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## ESXi 4.1 Kickstart Install - WIP

Blog - Tech Blog

Tuesday, 03 August 2010 11:04

1 Comment

For the past two weeks I've been trying to get an ESXi 4.1 Kickstart script created. It's currently a work in progress (WIP), but I'm letting it rest for a little while. I've been testing this script out on an ESXi 4.1 VMw/ 10 NICs to try and simulate my current environment. My current environment resembles my [vSphere Host NIC Design - 10 NICs](#) post.

The bulk of the script is working. There are a few parts where it's not working and you are more than welcome to try it out. I started this project so I could atleast get myself familiar with kickstarting an installation and diving a bit deeper into the ESXi commands. I tried a bunch of different options out there from ESX 4.0 kick-scripts and alot of stuff has changed in the syntax. Keep that in mind if you are developing your own script.

Thanks to Justin Guidroz (@juicelsu009, [Geaux Virtual](#)) for putting up with all my questions. Justin has hacked the [EDA](#) a bit for ESXi 4.1 and has customized some more cool scripts, but I'm sure we can all expect [EDA](#) to fully support 4.1 in the near future. That's a big reason why I'm putting all this work to rest. Also check out [Setting up vSphere ESXi 4.1 Scripted Installation](#) from [@virtuakenneth](#).

```
001.
002. rootpw changeme
003. install url http://192.168.187.66/ESXi
004. autopart --firstdisk --overwritevmfs
005. reboot
006.
007. #Network install type
008. network --bootproto=static --addvmportgroup=false --device=vmnic0 --
    -ip=192.168.50.13 --netmask=255.255.255.0 --
    gateway=192.168.50.1 --nameserver=192.168.3.2 --
    hostname=ESXi3.FQDN
009.
010. accepteula
011.
012. %firstboot --unsupported --interpreter=busybox
013.
014. #Assign VLAN to Management PortGroup
015. esxcfg-vswitch -v 50 -p 'Management Network' vSwitch0
016.
017. #Add vMotion Portgroup to vSwitch0
018. esxcfg-vswitch -A vMotion vSwitch0
019.
020. #Add pNIC vmnic6 to vSwitch0
021. esxcfg-vswitch -L vmnic6 vSwitch0
022.
023. #Assign ip address to vMotion vmk1
024. esxcfg-vmknic -a -i 192.168.51.12 -n 255.255.255.0 -p vMotion
025.
026. #Assign VLAN to vMotion PortGroup
027. esxcfg-vswitch -v 51 -p vMotion vSwitch0
028.
029. sleep 10
030.
031. #set vMotion to vmk
032. vim-cmd hostsvc/vmotion/vnic_set vmk1
033.
034. #Set NIC order policy for port groups
035. vim-cmd hostsvc/net/portgroup set --nicorderpolicy-active=vmnic0 --
    nicorderpolicy-standby=vmnic6 vSwitch0 'Management Network'
036.
037. vim-cmd hostsvc/net/portgroup set --nicorderpolicy-active=vmnic6 --
    nicorderpolicy-standby=vmnic0 vSwitch0 vMotion
038.
039. #Add new vSwitch for IP Storage
040. esxcfg-vswitch -a vSwitch_IP-SAN
041.
042. #Set MTU to 9000 for jumbo frames on vSwitch
043. esxcfg-vswitch -m 9000 vSwitch_IP-SAN
044.
045. #Add Portgroup to vSwitch IP-SAN
046. esxcfg-vswitch -A NetApp_FAS2020a vSwitch_IP-SAN
047.
048. #Assign IP address to vmknic
049. esxcfg-vmknic -a -i 192.168.52.12 -n 255.255.255.0 -m 9000
    NetApp_FAS2020a
050.
051. #Add NICs to new vSwitch
```



## My Tweets



about 1 hour ago

check out this great blog post on Troubleshooting Virtual Machine snapshot problems - <http://bit.ly/8ZxPGO>

about 6 hours ago

Hah RT @techmure: RT @ShitMyDevOpSays: you think doing it right is expensive? wait until you see what doing it wrong is going to cost...

