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HotLink Cloud Management Express is the easiest to implement solution for integrating, administering and managing a wide range of public and private cloud-based resources. Best of all, it leverages VMware vCenter capabilities plus related tools and workflows, so you can seamlessly manage hybrid resources alongside vSphere using familiar vCenter capabilities and processes. With HotLink, you have the simplicity of a homogeneous VMware environment with the flexibility to choose the best on- and off-premise platform options for your data center.

Part of the HotLink Hybrid Management Suite™, HotLink Cloud Management Express incorporates the award-winning HotLink technology that natively extends VMware management to hybrid resources — spanning public clouds including Microsoft Azure, vCloud Air, OpenStack and Amazon EC2, and on-premise OpenStack, Microsoft Hyper-V, Citrix XenServer and Red Hat Enterprise Linux (KVM). HotLink is perfectly suited to the diverse requirements of modern data centers, so you can easily:

- Extend vCenter capabilities to cloud platforms
- Auto-discover cross-platform resources
- Enable hybrid monitoring & management
- Unify performance data & analytics
- Provide a single point of security
- Consolidate hybrid change management
- Apply automation across all resources

Designed for the agility of next-generation IT, HotLink Cloud Management Express enables VMware vCenter to be the single pane of glass to manage all the platforms on your hybrid roadmap.

HotLink uniquely extends VMware vCenter capabilities to cloud-based resources, both on- and off-premise. In this example, vCenter is reporting performance data for Microsoft Azure workloads.

The Problem

Cloud-based computing is undeniably a driving force in the IT landscape. In fact, industry analysts report that the absolute growth of public cloud IaaS workloads has surpassed that of on-premise virtual machines. Much of the demand is led by new and expanding digital initiatives happening across nearly every industry. Additionally, the maturing capabilities of many public cloud providers are attracting the migration of traditional workloads, as corporate IT looks to improve agility and reduce costs. Across the board, however, companies are concerned about avoiding cloud lock-in given this rapidly evolving market.

With the extent and diversity of all the cloud-based activity, it’s no surprise that most enterprise roadmaps are on a hybrid path. Yet, realizing broad benefits from hybrid computing requires a laser-focus on solving traditional hybrid management problems. This means corporate IT must somehow enable management of a wide range of internal and external IT infrastructures without increasing complexity, personnel or costs.

Next-generation hybrid management must have the flexibility to support a spectrum of cloud alternatives together with existing on-premise resources in a highly streamlined, yet robust operating model. Importantly, this has to be achieved without protracted, expensive system integration projects. Given the well-honed, prolific operating environments built around VMware vSphere and related tools, compatibility with existing VMware environments is a prerequisite for most data centers.

This next-generation hybrid solution is exactly what HotLink® Cloud Management Express™ delivers today — out-of-the-box integration and interoperability of your existing VMware management environment with all leading public and private cloud computing resources.

The Solution
Cloud Management Express

HotLink Cloud Management Express is the only management solution to natively and easily integrate cloud-based resources, both public and private, into enterprise-class VMware management environments. Whether your corporate IT team was an early adopter of cloud computing or is just getting started, HotLink lets your company benefit from the VMware investments you’ve already made and unify management of the non-VMware resources you have planned.

Unified Cloud Management Platform

The HotLink platform enables out-of-the-box integration between existing VMware operations and the widest range of public and private cloud platforms — including Amazon EC2, Microsoft Azure, vCloud Air, OpenStack, Microsoft Hyper-V, Citrix XenServer and Red Hat Enterprise Linux (KVM). Unlike overlay management approaches that require multiple consoles and deliver limited administration and management functionality, HotLink abstracts cloud-based infrastructure so you can support hybrid resources utilizing the capabilities of VMware vCenter. With HotLink, you holistically manage multi-cloud resources as easily as you manage your current VMware environment.

Easy Cross-Platform Management

HotLink Cloud Management Express allows you to benefit from VMware vCenter administration, deployment and management capabilities across all your hybrid platforms. Cloud-based resources, both on- and off-premise, are seamlessly and intuitively managed together with vSphere in a unified inventory tree and with a consistent methodology. With HotLink’s VMware-integrated technology, you can leverage your current on-premise investment across cloud-based resources — without additional consoles, new IT skills or increased operational complexity.

Patented Cloud-Attach

With the HotLink Cloud-Attach™ Platform, fine-grained metadata from each platform is captured, transformed into an agnostic model and adapted to VMware vCenter’s schema in real-time. It’s a uniquely streamlined technical approach to integrating, administrating and managing disparate resource types in a scalable and extensible way. With HotLink Cloud-Attach technology, vCenter natively and transparently manages hybrid platforms as a single pool of virtual resources.

Cloud Integration Hub

HotLink Cloud Management Express enables the underlying infrastructure of VMware vCenter to serve as a single point of cloud integration for the entire ecosystem of VMware vCenter-compatible solutions. With vCenter as the integration hub for all automation, tools, service catalogs, self-service portals and in-house workflows, incorporating cloud-based resources couldn’t be simpler. Moreover, existing policies and automation can be applied uniformly and automatically across your entire hybrid infrastructure.

The Benefits

The latest research shows IT services delivered on hybrid cloud platforms will grow from 16% today to 44% in 2017. The sheer number of public cloud services is already significant, and it will most certainly grow. Price points, maturity, features and service-level agreements across these providers vary widely and will continuously morph. On-premise, IT shops are deploying multiple hypervisors, private clouds and exploring open source options such as OpenStack for specific use cases. In the enterprise, most IT organizations will deploy multiple alternatives for the optimal mix at any point in time, and the mix will be dynamic.

Corporate IT recognizes that the future will embody many more platforms than today, when the majority of existing production workloads and related management tools are VMware-based. This means next-generation management platforms and operational approaches must be inherently hybrid to deliver agility and flexibility while staying within strict budgetary requirements. Past approaches and traditional IT silos will not suffice.

HotLink Cloud Management Express is literally transformational, providing the only management solution with native VMware vCenter integration of the industry’s broadest collection of public and private cloud platforms. Unlike any other hybrid alternative, with HotLink you can deploy a tightly integrated, VMware-compatible management environment for cloud-based resources in less than 2 hours with:

- Easy addition of cloud-based resources
- Single point of hybrid management
- Native integration with VMware vCenter
- Intuitive & seamless hybrid operating models
- Scalability of management infrastructure
- Consistent method of automation
- Deployment without complexity

Are you looking for a flexible, practical and comprehensive solution to extend your VMware environment and integrate cloud-based resources without the typical hybrid integration mega-project? If so, let us tell you more about HotLink Cloud Management Express.