



Cisco Nexus 9000 Series NX-OS Virtual Machine Tracker Configuration Guide, Release 7.x

First Published: 2014-07-23 **Last Modified:** 2018-05-01

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Preface

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Audience

This publication is for network administrators who install, configure, and maintain Cisco Nexus switches.

Document Conventions

Command descriptions use the following conventions:

Convention	Description
bold	Bold text indicates the commands and keywords that you enter literally as shown.
Italic	Italic text indicates arguments for which the user supplies the values.
[x]	Square brackets enclose an optional element (keyword or argument).
[x y]	Square brackets enclosing keywords or arguments separated by a vertical bar indicate an optional choice.
{x y}	Braces enclosing keywords or arguments separated by a vertical bar indicate a required choice.

Convention	Description
[x {y z}]	Nested set of square brackets or braces indicate optional or required choices within optional or required elements. Braces and a vertical bar within square brackets indicate a required choice within an optional element.
variable	Indicates a variable for which you supply values, in context where italics cannot be used.
string	A nonquoted set of characters. Do not use quotation marks around the string or the string will include the quotation marks.

Examples use the following conventions:

Convention	Description
screen font	Terminal sessions and information the switch displays are in screen font.
boldface screen font	Information you must enter is in boldface screen font.
italic screen font	Arguments for which you supply values are in italic screen font.
<>	Nonprinting characters, such as passwords, are in angle brackets.
	Default responses to system prompts are in square brackets.
!,#	An exclamation point (!) or a pound sign (#) at the beginning of a line of code indicates a comment line.

Related Documentation for Cisco Nexus 9000 Series Switches

The entire Cisco Nexus 9000 Series switch documentation set is available at the following URL:

http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/ps13386/tsd_products_support_series_home.html

Documentation Feedback

To provide technical feedback on this document, or to report an error or omission, please send your comments to nexus9k-docfeedback@cisco.com. We appreciate your feedback.

Obtaining Documentation and Submitting a Service Request

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Obtaining Documentation and Submitting a Service Request



New and Changed Information

• New and Changed Information, page 1

New and Changed Information

The following table provides an overview of the significant changes made to this configuration guide. The table does not provide an exhaustive list of all changes made to this guide or all new features in a particular release.

Feature	Description	Added or Changed in Release	Where Documented
VM Tracker	Added support for the ESXi 6.0 version of VMware vCenter.	7.0(3)I5(2)	Guidelines and Limitations for VM Tracker, on page 5
No updates since release 6.x		7.0(3)I1(1)	

New and Changed Information



Overview

This chapter contains the following sections:

- Information About Virtual Machine Tracker, page 3
- Virtual Machine Tracker and VMware vCenter, page 3

Information About Virtual Machine Tracker

Virtual Machine Tracker (VM Tracker) works together with VMware vCenter and enables you to do the following:

- Identify the Cisco Nexus 9000 Series port that is used for each VM
- Identify the VLAN requirements of each VM
- Track the movement of VMs from one host (ESXi) to another
- Track VM configuration changes such as additions, deletions, or modifications of VLANs, and configure VLANs on Cisco Nexus 9000 Series ports accordingly
- Track the additions or deletions of VMs and hosts, and configure VLANs on Cisco Nexus 9000 Series ports accordingly
- Track the state of VMs and dynamically provisions VLANs on the Cisco Nexus 9000 server facing physical ports.

Virtual Machine Tracker and VMware vCenter

VM Tracker synchronizes with VMware vCenter to retrieve the following information:

- The host on which the VMs exist.
- The Cisco Nexus 9000 Series ports through which the VM traffic flows.
- The virtual network interface card (vNIC) that connects the VM to a virtual switch.
- The power state of the VM.

- The VLAN information of port groups or distributed virtual switch (DVS) port groups.
- The port groups or DVS port groups that are required for the VM.



Configuring Virtual Machine Tracker

This chapter contains the following sections:

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- Enabling Virtual Machine Tracker, page 6
- Creating a New Connection to vCenter, page 6
- Synchronizing Information with VMware vCenter, page 7
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Information About Virtual Machine Tracker

Guidelines and Limitations for VM Tracker

VM Tracker has the following guidelines and limitations:

- show commands with the internal keyword are not supported.
- For all ports on which VM Tracker is enabled, you must not perform any Layer 2 or Layer 3 configuration that is related to switchports and VLANs.
- VM Tracker supports up to four vCenter connections.
- VM Tracker supports high availability and the fault tolerance features of vCenter.
- VM Tracker is only supported on ESXi 5.0, 5.1, 5.5, and 6.0 versions of VMware vCenter.
- You must connect a host directly to the port of a Cisco Nexus 9000 Series switch. Host connectivity through fabric interconnect, another switch, or chassis is not supported.



