair your remote data center with VMware HCX
REQUEST DOWNLOAD LINK

Local HCX
CHECK FOR UPDATES

Current Version	System Name	Status	Info	System Type	NSX Version	VC Version	Copy To Clipboard
4.5.2.0	hcx-58042f7458c8feurope-west3.gve.goog-cloud	①		HCX Cloud	3.1.2.0.2906730.19262106	7.0.2.19272235	Copy

Number of Appliances: 1

Remote HCX

Current Version	System Name	Status	Info	System Type	Copy To Clipboard
4.5.2.0	HCX-RTP	①		HCX Connector	Copy

Number of Appliances: 1

4. Update HCX Cloud Manager to the latest version available from the HCX Cloud Manager UI.

Step 2: Deploy the installer OVA in the on-premises vCenter Server

For the on-premises Connector to connect to the HCX Manager in Google Cloud VMware Engine, make sure the appropriate firewall ports are open in the on-premises environment.

To download and install HCX Connector in the on-premises vCenter Server, complete the following steps:

1. Have the ova downloaded from the HCX Console on Google Cloud VMware Engine as stated in previous step.
2. After the OVA is downloaded, deploy it on to the on-premises VMware vSphere environment by using the **Deploy OVF Template** option.

The screenshot shows the 'Deploy OVF Template' wizard. The current step is '1 Select an OVF template'. The user has chosen the 'Local file' option and uploaded 'VMware-HCX-Connector-4.5.2.0-20914338.ova'. The 'NEXT' button is visible at the bottom right.

3. Enter all the required information for the OVA deployment, click **Next**, and then click **Finish** to deploy the VMware HCX connector OVA.



Power on the virtual appliance manually.

For step-by-step instructions, see the [VMware HCX User Guide](#).

Step 3: Activate HCX Connector with the license key

After you deploy the VMware HCX Connector OVA on-premises and start the appliance, complete the following steps to activate HCX Connector. Generate the license key from the Google Cloud VMware Engine portal and activate it in VMware HCX Manager.

- From the VMware Engine portal, Click on Resources, select the private cloud, and **click on download icon under HCX Manager Cloud Version.**

The screenshot shows the Google Cloud VMware Engine interface. On the left, there's a sidebar with icons for Home, Resources, Network, Activity, and Account. Under Resources, a private cloud named 'gcve-cvs-hw-eu-west3' is selected. The main pane displays the 'Basic Info' section for this cloud, including its name ('gcve-cvs-hw-eu-west3'), status ('Operational'), and primary location ('europe-west3 > v-zone-a > VE Placement Group 1'). It also shows 'Cloud Monitoring' status, IP Plan Version (1), and various network and storage details like total nodes (3), total storage capacity (57.6 TB Raw, 9.6 TB Cache, All-Flash), and vSphere version (7.0u2). On the right, there are sections for Clusters (1), Secondary Location, vSphere/vSAN subnets CIDR range (10.0.16.0/24), NSX-T login info, and HCX Manager Cloud version (4.2.2).

Open Downloaded file and copy the License Key String.

- Log into the on-premises VMware HCX Manager at <https://hcxmanagerIP:9443> using administrator credentials.



Use the hcxmanagerIP and password defined during the OVA deployment.

- In the licensing, enter the key copied from step 3 and click **Activate**.



The on-premises HCX Connector should have internet access.

- Under **Datacenter Location**, provide the nearest location for installing the VMware HCX Manager on-premises. Click **Continue**.
- Under **System Name**, update the name and click **Continue**.
- Click **Yes, Continue**.
- Under **Connect your vCenter**, provide the fully qualified domain name (FQDN) or IP address of vCenter Server and the appropriate credentials and click **Continue**.



Use the FQDN to avoid connectivity issues later.

- Under **Configure SSO/PSC**, provide the Platform Services Controller's(PSC) FQDN or IP address and click **Continue**.
- For Embedded PSC, Enter the VMware vCenter Server FQDN or IP address.
- Verify that the information entered is correct and click **Restart**.
- After the services restart, vCenter Server is displayed as green on the page that appears. Both vCenter Server and SSO must have the appropriate configuration parameters, which should be the

same as the previous page.



