

VMware vSphere 6.5.x on Dell EMC PowerEdge Systems

Getting Started Guide

Notes, cautions, and warnings

 **NOTE:** A NOTE indicates important information that helps you make better use of your product.

 **CAUTION:** A CAUTION indicates either potential damage to hardware or loss of data and tells you how to avoid the problem.

 **WARNING:** A WARNING indicates a potential for property damage, personal injury, or death.

Contents

1 Getting started with VMware vSphere.....	4
Important information.....	4
Download Dell EMC customized ESXi image.....	4
Download Dell EMC customized ESXi image from Dell EMC support site.....	4
Download Dell EMC customized ESXi image from VMware site.....	5
Configuring ESXi on Dell EMC PowerEdge server.....	5
2 Getting help.....	6
Contacting Dell EMC.....	6
Related information for virtualization solutions.....	6
Technical support resources.....	7
Discussion forums.....	7
Knowledge base.....	7
Virtualization videos for Dell EMC PowerEdge servers.....	7
Documentation resources.....	8
Download the drivers and firmware.....	10
Documentation feedback.....	10
Locating Service Tag of your system.....	10

Getting started with VMware vSphere

This document helps you in setting up your Dell EMC PowerEdge server and configuring VMware vSphere.

- ① **NOTE:** If you had ordered VMware ESXi with your Dell EMC PowerEdge server, it is preinstalled on your server. The ESXi installer media is required for reinstallation. If you did not order ESXi with your server, you can order the Internal Dual SD Module kit (for supported Dell EMC PowerEdge servers) at Dell.com/support/home, and then download the ESXi installation media from Dell.com/support/drivers.

Topics:

- [Important information](#)
- [Download Dell EMC customized ESXi image](#)
- [Configuring ESXi on Dell EMC PowerEdge server](#)

Important information

For all the Dell EMC PowerEdge servers with factory-installed VMware ESXi operating system:

- Dell EMC PowerEdge 14th generation server's username is `root` and password is your Service Tag of your system followed by the character '!'.

① **NOTE:** To locate the Service Tag of your system, see [Locating Service Tag of your system..](#)

- Dell EMC PowerEdge 13th generation servers do not have password for the username `root`.

For the Dell EMC PowerEdge servers with factory-installed VMware ESXi operating system on the BOSS-S1 device:

- Dell EMC PowerEdge 14th generation servers do not have VMFS datastore enabled by default. Dell EMC recommends that you use the BOSS-S1 device as an OS boot device and vSphere ESXi Logging device. For more information, see [VMware Knowledge Base article 2145210](#).

① **NOTE:** Before deploying the system, Dell EMC recommends you to see *VMware vSphere 6.5.x on Dell EMC PowerEdge server Release Notes* at Dell.com/virtualizationsolutions.

Download Dell EMC customized ESXi image

You can download the Dell EMC customized ESXi images from the Dell support site or from the VMware site.

① **NOTE:** For information on Dell EMC's customization of VMware ESXi images and its advantages, see [Dell's Customization of VMware ESXi and Its Advantages](#).

Download Dell EMC customized ESXi image from Dell EMC support site

① **NOTE:** Ensure that you clear the web browser cache before downloading the drivers and firmware.

- 1 Go to Dell.com/support/drivers.
- 2 In the **Drivers & Downloads** section, enter the Service Tag of your system in the **Enter a Dell Service Tag, Dell EMC Product ID, or Model** box, and then click the right arrow button.

① **NOTE:** If you do not have the Service Tag, select Detect PC to allow the system to automatically detect your Service Tag, or click Browse all products, and then navigate to your product.

- 3 Click **Drivers & Downloads**.
The drivers that are applicable to your system are displayed.
- 4 In the **Operating System** list, select the appropriate VMware version.
- 5 In the **Category** list, select **Enterprise Solutions**.
The latest Dell EMC VMware ESXi customized images are displayed.
- 6 Click **Download**.

Download Dell EMC customized ESXi image from VMware site

① **NOTE:** Ensure that you clear the web browser cache before downloading the drivers and firmware.

① **NOTE:** You should be registered with my.vmware.com to be able to download drivers and firmware.

- 1 Go to my.vmware.com and login with your account credentials.
- 2 Select **View & Download products > All Products** and then click the **View Download Components** link of **VMware vSphere**.
- 3 Select the image version from the **Select Version** list.
- 4 Click **Custom ISOs**.
- 5 Expand the **OEM Customized Installer CDs** option and then click **Go to Downloads** for the image that you want to download.

Configuring ESXi on Dell EMC PowerEdge server

- 1 Set up your Dell EMC PowerEdge server.
For more information, see the *Getting Started Guide* and the *Rack Installation Instructions* that are shipped with your server.

① **NOTE:** Ensure that the server is connected to network infrastructure and first LAN On Motherboard (LOM) or Network Daughter Card (NDC) port is connected.