Not

Connecting a host through a fabric extender (FEX) is supported by a Cisco Nexus 9000 Series switch.

• When VMware Distributed Resource Scheduler (DRS) is enabled, VMTracker cannot immediately detect when the VM is powered on. However when VMTracker later performs a full sync with VMware VCenter, the VM becomes recognized by VMTracker. Disabling VMware DRS avoids this issue.

Enabling Virtual Machine Tracker

By default, the VM Tracker feature is enabled on all interfaces.

SUMMARY STEPS

- 1. switch# configure terminal
- 2. switch(config)# [no] feature vmtracker

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	switch# configure terminal	Enters global configuration mode.
Step 2	switch(config)# [no] feature vmtracker	Enables the VM Tracker feature on all interfaces.
		The no form of the command disables the VM Tracker feature on all interfaces.

This example shows how to enable VM Tracker:

switch# configure terminal
switch(config)# feature vmtracker
switch(config)#

Creating a New Connection to vCenter

SUMMARY STEPS

- 1. switch# configure terminal
- 2. switch(config)# [no] vmtracker connection connection-name
- 3. switch(config-vmt-conn)# [no] remote {ip address ip address | port port number | vrf}
- 4. switch(config-vmt-conn)# username username password password
- 5. switch(config-vmt-conn)# [no] connect

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	switch# configure terminal	Enters global configuration mode.
Step 2	switch(config)# [no] vmtracker connection connection-name	Enters VM Tracker connection configuration mode for the connection name specified. The no form of the command disables the connection.
Step 3	switch(config-vmt-conn)# [no] remote {ip address ip_address port port_number vrf}	Configures remote IP parameters.
Step 4	switch(config-vmt-conn)# username username password password	Verifies the username and password to connect to vCenter.
Step 5	switch(config-vmt-conn)# [no] connect	Connects to vCenter. The no form of the command disconnects VM Tracker from vCenter.

This example shows how to create a new connection to VMware vCenter:

```
switch# configure terminal
switch(config)# vmtracker connection conn1
switch(config-vmt-conn)# remote ip address 20.1.1.1 port 80 vrf management
switch(config-vmt-conn)# username user1 password abc1234
switch(config-vmt-conn)# connect
```

Synchronizing Information with VMware vCenter

By default, VM Tracker tracks all asynchronous events from VMware vCenter and updates the switchport configuration immediately. Optionally, you can also configure a synchronizing mechanism that synchronizes all host, VM, and port group information automatically with VMware vCenter at a specified interval.

Command	Purpose
[no] set interval find-new-host val	Sets the interval, in seconds, for finding hosts that are newly connected to vCenter. The no form of the command disables the previously configured interval. The default duration is 3600 seconds.
[no] set interval sync-full-info val	Sets the interval, in seconds, for synchronizing all host, VM, and port group related information with vCenter. The no form of the command disables the previously configured interval. The default duration is 3600 seconds.

Command	Purpose
vmtracker connection connection-name refresh	Synchronizes all host, VM, and port group related information with vCenter immediately for the specified connection.

This example shows how to set an interval for finding hosts that are newly connected to vCenter:

```
switch(config-vmt-conn) # set interval find-new-host 300
```

This example shows how to set an interval for synchronizing all host, VM, and port group information with vCenter:

```
switch(config-vmt-conn) # set interval sync-full-info 120
```

This example shows how to immediately synchronize all host, VM, and port group information with vCenter:

switch(config-vmt-conn)# vmtracker connection conn1 refresh

Compatibility Checking on a VPC Topology

On a VPC topology, VM Tracker performs a Type 2 compatibility checking. The checking ensures that for a particular connection name, the following fields match across the VPC peers:

- The vCenter IP address that VM Tracker should connect to.
- The vCenter port number that VM Tracker should connect on.
- The allowed VLAN range for that particular connection.
- The username/password combination that VM Tracker should use to connect to the vCenter Server.