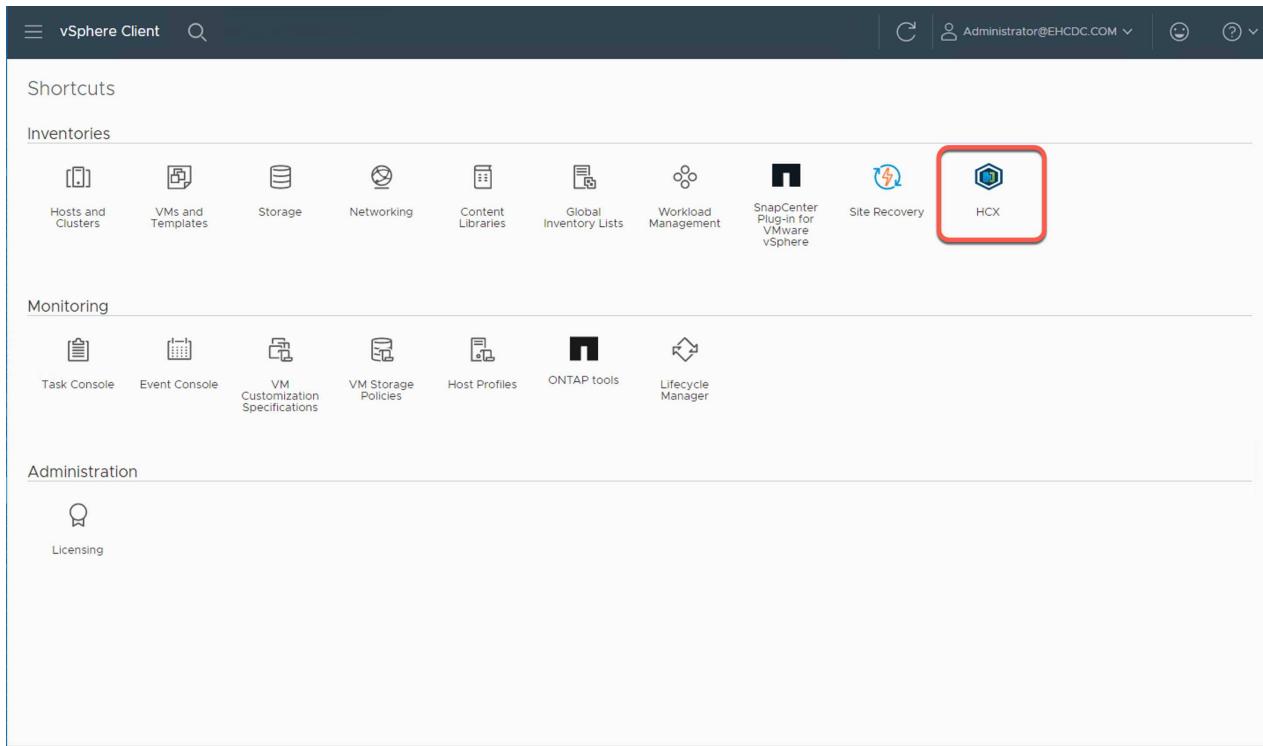
This process should take approximately 10 to 20 minutes and for the plug-in to be added to the vCenter Server.

The screenshot shows the HCX Manager interface. At the top, there are tabs for 'HCX Manager' (selected), 'Dashboard', 'Appliance Summary', 'Configuration', and 'Administration'. On the right, it displays the IP address (172.21.254.155), version (4.5.2.0), and type (Connector) with a user dropdown for 'admin'. Below this is a summary section for 'HCX-RTP' with details like IP Address (172.21.254.155), Version (4.5.2.0), Uptime (13 days, 21 hours, 6 minutes), and Current Time (Thursday, 16 February 2023 05:59:00 PM UTC). It also shows resource usage: CPU (Free 1543 MHZ, Used 552 MHZ, Capacity 2095 MHZ, 26% free), Memory (Free 2472 MB, Used 9535 MB, Capacity 12008 MB, 79% free), and Storage (Free 76G, Used 7.7G, Capacity 84G, 9% free). The main content area has three cards: 'NSX' (Manage), 'vCenter' (Manage, URL: https://a300-vcsa01.ehcde.com, circled in red), and 'SSO' (Manage, URL: https://a300-vcsa01.ehcde.com).

