Dell Management Plug-In for VMware vCenter: Generating Reports

This Dell white paper summarizes report generation in the Dell Management Plug-in.

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Introduction

The Dell Management Plug-in for VMware vCenter streamlines data center operation by letting you use VMware vCenter to manage your entire infrastructure—both physical and virtual. You can discover, manage, and generate reports for Dell hardware using the Dell Management Plug-in. You can also view these reports in VMware vCenter or export the reports to a file. This white paper discusses how to export information from the Dell Management Plug-In into the standard CSV format, which you can import into spreadsheets and other applications.

Reports

The Dell Management Plug-in provides a wealth of information about the state of the physical host. Hardware reports are accessed by selecting a datacenter or cluster in the VMware vCenter client tree view and then selecting the Dell Server Management tab at the top right of the output window. You may need to scroll to the tab if the node you select contains many entries.

The Overview section shows how to select and export reports. Subsequent sections show screenshots of the reports available in release 1.5 of the Dell Management Plug-in.

Overview report

Figure 1 shows the Overview report, which is displayed after selecting a datacenter. Displayed near the top are the datacenter name and the number of hosts (three in this example) managed by the Dell Management Plug-in for this datacenter. A similar screen is displayed when a cluster is selected from the VMware vCenter client tree view.

Figure 1. Datacenter Overview report
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Use the drop-down menu to select the report you want. To the right of the menu, use the Refresh button to update the display with the latest information.

**Figure 2. Selecting the report you want**

Use the Export button to output reports to a file in CSV (Comma Separated Values) format.

**Figure 3. Exporting the report in a CSV format**
Hardware reports

The following sections show screenshots of the various reports to show what information is available.

Field Replaceable Units

Using the Field Replaceable Unit report, you can easily determine the manufacturer, part number, manufacture date, and serial number of the Dell hardware in the server. Quick access to this information enables speedy part replacement if needed.

Figure 4. Use the Field Replaceable Unit report if you need to replace parts

Processors

Using the Processors report, you can view CPU descriptive information across all machines currently managed by the Dell Management Plug-in. The slot, speed, brand, and other information is available for each CPU on each machine.

Figure 5. View CPU information across all machines
Power Supplies

Using the Power Supplies report, you can view the type, location, output and status for each power supply on each machine.

Figure 6. View the status for each power supply on each machine

Memory

Using the Memory report, you can view slot, size, and type of memory module in each machine.

Figure 7. View the memory details for each machine
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NICs
Using the NICs report, you can view name, manufacturer, MAC address, description, and status of each network card in each machine.

Figure 8. Provides details for each NIC card in each machine

PCI Slots
Using the PCI Slots report, you can view the card type, manufacturer, description, and other information for each slot in each machine.

Figure 9. PCI Slots report
Remote Access Card

Using the remote access card report, you can view the IP addresses, MAC address, iDRAC type, and URL for each remote access card in each machine.

Figure 10. View IP and MAC address and iDRAC type for each machine

Storage reports

Physical Disks

Using the Physical Disks report, you can view status, location, capacity, model/part/serial numbers, and other information about each physical disk in each machine.

Figure 11. Provides detailed status for physical disks

Virtual Disks

Using the Virtual Disks report, you can view physical disks, capacity, RAID configuration, and other information for each virtual disk in each machine.

Figure 12. Virtual Disks report
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Firmware
Using the firmware report, you can view the firmware package names and versions installed on each machine.

Figure 13. View the status of firmware packages

Power Monitoring
Using the Power Monitoring report, you can view profile, budget, thresholds, and consumption statistics for each machine.

Figure 14. Power Monitoring report
Warranty

Using the Warranty report, you can view the service level and dates associated with the warranties for each machine.

![Figure 15. View service level and warranty dates for each machine](image)

Troubleshooting

The number of Dell hosts shown does not agree with the number hosts listed.

If the number of the Dell hosts shown at the top of a report page does not equal the number of hosts listed on that page, it is possible that the Dell Management Plug-in does not have the correct credentials to query some of the hosts. In this situation, the number of hosts listed in the report table would be less than the number displayed at the top of the screen.

To check whether your hosts have a valid credential associated with them, navigate to the Connection Profiles page in the Dell Management Center. Check the number of hosts listed in each profile. If a host is not listed in any profile, then add it to a profile using the View/Edit button on the Connection Profile page. If all hosts are accounted for, use the Test Connection button to test their credentials. If the credential check fails for a host, either change the credentials saved in the profile or change the credentials on the host so that they match.