



Executive summary

New VMware vSphere 7.0 features reduced the time and complexity of routine update and hardware compliance tasks

On a cluster of multigenerational Dell EMC PowerEdge servers, vSphere Lifecycle Manager and Quick Boot, along with OpenManage Integration for VMware vCenter Server, automated tasks to save time and steps

In a virtualized environment, keeping the hypervisor and firmware up to date can impose a considerable burden on IT staff. Additionally, the process of verifying that new hardware, driver, and firmware combinations are compatible with the hypervisor can be very time-consuming. In data centers that comprise servers from multiple generations, these tasks can become even more complex. Finding tools that streamline such activities can save a great deal of hands-on IT administrator time.

If you rely on Dell EMC™ PowerEdge™ servers and VMware vSphere® for your virtualization needs, you can gain such efficiencies by upgrading to vSphere 7.0, which includes vSphere Lifecycle Manager (vLCM) and Quick Boot. You can also benefit from using the OpenManage Integration for VMware vCenter (OMIVV), a virtual appliance for managing and deploying Dell servers in a virtual environment.

When we carried out several updates and compatibility verification tasks both manually and using these tools on a cluster of Dell EMC PowerEdge 13G and current-generation servers, VMware vSphere 7.0 and OMIVV capabilities dramatically reduced the hands-on time and number of steps to complete these tasks. This lets administrators devote more time and energy to innovation.

34x faster

Update hypervisor in **under 3 minutes vs. 1.3 hours manually***

68x faster

Complete hypervisor and firmware updates in **under 4 minutes vs. 3.5 hours manually***

7x faster

Save **up to 20 minutes** per node completing hardware compatibility checks

**Hands-on time updating an eight-node cluster*

Our testing in a nutshell

We wanted to quantify the time and hassle administrators can avoid when they employ tools that help with updating the hypervisor and firmware and verifying compliance. We set up a cluster of Dell EMC PowerEdge 13G and current-generation servers and then carried out several scenarios both manually and using features in vSphere Lifecycle Manager with Quick Boot and Dell EMC OpenManage Integration for VMware vCenter.

Updating the hypervisor across your cluster

For optimal performance and security, companies should always run current hypervisor versions. We updated the hypervisor on the eight servers in our cluster three ways:

- The manual approach took **more than 2.5 hours**, including **over 1.3 hours** of hands-on admin time
- Using vLCM without Quick Boot enabled cut hands-on time to **less than 3 minutes** and total time to **48 minutes**
- Using vLCM and enabling Quick Boot reduced total time to **32 minutes**

Simultaneously updating hypervisor and firmware

When vendors release new firmware updates, failure to implement them quickly exposes your environment to the hardware bugs and security vulnerabilities that these updates typically fix. We simultaneously updated the hypervisor and firmware on the eight servers in our cluster two ways:

- The manual approach took **152 steps** and **over 3.5 hours** of hands-on admin time
- Using vLCM with OMIW cut that to **2 steps** and **less than 4 minutes** of hands-on admin time

Verifying hardware compatibility

The compatibility status of hardware, software, and firmware in a VMware vSphere cluster can change over time, making it necessary for admins to perform periodic compatibility checks. We checked the hardware compatibility of a single node two ways:

- The manual approach took **21 steps** and **23 minutes** of hands-on admin time
- Using vLCM reduced that to **3 steps** and **less than 3 minutes** of hands-on admin time

Read our [complete report](#) to learn more about the ways that using Dell EMC PowerEdge servers and VMware vSphere 7.0 can help companies streamline updating and compatibility-checking activities with vSphere Lifecycle Manager, Quick Boot, and OpenManage Integration for VMware vCenter.

Read the report at <http://facts.pt/chz3xgi>



Facts matter.®

Principled Technologies is a registered trademark of Principled Technologies, Inc. All other product names are the trademarks of their respective owners. For additional information, review the report.