

# [Big Updates with Turbonomic 6.4 - vSAN/HCI and Horizon VDI](#)

The Turbonomic team has been working hard on some excellent features in the most recent Turbonomic 6.4 release. As a long-time VMware vExpert and advocate for the virtualization community, I'm especially excited about two very slick additions for VMware vSAN and VMware Horizon VDI which I've been testing out and loving the results!

We have a lot to share at the VMworld event which I'll be attending and if you aren't able to join me there in San Francisco, I have a great team presenting in Barcelona, plus you can always check out the [Turbonomic Resources](#) page for videos, blogs, and other updates.

## **VMware vSAN and VMware HCI**

There is little doubt that Hyperconverged infrastructure is becoming much more widely used. vSAN introduces some great new deployment patterns and also changes the way that you need to plan how to build and operate in order to get the best out of HCI and the vSAN distributed storage platform.

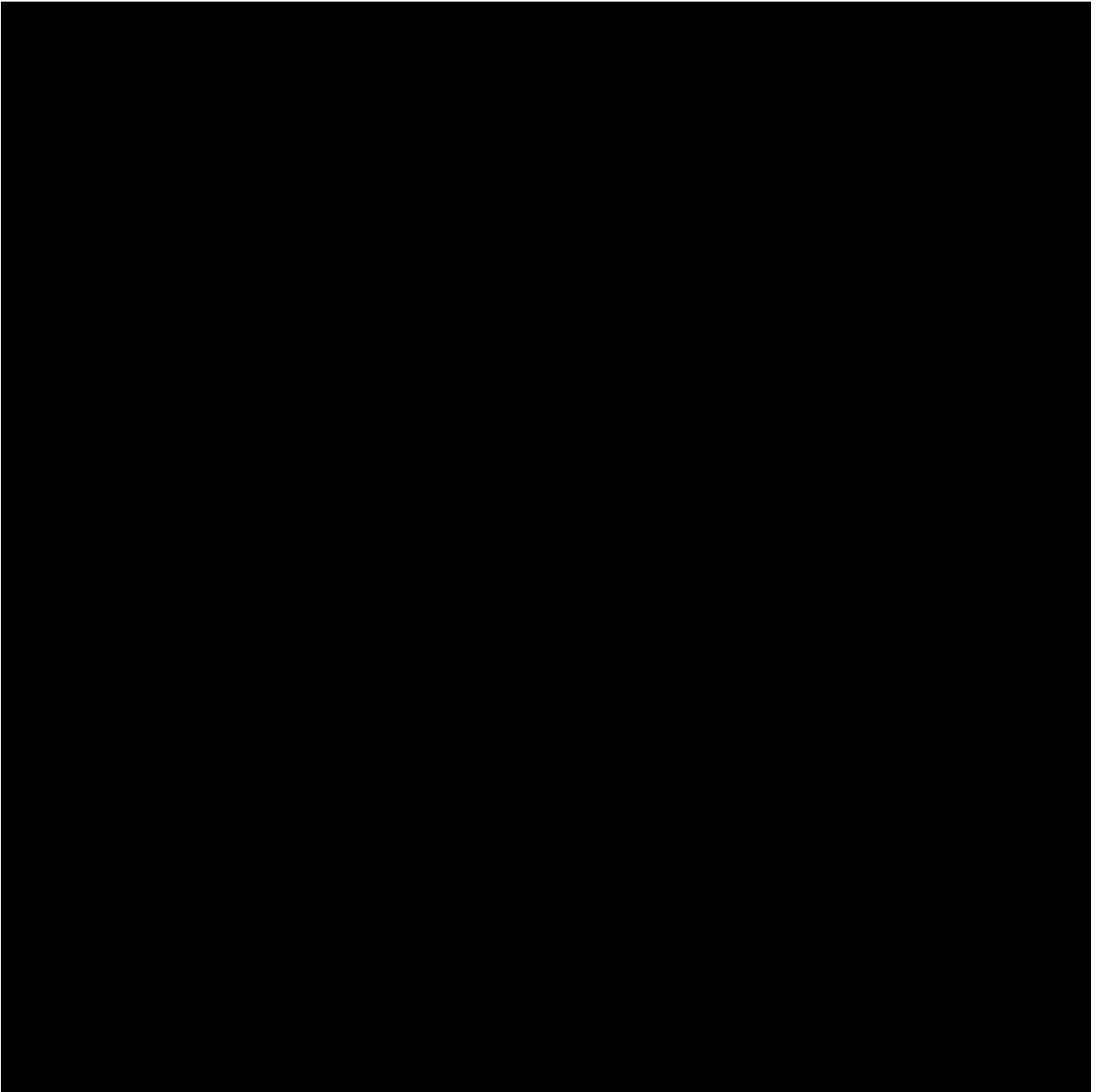
I'm writing this as I wait to board a flight to VMworld 2019 so there will be lots to talk about there as we share the new Turbonomic 6.4 release and also hear about the news and updates from VMware.

