

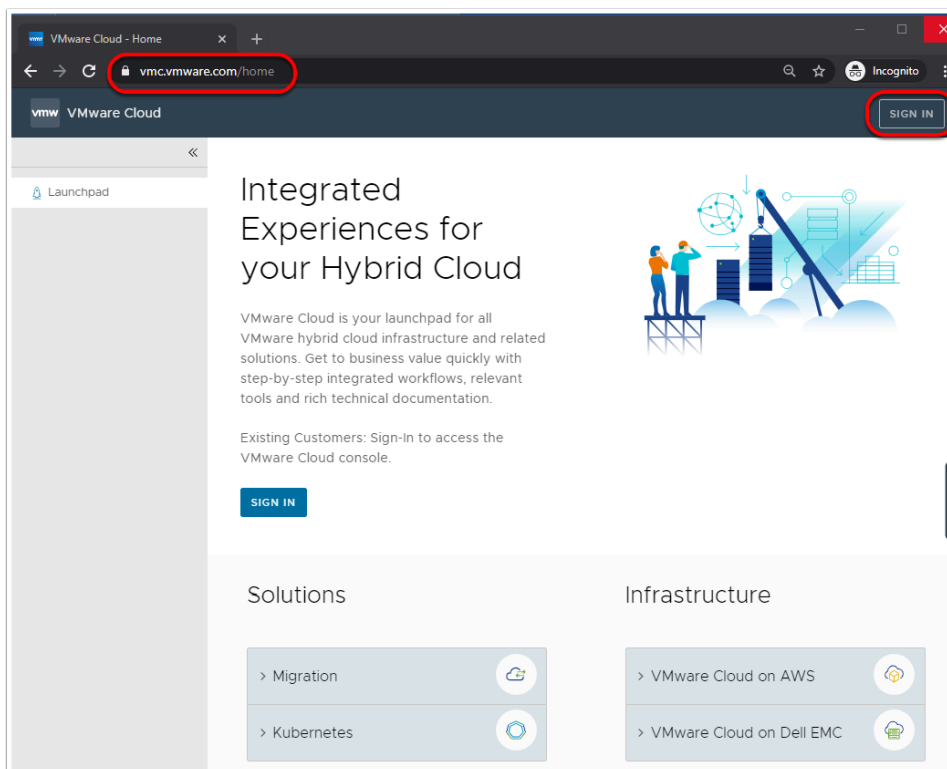
# Lab 02 - Working with your SDDC

## Introduction

In this lab, we will look at the basic SDDC operations you can perform to begin consumption of your cloud resources in VMC on AWS. We will perform the following:

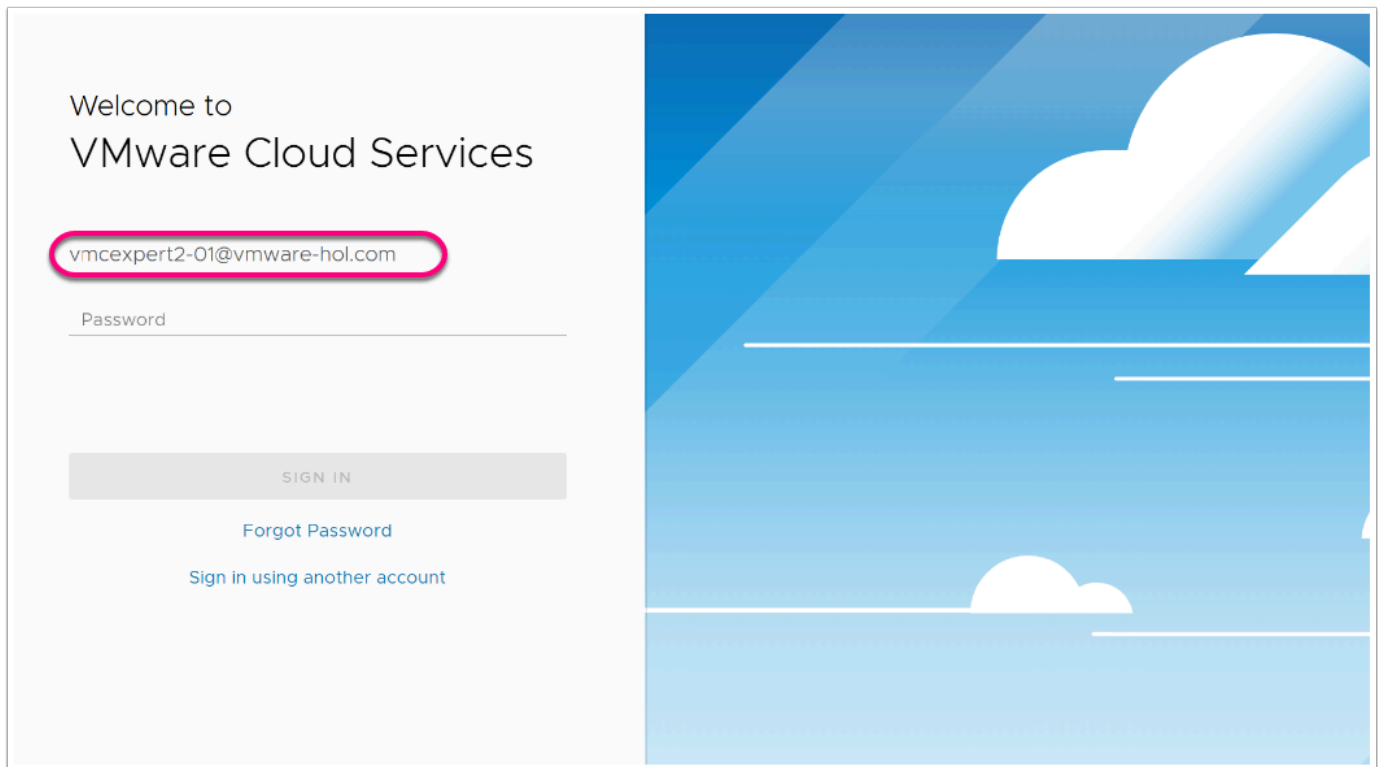
- Create and configure network segments for our application(s)
- Configure Firewall rules to allow remote access to vCenter
- Deploy your 1st Virtual Machines in VMC on AWS

If you are still logged into your VMC on AWS Organization from the previous lab you can skip the steps outlined below and begin task one. If not, you'll first need to log into your VMC on AWS organization.



To log into your VMC on AWS Organization, follow the steps below:

1. From your Desktop/laptop launch your preferred browser  
**NOTE:** In tests, *Google Chrome* in *Incognito mode* worked best
2. In the browser address bar, go to <https://vmc.vmware.com/console/sddcs> and login as
  - VMware Account: **vmcexpert#-{XX}@vmware-hol.com** (Where **#** is your Environment ID, and **{XX}** is your assigned student number)
  - Password: **VMware1!**



Welcome to  
VMware Cloud Services

vmcexpert2-01@vmware-hol.com

Password

SIGN IN

[Forgot Password](#)

[Sign in using another account](#)

## TASKS

### Task 1 - Create a Logical Network

You will now create and configure a network segment that will be used in Task 4 when you create your first two Virtual Machines in your SDDC

NOTE: VMC Network Segments are backed by NSX-T Geneve Overlay Segments.

#### **NSX-T Overlay-backed Segment**

In an overlay-backed segment, traffic between two VMs on different hosts but attached to the same overlay segment have their layer 2 traffic carried by a tunnel between the hosts. NSX-T Data Center instantiates and maintains this IP tunnel without the need for any segment-specific configuration in the physical infrastructure. This means, there is no need to configure VLANs on the physical network to enforce isolation. As a result, the virtual network infrastructure is decoupled from the physical network infrastructure. That is, you can create segments dynamically without any configuration of the physical network infrastructure.

VMware Cloud on AWS allows you to quickly and easily create new logical network segments on demand. Let's create a new network segment in the SDDC.

Select your SDDC, if you aren't currently within it and click **View Details**

1. Click the **Networking & Security** tab
2. click **Segments** to display the existing network segments.
3. Click on **ADD SEGMENT** to create a new network segment.
4. Enter the following values:
  - Name: **Demo-Net**
  - Connected Gateway: **Routed**
  - Subnets: **10.10.xx.1/24** (where **xx** is your student number, for students(1-9) do not include the a leading 0), i.e. **10.10.1.1/24**  
This represents the default gateway and the prefix length of the network
  - VPN Tunnel ID: *Leave Blank*
  - Domain Name: *Leave Blank*
  - Description: *Leave Blank*
  - Tags: *Leave Blank*
5. Click the **SET DHCP CONFIG** button to enable and configure DHCP in the pop up

The screenshot displays the VMware NSX Manager interface for configuring network segments. The 'Segments' tab is active, showing a table with one segment named 'Demo-net'. A dropdown menu for 'Connected Gateway' is open, showing options: None, Compute Gateway | Tier1, Routed (highlighted with a red circle), Extended, and Disconnected. A 'SET DHCP CONFIG' button is visible next to the subnet field. The left sidebar shows the navigation menu with 'Networking & Security' and 'Segments' highlighted. Numbered callouts 1 through 6 are placed on the interface to guide the user through the steps.

6. On the pop up slide the **"DHCP CONFIG"** slider to **Enable** DHCP
7. Enter **10.10.xx.11-10.10.xx.200** for the **DHCP IP Range**. (Where **xx** is your student number, for students(1-9) do not include the a leading 0) i.e. **10.10.1.11-10.10.1.200**  
This is the range of IP addresses the DHCP server will grant to workloads attached to the network.  
**NOTE: Ensure the DHCP range turns blue, matches the range, and puts a bubble around the range. If it is red, please redo the steps.**

**If you have a student number in the single digits, you must omit the leading zero. (ie 10.10.8.11)**

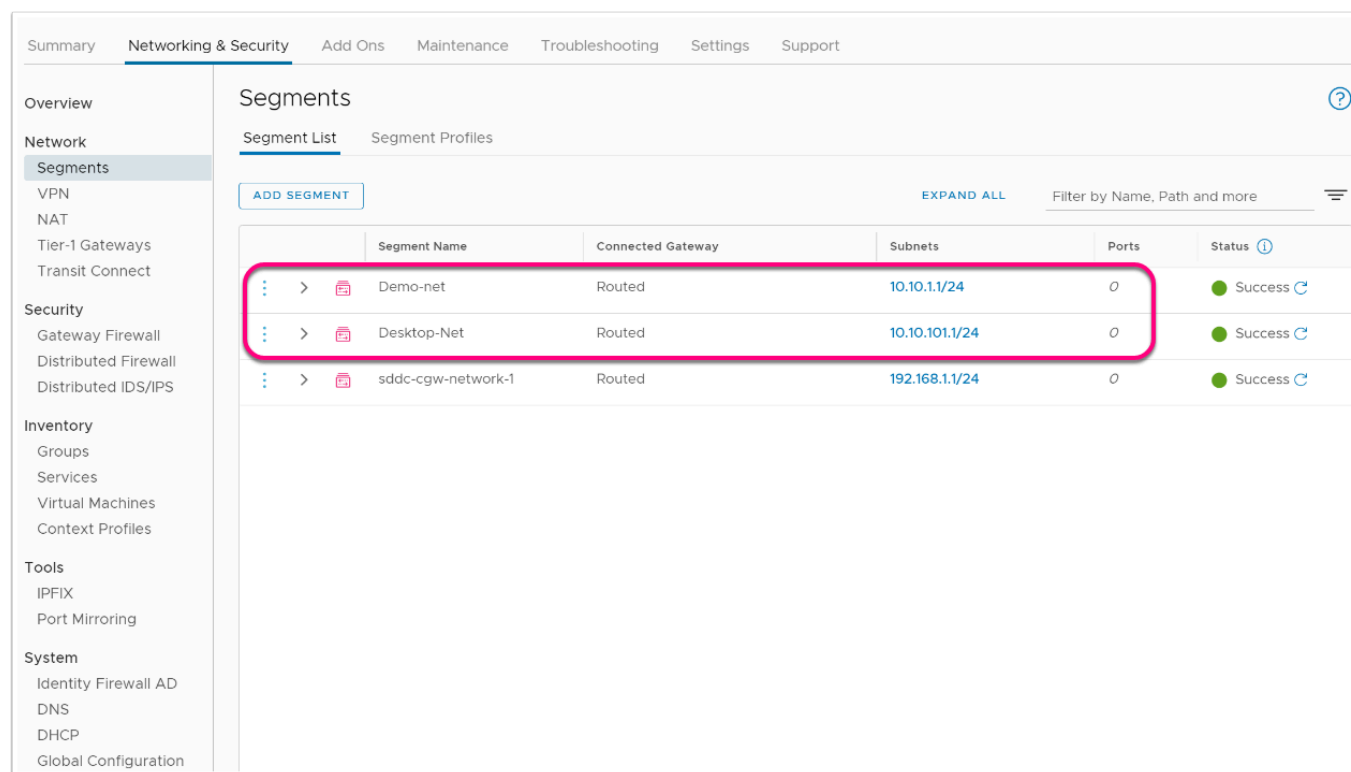
8. Leave the other fields as their default values. As before ensure the bubble turns blue and not red.
  - DHCP Type: **Gateway DHCP Server**
  - DHCP Profile: **Default**
  - Lease Time: **Leave Blank**
  - DNS Servers: **Leave Blank**

9. Click **Apply**
10. Click **Save** to save the logical network.

**Note: You might need to scroll down to the bottom of the add segment box for the Save button to appear**
11. When prompted to continue configuring the segment, Click **NO**
12. Repeat the steps 1 - 8 using the information below to create a 2nd virtual network segment in the SDDC
  - Segment Name: **Desktop-Net**
  - Subnet: **10.10.1(xx).1/24** - where **xx** is your student number.  
For students(1-9) include the a leading 0), i.e. **10.10.109.1/24**
  - DHCP Config
    - DHCP Type: **Gateway DHCP Server**
    - DHCP Config: **Enabled**
    - DHCP Range: **10.10.1(xx).11-10.10.1(xx).50** - where **xx** (1 - 30) is your student number
    - DNS Servers (click add item each IP):
      - **8.8.8.8**
      - **192.168.110.10**

## Verify Network Segment Configuration

1. Verify the network segments were added correctly. Your Segments List should be displaying both the Demo and Desktop segments as shown in the screenshot below.



