



Using Citrix Provisioning Server™ with vSM 2008^{R2}

Manage Citrix Provisioning Server™ resources through vSM 2008^{R2}

When you manage Citrix Provisioning Server with visionapp Server Management 2008^{R2} (vSM), you can:

Manage multiple Provisioning Server environments

vSM adds the ability to manage multiple Provisioning Server environments (such as development, UAT, and production) from a single console, in which the administrator has access to all tasks related to Citrix Provisioning Server.

Enhance security

For distributed administration, the vSM console adds a number of configuration options for user-defined security roles, access rights, and granular administration rights.

Use more languages

Currently, the Citrix Provisioning Server user interface and documentation are available in English only. Managing Citrix Provisioning Server through visionapp's administration console, allows

administrators to manage Citrix Provisioning Server in German or English.

Implement best practices for change and release management

When you create a new image and assign a new role to a computer in just a few clicks, the best practice is to follow an ITIL-compliant release and change management process for tracking and performing all changes. This applies to versioning, archiving, and role-based acceptance processes. vSM logs and records all changes to meet the change and release management standards. vSM enables detailed planning, preview and logging of the installation of the golden master image. vSM also provides a complete and reproducible (audit-proof) documentation over the entire lifecycle of the system, including any post-installations.

Schedule tasks with more flexibility

As more and more tasks and changes are performed outside of standard working hours, many organizations need flexible scheduling. With vSM, changes can be scheduled and performed automatically – including an option to check the system load before performing the changes.

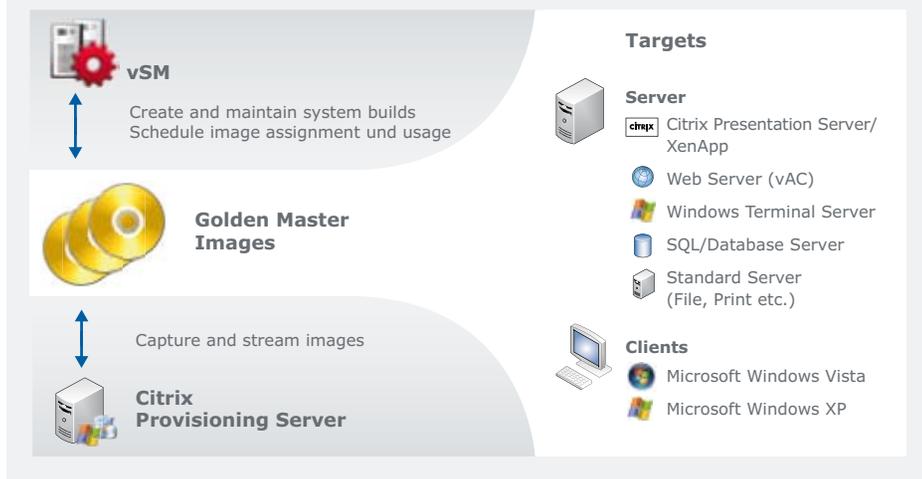
Centralize administration of all systems

With the powerful visionapp console, you can manage both virtual and physical servers and clients, as well as the Provisioning Server-generated images that are applied. This central management can save days or even weeks of time when updates and changes to the images have to be made.

Roll back quickly and easily

Through integrated release management and logging features, vSM enables easy rollback to a previous release, while the history feature provides a precise overview of the assignments of vDisks to systems over the entire lifecycle.

vSM and Provisioning Server: better together



vSM and Citrix Provisioning Server work together to create stable, powerful Citrix farms.

Extend the Golden Master Installation through vSM 2008^{R2}

When you create a golden master image for distribution through Citrix Provisioning Server, vSM 2008^{R2} extends its functionality:

Detailed planning of the golden master installation

With vSM, you can standardize the installation and configuration of operating systems and application software for your Citrix servers and clients. In addition, vSM provides monitoring and complete logging of the installation.

Documented installation

All information is stored in detail in a database and can be retrieved any time.

Integrated ITIL functions

vSM provides support for the installation and updates through integrated ITIL features such as release and change management.

Automatic vDisk creation

After installation is complete, vSM automatically provisions the corresponding vDisk. Because the previously defined staging steps are enforced when creating the vDisk, you can be assured that the resulting system will be as stable as possible."

Simplify Provisioning Server Tasks

vSM 2008^{R2} provides a number of options for a significant simplification of Provisioning Server management, administration, and operational tasks:

Simplified display and management of vDisks

In the visionapp console, vDisks can be imported, created and grouped logically, which allows you to manage large numbers of vDisks easily.

Simplified patch management

Use vSM to update vDisks through integrated patch and release management. This helps you make your builds and your new vDisks audit-proof. vSM ensures, that changes and updates will be handled according to ITIL.

Assigning vDisks to computers

Within the visionapp console, you can assign existing vDisks to individual computers or entire farms with just a few clicks. You can also automatically assign a vDisk to these computers; for instance, through templates or inherited

from upper level objects. This way, you can automatically link all of the devices to a previously defined template.

vDisk configuration

Definition of the image type to be used as well as changing the type, i.e. "Standard" as shared image or "Private" as personalized image, from the visionapp console.

Support dedicated administrative roles

The vSM administration concept is designed for distributed administration. Using the central console, you can assign appropriate permission to create different access levels. With this functionality, vSM reduces conflicts and increases productivity, even with large, distributed administration teams.

Benefits of Citrix Provisioning Server



- > **Streams individual multi-usable standard images (vDisks) to a client device**
 - > vDisks can include OS, config settings, apps, and more
 - > vDisks are stored centrally and streamed as needed
 - > Computer boots from network, not from local hard disk
- > **Companies can assign new roles and tasks to their PCs and servers with little effort**
 - > e.g, a single restart of the system can turn a Citrix XenApp server into a web server.
 - > Significantly reduces the administration workload for IT staff
 - > Offers significant savings in hardware, energy, and real estate costs through consolidation
- > **Shorter roll-back**
- > **Centralized rollout of updates and patches**
- > **Reduced onsite support and longer service life**



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