Real-time optimization for applications is now enhanced by fully feature-aware analytics from VMware vSAN including compression, deduplication, and the redundancy/resiliency settings. This means that when decisions are made by Turbonomic about where to place and how to scale VMs, containers, and applications, there is additional understanding of the actual capabilities and capacity of vSAN that are helping to drive the decision.

This also means that planning for growth includes the performance and capacity that is feature-aware. When you run plans to model how a host replacement, or scenarios of how you may scale or migrate workloads, you are getting the actual infrastructure and application scale decisions based on the available performance/capacity plus full understanding of the raw storage and host configurations needed to deliver it.

Here is a quick highlight of the vSAN/HCI features in Turbonomic 6.4 (yes...that's my crazy voice in there)





## **VMware Horizon VDI**

Is it the year of VDI finally?! Based on how I've been seeing things in some super exciting customer deployments, yes it certainly is. One of the really cool examples is a company with their entire workforce on VDI...and it's not a small company. The old school issue of managing "boot storms" is at a whole different level when you have worldwide employees across every time zone and all running on centralized Horizon infrastructure distributed across a few data centers for resiliency and latency reduction.

The use-case that Turbonomic is solving is that when users login and run, the actual consumption of resources is continuously analyzed for real-time, maximums, average, and historical patterns in order to decide how they should scale their VDI instance and where it should be placed based on the underlying infrastructure hosting the Horizon desktop pools.

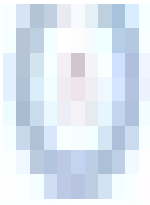
Turbonomic will tell you where to place the user, how to size their desktop, and can even automate the changes in a service window and even tracks the user logout trigger so that Horizon admins can let their Horizon user entitlements be driven for better performance and efficiency by Turbonomic. That also extends into the scaling and growth planning which is done using the same analytics engine. Super cool!

Here's a quick highlight reel of the feature:

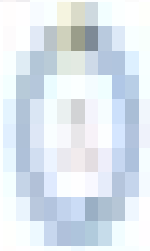
| Year | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 |
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| 2013 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 |
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## **Much more to come!**

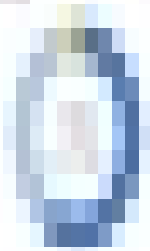
Here is a quick end-to-end list of the significant updates of the release which also includes a ton of really great updates for Microsoft Azure, the introduction of what are now rebranded as right-time actions, a big set of updates for Kubernetes, and much more! Congratulations to the Turbonomic engineering team and a great release and let me know if you want any more details as I'm happy to jump in and help folks get to know more about the platform!



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## [Gorilla Guide Series: Great New Content from Actual Tech Media](#)

If you haven't already seen the [announcement](#), there is a new series of publications that are being brought out by the team at Actual Tech Media called the [Gorilla Guide Series](#). These guides are geared towards what is being dubbed "helping you tame the technology jungle" which comes at a great time in our industry.