The screenshot shows the VMware Cloud on AWS console interface. The left sidebar contains a navigation menu with categories: Overview, Network, Security, Inventory, Tools, and System. The 'Network' section is expanded, showing 'Segments' as the selected option. The main content area displays the 'Segments' page with a 'Segment List' tab. A table lists the network segments:

	Segment Name	Connected Gateway	Subnets	Ports	Status
> [Icon]	Demo-net	Routed	10.10.1.1/24	0	Success
> [Icon]	Desktop-Net	Routed	10.10.101.1/24	0	Success
> [Icon]	sddc-cgw-network-1	Routed	192.168.1.1/24	0	Success

## Task 2 - Configure Firewall rule for vCenter Access

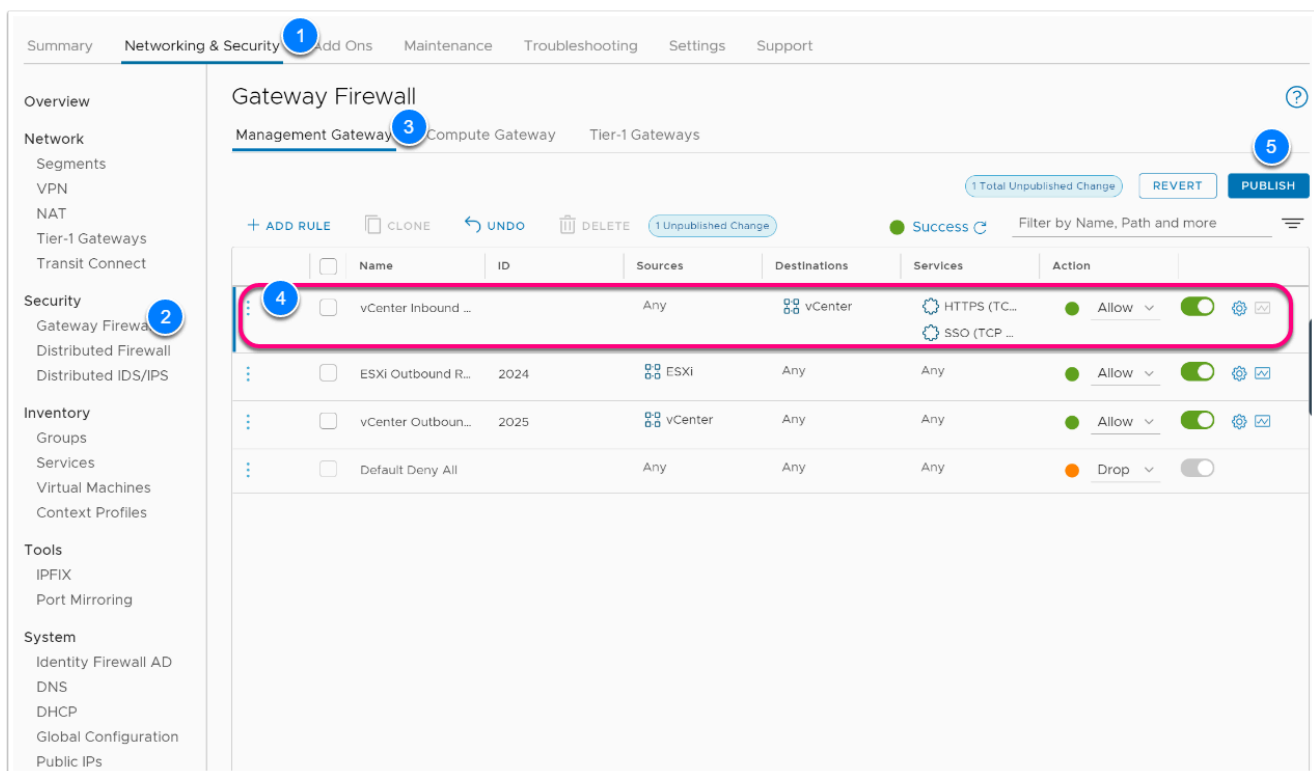
By default, all inbound firewall traffic into the SDDC is denied in VMware Cloud on AWS. In order to access vCenter from your Desktop/Laptop or any other external device, you will need to configure a firewall rule allowing inbound access. The Management Gateway (MGW) controls access to vCenter, the ESXi hosts and all other management components.

**⚠ Note:** In most enterprise environments, you would configure a VPN or Direct Connect VIF to allow limited access firewall rules to vCenter. In this environment, we will open it to any IP address on the internet which is not recommended.

**As of the the June 2021 release of VMC on AWS, a High Severity notification is triggered when the SDDC vCenter is exposed to the world using an ANY to vCenter Firewall rule**

1. Navigate to the VMC on AWS console > Student## SDDC > Settings > Network & Security Menu

- Click on **Gateway Firewall** on the left-hand side of the screen.
- If it is not already selected, click on **Management Gateway** to create firewall rules that allow access to management components in the SDDC.
- Click **+ ADD RULE** to add a new rule to the edge gateway. A row titled new rule should appear.
- Click the "New Rule" text from the "Name" column and change it to **vCenter Inbound Rule**.
- Leave the Source set as **Any**.
- Hover over the new rule's "**Destinations**" column, then click the **blue Edit button** to edit the destination field.
- On the Pop Up, click the radio button next to **System Defined Groups**.
- Select the Radio-button next to **vCenter**.
- Click **Apply** to save the destination information in the rule.
- Hover over the new rule's "**Services**" column, then click the **blue Edit button**, select **HTTPS (TCP 443) & SSO (TCP 7444)** to allow access to the vCenter server.
- Publish the rules by clicking **PUBLISH** button to activate the Firewall rule.



vCenter should now be accessible from anywhere on the internet. In the next section, we will access vCenter via the HTML5 client to begin the deployment and configuration of virtual machines.

## Task 2.1 - Log into VMware Cloud on AWS vCenter

Now that the firewall rule has been modified to allow external access to vCenter, we would be able to log in, but before doing so, we need to first gather the following pieces of information from our VMC Console:

- vCenter (FQDN and/or IP)

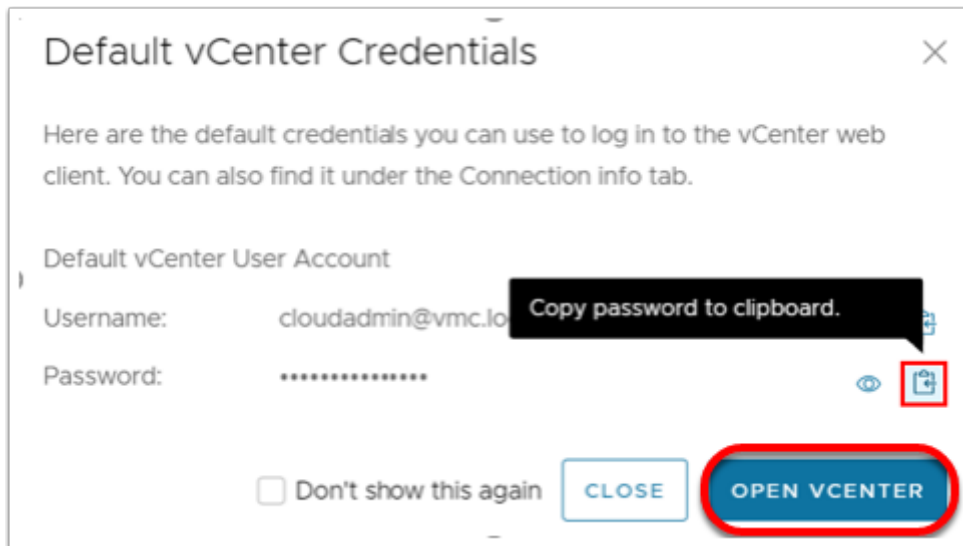
- Default Cloud Admin Account
- Default Cloud Admin Password

To access this information

1. Click the **Settings** tab
2. Expand the **Default vCenter User Account** and **vSphere Client (HTML5)** sections
3. Copy the following values to the provided excel workbook, you will use them to log into vCenter and be using them again soon in task 2.2. If you need to find these items in the future this is where you find them.
  - vSphere Client (HTML5) URL
  - User Name
  - Password

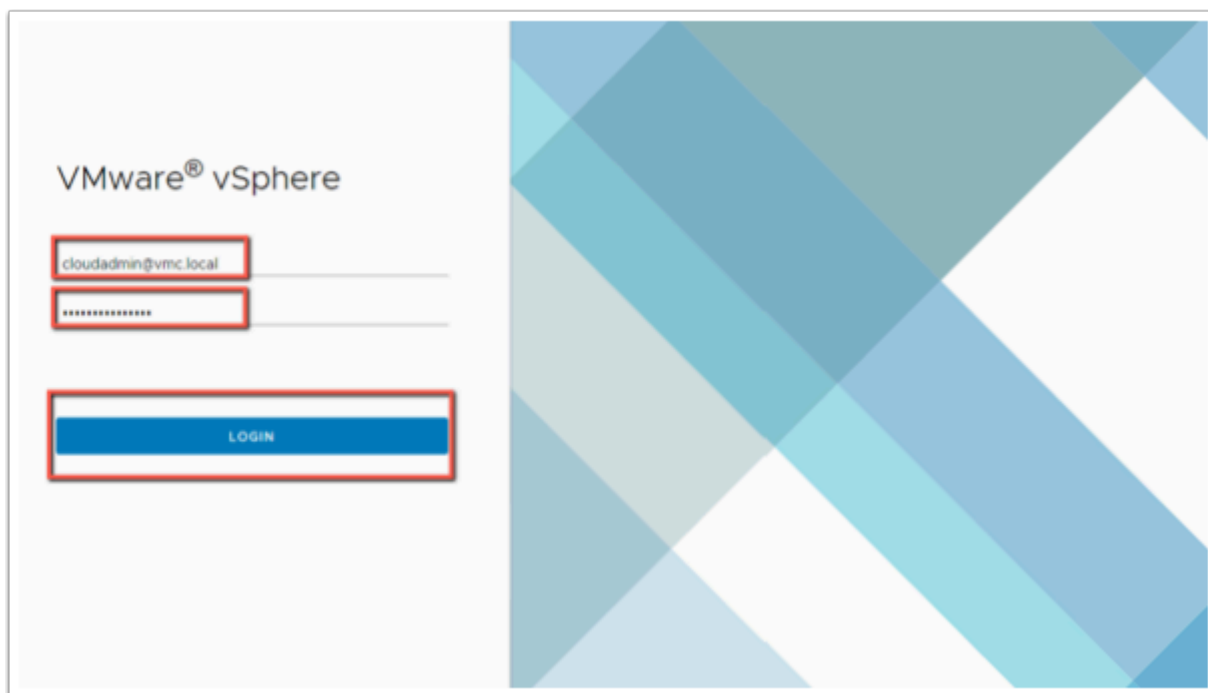
The screenshot shows the VMware Cloud on AWS console interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with tabs: Summary, Networking & Security, Add Ons, Maintenance, Troubleshooting, **Settings** (highlighted with a blue circle 1), and Support. Below the navigation bar, the 'SDDC' section is visible, showing 'Management Appliances' as 'N/A'. The 'vCenter Information' section is expanded, showing two main sections: 'Default vCenter User Account' and 'vSphere Client (HTML5)'. In the 'Default vCenter User Account' section, the 'User name' is 'cloudadmin@vmc.local' (highlighted with a blue circle 3) and the 'Password' is 'gFA9EIo0!qpRf-A' (highlighted with a blue circle 4). There is a checkbox for 'Show credentials for Open vCenter' which is checked. In the 'vSphere Client (HTML5)' section, the 'URL' is 'https://vcenter.sddc-35-162-186-92.vmwarevmc.com/ui' (highlighted with a blue circle 2). Below this, there are links for 'vCenter Server API Explorer', 'PowerCLI Connect' (highlighted with a blue circle 5), and 'vCenter FQDN'. At the top right of the console, there is an 'OPEN VCENTER' button (highlighted with a blue circle 6) and an 'ACTIONS' dropdown menu.