Step 4: Pair on-premises VMware HCX Connector with Google Cloud VMware Engine HCX Cloud Manager

After HCX Connector is deployed and configured on on-premises vCenter, establish connection to Cloud Manager by adding the pairing. To configure the site pairing, complete the following steps:

1. To create a site pair between the on-premises vCenter environment and Google Cloud VMware Engine SDDC, log in to the on-premises vCenter Server and access the new HCX vSphere Web Client plug-in.



2. Under Infrastructure, click **Add a Site Pairing**.



Enter the Google Cloud VMware Engine HCX Cloud Manager URL or IP address and the credentials for user with Cloud-Owner-Role privileges for accessing the private cloud.

Connect to Remote Site

X

Remote HCX URL ⓘ

Username ⓘ

Password

CANCEL

CONNECT

3. Click **Connect**.



VMware HCX Connector must be able to route to HCX Cloud Manager IP over port 443.

4. After the pairing is created, the newly configured site pairing is available on the HCX Dashboard.

vSphere Client

Administrator@EHCDC.COM

Site Pairing

HCX

Infrastructure

Site Pairing

Interconnect

Transport Analytics

Services

Network Extension

Migration

Disaster Recovery

System

Administration

Support

HCX-RTP

https://172.21.254.155:443

Durham

1 Interconnect(s)

hcx-58042.f7458c8f.europe-west3.gve.goog-cloud

https://10.0.16.13

Frankfurt

EDIT CONNECTION DISCONNECT

ADD A SITE PAIRING

The screenshot shows the vSphere Client interface with the 'Site Pairing' section selected. A connection between two sites is highlighted with a red circle. The left site is 'HCX-RTP' located at 'https://172.21.254.155:443' in 'Durham'. The right site is 'hcx-58042.f7458c8f.europe-west3.gve.goog-cloud' located at 'https://10.0.16.13' in 'Frankfurt'. There is one interconnect between them. At the bottom, there are 'EDIT CONNECTION' and 'DISCONNECT' buttons, and a blue 'ADD A SITE PAIRING' button.

Step 5: Configure the network profile, compute profile, and service mesh

The VMware HCX Interconnect service appliance provides replication and vMotion-based migration capabilities over the internet and private connections to the target site. The interconnect provides encryption, traffic engineering, and VM mobility. To create an Interconnect service appliance, complete the followings steps:

1. Under Infrastructure, select **Interconnect > Multi-Site Service Mesh > Compute Profiles > Create Compute Profile**.



The compute profiles define the deployment parameters including the appliances that are deployed and which portion of the VMware data center are accessible to HCX service.

The screenshot shows the vSphere Client interface with the navigation bar at the top. On the left, the sidebar is expanded to show the HCX section, with 'Interconnect' selected. The main content area is titled 'Interconnect' and 'Multi-Site Service Mesh'. Below this, there are tabs for 'Compute Profiles' (which is selected), 'Service Mesh', 'Network Profiles', and 'Sentinel Management'. A large blue button labeled 'CREATE COMPUTE PROFILE' is visible on the right. The main panel displays a 'HCX-CP' profile with the following details:

- Service Resources:** A300-vcsa01.ehccdc.com, A300-Cluster01
- Deployment Container:** A300-vcsa01.ehccdc.com, A300-Cluster01
- Datastore:** A300_NFS_DS03
- Cpu/Memory Reservations:** 0% (for both CPU and Memory)
- Networks:** VM_3510 (Management), vSphere Replication, Uplink, vMotion
- Network Container (Network Extension Appliance Limit):** vDS-Switch0 (Unlimited)

At the bottom of the panel, there are buttons for 'EDIT', 'DELETE', and 'REVIEW CONNECTION RULES'.

2. After the compute profile is created, create the network profiles by selecting **Multi-Site Service Mesh > Network Profiles > Create Network Profile**.

The network profile defines a range of IP address and networks that are used by HCX for its virtual appliances.



This step requires two or more IP addresses. These IP addresses are assigned from the management network to the Interconnect Appliances.

The screenshot shows the vSphere Client interface with the 'Interconnect' section selected. Under 'Multi-Site Service Mesh', the 'Network Profiles' tab is active. A table lists a single network profile named 'VM_3510'. The table includes columns for Network Details (Backing: VM_3510), MTU (1350), IP Pools, and Gateway (172.21.254.231). The IP Pools section shows ranges from 172.21.254.81 to 172.21.254.95 with 2/15 used. Buttons for 'EDIT' and 'DELETE' are at the bottom.

