

# **Double-Take 7.0: Now with 100% More PowerShell!**

For customers of Double-Take Availability by Vision Solutions, you have enjoyed lots of features and functionality which have personally saved my bacon in DR situations over the years.

In Q1 of 2013 I was given a road-map presentation for the new Double-Take 7.0 product line with more optimization and a bunch of new features. With every road-map session, with any vendor, the first thing I ask is: "Do you support scripting with PowerShell?". On that day, it was with great joy that I was given the answer I've wanted for a few years: "Yes!"

With the new release of 7.0 there is now a full set of PowerShell CmdLets for managing the Double-Take environment, so for any heavy users of automation and scripting (myself included) there is now an even better way to get the most out of Double-Take.

## **93 New Ways to Be Awesome**

Coming from the DTCLI (Double-Take Command Line Interface) from previous versions, the new DT PowerShell environment is a stunning expansion on the management capability. There are 93 new CmdLets packaged in the module and numerous accessible classes to make the scripting capability an important part of the overall product strength.

Once you've installed your Double-Take 7.0 product on your server, you open your PowerShell window and enter the following command:

```
Import-Module "C:\Program Files\Vision Solutions\Double-Take\Console\DoubleTake.PowerShell.dll"
```



As long as you receive no errors, you are now working with the new module loaded. If you want to reference the CmdLet help, you can consult the 422 page PDF...no, seriously, the entire help environment is available for reference both in PDF and in the traditional method of using Get-Help *CmdLet* method:



## **Time to get your PowerShell on!**

I encourage you to get the Double-Take 7.0 product downloaded and start to looking at what you can do with PowerShell and the Double-Take environment now. I'll put together more posts to help with more detailed configuration. Using these methods you can really re-think how you manage the platform and it can now be rolled into the orchestration side of your environment which will be a really great value addition to the Double-Take portfolio in my opinion.

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# [Toronto VMUG: May 23rd, 2013 Event Recap and Private Cloud Presentation](#)

It was a beautiful sunny morning in Toronto and a great day for a VMUG meeting! May 23rd brought the first VMUG meeting of the spring here and the audience showed that they were ready to show some community love today.

There were two great vendors here for the session which were Tintri and Veeam, followed by yours truly with my presentation titled Private Cloud - Going from Lab to Live.

The audience was a great size, [Angelo Luciani](#) put together a great day for us and we also had Mike Preston ([www.mwpreston.net](http://www.mwpreston.net)) in attendance so it was a great opportunity to chat and we had a great lunch afterwards.

## **VMware Horizon Workspace with Mike Bujara**

Mike from VMware did a great preview of the VMware Horizon Workspace for us. The awesome part of it was that he did the connection tethered from an iPhone which tells you the kind of flexibility that this great product suite gives you.

I've been lucky enough to lab the VMware Horizon suite and I can tell you that it is a phenomenal product. Licensing is another beast altogether, but the feature set that is offered with the latest iteration is pretty amazing and you will find that it is a great way to extend your corporate infrastructure to your staff through mobile devices, VPN remote deployments and maybe even full desktop replacement in the office. Pretty cool technology all around.

## **Tintri - Storage Presentation**

☒ Tintri brought the thunder today. One of the first employees at Tintri, Rex flew in from California and he knew how to read the audience well. Right out of the gate the presentation went to real performance management techniques and the myths about IOPS and the effect on overall performance.

We don't often get a chance to dive deep with presenters, so this was nice that the audience was able to get some great questions answered and I can safely say that we all learned some great information about storage, flash and I/O performance as a result.

## **Veeam - Tales from the Field: Don't let this happen to your VMs**

☒ The Veeam team did another great job with a presentation about the Veeam Backup and Replication suite and the other great Veeam tools such as [Veeam Explorer for SAN Snapshots](#) and [Veeam Explorer for Exchange](#).

Even more exciting are the new features that are coming out with V7.0 that is due out around the

time of VMworld San Francisco so make sure that you will be very pleased with. Follow along with the announcements as they come out here: <http://go.veeam.com/v7>

Demo time was in order and Mario from Veeam showed us a live session where he was able to restore Exchange objects, Active Directory objects and full servers using backup instances. All of which was done in a matter of minutes. The product performance speaks for itself really, but if you haven't had a chance to see it, you can view the v7 webinars or reach out to the team through the website by clicking on the banner to the right of the page.

## **My Presentation on Private Cloud - Going from Lab to Live**

The goal of this presentation is to summarize various cloud infrastructure deployments, and to concentrate on starting with a cloud labs with the goal of being able to move towards new processes and developing a cloudy way to manage your virtualization environment.

The slide deck alone doesn't quite convey the full impact unfortunately, but I hope that the general theme comes through. I hope to put my presentation together with a full audio overlay to fully deliver the content as it was meant.