4. At the top right of the page, click **OPEN VCENTER**
5. On the Pop Up, click on the **SHOW CREDENTIALS Button**
6. Click the Clipboard **icon** next to Password to copy the administrative user password to your clipboard.

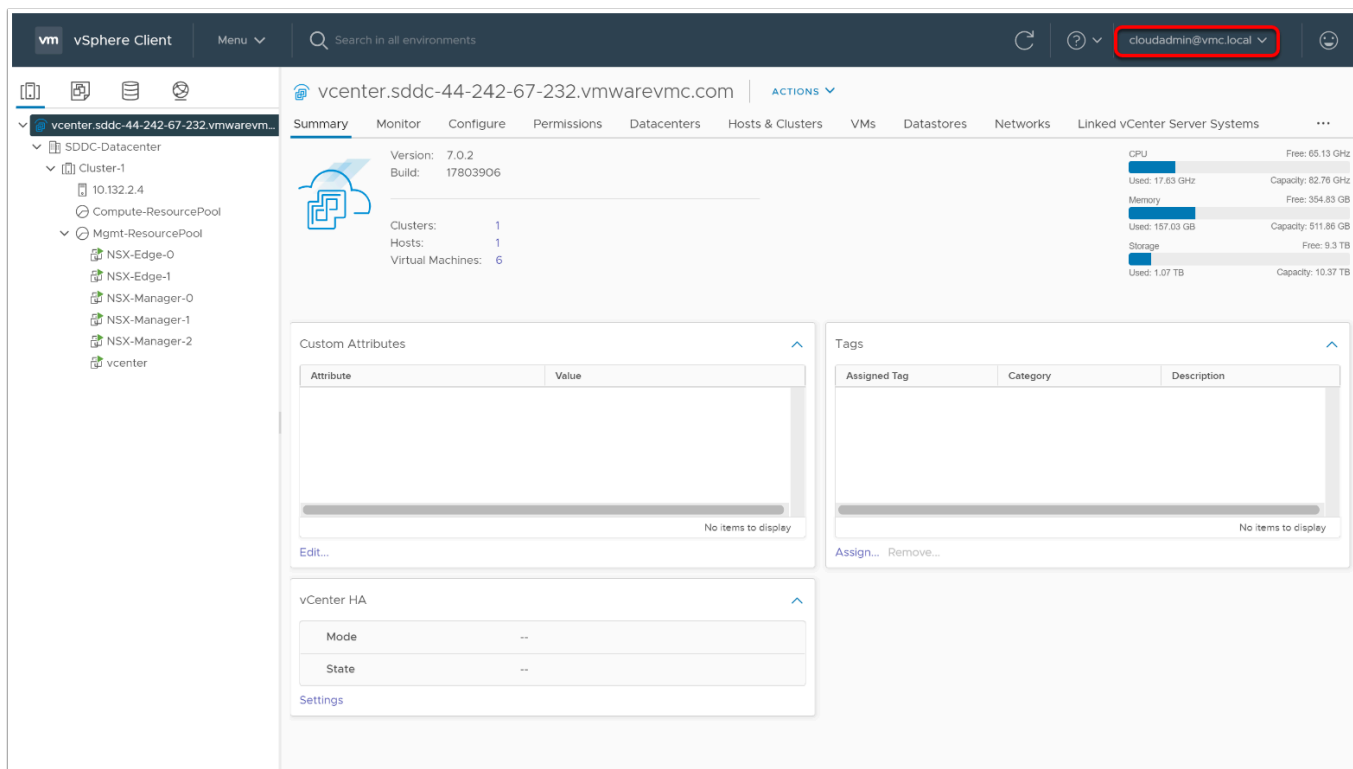


## Task 2.2 - Log into the vSphere Client (HTML5)

1. Click the **OPEN VCENTER** button to open a connection to the vCenter HTML5 client.
2. In the example@domain.local field enter **cloudadmin@vmc.local**
3. Right-click in the **Password** field and paste the password copied in the previous step.
4. Click **LOGIN**.
5. On the Summary page Click **Reset to green** for any visible warnings and/or errors







**i** You are now logged in to your VMware Cloud on AWS SDDC vCenter Server as cloudadmin@vmc.local user.

## Task 2.3 - Create Content Library

### **i** Content Libraries

Content libraries are container objects for VM templates, vApp templates, and other types of files like ISO images.

You can create a content library in the vSphere Client (HTML5), and populate it with templates, which you can use to deploy virtual machines or vApps in your VMware Cloud on AWS environment. If you already have a Content Library in your on-premises data center, you can use the Content Library to import content into your SDDC.

You can create two types of libraries: local or subscribed libraries.

### Local Libraries

You use a local library to store items in a single vCenter Server instance. You can publish the local library so that users from other vCenter Server systems can subscribe to it. When you publish a content library externally, you can configure a password for authentication.

VM templates and vApps templates are stored as OVF file formats in the content library. You can also upload other file types, such as ISO images, text files, and so on, in a content library.

### **Subscribed Libraries**

You subscribe to a published library by creating a subscribed library. You can create the subscribed library in the same vCenter Server instance where the published library is, or in a different vCenter Server system. In the Create Library wizard, you have the option to download all the contents of the published library immediately after the subscribed library is created, or to download only metadata for the items from the published library and later to download the full content of only the items you intend to use.

To ensure the contents of a subscribed library are up to date, the subscribed library automatically synchronizes to the source published library at regular intervals. You can also manually synchronize subscribed libraries.

You can use the option to download content from the source published library immediately or only when needed to manage your storage space.

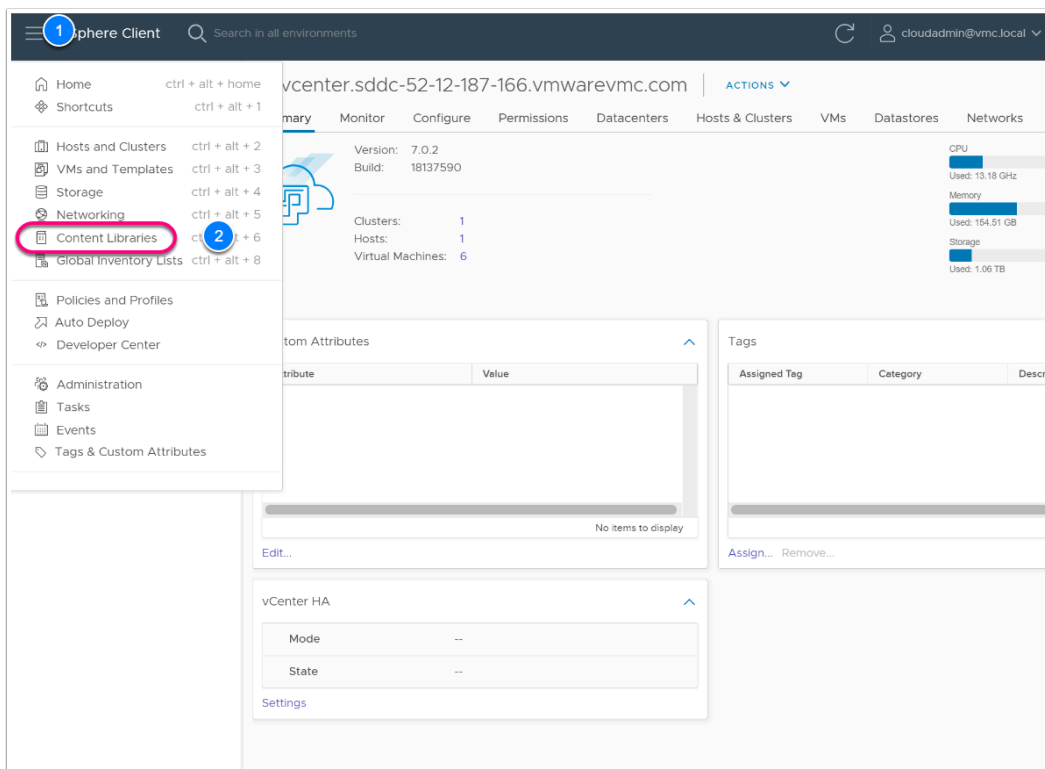
Synchronization of a subscribed library that is set with the option to download all the contents of the published library immediately, synchronizes both the item metadata and the item contents. During synchronization, the library items that are new for the subscribed library are fully downloaded to the storage location of the subscribed library.

Synchronization of a subscribed library only downloads content when needed. It synchronizes the metadata for the library from the published library and does not download the contents of the items. This saves storage space. If you need to use a library item, you need to synchronize that item. After you are done using the item, you can delete the item contents to free space on the storage. For subscribed libraries that are set with the option to download contents only when needed, synchronizing the subscribed library downloads only the metadata of all the items in the source published library, while synchronizing a library item downloads the full content of that item to your storage.

If you use a subscribed library, you can only utilize the content, but cannot contribute with content. Only the administrator of the published library can manage the templates and files.

A newly created VMC on AWS SDDC will have no Workload Virtual Machines pre-deployed, nor any of your corporate deployment images. Before you can begin deploying Virtual Machines based on your corporate-approved images into your SDDC you must first copy those images into the SDDC. One of the most effective ways to do so is to subscribe to a published vSphere Content Library. In this task, we will do just that.

1. In the Top Left of the page, click the **Menu Icon (3 dashes | Hamburger Menu Icon)**
2. Click on **Content Libraries**
3. In your Content Library window, click **Create** to add a new Content Library



4. In the **Name and Location** section, enter **VMC Content Library** for the Name of the library. The other values should default to the appropriate selections.
5. Click the **NEXT** button.

New Content Library

1 Name and location

2 Configure content library

3 Add storage

4 Ready to complete

Name and location

Specify content library name and location.

Name: VMC Content Library

Notes:

vCenter Server: vcenter.sddc-44-242-67-232.vmwarevmc.com

CANCEL NEXT

6. In the **Configure Content Library** section, select the radio button next to **Subscribed content library**.
7. Under **Subscription URL** enter the following: <https://vmc-elw-vms.s3-accelerate.amazonaws.com/lib.json>
8. Leave the checkbox **unchecked** next to **Enable Authentication**.
9. Make sure **Download content** is set to **immediately**.
10. Click **Next** to continue.  
**NOTE:** If Prompted to accept the SSL Thumbprint, Click **Yes**.

## New Content Library

- 1 Name and location
- 2 **Configure content library**
- 3 Add storage
- 4 Ready to complete

### Configure content library

Local libraries can be published externally. Subscribed libraries originate from other published libraries.

☐ Local content library
   
☐ Enable publishing
   
☐ Enable authentication

1 ☒ Subscribed content library

Subscription URL

2 https://vmc-elw-vm.s3-accelerate.amazonaws.c

☐ Enable authentication

Download content

3 ☒ immediately ☐ when needed

4

CANCEL BACK NEXT

11. On the **Apply Security Policy** Section, Click **NEXT**
12. In the **Add Storage** section click on **WorkloadDatastore** for content library storage.
13. Click the **Next** button.
14. In the **Ready to Complete** section verify that all the data matches the steps above then click **Finish**

## New Content Library

- 1 Name and location
- 2 Configure content library
- 3 **Add storage**
- 4 Ready to complete

### Add storage

Select a storage location for the library contents.


Filter

	Name	Status	Type	Capacity
<input type="radio"/>	vsanDatastore	ⓘ Normal	vSAN	10.37 TB
1 <input checked="" type="radio"/>	WorkloadDatastore	ⓘ Normal	vSAN	10.37 TB


2 items

2

CANCEL BACK NEXT

 **Note:** Depending the size and number of templates it can take a while to synchronize the content. This content library should only take a few minutes to synchronize. We will proceed with task 2.4 to allow time to synchronize. The sync of the "photoapp-u" virtual appliance must complete before moving to task 3. You don't have to wait on MonkeyIsland & VMC-Win10-Template before proceeding to Task 3.

## Task 2.4 - Create a Linux & Windows Customization Specification

 When you clone a virtual machine or deploy a virtual machine from a template, you can customize the guest operating system of the virtual machine to change properties such as the computer name, network settings, and license settings.

Customizing guest operating systems can help prevent conflicts that can result if virtual machines with identical settings are deployed, such as conflicts due to duplicate computer names.