3. At this time, the compute and network profiles have been successfully created.
4. Create the Service Mesh by selecting the **Service Mesh** tab within the **Interconnect** option and select the on-premises and GCVE SDDC sites.
5. The Service Mesh specifies a local and remote compute and network profile pair.



As part of this process, the HCX appliances are deployed and automatically configured on both the source and target sites in order to create a secure transport fabric.

The screenshot shows the vSphere Client interface with the 'Interconnect' section selected. Under 'Multi-Site Service Mesh', the 'Service Mesh' tab is active. A table titled 'RTP-GCVE' lists site pairings between 'HCX-RTP' (Durham) and 'hcx-58042.f7458c8f.europe-west3.gce.goog-cloud' (Frankfurt). It also shows uplinks for 'VM_3510' and 'HCX-Mgmt'. To the right, a grid of icons represents 'HCX Services'. Buttons for 'CREATE SERVICE MESH', 'VIEW APPLIANCES', 'RESYNC', 'EDIT', 'DELETE', and 'MORE' are at the bottom.

6. This is the final step of configuration. This should take close to 30 minutes to complete the deployment. After the service mesh is configured, the environment is ready with the IPsec tunnels successfully created to migrate the workload VMs.

Appliances on HCX-RTP

Appliance Name	Appliance Type	IP Address	Tunnel Status	Current Version
RTP-GCVE-IX-I Id: 340e17af-a801-48ef-9e13-633da3788612 Compute: A300-Cluster01 Storage: A300_NFS_D503	HCX-WAN-IX	172.21.254.81	Management (vSphere Replication) Up vMotion Uplink (vMotion)	4.5.2.0
RTP-GCVE-NF-I Id: 4f65521-6114-4c1e-b70-ed2d38998106 Compute: A300-Cluster01 Storage: A300_NFS_D503 Network Controller: iDS-Switch0 Extended Networks: 19	HCX-NET-EXT	172.21.254.82	Management (Uplink) Up vMotion	4.5.2.0
RTP-GCVE-WO-I Id: 355147b8-671e-4ff0-89fc-6686843abbb4 Compute: A300-Cluster01 Storage: A300_NFS_D502	HCX-WAN-OPT			7.3.9.0

Appliances on hcx-58042.f7458c8f.europe-west3.gve.goog-cloud

Appliance Name	Appliance Type	IP Address	Current Version	
RTP-GCVE-IX-R1 Id: 340e17af-a801-48ef-9e13-633da3788612 Compute: A300-Cluster01 Storage: A300_NFS_D503	HCX-WAN-IX	10.0.18.100	Management (vSphere Replication) Up vMotion Uplink (vMotion)	4.5.2.0
RTP-GCVE-WO-R1 Id: 355147b8-671e-4ff0-89fc-6686843abbb4 Compute: A300-Cluster01 Storage: A300_NFS_D502	HCX-WAN-OPT			7.3.9.0

Step 6: Migrate workloads

Workloads can be migrated bidirectionally between on-premises and GCVE SDDCs using various VMware HCX migration technologies. VMs can be moved to and from VMware HCX-activated entities using multiple migration technologies such as HCX bulk migration, HCX vMotion, HCX Cold migration, HCX Replication Assisted vMotion (available with HCX Enterprise edition), and HCX OS Assisted Migration (available with the HCX Enterprise edition).

To learn more about various HCX migration mechanisms, see [VMware HCX Migration Types](#).

The HCX-IX appliance uses the Mobility Agent service to perform vMotion, Cold, and Replication Assisted vMotion (RAV) migrations.



The HCX-IX appliance adds the Mobility Agent service as a host object in the vCenter Server. The processor, memory, storage and networking resources displayed on this object do not represent actual consumption on the physical hypervisor hosting the IX appliance.

HCX vMotion

This section describes the HCX vMotion mechanism. This migration technology uses the VMware vMotion protocol to migrate a VM to GCVE. The vMotion migration option is used for migrating the VM state of a single VM at a time. There is no service interruption during this migration method.



Network Extension should be in place (for the port group in which the VM is attached) in order to migrate the VM without the need to make an IP address change.

