



5nine Software Helps a US Government Security Company Migrate from VMware and Manage Hyper-V

Customer:

US Government Security Company

Industry:

IT Services

Location:

USA

Challenge:

- Find automated, fast and easy-to-use VMware to Hyper-V migration solution
- Implement a reliable and effective management solution for the new Hyper-V environment.

Solution:

- 5nine V2V Easy Converter >
- 5nine Manager >

Benefits:

- Converts mission-critical VMs to Hyper-V with almost no impact to the datacenter
- Manages VMs, hosts & clusters in an easy and intuitive way for a former VMware user
- Reduces management time and complexity, allowing IT to concentrate on new projects

“IF SOMEBODY CALLS ME AND SAYS ‘HEY, WE’RE ON VMWARE AND WE REALLY WANT TO MAKE THIS PUSH TO HYPER-V, AND FROM A TECHNICAL STANDPOINT WE HAVE NO IDEA HOW WE’RE GOING TO GET THERE’, MY RESPONSE TO THEM WOULD BE ‘I WAS THERE, I HAD THE SAME THOUGHT AND 5NINE IS THE SOFTWARE THAT MADE IT HAPPEN”.

IT Security Officer

US Government Security Company

CHALLENGE

This US government security company was founded in the mid-nineties specifically to address the United States Department of Defense (DoD) community’s messaging needs. The company designs, develops, implements, tests, deploys, and sustains powerful solutions to the complex problems of the DoD arena. The company is headquartered in the US and has five offices across the country. After 5nine’s help in migrating from VMware, the IT infrastructure now runs entirely on Windows Server 2012 R2 Hyper-V.

Previously the company was fully virtualized on VMware vSphere, including mission-critical infrastructure. At some point, the company’s IT team realized that their infrastructure was not operationally efficient, and they decided to upgrade the entire infrastructure for functional and security reasons. In addition, they were interested in Microsoft Hyper-V’s replication features for disaster recovery. But most importantly, the IT team wanted to have an easy transition from the management standpoint.

“Virtualization is extremely crucial in our infrastructure and scalability,” said an IT Security Officer for the US government security company. “That’s why the whole migration to Microsoft Hyper-V was all about technology, it didn’t have anything to do with the licensing and price model. We just wanted to get over to an all-Microsoft platform.”

Initially the IT team planned to build the entire infrastructure from scratch and then manually copy data over. However, some of the servers were large database servers and the team decided to look for a more efficient option.

SOLUTION

The IT team started to look for a VMware to Hyper-V migration solution that would seamlessly do the conversion, but the initial solutions they tried were not successful. The IT Security Officer landed on the 5nine Software website and downloaded the trial version of 5nine V2V Easy Converter. 5nine V2V Easy Converter performs automated fast and non-intrusive host to host conversion and cleanup of VMware vSphere VMs to Microsoft Hyper-V VMs with the highest conversion success ratio.

"5nine V2V Easy Converter caught my attention and once I was able to download the trial version, I realized it was a pretty serious tool," said the spokesperson. "I have never heard of a way to convert VMware to Hyper-V like that. I couldn't find anything else out there that could do that. From everything that I looked out and tested, 5nine V2V Easy Converter is the only thing on the market that seems to accomplish that task."

The IT team migrated their company's VMware VMs and made changes to them during the conversion process. The VMware VMs continued to run until the new Hyper-V VMs were ready to be brought online ready to assume those roles. This minimized the amount of overall downtime in the datacenter to almost nothing.

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The company's IT Security Officer summarized his overall experience migrating from VMware to Hyper-V, "If somebody calls me and says 'Hey, we're on VMware and we really want to make this push to Hyper-V, and from a technical standpoint we have no idea how we're going to get there', my response to them would be 'I was there, I had the same thought and 5nine is the software that made it happen'".

When the IT team had everything successfully migrated, it started looking for an efficient management solution. Being already familiar with 5nine Software, the IT Security Officer chose 5nine Manager for everyday management of the newly built Hyper-V infrastructure, including their failover clusters and Hyper-V Replica solution.

The company's spokesperson enjoys the ease of use of 5nine Manager. He did not have to go through the manual or trainings when he deployed the solution because it was so intuitive for a former VMware administrator.

"If you talk to anybody that works for me, they'll probably tell you that I'm the pickiest person they know," said the IT Security Officer. "If I look at something, and software is the best example of this, and I don't like the way it works, it can be the most functional software in the world and I will not use it. I definitely think that's not the case with 5nine Manager."

"WE GET INTO THESE ENGINEERING MEETINGS WHERE WE DECIDE THAT WE NEED SOME RIDICULOUS NUMBER OF VIRTUAL ENVIRONMENTS. BY THE TIME THE MEETING IS DONE, I HAVE A LAB THAT'S NOW BEEN CLONED AND READY TO GO...THAT'S SOMETHING YOU CAN'T DO FROM THE HYPER-V MANAGER. YOU'VE GOT TO COME INTO 5NINE TO DO THAT."

5nine Manager saves a lot of time for the company's IT team and they'll definitely keep using it. The IT team particularly likes the cloning feature in 5nine Manager.

"We have a habit of attending engineering meetings where we are asked to create a large number of test labs. We use virtual environments for that because it's very easy to create and delete them," said the spokesperson. "With 5nine Manager, it's a completely automated process. By the time the meeting is done, I have a lab that's been cloned and ready to go. When the engineering team is done with it, I trash it and I can do the next thing again. That's probably the greatest feature and that's something you can't do from Hyper-V Manager."

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BENEFITS

Converts mission-critical VMs to Hyper-V with almost no impact to the datacenter

Built specifically for Hyper-V, 5nine V2V Easy Converter enabled the seamless conversion of the company's most critical VMs. "We had a great experience with 5nine V2V Easy Converter converting live machines," said the company's IT Security Officer. "They converted right over, and we were able to shut them down on VMware and bring them right up on Hyper-V." Compared to other migration tools, 5nine V2V Easy Converter shows up to 30% higher conversion speeds than the current competition.

Manages VMs, hosts & clusters in an easy and intuitive way for a former VMware user

5nine Manager is an easy-to-use and VMware-user friendly management solution with a straightforward GUI for Windows Server Core and Microsoft Hyper-V Server. "I worked with VMware and Hyper-V and I know both software, but I opened 5nine Manager and spent no time figuring out," said the IT Security Officer. "It was ready to go. I compared it to iOS on iPhone – you can just open it and use it."

Reduces management time and complexity, allowing IT to concentrate on new projects

5nine Manager provides many of the features of Microsoft System Center Virtual Machine Manager (SCVMM) that SMBs need for everyday Hyper-V management. For example, the cloning feature helps the company's IT team deploy large numbers of virtual environments in just a few clicks. Instead of spending hours creating new test labs for every engineering meeting, the IT team is now able to focus on other initiatives.

ABOUT 5NINE SOFTWARE

5nine Software is the leading global Hyper-V virtualization security and management provider. It offers the first and only agentless security and management solutions for Microsoft Hyper-V.

5nine Software provides innovative, powerful and easy-to-use software designed to reduce costs, increase productivity and mitigate security risks.

Today, 5nine Software helps more than 75,000 satisfied customers around the globe to reach the full potential of their virtualization infrastructure.

Founded in 2009, 5nine Software is headquartered in Chicago, with offices worldwide.

Find out more by visiting www.5nine.com

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