You can specify the customization settings by launching the Guest Customization wizard during the cloning or deployment process. Alternatively, you can create customization specifications, which are customization settings stored in the vCenter Server database. During the cloning or deployment process, you can select a customization to apply to the new virtual machine.

Use the Customization Specification Manager to manage customization specifications you create with the Guest Customization wizard.

1. From within vSphere client, click **Menu**.
2. In the menu dropdown click on **Policies and Profiles**.
3. Click the **VM Customization Specifications** menu item
4. Click on **+New** to add a new Linux Customization Specification.
5. Enter a **Name** for the Linux Customization Specification (**LinuxSpec** in this example).
6. Optionally enter a **Description**.
7. Select the radio button for **Linux** next to **Target guest OS**.
8. click the **Next** button to continue.

### New VM Customization Specification

1 Name and target OS

2 Computer name

3 Time zone

4 Customization script

5 Network

6 DNS settings

7 Ready to complete

**Name and target OS**  
Specify a unique name for the VM customization specification and select the OS of the target VM.

**VM Customization Specification**

**Name** 1 LinuxSpec

**Description**

**vCenter Server** vcenter.sddc-35-162-186-92.vmwarevmc.com

**Guest OS**

**Target guest OS** ☐ Windows ☒ Linux

☐ Use custom SysPrep answer file

☒ Generate a new security identity (SID)

CANCEL

BACK

NEXT

9. In the **Computer Name** section click the radio button next to **Use the virtual machine name**.
10. For **Domain name** enter **corp.local**.
11. Click the **Next** button to continue

### New VM Customization Specification

✓ 1 Name and target OS

2 Computer name

3 Time zone

4 Customization script

5 Network

6 DNS settings

7 Ready to complete

**Computer name**  
Specify a computer name that will identify this virtual machine on a network.

☒ Use the virtual machine name 1

☐ Enter a name in the Clone/Deploy wizard

☐ Enter a name

☐ Append a unique numeric value. i

☐ Generate a name using the custom application configured with the vCenter Server

Argument

**Domain name** 2 corp.local

CANCEL

BACK

NEXT

12. In the **Time Zone** section select the appropriate **Area** by clicking on the arrow next to the drop-down field. We are using the **US** for this lab.
13. Select the appropriate **Location**. You can use **Eastern**
14. Click the **Next** button to continue.
15. Click **Next** to Skip the Customization Script page
16. On the **Network** section ensure the radio button next to **Use standard network settings for the guest operating system, including enabling DHCP in all network interfaces** is selected.
17. Click **Next** to continue.

New VM Customization Specification

✓ 1 Name and target OS  
✓ 2 Computer name  
**3 Time zone**  
4 Customization script  
5 Network  
6 DNS settings  
7 Ready to complete

Time zone  
Specify a time zone for the virtual machine.

Area US 1

Location

- Alaska
- Aleutian
- Arizona
- Central
- East-Indiana
- Eastern**
- Hawaii
- Indiana-Starke
- Michigan
- Mountain
- Pacific
- Pacific-New
- Samoa

Hardware clock set to ☒ UTC ☐ Local time

CANCEL BACK NEXT

18. On the **DNS settings** sections enter **8.8.8.8** for the Primary DNS server.
  - Enter **8.8.4.4** for the Secondary DNS server.
  - For the DNS Search paths enter **corp.local**.
  - Click the **Add** button to add the **corp.local** domain to the DNS search path. Verify that it was added.
19. Click **Next** to continue
20. Review your entries and click on the **Finish** button.



New VM Customization Specification

✓ 1 Name and target OS

✓ 2 Computer name

✓ 3 Time zone

✓ 4 Customization script

✓ 5 Network

**6 DNS settings**

7 Ready to complete

DNS settings

Specify the DNS and domain information for the virtual machine.

DNS Servers

Primary DNS server  1

Secondary DNS server  2

Tertiary DNS server

DNS Search Paths

3

ADD 4

MOVE UP MOVE DOWN DELETE

corp.local

1 items

CANCEL

BACK

5 NEXT

Try to complete the steps below from memory, but if you have trouble use the steps above in task 2.4 modified with the following fields to create a Customization Specification for Microsoft Windows Virtual Machines

**Note:** Leave the default selection for any fields not mentioned below

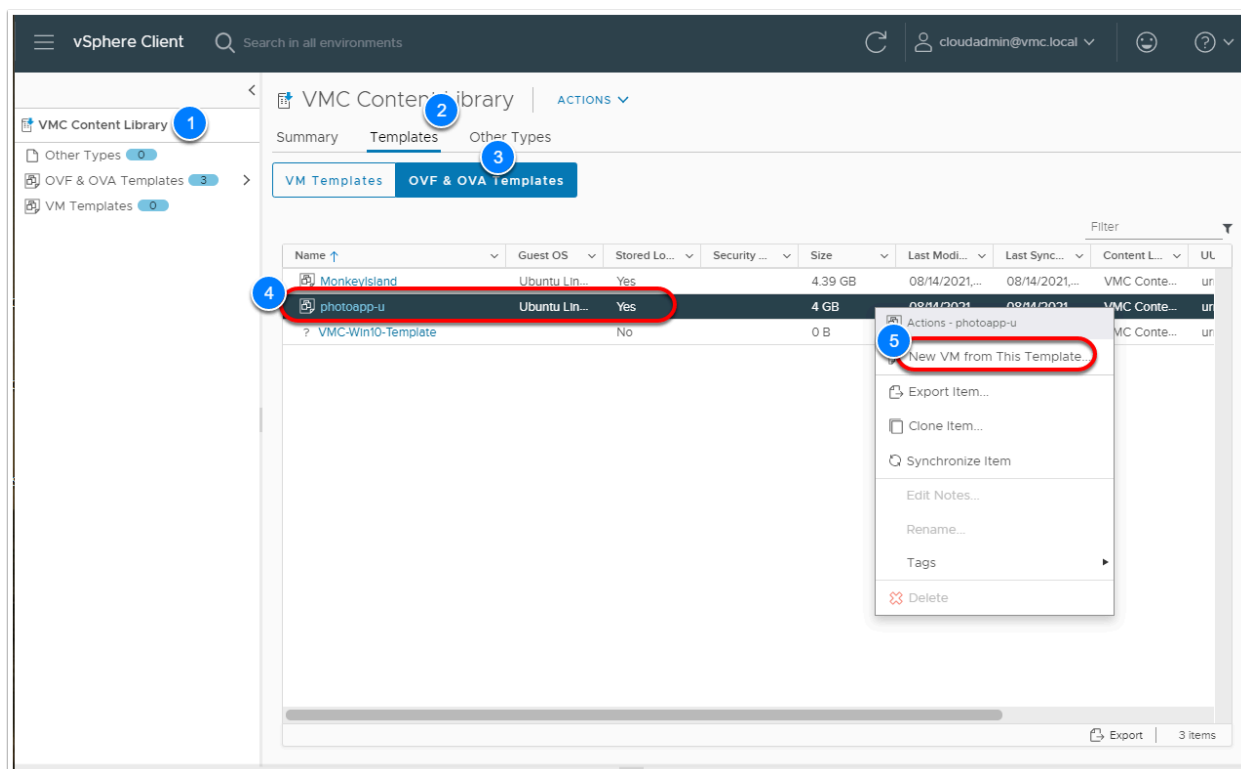
- Name and Target OS Page
  - Name: **WindowsSpec**
  - Target guest OS: **Windows**
- Registration Information Page
  - Owner Name: **(Your Name)**
  - Owner Organization: **(Your Organization)**
- Computer Name Page
  - Computer Name: **Select - Use the virtual machine name**
- Administrator Password Page
  - Password: **VMware1!**
- Time Zone page
  - Time Zone: **(Select your timezone)**
- Click Next and leave defaults through the Commands to Run Once, Network, Workgroup or Domain. Then click Finish on the "ready to complete" section.

## Task 3 - Deploy Virtual Machines in VMC on AWS

In the vSphere client window already opened, you will deploy a Virtual Machine from a template in the content library. You'll then clone the deployed Virtual Machine to create a second VM. In both cases you will use the Customization Specification you created in task 2 to modify the Operating System configuration.

### Task 3.1 - Deploy Virtual Machine from template

1. Click **Menu**.
2. Click on **Content Libraries**.
3. Click on the **VMC Content Library** that was previously synchronized.
4. Click the **Templates** tab to access the template synchronized in the content library.
5. Click the **OVF & OVA Templates** Tab
6. Right-click on the **photoapp-u** template to expose the Actions menu.
7. Click on **New VM from This Template** to deploy a virtual machine from template.



8. In the Select **Name and Folder section** enter **webserver01** for the virtual machine name.
9. Click the **arrow** next to **SDDC-Datacenter** to expose the folders available.
10. In VMware Cloud on AWS customer workloads should be placed in the **Workloads** folder (or subfolder).

11. Click the **Workloads** folder.
12. Select the checkbox next to **Customize the operating system**.
13. Click **Next** to continue
14. On the Customize guest OS page, select **LinuxSpec** customization specification.
15. Click **Next** to continue.

photoapp-u - New Virtual Machine from Content Library

**1 Select a name and folder**

Select a name and folder  
Specify a unique name and target location

2 Customize guest OS

3 Select a compute resource

4 Review details

5 Select storage

6 Ready to complete

Virtual machine name: **webserver01**

Select a location for the virtual machine.

- ✓ vcenter.sddc-44-242-67-232.vmwarevmc.com
  - ✓ SDDC-Datacenter
    - > Discovered virtual machine
    - > Management VMs
    - > Templates
    - > **Workloads**

**Customize the operating system**

CANCEL BACK **NEXT**

16. In the **Select Compute Resource** section, click the arrow next to **Cluster-1** to expose the resource pools available.  
Select **Compute-ResourcePool**.  
In VMware Cloud on AWS customer workloads should be placed in the **Compute-ResourcePool** (or a sub-pool).
17. Click **Next** to continue

photoapp-u - New Virtual Machine from Content Library

✓ 1 Select a name and folder

✓ 2 Customize guest OS

**3 Select a compute resource**

4 Review details

5 Select storage

6 Ready to complete

Select a compute resource

Select the destination compute resource for this operation

✓ SDDC-Datacenter

Cluster-1

10.132.2.4

Compute-ResourcePool

Mgmt-ResourcePool

Compatibility

✓ Compatibility checks succeeded.

CANCEL

BACK

**NEXT**

Review the details of the template to be deployed. There may be a security warning displayed, but you can safely ignore that for the purpose of this lab.

19. Click **Next** to continue.
20. In **Select Storage** Click **WorkloadDatastore** to select the datastore where the virtual machine will be provisioned.  
Each VMware Cloud on AWS SDDC will include two datastores in order to separate management and customer workloads. All customer workloads must be placed in the datastore named WorkloadDatastore
21. Click **Next** to continue
22. Click the drop-down below **Destination Network** to select the network for the virtual machine.
23. Click **Browse...**, then Select **Demo-Net** the network previously created in Task 1.
24. Click **Next** to continue.

photoapp-u - New Virtual Machine from Content Library

✓ 1 Select a name and folder

✓ 2 Customize guest OS

✓ 3 Select a compute resource

✓ 4 Review details

✓ 5 Select storage

**6 Select networks**

7 Ready to complete

Select networks

Select a destination network for each source network.