If you have any questions or comments on the presentation or content, you can [find me on Twitter @DiscoPosse](#) or email to eric at discoposse dot com.

Thank you very much to Angelo Luciani, Mike Preston, the VMUG community and to everyone who helps to bring these events together.

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## **[VMware Hybrid Cloud Launch Day - Why this is important, and What is New](#)**

So today is a big announcement day for VMware. Not a total surprise of course, because they have teased this offering for a while, and they have actually had the system in customer beta testing for a while. I know, because I was one of the lucky ones who was able to get a first crack at the system ☐

If you've read what I wrote back then (Article: [vCloud Hybrid Cloud](#)) you have probably had some interest in what I was after too; the opportunity to add VMware supported services for on-demand cloud usage to ease the transition to cloud infrastructure.

### **Ready for Prime Time Finally**

Admittedly, I found the original beta to be a little light duty. I have had two servers running in that environment with a variety of configurations. I even have my Puppet environment hosted there now as a proof of concept deployment for some projects I have that are brewing up.

Today is a different day because of that testing and the continuous feedback that has poured back into the VMware Hybrid Cloud group. They have had their hands full I'm sure with support calls, and the growing reliability of the service was evident. But today, as I've said, is a different day. Today,

this is a real system.

## What is Next for the vCloud Hybrid Cloud

One word: Growth. This is the beginning of something great in that it adds competitiveness to the market, and it allows for a logical first step for many organizations to use public cloud infrastructure for their production workloads.

What was interesting is how many conversations, some of them very animated, were sparked up over the announcement. The Twitterverse was alight with speculation that this is meant to be an AWS killer, or an OpenStack killer. In my opinion, it is neither of those but it is as important as the iOS, BlackBerry, Android OS battle in the mobile space.

## Dedicated or Virtual Private (multi-tenant)

The cool feature of this is is that there are two service offerings. The Dedicated vCloud environment is a physically isolated environment which you retain complete control over and can easily link to your on-premise vCloud using the vCloud Connector.

If you want to use the on-demand capability of the Virtual Private cloud infrastructure, those resources are also available which are logically isolated from other environments using the well tested vCloud Networking and Security suite.



image courtesy of VMware (click for source page)

## Partnerships - The Real Power of the Cloud

It doesn't have to go much further than the announcement that the amazing automation engine **Puppet** is fully integrated into the environment, so you can dive right in with this popular configuration management tool and even if you aren't already dipping your toes into the Puppet waters, I can tell you that the water is beautiful and it is a quick transition.

Even if you don't interact with it, the truth is that Puppet is now part of the fabric of the vCloud ecosystem which is the result of some amazing work by the Cloud Services Team and the symbolic investment that VMware has made with Puppet Labs.

Some have proposed that this is a shot across the bow of partner cloud providers, but I think that this is really an opportunity to widen the net and gain a strong adoption of the vCloud products in public, private and hybrid deployments across the board.

## Comfort Food in the Datacenter

We like this announcement in the same way that we smell our grandma's apple pie cooking, or the taste of your favorite curl up on the couch meal. This is about comfort. We know that this technology is working well for us today in our on-premise deployments, so this is the chance to confidently take the next step and take advantage of a growing wave in technology. I really see this as a way to take those who we traditionally see in the "laggards" category, and move them much closer to the peak of the technology adoption curve.

Bravo VMware, and I can't wait to watch this come together. Production general availability in North America datacenters is scheduled for Q3 2013 and early access will be available in June.

View the VMware vCloud Hybrid site here: <http://vcloud.vmware.com/>

And most importantly, here is the pricing info: [http://vcloud.vmware.com/about\\_services/pricing](http://vcloud.vmware.com/about_services/pricing)

Here is the announcement from Puppet

Labs: [http://puppetlabs.com/blog/vmware-new-public-cloud-and-puppet-enterprise/?utm\\_campaign=blog&utm\\_medium=socnet&utm\\_source=twitter&utm\\_content=vchs\\_interview\\_blog](http://puppetlabs.com/blog/vmware-new-public-cloud-and-puppet-enterprise/?utm_campaign=blog&utm_medium=socnet&utm_source=twitter&utm_content=vchs_interview_blog)

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## [DiscoPosse Review: MongoDB Applied Design Patterns](#)

☒ That sound you hear is my mind being blown. Rick Copeland and the folks at O'Reilly have really put together a great book here. Admittedly, it was outside of my usual comfort zone because of the depth of the content, but it forced me to raise my game to really dig in on some MongoDB goodness here.

As I come from the old school, relational DB background, I haven't done as much work in NoSQL DB engines. I'm impressed with the detail that Rick put into the content and the use cases provided gave great context to bring code and concept together.

The target audience for this is definitely an application developer or someone in database management. As a systems administrator, some of the depth of detail may be overwhelming. That being said, the book is great. I'd absolutely recommend it.