VMware vSphere Reaches v. 6

Written by Marco Attard
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VMware announces vSphere 6-- the first major update to the VMware flagship server virtualisation software since 2011, promising the addition of over 650 fresh baked-in features and innovations.

Additions include the company's latest storage and management technologies, namely vCloud Suite 6, vSphere with Operations Management 6 and VSAN 6. It also promises to handle thousands of component instances of a single cloud-native applications, making it ideal for scale-up applications such as SAP HANA, scale-out workloads such as Hadoop and business-critical applications such as Microsoft SQL Server, Oracle Database and SAP ERP.

Virtual Volumes technology allows native virtual machine awareness on 3rd party storage systems, while Instant Clone technology allows customers to rapidly clone and provision thousands of container instances and virtual machines to create new virtual infrastructure. Also included is Long Distance Live Migration, a technology for customers wanting to move workloads across long distances (such as from New York to London).

Another related VMware announcement involves the company's first OpenStack distribution-- VMware Integrated OpenStack, providing customers a means to set OpenStack clouds on top of VMware infrastructure.

"As our customers accelerate growth, their IT organizations are expected to drive transformation, enhance efficiency and bring more value to the business than ever before," VMware says. "We are helping them achieve these goals through continued innovation in VMware vSphere as the platform for their hybrid cloud strategy. VMware vSphere is the gold standard by which all other virtualization technologies are measured, and vSphere 6 raises the bar even higher."

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