Innovation is happening at a rapid pace in our industry. Business leaders and technologists are often left to their own devices to search out information to feed their decisions on choosing the right technology for solving a business problem. The rate of innovation has outpaced the rate of educational information for these technologies. Having a more objective view of the value, impact, and risks with technology will be a much needed area of education to help spur on better, more educated adoption by organizations.

✘ The Gorilla Guide style brings an ideal level of detail to get technologists up to speed on new and current technology concepts, and is definitely going to be a must-read series in my opinion. Having a quick-start guide to technology that is written by great tech community contributors will definitely bring a lot of eyes to this series.

There will be vendor-specific content as well which means that you can find the mix of very directed education on a vendor product along with the overall industry knowledge that Scott Lowe and David Davis have been bringing to our community through many of their ventures such as with [Pluralsight](#), [VirtualizationSoftware.com](#), [EnterpriseStorageGuide.com](#), and most recently [Hyperconverged.org](#).

Make sure to keep your eyes on the Gorilla Guide site for more updates, and you can even download the current [Gorilla Guide to Hyperconverged Implementation Strategies which you can get here for free](#). It's a great way to add to your toolkit of technology education with effective, fun, and well-written content.

Happy reading and I hope you enjoy these guides as much as I do!



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## [VMworld 2014 - The EVO-lution of Marvin, and Hyperconvergence for VMware](#)

VMware has opened the doors on a new hyperconverged platform this morning in their HCIA (Hyperconverged Infrastructure Appliance) now unveiled as EVO:RAIL. Long known for their strength in data center virtualization with VMware vSphere, VMware has begun to step into the hardware world in a big way with this announcement.



## 2U of HTML Managed SDDC Goodness

The EVO:RAIL has been built with the plan of delivering scalable infrastructure with simplicity. Using the HTML5 interface, administrators are able to use the relatively plug-and-play hardware platform while leveraging the SDDC (Software Defined Data Center) features to provide scalable, extensible data center infrastructure.



Image Source: <http://wahlnetwork.com/2014/08/25/evo-rail/>

Chris Wahl has done a [phenomenal post here](#) which talks about the entire platform end-to-end. Looking at the experience Chris had on the platform, we can see that the interface and overall user experience was clearly top of mind for the VMware EVO team. Simplicity in deployment, and simplicity in management will be strong deciders for folks who are looking to build their data centers. With the 4 node configuration in 2U of rack space, this is a neatly packaged offering that has great potential to bring existing and new customers on board with EVO.

### What's in the Box?

As noted at the VMware blog site this morning, the hardware inside the EVO:RAIL



Image source:

<http://blogs.vmware.com/tribalknowledge/2014/08/vmworld-2014-vmware-evora-il-building-block-software-defined-data-center.html>

Hardware is not something that has been in the stable of VMware offerings up to this point. That being said, they have been working in data center deployments inside their own [vCloud Air \(formerly vCloud Hybrid Service\)](#).

### Why EVO:RAIL?

Simplicity, and trust. The very tenets of what is driving the vCloud Air platform for customers are now available inside your own data center. When the MARVIN speculation began recently, I had [predicted that this hyperconverged offering was going to be the "vCHS in a box" for the data center](#). Customers enjoy the ability to work with incumbent vendors such as VMware and their hardware partners who power the EVO:RAIL including Dell, EMC, Fujitsu, Inspur, NetOne and SuperMicro. The new hardware offering with the ability to contact one source for support could be the secret sauce to take a decent portion of the growing hyperconverged market share.

### Hyperconverged is the New Black

Whether software convergence, or hardware convergence, this is not just a fad or a trend. We are seeing a fundamental shift in the way that businesses are consuming technology, and hyperconverged platforms are leading the charge towards a scalable, versatile, and predictable way to do just that. Looking at the work being done by Nutanix, SimpliVity, and now VMware, will definitely highlight that the changes that.

“We are experiencing changes in how businesses compete. Changes in how our industries perform. Change is either a barrier or an opportunity” – Robin Matlock, Chief Marketing Officer, VMware

It's going to be an exciting year ahead as we watch how VMware does in this hotly growing market place.