Source Network	Destination Network
nsx.LogicalSwitch:63045d3f-fb1b-4643-8aa9-92e5db1695fa	Demo-net <span>1</span>


1 item

CANCEL

BACK

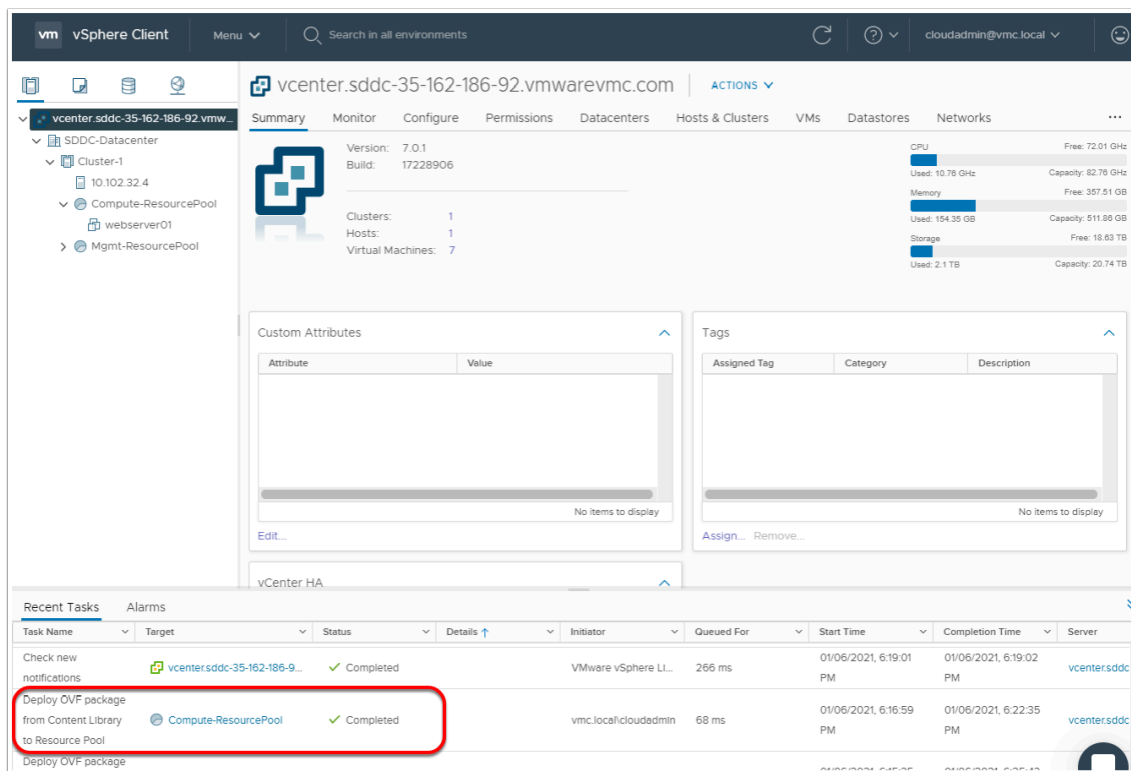
2 NEXT

25. Review the information for accuracy and click **Finish** to deploy the virtual machine

 It should take a couple of minutes for the virtual machine to deploy. Continue to the next task to clone this virtual machine to create a second web server.

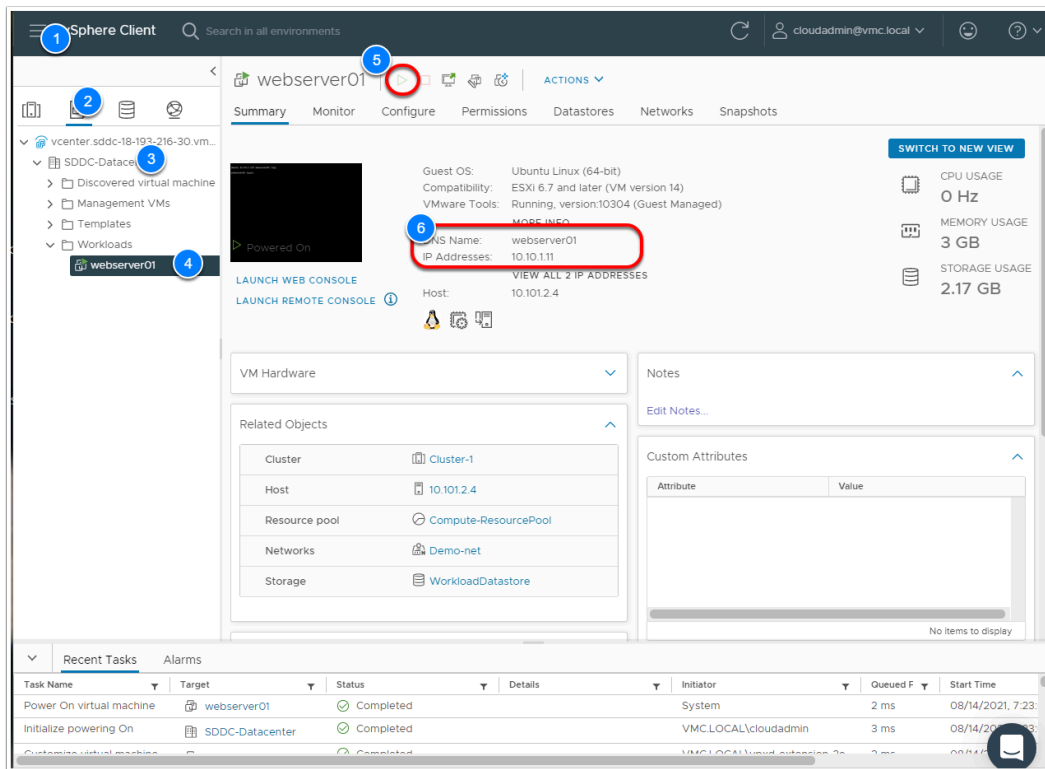
## Task 3.2 - Clone a Virtual Machine

You will now create your second Virtual Machine by cloning the previously deployed Virtual machine (webserver01).



Validate the virtual machine deployment completed in the previous exercise by looking for the **Deploy OVF Template** task, verify it is **Completed** successfully. Once completed you may move on to the steps listed below. You will start by powering on the previously deployed VM to allow the OS customization to proceed. If the deployment failed please notify your instructor or go back through the steps listed in Task 3.1 again.

1. Click **Menu**.
2. Click on **VMs and Templates**.
3. Click the **arrow** next to **SDDC-Datacenter** to expose the sub-folders.
4. Click the **arrow** next to **Workloads** to expose **webserver01**
5. Click on the virtual machine **webserver01**
6. Click the **green arrow** at the top center of the screen to execute the power on operation.



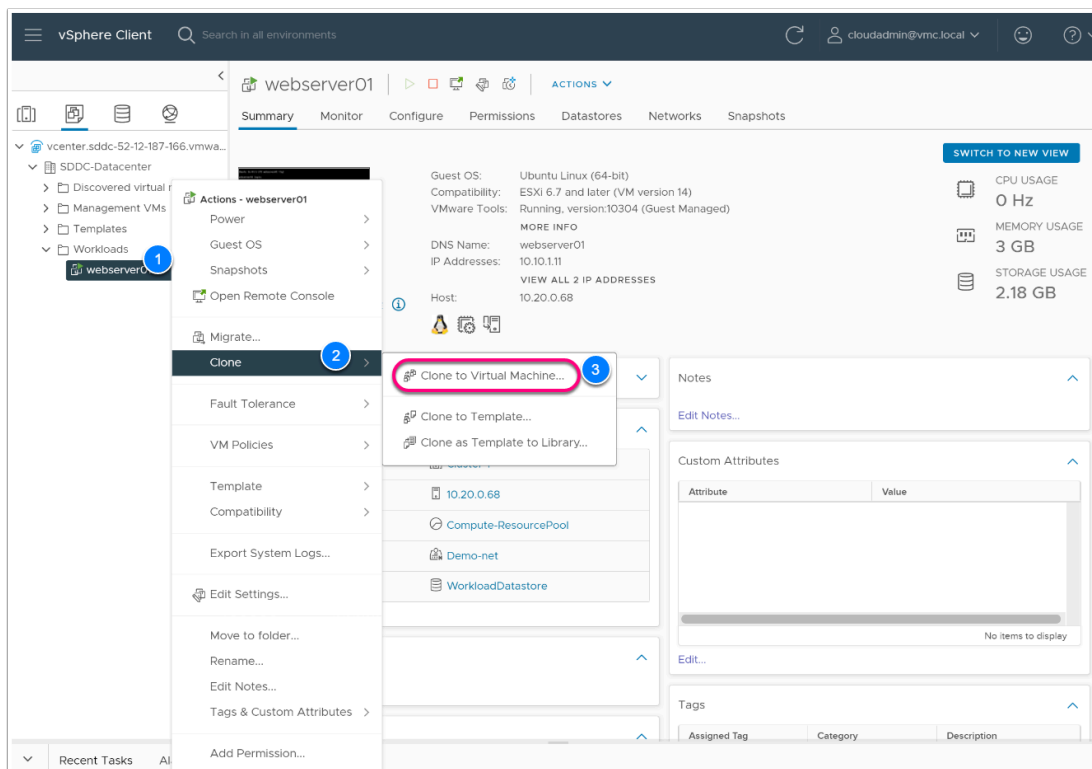
**Note:** Please wait until the virtual machine is fully powered on and has an IP before proceeding to the next step.

- ⚠ If the webserver does not connect to the network and does not receive an IP address from DHCP, follow these steps. 1) Hit refresh on the page a few times. 2) Ensure the NIC is connected by right-clicking on **webserver01** and then **Edit Settings** and make sure the checkbox next to **Connected** is selected.

You may need to repeat this step for the cloned VM **webserver02**

### 3.2.1 - Clone Webserver01

1. Right-click on **webserver01** to expose the Actions menu.
2. Click on **Clone** to expose a secondary menu of options.
3. Click **Clone to Virtual Machine** to initiate the cloning wizard.



4. Next to **Virtual machine name** enter **webserver02**.
5. Click the **arrow** next to SDDC-Datacenter to expose the folders available.
6. Click the **Workloads** folder for the virtual machine location.
7. Click **Next** to continue.
8. Click the **arrow** next to Cluster-1 to expose the resource pools available
9. Click on **Compute-ResourcePool** to ensure it is selected for the target virtual machine.
10. Click **Next** to continue.
11. Click on **WorkloadDatastore** to ensure it is selected as the destination for the virtual machine.
12. Click **Next** to continue.

We will now set the options for cloning. We will need to customize the operating system to change the server name and also power on the virtual machine after cloning is complete.

13. Click the checkbox next to **Customize the operating system**.
14. Click the checkbox next to **Power on virtual machine after creation**.
15. Click **Next** to continue.
16. Select the **LinuxSpec** customization specification.
17. Click **Next** to continue.
18. Review the information for accuracy and click **Finish** to clone the virtual machine.

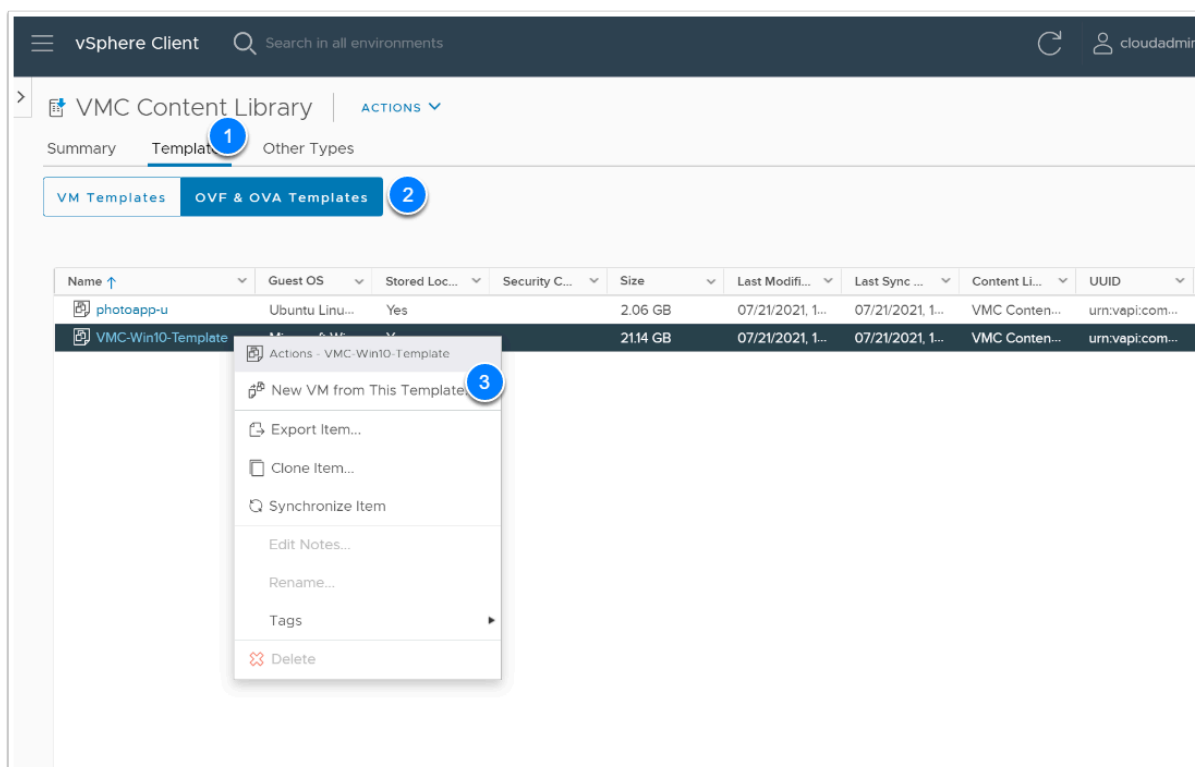


- i** It should take a couple of minutes for the virtual machine to clone. Continue to the next exercises to deploy a windows VM and learn about securing workloads in VMware Cloud on AWS.