- 2 Turn on the server.
The ESXi console loads.
- 3 Press F2 when the ESXi console is displayed to configure the software.
Configuring the software includes changing the root password and setting a static IP address.

① **NOTE:** By default, the server obtains an IP address using the Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP).

- 4 Select **Configure Password** from the main menu to change the root password.
The root password manages the server on a one-to-one basis.
- 5 Select **Configure Management Network > IP Configuration > Set static IP address and network configuration** to configure a static IP address.

① **NOTE:** Record the host IP address.

If you purchased the ESXi hypervisor-based vSphere Standard, Enterprise, Enterprise Plus, Essentials Plus software, or Acceleration kits from Dell EMC, you must have received the Partner Activation Code certificate with the server. To use the ESXi software and receive subscription services, follow the instructions in your Partner Activation Code certificate that is included with the server.

① **NOTE:** By using the VMware software, you are agreeing to the VMware End User License Agreement (EULA) at vmware.com/downloads/eula. For more information about license keys and VMware software licensing configuration, see the *VMware documentation* at vmware.com/support/pubs.

Getting help

Topics:

- [Contacting Dell EMC](#)
- [Related information for virtualization solutions](#)
- [Documentation resources](#)
- [Download the drivers and firmware](#)
- [Documentation feedback](#)
- [Locating Service Tag of your system](#)

Contacting Dell EMC

Dell EMC provides several online and telephone-based support and service options. Availability varies by country, region, and product, and some services may not be available in your area.

To contact Dell EMC for sales, technical assistance, or customer service issues, see www.dell.com/contactdell.

If you do not have an active Internet connection, you can find contact information on your purchase invoice, packing slip, bill, or the product catalog.

Related information for virtualization solutions

Table 1. Related information for virtualization solutions

If you need information about	See
Dell EMC VMware documentation	Dell.com/virtualizationsolutions
OpenManage documentation	www.dell.com/openmanagemanuals
PowerEdge documentation	www.dell.com/poweredgemanuals
Basic configuration information for running ESXi on a Dell EMC PowerEdge server	<i>Getting Started Guide</i> at Dell.com/virtualizationsolutions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information about downloading, installing, and configuring ESXi • Supported hardware configurations for running ESXi on a Dell EMC PowerEdge server 	<i>Installation Instructions and Important Information Guide</i> at Dell.com/virtualizationsolutions
PowerEdge servers and compatibility with vMotion	<i>VMware vMotion and 64-bit Virtual Machine Support Compatibility Matrix</i> at Dell.com/virtualizationsolutions
PowerEdge and PowerVault compatibility information for running ESXi	<i>VMware vSphere for Dell EMC PowerEdge servers Compatibility Matrix</i> at Dell.com/virtualizationsolutions
Known issues and resolutions	<i>VMware vSphere 6.5.x on Dell EMC PowerEdge server Release Notes</i> at Dell.com/virtualizationsolutions
ESXi ISO image customization information	<i>ESXi Image Customization Information</i> at Dell.com/virtualizationsolutions

Technical support resources

- vmware.com/support
- Dell.com/support/home
- Dell.com/services

Discussion forums

- communities.vmware.com/community/vmtn
- [Dell Virtualization](#)
- [Wikis, Forums, Blogs, and Videos](#)
- [Dell Community](#)

Knowledge base

- kb.vmware.com/kb

NOTE: For more information that is related to the VMware ESXi installation on Dell EMC PowerEdge servers, go to [Dell Virtualization](#).

Virtualization videos for Dell EMC PowerEdge servers

All the supported virtualization videos for Dell EMC PowerEdge servers are available in the [Supported Operating Systems for Dell PowerEdge servers](#) playlist.

Table 2. Virtualization videos for Dell EMC PowerEdge servers

Video title	Links
Downloading the Dell EMC customized ESXi image from support site	www.youtube.com/watch?v=YnVxtkAkYTI
OS Deployment (VMware ESXi)—Installing Using CD/DVD	www.youtube.com/watch?v=-EbufUS86zA
Enabling and Configuring Fault Resilient Memory on Dell EMC PowerEdge servers	www.youtube.com/watch?v=retSh-XIsK0
OS Deployment (VMware ESXi)—Installing on BOSS S1 device	www.youtube.com/watch?v=TB1loXpFFME
OS Deployment (VMware ESXi)—Installing on IDSDM	www.youtube.com/watch?v=EC-Xntg5mgw
To enable UEFI Secure Boot on VMware ESXi for Dell's 13th generation of PowerEdge servers	www.youtube.com/watch?v=LI9qIF9qV9I
NOTE: This video is applicable for VMware ESXi 6.5.x and VMware ESXi 6.7.	
To enable UEFI Secure Boot on VMware ESXi for Dell EMC's 14th generation of PowerEdge servers	www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZZB_XyV0enY
NOTE: This video is applicable for VMware ESXi 6.5.x and VMware ESXi 6.7.	