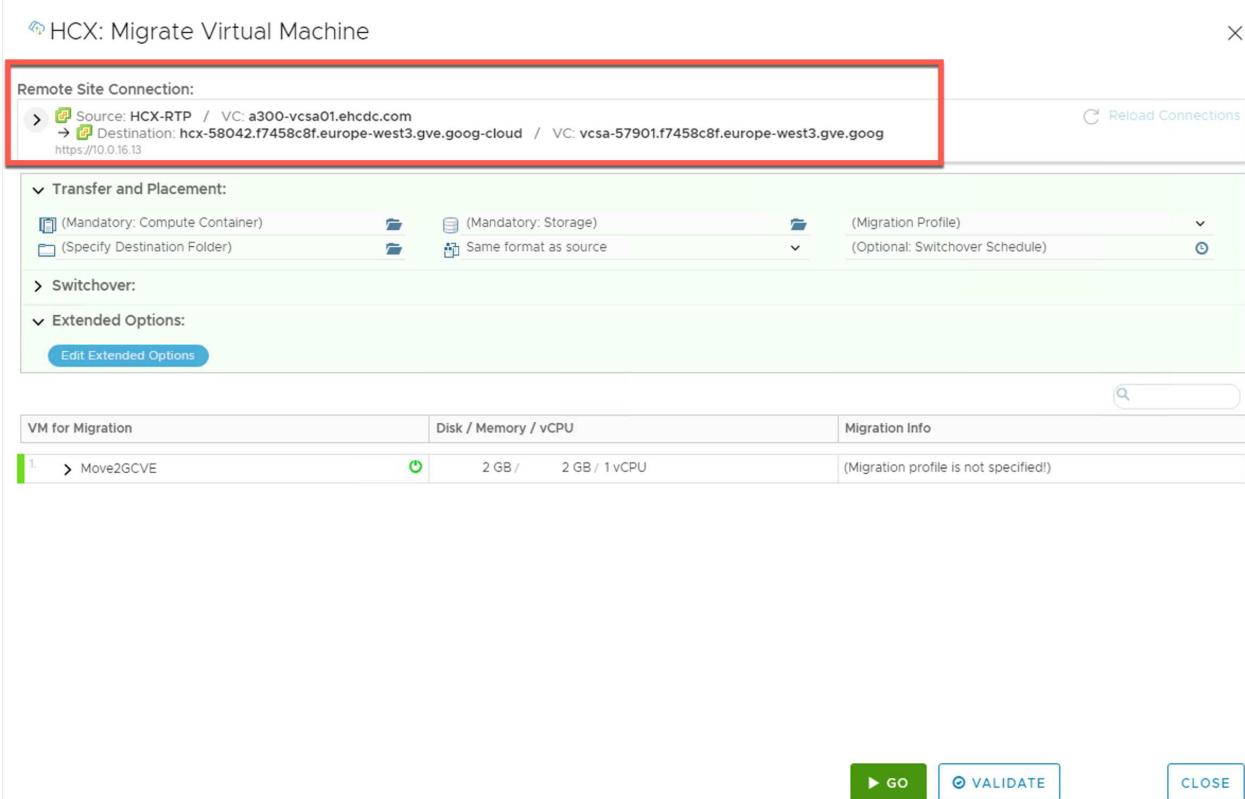
- From the on-premises vSphere client, go to Inventory, right-click on the VM to be migrated, and select HCX Actions > Migrate to HCX Target Site.

The screenshot shows the vSphere Client interface with the following details:

