

CA Virtual Configuration



The application of new technology and innovation to your business production or product delivery environment can be the differentiator in today's competitive environment. Today's successful IT innovators in areas of integration, consolidation, and virtualization will be the successful market leaders of tomorrow. With such innovation, they will be better positioned to meet the requisite measures of time-to-market, flexible access, and customer satisfaction in the delivery of customer products or services quickly, efficiently, and cost-effectively. One of the current trends and more noteworthy opportunities for administrators today is the ability to expand beyond their current system virtualization efforts to embrace the potential of application virtualization.

Business value

Companies will appreciate how virtualization and virtualization management will work as a business and IT operations platform, with the potential to deliver operational flexibility, automation, and control, and OPEX/CAPEX savings that cannot be ignored.

As an example, working with a well-configured virtual environment can significantly improve MTTR, allowing problems to be identified and resolved more quickly and in a standardized fashion. The other side of this opportunity is how critically important automated virtualization management becomes as virtualization deployments continue to grow. With such growth, existing and even new resources may not be able to cope with manual configuration management processes.

Product overview

CA Virtual Configuration is a stand-alone virtual environment configuration management product for the configuration of heterogeneous virtual machines and infrastructure. Virtual Configuration's discovery capability is designed to identify server and application dependencies, and inventories that data for configuration baselining and validating configurations, as well as detecting and remediating configuration drift. Its virtualization dashboards facilitate change tracking and review, checking compliance for audits and then reporting the environment's status. Virtual Configuration is intended to be scalable to meet most departmental or enterprise-sized virtual management change and control needs.

Portfolio approach

CA Virtual Configuration is a product within CA's virtualization management portfolio, a comprehensive set of virtual solutions that are designed to address the "virtualization-specific" needs of departmental and emerging-enterprise customers, providing the full lifecycle capabilities needed to support a "virtual-only" environment. CA's virtualization management portfolio (with components launching now and into CY2010) will include provisioning, performance monitoring, chargeback, configuration, and backup. The portfolio can also be expanded by the acquisition of CA Spectrum® Automation manager, which supports large enterprise-class customers that need visibility and control across their physical and virtual environments. These solutions together help enable customers to gain greater control, higher quality of service, reduced risk, and the agility needed to run their business more effectively.

CA Virtual Configuration features

Feature	Capability
Server auto-discovery	Discovers physical and virtual servers on your managed network segments
Comprehensive software inventory	Provides a detailed view of a server's hardware, networking, and storage configurations and a comprehensive inventory of its software composition
Dashboard report displays	Designed to alert you to inventory level changes, compliance violations, and configuration changes
Virtual Host server visualization	Delivers a wide-angle view of your infrastructure. You can dynamically group servers based on combinations of attributes
Service management	Groups servers and specific software components as an application service that you can snapshot and search for changes or rules compliance
Security	Provides comprehensive, customizable, role-based administration and controls access to the target server
Custom attributes	Enables you to define and add your own attributes to individual servers
Import and export	Imports a known list of servers to help accelerate server discovery, or business attributes from an asset management application
Reporting	Provides predefined dashboard reports with view, print, export, and scheduled email delivery

Benefits

CA Virtual Configuration provides an automated approach for deep visibility into your virtual environment of servers and application and software components. This management approach is intended to deliver the flexibility, operational efficiencies, and ultimately the cost savings you require to help:

- Cross-platform virtualization discovery and identification
 - No platform lock in
- Simplify configuration management of complex applications
 - Comprehensive discovery and dependency recognition
- Improve visibility and time-to-resolution for problems that occur due to configuration changes
- Deliver consistency and reduce compliance issues
- Facilitate security, performance, consistency, and compliance

- Automate the process of discovering and maintaining an accurate picture of configurations
- Track configuration changes, enforce Gold standard configurations, pinpoint problems, and report rule compliance violations
- Enterprise migration with path to cloud.

Why CA

CA has 30 years of recognized expertise in robust, reliable, scalable, and secure enterprise-class IT management software. CA has made an unparalleled commitment to emerging technologies and IT delivery models such as virtualization, automation, SaaS, and cloud. Additionally, CA solutions deliver forward-thinking best management technologies garnered through strategic acquisition and developed from within. More importantly, CA has earned industry recognition in virtualization management leadership and has forged virtualization-specific industry partnerships with VMware, Microsoft, Cisco, Oracle/Sun, Citrix, Red Hat, and so on.

CA Technology Services™ and its partners can help you assess your current IT situation, define your goals, and implement solutions to gain measurable results. To keep your CA solutions operating at peak performance, CA support delivers unparalleled technical and customer support worldwide, and we offer training and certification through CA Education.

Copyright ©2010 CA. All rights reserved. All trademarks, trade names, service marks, and logos referenced herein belong to their respective companies. This document is for your informational purposes only. CA assumes no responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of the information. To the extent permitted by applicable law, CA provides this document “as is” without warranty of any kind, including, without limitation, any implied warranties of merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose, or non-infringement. In no event will CA be liable for any loss or damage, direct or indirect, from the use of this document, including, without limitation, lost profits, business interruption, goodwill, or lost data, even if CA is expressly advised in advance of the possibility of such damages.

Certain information in this publication may outline CA's general product direction. However, CA may make modifications to any CA product, software program, method or procedure described in this publication at any time without notice, and the development, release and timing of any features or functionality described in this publication remain at CA's sole discretion. CA will support only the referenced products in accordance with (i) the documentation and specifications provided with the referenced product, and (ii) CA's then-current maintenance and support policy for the referenced product. Notwithstanding anything in this publication to the contrary, this publication shall not: (i) constitute product documentation or specifications under any existing or future written license agreement or services agreement relating to any CA software product, or be subject to any warranty set forth in any such written agreement; (ii) serve to affect the rights and/or obligations of CA or its licensees under any existing or future written license agreement or services agreement relating to any CA software product; or (iii) serve to amend any product documentation or specifications for any CA software product.