

# Gifts with vDS in vSphere 5.1

So, with the release of much awaited vSphere 5.1, we see lot of new features around all of the spheres. In networking we can see some good expected features. This is a run down of the features around Networking in vSphere 5.1.

## New Features

- Network Health Check
- Configuration Backup and Restore
- Rollback and Recovery
- Port Mirroring enhancements

1. Network Health Check – It addresses the Inconsistencies in Virtual and Physical network configuration lead to connectivity issues. So today many of us wish to have this feature where vDS would automatically check the human error and report to us, so VMware listed to us and now we have this feature with us.
2. Configuration Backup and Restore – It enables us to backup vSwitch configurations. In turn it will allow us to recover the golden configuration of the vDS.
3. Rollback and Recovery – Rebuilding the whole vDS Networking is always disruptive in nature. This feature reduces the risk/time of recovering from a network misconfiguration in vDS
4. Port Mirroring – Introduces RSPAN and ERSPAN. Earlier with Port Mirroring (aka SPAN) we could have only monitor the packets in local ESXi. That means source and destination ports should have been on the same host. In the new Port Mirroring VMware introduces ERSPAN and RSPAN which allows vDS to mirror traffic across the datacenter to perform remote traffic collection for central monitoring.