To determine if the VPC checking was successful, use the **show vpc consistency-parameters global** command. The following is an example of VPC checking:

```
switch# show vpc consistency-parameters global
Legend:
    Type 1 : vPC will be suspended in case of mismatch
```

Name	Туре	Local Value	Peer Value
Vlan to Vn-segment Map STP Mode STP Disabled STP MST Region Name STP MST Region Revision	1 1 1 1	No Relevant Maps Rapid-PVST None ""	No Relevant Maps Rapid-PVST None ""
STP MST Region Instance to VLAN Mapping	_		
STP Loopguard	1	Disabled	Disabled
STP Bridge Assurance	1	Enabled	Enabled
STP Port Type, Edge BPDUFilter, Edge BPDUGuard	1		Normal, Disabled, Disabled
STP MST Simulate PVST	1	Enabled	Enabled
Interface-vlan admin up		1-8	1-8
Interface-vlan routing capability	2	1-8	1-8
vmtracker connection params	2	conn1, 10.193.174.215, 80, 1-4094	conn1, 10.193.174.215, 80, 1-4094
Allowed VLANs	-	1-100	1-100
Local suspended VLANs switch#	-	-	-

Verifying the Virtual Machine Tracker Configuration

Use the following commands to display and verify VM Tracker configuration information:

Command	Purpose
show running-config vmtracker [all]	Displays the VM Tracker configuration.
show vmtracker [connection conn_name] {{info [interface intf_id] }{summary detail host vm port-group}} event-history}	Displays the VM Tracker configuration based on the following: • Connection • Interface • Event history
show vmtracker [connection conn_name] status	Displays the IP address and connection status of the vCenter connection specified.
show logging level vmtracker	Displays the logging level of the syslog messages for VM Tracker.

Enabling Virtual Machine Tracker on Specific Interfaces

When VM Tracker is enabled by using the [no] feature vmtracker command, it is enabled on all interfaces by default. You can optionally disable and enable it on specific interfaces by using the [no] vmtracker enable command.

SUMMARY STEPS

- 1. switch# configure terminal
- 2. switch(config)# interface type slot/port
- 3. switch(config-if)# [no] vmtracker enable

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	switch# configure terminal	Enters global configuration mode.

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 2	switch(config)# interface type slot/port	Enters the interface configuration mode for the specified interface.
Step 3	switch(config-if)# [no] vmtracker enable	Enables the VM Tracker feature on the specified interface. The no form of the command disables the VM Tracker feature on the specified interface.

This example shows how to enable VM Tracker on a specified interface:

```
switch# configure terminal
switch(config)# interface ethernet 1/3/1
switch(config-if)# vmtracker enable
```

Configuring Dynamic VLAN Creation

Enabling Dynamic VLAN Creation

Dynamic creation and deletion of VLANs globally is enabled by default. When dynamic VLAN creation is enabled, if a VM is moved from one host to another and the VLAN required for this VM does not exist on the switch, the required VLAN is automatically created on the switch. You can also disable this capability. However, if you disable dynamic VLAN creation, you must manually create all the required VLANs.

Before You Begin

Ensure that the VM Tracker feature is enabled.

SUMMARY STEPS

- 1. switch# configure terminal
- 2. switch(config)# vmtracker connection connection-name
- 3. switch(config-vmt-conn)# [no] autovlan enable

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose Enters global configuration mode.			
Step 1	switch# configure terminal				
Step 2	switch(config)# vmtracker connection connection-name	Enters VM Tracker connection configuration mode for the connection name specified.			
Step 3	switch(config-vmt-conn)# [no] autovlan enable	Enables dynamic VLAN creation and deletion. The no form of the command disables dynamic VLAN creation and deletion.			

This example shows how to enable dynamic VLAN creation:

```
switch# configure terminal
switch(config)# vmtracker connection conn1
switch(config-vmt-conn)# autovlan enable
```

Configuring an Allowed VLAN List

By default, all VLANs can be configured dynamically on interfaces. You can also define a restricted list of such VLANs.

Before You Begin

Ensure that the VM Tracker feature is enabled.

SUMMARY STEPS

- 1. switch# configure terminal
- 2. switch(config)# vmtracker connection connection-name
- **3.** switch(config-vmt-conn)# **allowed-vlans** { allow-vlans | **add** add-vlans | **except** except-vlans | **remove** remove-vlans | **all**}

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose Enters global configuration mode. Enters VM Tracker connection configuration mode for the connection name specified.		
Step 1	switch# configure terminal			
Step 2	switch(config)# vmtracker connection connection-name			
Step 3	switch(config-vmt-conn)# allowed-vlans {allow-vlans add add-vlans except except-vlans remove remove-vlans all}	Configures a list of VLANs that can be dynamically configured on interfaces.		