## Task 3.3 - Deploy a Windows 10 Virtual Machine

- i** In this task you will deploy and customize a Windows 10 Virtual Machine from the VMC Content Library

1. Click **Menu**.
2. Click on **Content Libraries**.
3. Click on the **VMC Content Library** that was previously synchronized.
4. Click the **Templates** tab to access the template synchronized in the content library.
5. Click the **OVF & OVA Templates** Tab
6. Right-click on the **VMC-Win10-Template** template to expose the Actions menu.
7. Click on **New VM from This Template** to deploy a virtual machine from template.



8. Enter **Win10-Desktop** for the virtual machine name.

9. Click the **arrow** next to SDDC-Datacenter to expose the folders available.  
In VMware Cloud on AWS customer workloads should be placed in the Workloads folder (or subfolder).
10. Click the **Workloads** folder.
11. Select the checkbox next to **Customize the operating system**.
12. Click **Next** to continue

VMC-Win10-Template - New Virtual Machine from Content Library

**1 Select a name and folder**

Select a name and folder  
Specify a unique name and target location

Virtual machine name: Win10-Desktop

Select a location for the virtual machine.

- ✓ vcenter.sddc-44-235-221-106.vmwarevmc.com
  - ✓ SDDC-Datacenter
    - > Discovered virtual machine
    - > Management VMs
    - > Templates
    - > **Workloads**

☒ Customize the operating system

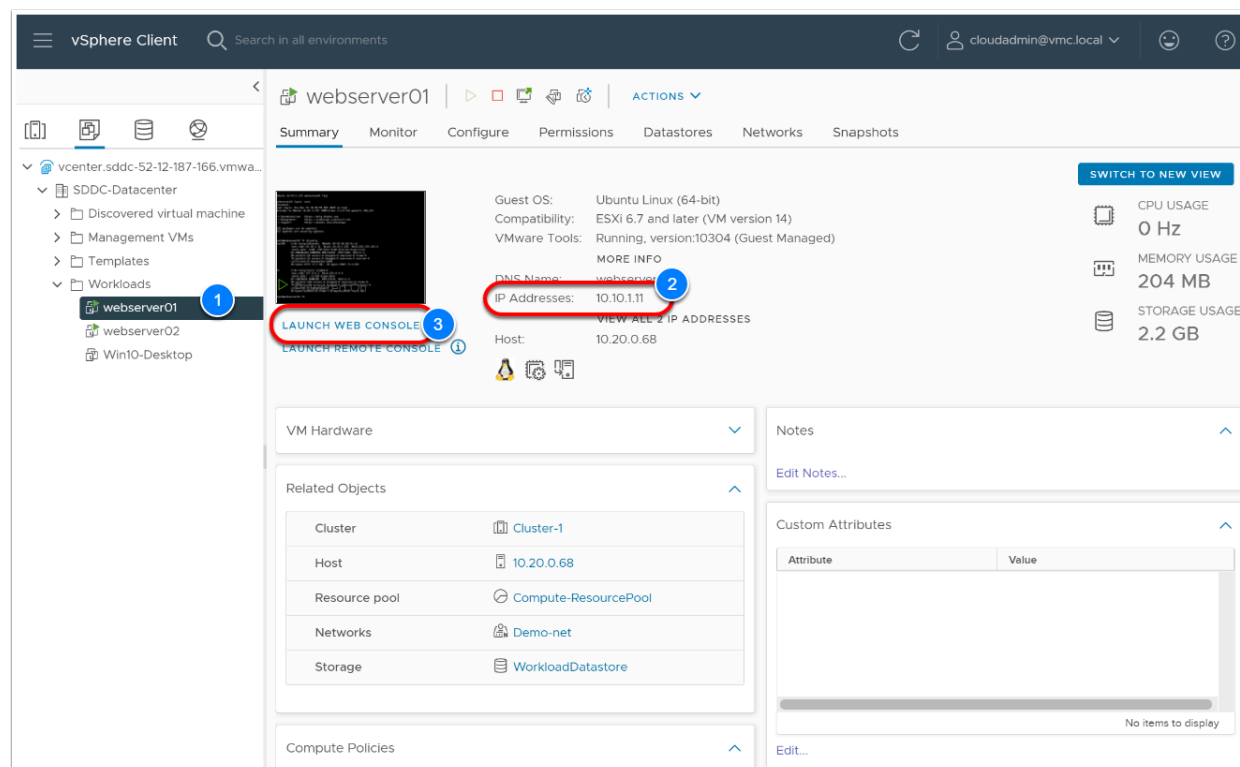
CANCEL BACK NEXT

14. On the Customize guest OS page, select **WindowsSpec** customization specification.
15. Click **Next** to continue.
16. Click the arrow next to **Cluster-1** to expose the resource pools available.  
In VMware Cloud on AWS customer workloads should be placed in the **Compute-ResourcePool** (or subpool).
17. Select **Compute-ResourcePool**.
18. Click **Next** to continue
19. Click **Next**
20. Click **WorkloadDatastore** to select the datastore where the virtual machine will be provisioned.
21. Click **Next** to continue
22. Click the arrow below **Destination Network** to select the network for the virtual machine.
23. Click **Desktop-Net** to select the network previously created.
24. Click **Next** to continue.
25. Review the information for accuracy and click **Finish** to deploy the virtual machine
26. Power-on the Windows 10 desktop once the deployment is complete.

## Task 3.4 - Test Connectivity between the Virtual Machines

In this exercise we will test the connectivity between webserver01 and webserver02, which we created in the previous exercises. You will need to open a console session to webserver01 to validate it can communicate with webserver02.

1. In the vSphere Client (HTML5) click on **Webserver01** to bring it into focus. (You may need to Navigate to Menu > VMs and Templates)
2. Take note of the **IP Address** for webserver01 in the middle of the screen
3. Click **LAUNCH WEB CONSOLE**. The console should open in a new browser tab



3. Go back to the vSphere Client browser tab
4. Select **webserver02**
5. Take note of the **IP Address** for webserver02 in the middle of the screen. This will be needed in the next step.
6. Click the **Chrome Tab** of the console session for webserver01 to bring it back into focus.
7. At the login prompt enter **root** and press Enter.
8. At the password prompt enter **VMware1!** and press Enter.
9. At the console prompt, enter **ping -c3 <Your WebServer02 IP> i.e. 10.10.1.12** (you recorded webserver02 IP in step 5) and press **Enter**.  
The third octet is based on student number and the last octet of the IP address in most cases it will be 12, but verify this in your configuration.
10. Verify the pings are successful.

```
webserver01
Enforce US Keyboard Layout View Fullscreen

Ubuntu 16.04.5 LTS webserver01 tty1

webserver01 login: root
Password:
Last login: Tue Dec 22 10:30:59 EST 2020 on tty1
Welcome to Ubuntu 16.04.5 LTS (GNU/Linux 4.4.0-131-generic x86_64)

 * Documentation:  https://help.ubuntu.com
 * Management:    https://landscape.canonical.com
 * Support:       https://ubuntu.com/advantage

255 packages can be updated.
157 updates are security updates.

root@webserver01:~# ping -c3 10.10.20.12
PING 10.10.20.12 (10.10.20.12) 56(84) bytes of data:
64 bytes from 10.10.20.12: icmp_seq=1 ttl=64 time=0.370 ms
64 bytes from 10.10.20.12: icmp_seq=2 ttl=64 time=0.374 ms
64 bytes from 10.10.20.12: icmp_seq=3 ttl=64 time=0.246 ms

--- 10.10.20.12 ping statistics ---
3 packets transmitted, 3 received, 0% packet loss, time 1998ms
rtt min/avg/max/mdev = 0.246/0.330/0.374/0.059 ms
root@webserver01:~# _
```

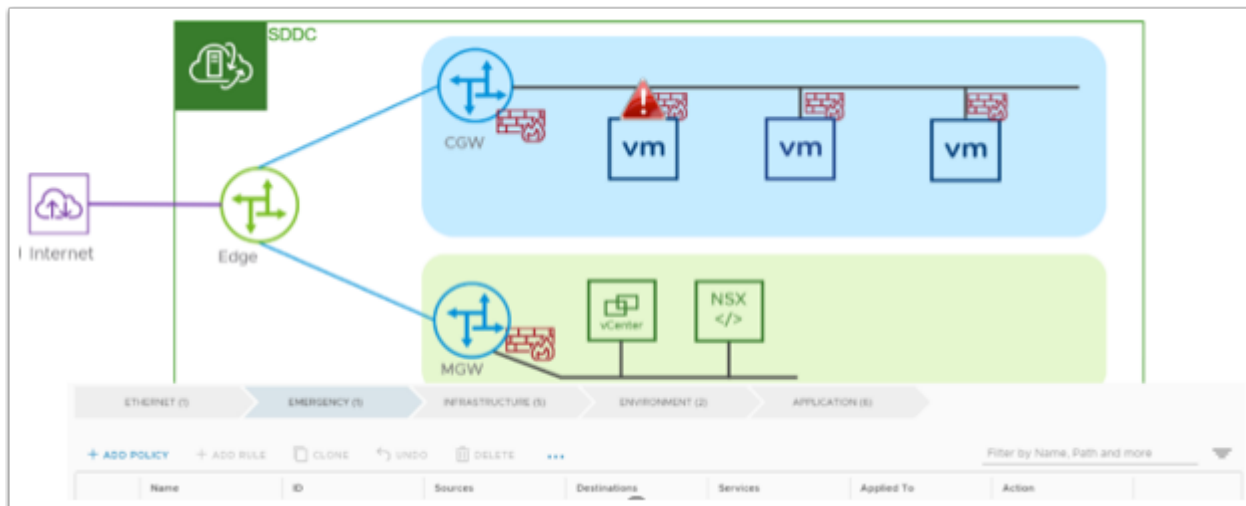
**i NOTE:** Please leave this ping and console Window open for the next lesson. We will revisit it to verify the web servers can no longer communicate.

## Task 3.5 - Configure VMC on AWS Advanced Network Services

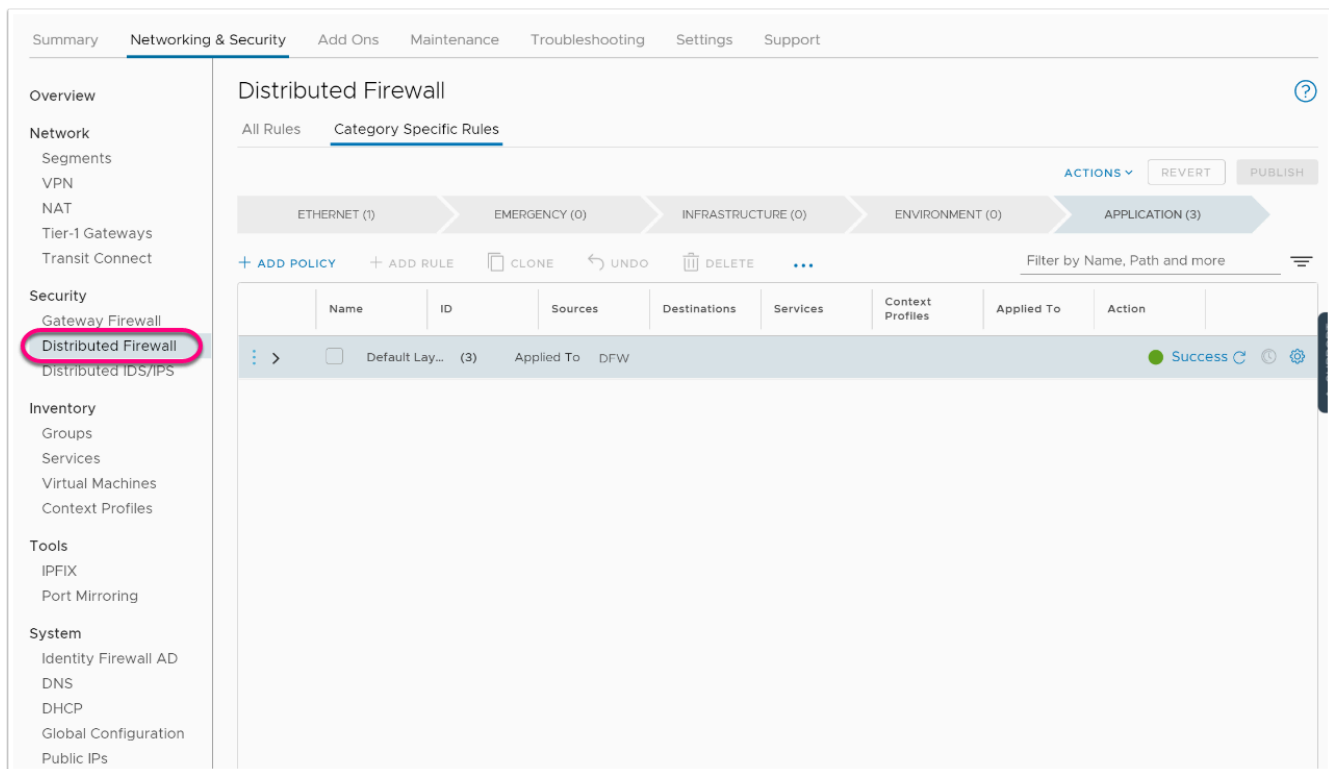
VMware Cloud on AWS Advanced Network Services is now available for new SDDC deployments.