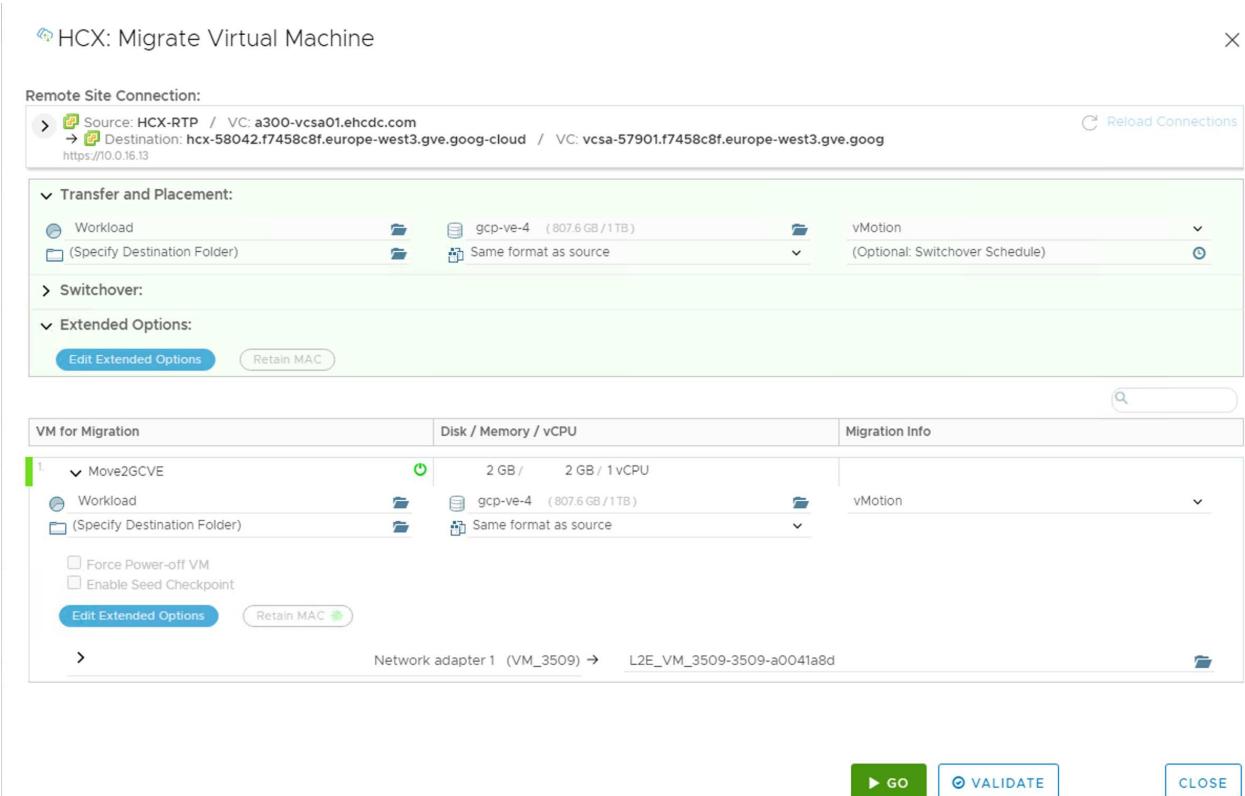
- Left Sidebar:** Shows a list of hosts and datacenters, including ICC003-WO-IT, ICCA2005-IX-IT, ICCA2005-NE-IT, ICCA2005-WO-IT, JS-msa, and jss-drva-Demodr01.
- Selected VM:** 'Move2GCVE' is selected, showing its configuration details:
 - Guest OS:** VMware Photon OS (64-bit)
 - Compatibility:** ESXi 6.7 and later (VM version 14)
 - VMware Tools:** Running, version 11333 (Guest Managed)
 - MORE INFO**
 - DNS Name:** photon-01
 - IP Addresses:** 172.21.233.11
 - Host:** a300-esxi02.enhcdc.com
- Actions Menu:** A context menu for the VM is open, showing options like Power, Guest OS, Snapshots, Open Remote Console, Migrate..., Clone, Fault Tolerance, VM Policies, Template, Compatibility, Export System Logs..., Edit Settings..., Move to folder..., Rename..., Edit Notes..., Tags & Custom Attributes, Add Permission..., Alarms, Remove from Inventory, Delete from Disk, and a section for Recent Tasks and Alarms.
- Bottom Task List:** A table showing recent tasks:

Task Name	Target	Details	Initiator	Queued For	Start Time	Completion Time	Server
Power On virtual machine	vSAN	Powering on the new Virtual...	System	4 ms	02/16/2023, 2:30:50 ...	02/16/2023, 2:32:51 PM	a300-vcsa01.enhcdc.com
Initialize powering on	NetApp ONTAP tools		EHCDC.COM\Administrator	3 ms	02/16/2023, 2:30:50 ...	02/16/2023, 2:30:50 ...	a300-vcsa01.enhcdc.com
Move into resource pool	NetApp SnapCenter		EHCDC.COM\Administrator	2 ms	02/16/2023, 2:30:32 P...	02/16/2023, 2:30:32 P...	a300-vcsa01.enhcdc.com
Reconfigure virtual mach...	All Site Recovery actions		EHCDC.COM\Administrator	6 ms	02/16/2023, 2:30:19 PM	02/16/2023, 2:30:30 ...	a300-vcsa01.enhcdc.com
- Bottom Navigation:** Buttons for All and More Tasks.