4:22 PM yesterday

so much to get accomplished before VMworld. might have to take a day or two off work. maybe 4 days so i can study for VCAP

□□

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```

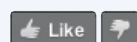
052. esxcfg-vswitch -L vmnic2 vSwitch_IP-SAN
053.
054. #Add NICs to new vSwitch
055. esxcfg-vswitch -L vmnic7 vSwitch_IP-SAN
056.
057. vim-cmd hostsvc/net/refresh
058.
059. sleep 10
060.
061. #Change LoadBalance for Etherchannel - WORKS WHEN TYPED IN CLI BUT
    ↪ NOT WORKING IN SCRIPT FOR SOME REASON
062. vim-cmd hostsvc/net/vswitch_setpolicy --nicteaming-
    ↪ policy=loadbalance_ip vSwitch_IP-SAN
063.
064. #Add NFS datastores
065. esxcfg-nas -a -o 192.168.52.101 -s /FAS2020a_Node1_NFS_A
    ↪ FAS2020a_Node1_NFS_A
066. esxcfg-nas -a -o 192.168.52.101 -s /FAS2020a_Node1_NFS_B
    ↪ FAS2020a_Node1_NFS_B
067. esxcfg-nas -a -o 192.168.52.102 -s /FAS2020a_Node2_NFS_A
    ↪ FAS2020a_Node2_NFS_A
068.
069. #Adding the FT Network
070. esxcfg-vswitch -a vSwitch_FT
071. esxcfg-vswitch -A Fault_Tolerance vSwitch_FT
072. esxcfg-vswitch -L vmnic4 vSwitch_FT
073. esxcfg-vswitch -L vmnic9 vSwitch_FT
074.
075. esxcfg-vmknics -a -i 192.168.55.12 -n 255.255.255.0 -p
    ↪ Fault_Tolerance
076.
077. vim-cmd hostsvc/net/portgroup_set --nicorderpolicy-active=vmnic4 --
    ↪ nicorderpolicy-standby=vmnic9 vSwitch_FT Fault_Tolerance
078.
079. vim-cmd hostsvc/adopt/update FT.Vmknics string vmk3
080.
081. vim-cmd hostsvc/net/refresh
082.
083. #Set DNS
084. vim-cmd hostsvc/net/dns_set --ip-addresses=192.168.3.23,192.168.3.2
085.
086. # Set NFS advanced Configuration Settings
087. esxcfg-advcfg -s 30 /Net/TcpipHeapSize
088. esxcfg-advcfg -s 120 /Net/TcpipHeapMax
089. esxcfg-advcfg -s 10 /NFS/HeartbeatMaxFailures
090. esxcfg-advcfg -s 12 /NFS/HeartbeatFrequency
091. esxcfg-advcfg -s 5 /NFS/HeartbeatTimeout
092. esxcfg-advcfg -s 64 /NFS/MaxVolumes
093.
094. # NTP time config - NOT WORKING!!
095. echo "Configuring NTP"
096. echo restrict default kod nomodify notrap noquerynopeer >
    ↪ /etc/ntp.conf
097. echo restrict 127.0.0.1 >> /etc/ntp.conf
098. echo server 0.vmware.pool.ntp.org >> /etc/ntp.conf
099. echo server 2.vmware.pool.ntp.org >> /etc/ntp.conf
100. echo driftfile /var/lib/ntp/drift >> /etc/ntp.conf
101. /sbin/chkconfig --level 345 ntpd on
102. /etc/init.d/ntpd start
103.
104. #enable SSH TechSupportMode - shouldn't use this, was just a test
105. vim-cmd hostsvc/enable_remote_tsm
106. vim-cmd hostsvc/start_remote_tsm
107.
108. vim-cmd hostsvc/net/refresh
109.
110. #grep ^admins: /etc/group > /dev/null || groupadd admins
111. #useradd -g admins -c LocaleSXAccount LocaleSX
112. #echo mypassword | passwd --stdin LocaleSX

```

Remember these have to be edited in something like Notepad++

#### Attachments:

 [ks.cfg](#) [ESX 4.1 Kickstart] 3 Kb



#### Showing 1 comments

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**Nobody** 5 days ago

Try changing:

/etc/init.d/ntpd start

to:

/etc/init.d/ntpd stop

/etc/init.d/ntpd start

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