Using VMware Cloud on AWS Advanced Network Services, users have the capability to implement micro-segmentation with Distributed Firewall. Granular security policies can be applied at the VM-level allowing for segmentation within the same L2 network or across separate L3 networks. This is shown in the diagram below.

All networking and security configuration is now done through the VMware Cloud on AWS console via the Networking & Security tab, including creating network segments. This provides ease of operations and management by having all networking and security access through the console.



From the below screenshot, you can see, in addition to the ability to create multiple sections, users can organize Distributed Firewall rules into groups (Emergency Rules, Infrastructure Rules, Environment Rules, and Application Rules). The rules are hit from the top-down.

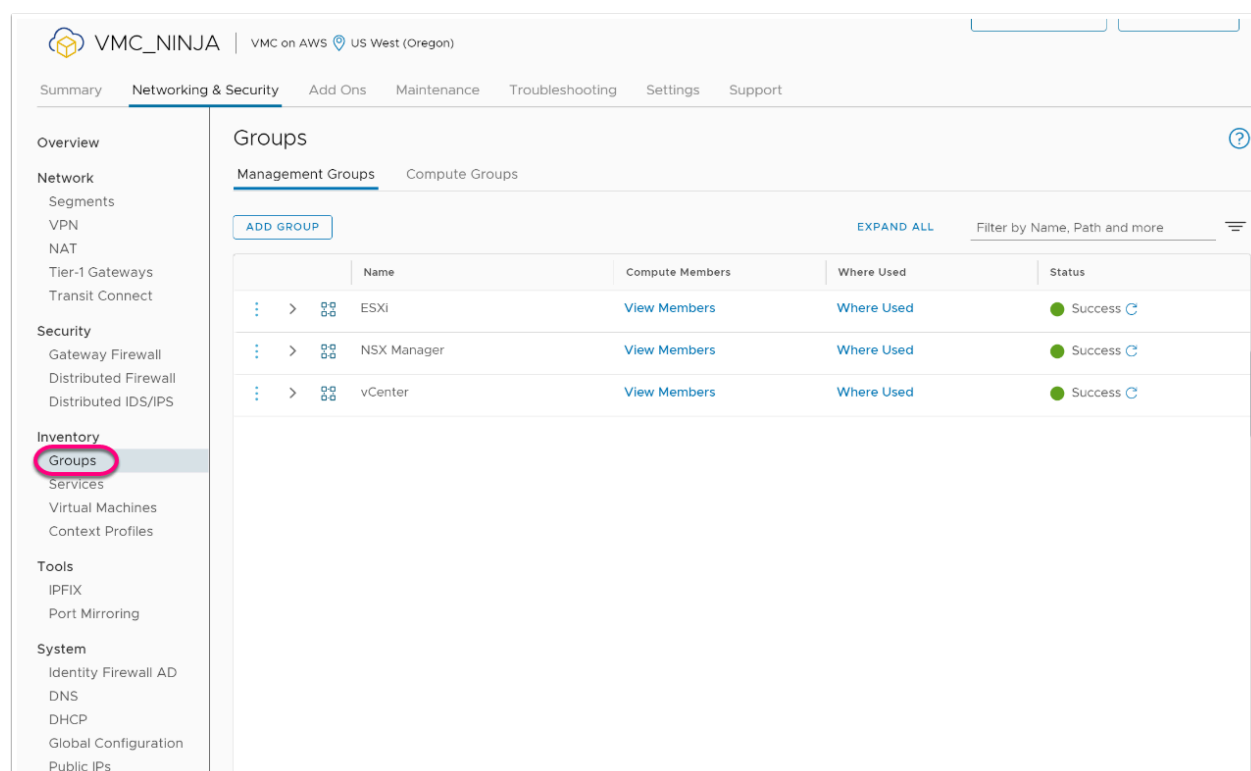


In addition to the new Distributed Firewall capabilities, grouping objects can now be leveraged within security policies. Security groups support the following grouping criteria/constructs:

- IP Address
- VM Instance
- Matching criteria of VM Name
- Matching Criteria of Security Tag

As shown below, Security Groups can be created under Compute Groups or Management Groups. Compute Groups can be used in DFW and CGW firewall policies and Management Groups can be used under MGW firewall policies. Management Groups only support IP addresses as these groups are infrastructure based. Predefined Management Groups already exist for vCenter, ESXi hosts, and NSX Manager. Users can also create groups here based on IP address for on-premises ESXi hosts, vCenter, and other management appliances.

## Task 3.5.1 - Apply Security Tag to Virtual Machines



We will now create a network firewall policy in the distributed firewall to prevent communications between webserver01 and webserver02. To facilitate this, we will first create a tag, which will be applied to the VMs, followed by a dynamic group based on the tag.

1. Navigate back to the VMC on AWS console tab in your browser. You may need to sign back in. Click on the **Networking & Security** tab to access the networking configuration.
2. Under Inventory, click on **Virtual Machines** to access the virtual machines that are part of the SDDC.
3. Locate **webserver01** and click the three vertical dots and click **Edit**.
4. Under Tags, Type **Web**
5. Click **Add Item(s): Web**
6. Leave the **Scope** field blank Select the **blue +** sign to add the tag (a popup should appear and **web** should have a bubble around it)
7. Click **Save** to commit the changes
8. Repeat steps 3 - 7 for **webserver02**

The screenshot shows the AWS Management Console interface for 'Virtual Machines'. The left-hand navigation pane has 'Virtual Machines' selected, highlighted with a red circle and a blue callout '1'. The main content area displays a table of virtual machines. Two VMs are listed: 'webserver01' and 'webserver02', both running Ubuntu Linux. A modal window is open for 'webserver02', showing its details and a 'Tags' section where a tag named 'web' has been added (callout '3'). A blue callout '2' points to the '+ Add' icon in the VM list. A blue callout '4' points to the '+ Add' button in the 'Set Members' section of the modal. A blue callout '5' points to the 'SAVE' button at the bottom of the modal.

## Task 3.5.2 - Create a Dynamic Security Group

Groups can be used in VMware Cloud on AWS Advanced Network Services to group virtual machines and simplify rule based configuration. In this exercise we will group the two web servers into a group and then create a firewall rule to block communication between them. In a properly architected traditional application, there is usually no need for servers in the web tier to communicate.

We will now create a group of web servers based on the dynamic security tag we applied earlier.

1. In the **Networking & Security** menu, click on **Groups** under Inventory.
2. Click on **Compute Groups**, then **Add Group**
3. Under Name enter **Web** for the name of the group.
4. Click **Set Members**



The screenshot shows the VMware vSphere Groups configuration page. The left sidebar contains navigation links for Overview, Network, Security, Inventory, Tools, and System. The main content area is titled 'Groups' and has two tabs: 'Management Groups' and 'Compute Groups'. The 'Compute Groups' tab is active. Below the tabs, there is an 'ADD GROUP' button and a 'COLLAPSE ALL' button. A table lists groups with columns: Name, Compute Members, Where Used, and Status. The 'web' group is selected. Below the table, there is a form for editing the group. The 'Description' field is empty. The 'Tags' section shows 'Vm' and 'Sc' tags. The 'SAVE' button is at the bottom.

5. Select **+ADD CRITERIA**.
6. Leave the Virtual machine, Tag, Equals fields as is and in the 4th column type and select **"Web"**. You should now see **VM Tag Equals Web** as your criteria. You can leave scope as blank.
7. Click **APPLY**
8. Click **SAVE**

Select Members | web

Add Compute Members either by creating or by directly adding them.

Membership Criteria (1)

Members (0)

IP Addresses (0)

MAC Addresses (0)

+ ADD CRITERIA

1

Maximum: 5 Criteria

Criteria 1

Virtual Machine

Tag

Equals

web

Scope

CANCEL

APPLY

Validate that both **webserver01** and **webserver02** appear in the group membership, by clicking **View Members**. Close the popup once complete

ALL SDDCs

Student20 | VMware Cloud on AWS US West (Oregon)

OPEN VCENTER ACTIONS

Summary

Networking & Security

Add Ons

Maintenance

Troubleshooting

Settings

Support

Overview

Network

Security

Inventory

Tools

System

Groups

Management Groups

Compute Groups

ADD GROUP

EXPAND ALL

Search

Name	Compute Members	Where Used	Status
web	View Members	Where Used	Uninitialized

View Members | web

Effective Members

Group Definition

Virtual Machines (2)

IP Addresses (2)

Segments (0)

Segment Ports (2)

VIFs (2)

Name

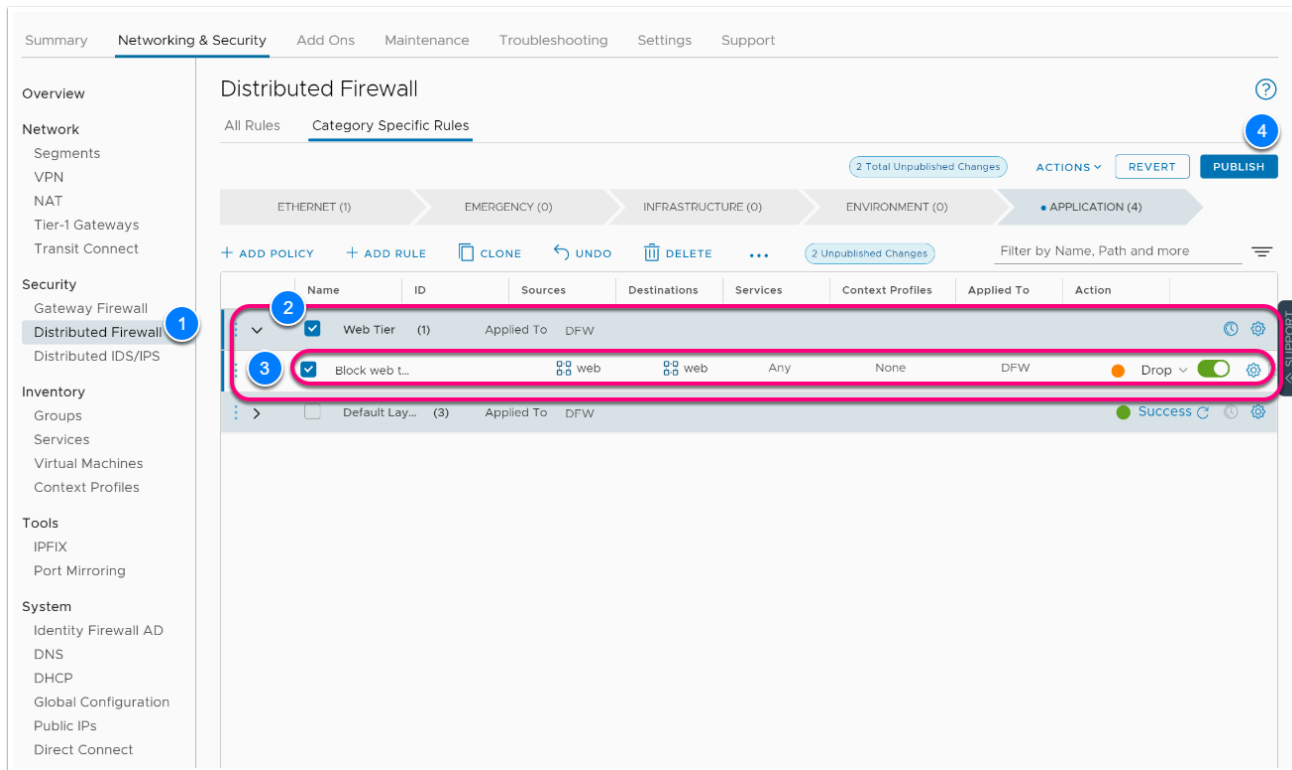
webserver01

webserver02

If they do not, go back and verify there are no typos. Common errors encountered include typo on the tags, or not clicking the blue plus sign when adding the tag in the previous step.

### Task 3.5.3 - Create Distributed Firewall Policy

Now that we have created our dynamic group, let's create a firewall rule to block access between the web servers.