2. In the Migrate Virtual Machine wizard, select the Remote Site Connection (target GCVE).



3. Update the mandatory fields (Cluster, Storage, and Destination Network), Click Validate.



4. After the validation checks are complete, click Go to initiate the migration.



The vMotion transfer captures the VM active memory, its execution state, its IP address, and its MAC address. For more information about the requirements and limitations of HCX vMotion, see [Understanding VMware HCX vMotion and Cold Migration](#).

5. You can monitor the progress and completion of the vMotion from the HCX > Migration dashboard.

Task Name	Target	Status	Details	Initiator	Queued For	Start Time	Completion Time	Server
Unregister virtual machine	Move2GCVE	Completed		EHCDC.COM\Administrator	2 ms	02/16/2023, 2:54:31 PM	02/16/2023, 2:54:31 PM	a300-vcsa01.ehc...
Refresh virtual machine s...	Move2GCVE	Completed		EHCDC.COM\Administrator	5 ms	02/16/2023, 2:54:31 PM	02/16/2023, 2:54:31 PM	a300-vcsa01.ehc...
Relocate virtual machine	Move2GCVE	Completed	Finalizing Virtual Machine liv...	EHCDC.COM\Administrator	3 ms	02/16/2023, 2:45:56 P...	02/16/2023, 2:52:49 P...	a300-vcsa01.ehc...



The target CVS NFS datastore should have sufficient space to handle the migration.

Conclusion

Whether you're targeting all-cloud or hybrid cloud and data residing on any type/vendor storage in on-premises, Cloud Volume Service and HCX provide excellent options to deploy and migrate the application workloads while reducing the TCO by making the data requirements seamless to the application layer. Whatever the use case, choose Google Cloud VMware Engine along with Cloud Volume Service for rapid realization of cloud benefits, consistent infrastructure, and operations across on-premises and multiple clouds, bidirectional portability of workloads, and enterprise-grade capacity and performance. It is the same familiar process and procedures used to connect the storage and migrate VMs using VMware vSphere Replication, VMware vMotion, or even network file copy (NFC).

Takeaways

The key points of this document include:

- You can now use Cloud Volume Service as a datastore on Google Cloud VMware Engine SDDC.
- You can easily migrate data from on-premises to Cloud Volume Service datastore.
- You can easily grow and shrink the Cloud Volume Service datastore to meet the capacity and performance

requirements during migration activity.

Videos from Google and VMware for reference

From Google

- Deploy HCX Connector with GCVE
- Configure HCX ServiceMesh with GCVE
- Migrate VM with HCX to GCVE

From VMware

- HCX Connector deployment for GCVE
- HCX ServiceMesh configuration for GCVE
- HCX Workload Migration to GCVE

Where to find additional information

To learn more about the information described in this document, refer to the following website links:

- Google Cloud VMware Engine documentation
<https://cloud.google.com/vmware-engine/docs/overview>
- Cloud Volume Service documentation
<https://cloud.google.com/architecture/partners/netapp-cloud-volumes>
- VMware HCX User Guide
<https://docs.vmware.com/en/VMware-HCX/index.html>

