Dell EMC Pushes VMware Integrations

Written by Marco Attard
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VMWorld 2018 sees Dell EMC announce VMware-based "key portfolio enhancements and integrations" through updates to the VxRail hyperconverged infrastructure (HCI) and VxBlock converged infrastructure (CI).

"Organisations that digitally transform with a software-defined and cloud-ready modern data center infrastructure are able to execute a powerful hybrid cloud strategy that provides optimal control, simplicity and cost tolerance to match their own unique preferences," Dell says. "Working together, Dell EMC and VMware continue to enhance VxRail and VxBlock System 1000, to automate the operations of integrated cloud platforms, so our customers can use them to maximize what's possible with their data-- resulting in better processes, innovative outcomes and operating efficiencies."

As the only VMware HCI appliance joint-engineered with VMware Cloud Foundation, VxRail offers an integrated cloud platform delivering a simpler path to the VMware SDDC and hybrid cloud strategy future-proofed for next-gen VMware Cloud technologies. It allows extensibility to public cloud providers, such as VMwre Cloud on AWS and hybrid cloud container services such as Pivotal. The familiar vCenter Server console provides task management, and the system supports a two-node VxRail cluster instead of the previously required three.

VxRail HCI appliances integrate fully automated network awareness and configurations during setup, cluster expansion and day-to-day management via Dell EMC SmartFabric Services. Part of the Dell EMC Networking OS10 Enterprise Edition network operating system, Smart Fabric Services automates up to 98% of network configuration steps for VxRail hyper-converged environments, and allows customers to quickly deploy and automate datacentre networking fabrics, all while being fully interoperable with existing infrastructure.

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Meanwhile the VxBlock System 1000 provides software with converged awareness, automation and analytics to simplifiy daily CI administration. VxBlock Central includes a single unified UI for accessing system information in realtime, as well as an integrated launch point to VMware vRealize Orchestrator for automating daily operational tasks. Access to vRealize Operations provides detailed analytics and an easier way to manage VxBlock storage capacity.

In addition, Dell EMC adds 25Gb ethernet top-of-rack switches to the S5200-ON open networking range. Growing traffic demand for in-rack and storage networking brings the need for 25GbE connectivity, at least according to the company.

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