This example shows how to configure a list of allowed VLANs:

```
switch# configure terminal
switch(config)# vmtracker connection test
switch(config-vmt-conn)# allowed-vlans 100-101
```

Example Configuration for Virtual Machine Tracker

This example shows how to create a connection with vCenter:

```
switch# configure terminal
switch(config)# feature vmtracker
switch(config)# vmtracker connection test
```

```
switch (config-vmt-conn) # remote ip address 20.1.1.1 port 80 vrf management
switch(config-vmt-conn) # username user1 password abc@123
switch(config-vmt-conn) # connect
switch(config-vmt-conn) # show vmtracker status
Connection
                 Host/TP
                                                   status
_____
                  20.1.1.1
                                                    Connected
switch(config-vmt-conn)# show vmtracker info detail
Interface Host
                           VMNIC VM State PortGroup VLAN-Range
Ethernet1/3/1 20.2.2.2
                           vmnic4 No-OS1 on PGroup100 100
switch(config-vmt-conn) # show running-config vmtracker
!Command: show running-config vmtracker
!Time: Mon Mar 10 09:07:47 2014
version 6.0(2)U3(1)
feature vmtracker
vmtracker connection test
remote ip address 20.1.1.1 port 80
username user1 password abc@123
connect
switch(config-vmt-conn) # show running-config interface ethernet 1/3/1
!Command: show running-config interface Ethernet1/3/1
!Time: Mon Mar 10 09:09:13 2014
version 6.0(2)U3(1)
interface Ethernet1/3/1
switchport mode trunk
switchport trunk allowed vlan 1,100
```



VLAN 1 is the native VLAN on interface Ethernet 1/3/1.

This example shows how to verify VM Tracker information after you power off the VM on vCenter:

switch(config-vmt-conn) # show vmtracker info detail

Interface	Host	VMNIC	VM	State	PortGroup	VLAN-Range
Ethernet1/3/1	20.2.2.2	vmnic4	No-OS1	off	PGroup100	100

```
switch(config-vmt-conn)# show running-config interface ethernet 1/3/1
!Command: show running-config interface Ethernet1/3/1
!Time: Mon Mar 10 09:09:13 2014
version 6.0(2)U3(1)
interface Ethernet1/3/1
switchport mode trunk
switchport trunk allowed vlan 1, 100
```

This example shows how to verify VM Tracker information after you add a new VLAN through vCenter:

```
switch(config-vmt-conn) # show vmtracker info detail
------
Interface Host VMNIC VM State PortGroup VLAN-Range
```

```
Ethernet1/3/1 20.2.2.2 vmnic4 No-OS1 on PGroup100 100 Ethernet1/3/1 20.2.2.2 vmnic4 No-OS1 on PGroup103 103

switch(config-vmt-conn)# show running-config interface ethernet 1/3/1 !Command: show running-config interface Ethernet1/3/1 !Time: Mon Mar 10 09:11:06 2014 version 6.0(2)U3(1) interface Ethernet1/3/1 switchport mode trunk switchport trunk allowed vlan 1,100,103
```

This example shows how verify VM Tracker event-history information:

```
switch(config-vmt-conn)# show vmtracker event-history

Event History (Connection:test NumEv:6 IP:20.1.1.1)

EventId Event Msg

77870 Reconfigured No-OS1 on 20.2.2.2 in N3K-VM
77867 No-OS1 on 20.2.2.2 in N3K-VM is powered on
77863 Reconfigured No-OS1 on 20.2.2.2 in N3K-VM
77858 No-OS1 on 20.2.2.2 in N3K-VM is powered off
```

This example shows how to disconnect from vCenter:

```
switch(config)# vmtracker connection test
switch(config-vmt-conn) # no connect
switch(config-vmt-conn)# show vmtracker status
Connection
                  Host/IP
                                                       status
t.est.
                   20.1.1.1
                                                       No Connect.
switch(config-vmt-conn) # sh running-config interface ethernet 1/3/1
!Command: show running-config interface Ethernet1/3/1
!Time: Mon Mar 10 09:15:43 2014
version 6.0(2)U3(1)
interface Ethernet1/3/1
switchport mode trunk
switchport trunk allowed vlan 1
switch(config-vmt-conn)# show vmtracker info detail
                                           State PortGroup VLAN-Range
Interface
              Host
                               VMNIC VM
```

Example Configuration for Virtual Machine Tracker



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