VMware Capacity Planner
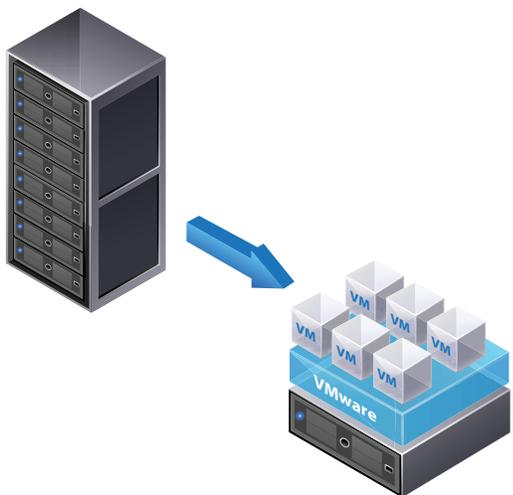
Optimize Business and IT Capacity Planning in Your Datacenter and Desktop Environment

AT A GLANCE

VMware® Capacity Planner is a business and IT capacity planning tool for the datacenter and desktop that provides an integrated set of analysis, planning and decision support functions to enable faster, measurable and more accurate infrastructure assessment services.

BENEFITS

- Faster, more accurate, benchmarked datacenter and desktop capacity assessments and planning.

- Improved visibility of complex datacenter and desktop environments.

- Increased productivity, reduced complexity and improved predictability of datacenter and desktop infrastructure.

VMware Capacity Planner improves visibility into complex IT environments, delivering critical insight

What is VMware Capacity Planner?

Delivered as a hosted application service, VMware Capacity Planner enables comprehensive virtualization and system consolidation assessments. These assessments will help you make smart decisions when consolidating your datacenter or desktop infrastructure, redeploying strategic IT assets and optimizing workload capacity utilization.

Designed for agent-less implementation, VMware Capacity Planner rapidly collects infrastructure data and provides improved visibility of heterogeneous, complex IT environments while delivering critical insights into resource utilization for driving intelligent infrastructure capacity decisions.

At the core of VMware Capacity Planner is the unique Information Warehouse, which contains a growing set of industry reference data. This information can be leveraged for comparative analysis and benchmarking to help guide system consolidation and capacity optimization decisions for the enterprise.

How is VMware Capacity Planner Used in the Enterprise?

VMware Capacity Planner is used as a business analysis, planning and decision support tool to direct the key phases within a variety of infrastructure assessment projects as described below:

- **Assess** the current workload capacity of your datacenter or desktop infrastructure through comprehensive discovery and inventory of IT assets. Measure system workloads and capacity utilization across various elements of the IT infrastructure—including by function, location and environment.

- **Plan** for capacity optimization through detailed utilization analysis, benchmarking, trending and identification of capacity optimization alternatives. Identify resources and establish plan for virtualization, hardware purchase or resource redeployment.

- **Decide** on the optimal solution by evaluating various alternatives through scenario modeling and "What-If" analyses. Determine what alternative best meets the pre-defined criteria.

- **Monitor** resource utilization through anomaly detection and alerts based on benchmarked thresholds. Help generate recommendations to ensure ongoing capacity optimization.

How Does VMware Capacity Planner Work?

VMware Capacity Planner includes a rich set of components that deliver integrated capacity planning functions, including data collection, data analysis, capacity monitoring and decision-making capabilities:

- **Data Collector:**
  Installed locally at the client site, this component uses an agent-less implementation to discover server or desktop systems, collect detailed hardware and software inventory

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data, and gather key performance metrics required for capacity utilization analysis. The Data Collector can gather data from heterogeneous environments based on multiple platforms.

- **Data Manager:**
  This component manages the data collection process, providing an organized view of the collected information, as well as administrative controls for the Data Collector. The Data Manager "anonymizes" and securely sends the collected data to the centralized Information Warehouse.
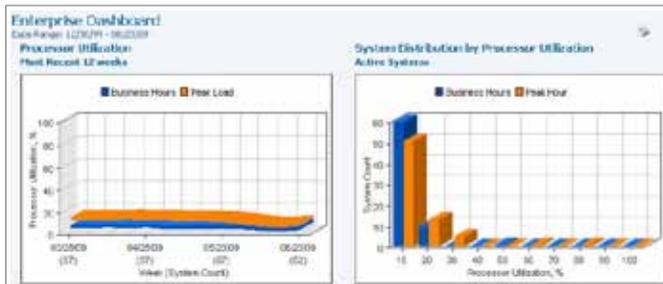
- **Information Warehouse:**
  A hosted data warehouse where the data collected from the client environment is sent to be, scrubbed, aggregated and prepared for analysis. The Information Warehouse also includes valuable industry benchmark data that can be leveraged for benchmarking, scenario modeling and for setting utilization thresholds.

- **Data Analyzer:**
  This component serves as the core analytical engine that processes all the analysis required for intelligent capacity planning. It includes advanced algorithms that solve capacity optimization problems and supports analysis capabilities such as aggregation, trending and benchmarking. Scenario modeling and What-If analyses help model and test various planning scenarios.

- **Dashboard:**
  A Web-based hosted application that delivers capacity analysis and planning capabilities to users through a browser interface. Remotely access a rich set of pre-built analyses, "slice and dice" data, and create custom reports. Planning capabilities let you set objectives and constraints and also model and test scenarios to arrive at intelligent capacity decisions.

VMware Capacity Planner Dashboard

Key Features of VMware Capacity Planner

VMware Capacity Planner offers several important features:

- Simple installation and setup

- Hosted application service

- Remote management and administration

- Web-based capacity planning and analysis

- Agent-less data collection across multiple platforms

- Comprehensive discovery of systems in minutes and complete inventory in hours

- Rich set of capacity utilization metrics

- Industry data for comparisons and benchmarking

- Scenario modeling, trending and "What-If" analysis

- Anomaly detection and alerts

- Ad hoc analysis and reporting• Shared best practices and templates• Live, automatic software updates

Get an Assessment of Your Datacenter or Desktop infrastructure Today

Services based on VMware Capacity Planner are available through VMware Professional Services or VMware partners who are trained on VMware Capacity Planner and authorized to deliver assessment services.

Currently, the VMware Capacity Planner product can be leveraged to offer high-value assessment services for the datacenter or desktop environments, such as:

- **Consolidation Estimates (CE):** Optimized for conducting pre-sales sizing estimates of a customer's datacenter or desktop environment, CEs provide guidance on what can be achieved via virtualization and consolidation assessments. CEs offer a simplified, guided workflow for VMware Capacity Planner with a defined methodology and process for sales professionals to conduct more sizing and lead generation activity.

- **Capacity Assessments (CA):** Optimized for Consultants and Professional Services organizations that want to conduct a deep-dive analysis into a customer's datacenter or desktop environments. CAs provide a detailed roadmap on how customers can achieve an optimized, virtualized datacenter. Capacity Assessments show the implementation blueprint for actualizing the "to-be" state of the datacenter or desktop.

Find Out More

For information or to purchase VMware products, call 1-877-4VMWARE (outside of North America dial +1-650-427-5000), visit www.vmware.com/products, or search online for an authorized reseller. For detailed product specifications and systems requirements, please refer to the VMware Capacity Planner install and configure guide.