Documentation resources

This section provides information about the documentation resources for your server.

Table 3. Additional documentation resources for your server

Task	Document	Location
Setting up your server	For information about installing the server into a rack, see the Rack documentation included with your rack solution or the <i>Getting Started Guide</i> that is shipped with your server.	www.dell.com/poweredgemanuals
	For information about turning on the server and the technical specifications of your server, see the <i>Getting Started Guide</i> that is shipped with your server.	www.dell.com/poweredgemanuals
Configuring your server	For information about the iDRAC features, configuring and logging in to iDRAC, and managing your server remotely, see the <i>Integrated Dell Remote Access Configuration Tool User's Guide</i> .	www.dell.com/idracmanuals
	For information about installing the operating system, see operating system documentation.	www.dell.com/operatingsystemmanuals
	For information about understanding Remote Access Controller Admin (RACADM) subcommands and supported RACADM interfaces, see the <i>iDRAC RACADM CLI Guide</i> .	www.dell.com/idracmanuals
	For information about updating drivers and firmware, see Downloading the drivers and firmware topic in this document.	Dell.com/support/drivers
Managing your server	For information about server management software offered by Dell EMC, see the Dell EMC <i>Systems Management Overview Guide</i> .	www.dell.com/openmanagemanuals
	For information about setting up, using, and troubleshooting OpenManage, see the Dell EMC <i>OpenManage Server Administrator User's Guide</i> .	www.dell.com/openmanagemanuals
	For information about installing, using, and troubleshooting Dell	www.dell.com/openmanagemanuals


Task	Document	Location
	EMC OpenManage Essentials, see the Dell EMC Dell.com/openmanagemanuals > <i>OpenManage Essentials User's Guide</i> .	
	For information about installing and using Dell SupportAssist, see the Dell EMC <i>SupportAssist Enterprise User's Guide</i> .	www.dell.com/serviceabilitytools
	For understanding the features of Dell EMC Lifecycle Controller (LC), see the <i>Lifecycle Controller User's Guide</i> .	www.dell.com/idracmanuals
	For information about partner programs enterprise systems management, see the <i>OpenManage Connections Enterprise Systems Management</i> documents.	www.dell.com/esmmanuals
	For information about viewing inventory, performing configuration, and monitoring tasks, remotely turning on or off servers, and enabling alerts for events on servers and components using the Dell EMC Chassis Management Controller (CMC), see the <i>Chassis Management Controller User's Guide</i> .	www.dell.com/esmmanuals
Working with the Dell EMC PowerEdge RAID controllers	For information about understanding the features of the Dell EMC PowerEdge RAID controllers (PERC) and deploying the PERC cards, see the Storage controller documentation.	Dell.com/storagecontrollermanuals
Understanding event and error messages	For information about checking the event and error messages generated by the system firmware and agents that monitor server components, see the Dell EMC <i>Event and Error Message Reference Guide for 14th Generation Dell EMC PowerEdge Servers</i> .	Dell.com/openmanagemanuals
Troubleshooting your system	For information about identifying and troubleshooting the PowerEdge server issues, see the <i>PowerEdge Servers Troubleshooting Guide</i> .	www.dell.com/poweredgemanuals

Task	Document	Location
Configuring Dell PowerEdge VRTX shared storage for VMware vSphere environment	For information on configuring Dell PowerEdge VRTX shared storage for VMware vSphere environment, see Dell EMC White papers.	Configuring Dell PowerEdge VRTX shared storage for VMware vSphere Environment

Download the drivers and firmware

It is recommended that you download and install the latest BIOS, drivers, and systems management firmware on your system. Ensure that you clear the web browser cache before downloading the drivers and firmware.

- 1 Go to Dell.com/support/drivers.
- 2 In the **Drivers & Downloads** section, enter the Service Tag of your system in the **Enter a Dell Service Tag, Dell EMC Product ID, or Model** field, and then click **Submit**.

 **NOTE:** If you do not have the Service Tag, click **Detect PC** to allow the system to automatically detect your Service Tag.
- 3 Click **Drivers & Downloads**.
A list of applicable downloads is displayed.
- 4 Download the drivers or firmware to a USB drive, CD, or DVD.

Documentation feedback

You can rate the documentation or write your feedback on any of our Dell EMC documentation pages and click **Send Feedback** to send your feedback.

Locating Service Tag of your system

Your system is identified by a unique Express Service Code and Service Tag number. The Express Service Code and Service Tag are found on the front or back of the system by pulling out the information tag. Alternatively, the information may be on a sticker on the chassis of the system. This information is used by Dell EMC to route support calls to the appropriate personnel.