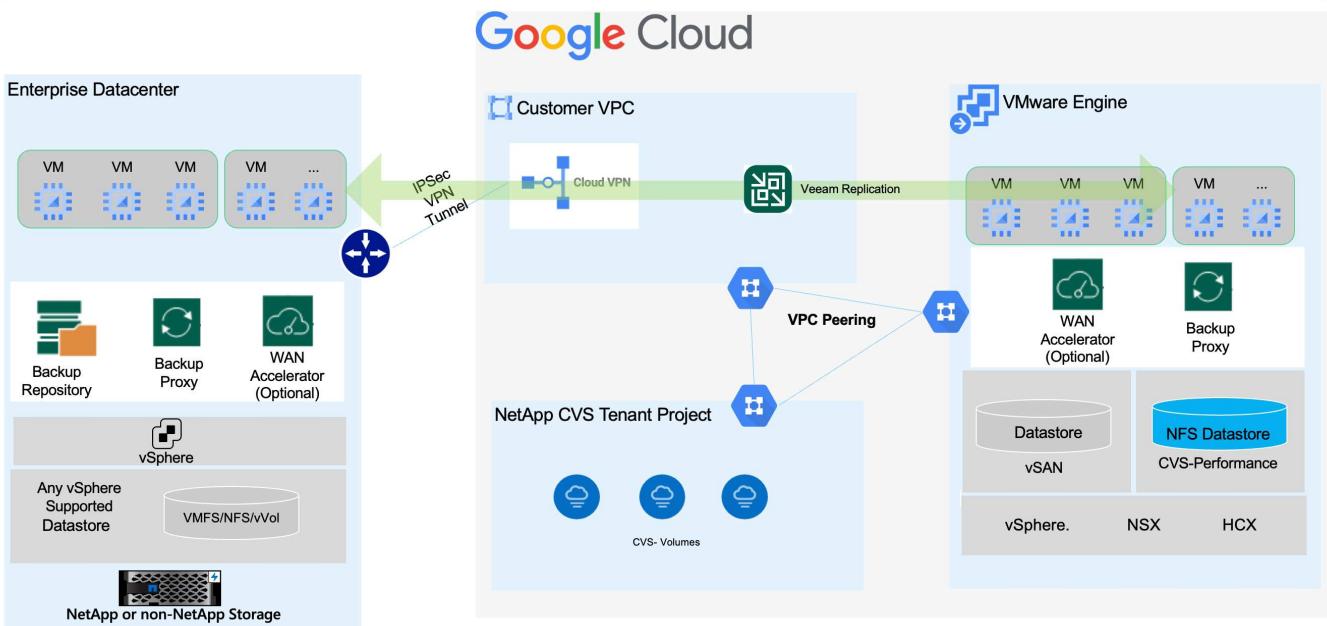
VM Migration to NetApp Cloud Volume Service NFS Datastore on Google Cloud VMware Engine using Veeam Replication feature

Overview

Authors: Suresh Thoppay, NetApp

VM Workloads running on VMware vSphere can be migrated to Google Cloud VMware Engine (GCVE) utilizing Veeam Replication feature.

This document provides a step-by-step approach for setting up and performing VM migration that uses NetApp Cloud Volume Service, Veeam, and the Google Cloud VMware Engine (GCVE).



Assumptions

This document assumes you have either Google Cloud VPN or Cloud Interconnect or other networking option in place to establish network connectivity from existing vSphere servers to Google Cloud VMware Engine.

i There are multiple options for connecting on-premises datacenters to Google Cloud, which prevents us from outlining a specific workflow in this document.
Refer to the [Google Cloud documentation](#) for the appropriate on-premises-to-Google connectivity method.

Deploying the Migration Solution

Solution Deployment Overview

1. Make sure NFS datastore from NetApp Cloud Volume Service is mounted on GCVE vCenter.
2. Ensure Veeam Backup Recovery is deployed on existing VMware vSphere environment
3. Create Replication Job to start replicating virtual machines to Google Cloud VMware Engine instance.
4. Perform Failover of Veeam Replication Job.
5. Perform Permanent Failover on Veeam.

Deployment Details

Make sure NFS datastore from NetApp Cloud Volume Service is mounted on GCVE vCenter

Login to GCVE vCenter and ensure NFS datastore with sufficient space is available.
If not, Please refer [Mount NetApp CVS as NFS datastore on GCVE](#)

Ensure Veeam Backup Recovery is deployed on existing VMware vSphere environment

Please refer [Veeam Replication Components](#) documentation to install required components.

Create Replication Job to start replicating virtual machines to Google Cloud VMware Engine instance.

Both on-premises vCenter and GCVE vCenter needs to be registered with Veeam. [Setup vSphere VM Replication Job](#)

Here is a video explaining how to

[Configure Replication Job](#).



Replica VM can have different IP from the source VM and can also be connected to different port group. For more details, check the video above.

Perform Failover of Veeam Replication Job

To Migrate VMs, perform [Perform Failover](#)

Perform Permanent Failover on Veeam.

To treat GCVE as your new source environment, perform [Permanent Failover](#)

Benefits of this solution

- Existing Veeam backup infrastructure can be utilized for migration.
- Veeam Replication allows changing VM IP addresses on target site.
- Has ability to remap existing data replicated outside of Veeam (like replicated data from BlueXP)
- Has ability to specify different network portgroup on target site.
- Can specify the order of VMs to power on.
- Utilizes VMware Change Block Tracking to minimize the amount of data to send across WAN.
- Capability to execute pre and post scripts for replication.
- Capability to execute pre and post scripts for snapshots.

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