1. In the **Networking and Security** Section, click **Distributed Firewall** on the left-hand side of the screen.
2. On the Arrow Shaped menu, click the **Application** bar.
3. Click **+ADD POLICY** to create a new section for the rule. This functionality allows you to group rules logically to make operating the environment simpler.
4. Click the **"new policy"** text in the name column, Type **Web Tier**.
5. Click the **Checkbox** next to the **Web Tier** section.
6. Click **Add Rule** in the menu above the rules.
7. Under Name, Type **Block Web To Web**.
8. Under Action, click the **drop-down** and select **Drop**.
9. Under Sources hover over **any** and select the **blue edit** button.
10. In the popup click the **checkbox** next to Web.
11. Click **Apply** to commit the changes to the rule.
12. Under Destinations, hover over **any** and select the **blue edit** button.
13. In the popup window click the **checkbox** next to Web.
14. Click **Apply** to commit the changes to the rule.
15. Click the **Gear** at the far right of the rule
16. Move the **Slider** to the right to enable logging

17. Click **APPLY**
18. Click **Publish** to commit the rule and begin blocking traffic between the web servers.  
**NOTE:** Action should be set to **Drop**

💡 It might take a few seconds for the rule to be published. You can click the refresh button next to the rule to ensure the rule status turns from yellow to green.

Distributed Firewall

All RulesCategory Specific Rules

ACTIONS ▼REVERTPUBLISH

ETHERNET (1)EMERGENCY (0)INFRASTRUCTURE (0)ENVIRONMENT (0)APPLICATION (4)

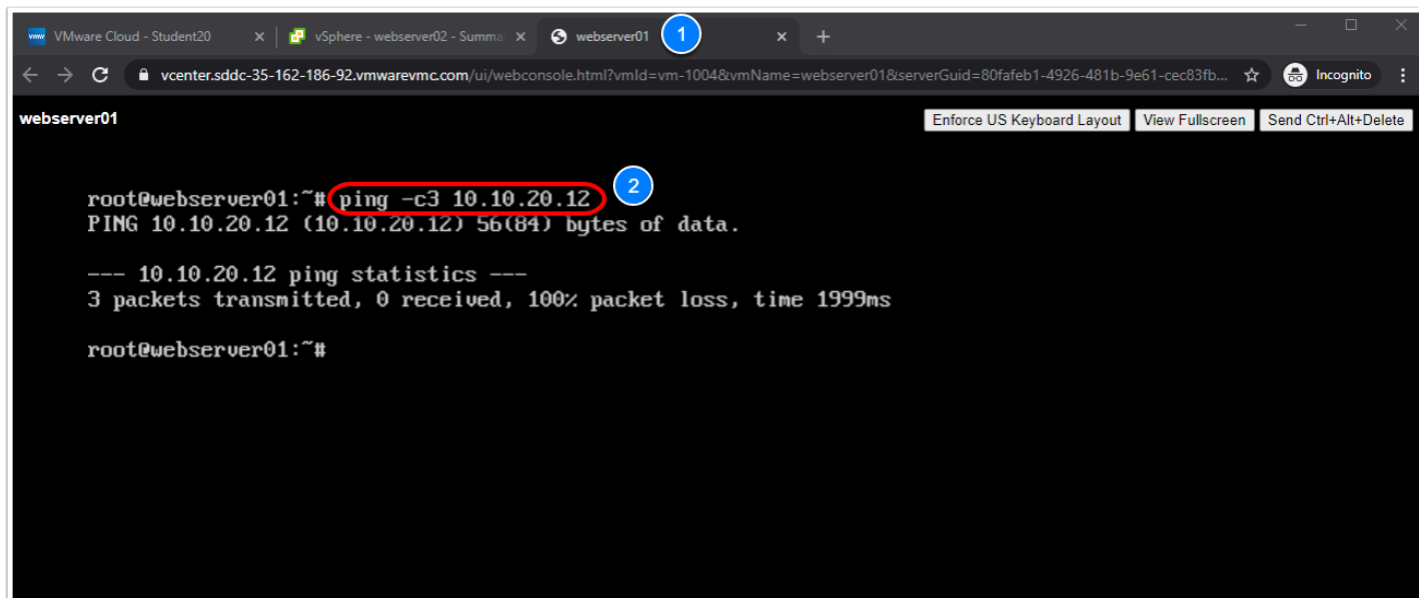
+ ADD POLICY+ ADD RULECLONEUNDODELETE...Filter by Name, Path and more

	Name	ID	Sources	Destinations	Services	Context Profiles	Applied To	Action
⋮ ▼	Web Tier	(1)	Applied To	DFW				In Progress
⋮	Block web t...	2027	web	web	Any	None	DFW	Drop
⋮ >	Default Lay...	(3)	Applied To	DFW				Success

### Task 3.5.4 - Confirm Success of the DFW Policy

**i** You should still have a console session to webserver01 active. If not, launch the webconsole again and run the ping command.

Ping the IP address for webserver02 you noted previously. You can also press the up arrow then enter to run the last command if you still had the console active. (ping -c3 XX.XXX.XXX.XX)

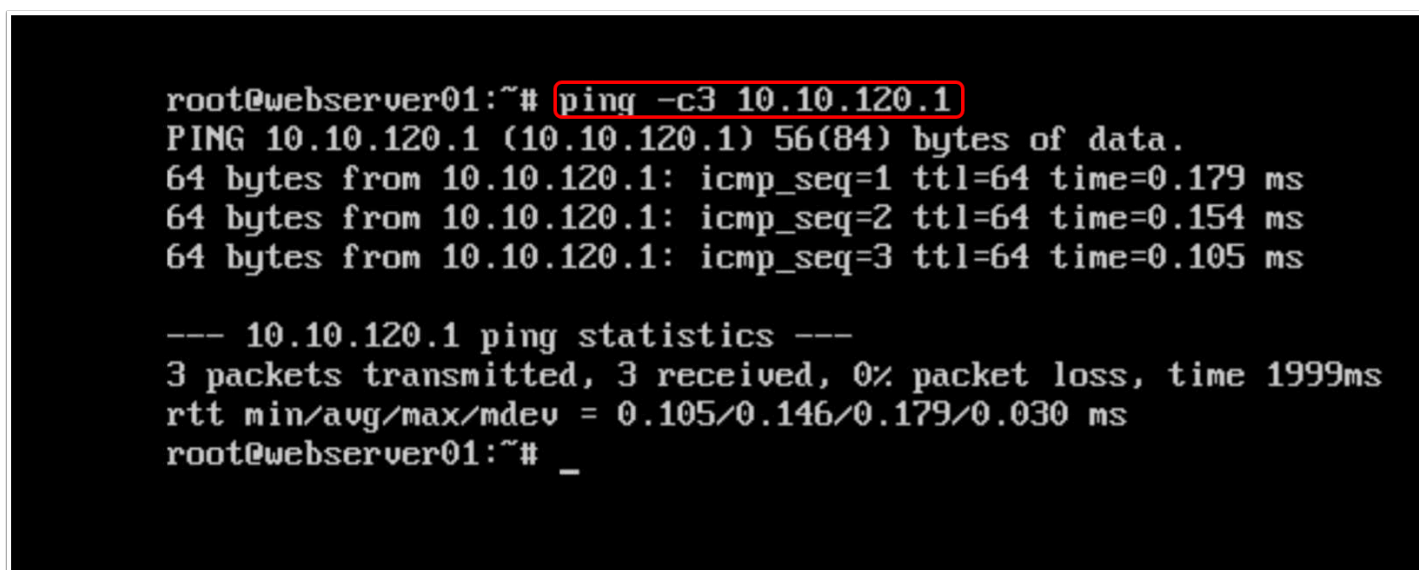



1. Click the Chrome Tab for **webserver01**.
2. Ping webserver02 IP address 10.10.xx.xxx. (ping -c3 xx.xx.xx.xx)

The pings should have stopped responding meaning that the distributed firewall rules have been correctly applied. This simple demonstration should give you an idea of the power of the distributed firewall.

Now, let's ping the gateway address of the **Desktop-net** segment (10.10.1xx.1, where **xx** is your student number). You can reference your **Desktop-net** segment subnet gateway address from Task 1, Step 12.

3. Type **Ping -c3 10.10.1xx.1** (i.e ping -c3 10.10.120.1)
4. Your ping test should succeed



 **NOTE:** If this ping to the Desktop-net gateway fails you need to double-check your Distributed firewall rule. Consult the rule definition in TASK 3.5.3, review your distributed firewall rule and make the necessary changes. If the firewall rule is not corrected it will negatively impact the results of Lab 3.

See your instructor for assistance if needed.

## Task 4 - Visibility & Operations

The Activity Log contains a history of significant actions in your organization, such as SDDC deployments and removals, as well as notifications sent by VMware for events such as SDDC upgrades and maintenance.

All operations (UI or API) that occurs within VMware Cloud AWS (VMC), including but not limited to SDDC creation, deletion, updates, network configurations, user authorization/access, etc. is all captured as part of the Activity Log in the VMC Console. Within the Activity Log, you can view the type of operation, the time the operation occurred, the applicable SDDC as well the user of the operation and all of these fields can be filtered out further.

In this task we will take a look at the activity log, we will also look at Log Insight Cloud for more details and logs

1. In the left pane of your VMC on AWS SDDC Console, Click **Activity Log**  
You would see a number of SDDC activities recorded, such as:
  - SDDC Created
  - HCX deployed
  - etc..

**Activity Log**

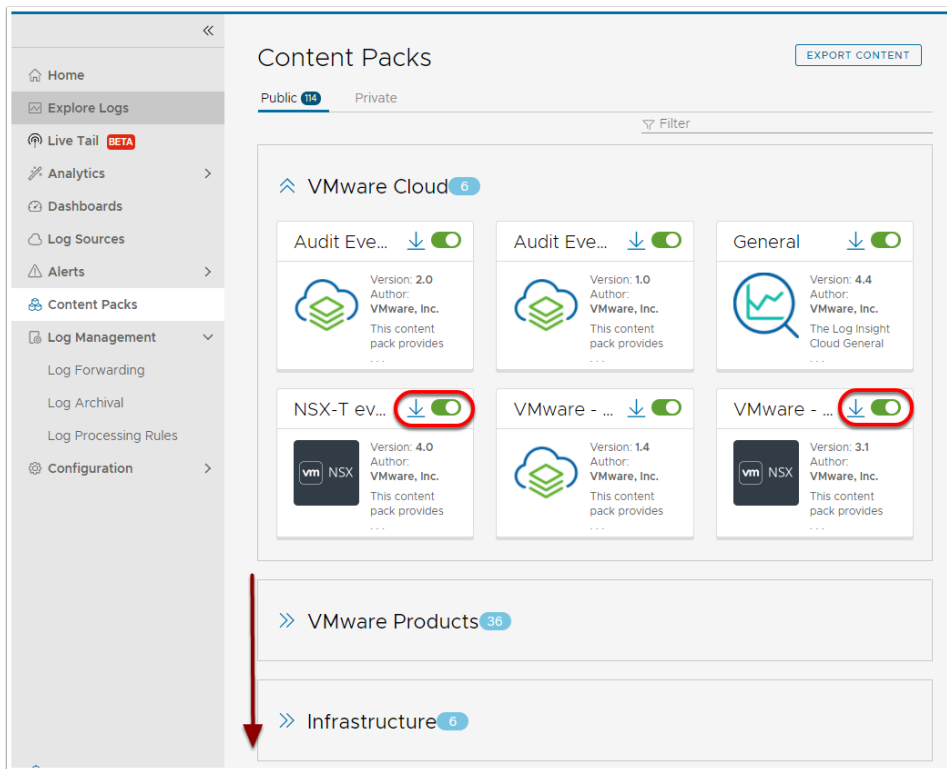
You can view additional events and log data in [vRealize Log Insight Cloud](#)

Event Name	Event Type	Time	SDDC Name	Task Owner	Description
DNS Update of Management IP	Activity	7/26/21, 11:02 PM	VMCEXP3-01		DNS Update of Management IP by rodneymcintosh@27virtual.com succeeded
Update to External Attachments	Activity	7/26/21, 8:55 PM			Update to External Attachments by rodneymcintosh@27virtual.com succeeded
Addition of External AWS Account	Activity	7/26/21, 8:09 PM			Addition of External AWS Account by rodneymcintosh@27virtual.com succeeded
Updating Management VM	Activity	7/26/21, 10:53 AM	VMCEXP3-02		Updating Management VM by :hcx-deployer-prd succeeded
Updating Management VM	Activity	7/26/21, 10:53 AM	VMCEXP3-01		Updating Management VM by :hcx-deployer-prd succeeded
Updating Management VM	Activity	7/26/21, 10:53 AM	VMCEXP3-02		Updating Management VM by :hcx-deployer-prd succeeded
Updating Management VM	Activity	7/26/21, 10:53 AM	VMCEXP3-01		Updating Management VM by :hcx-deployer-prd succeeded
Updating Management VM	Activity	7/26/21, 10:53 AM	VMCEXP3-02		Updating Management VM by :hcx-deployer-prd succeeded
Updating Management VM	Activity	7/26/21, 10:52 AM	VMCEXP3-01		Updating Management VM by :hcx-deployer-prd succeeded
Updating Management VM	Activity	7/26/21, 10:52 AM	VMCEXP3-02		Updating Management VM by :hcx-deployer-prd succeeded

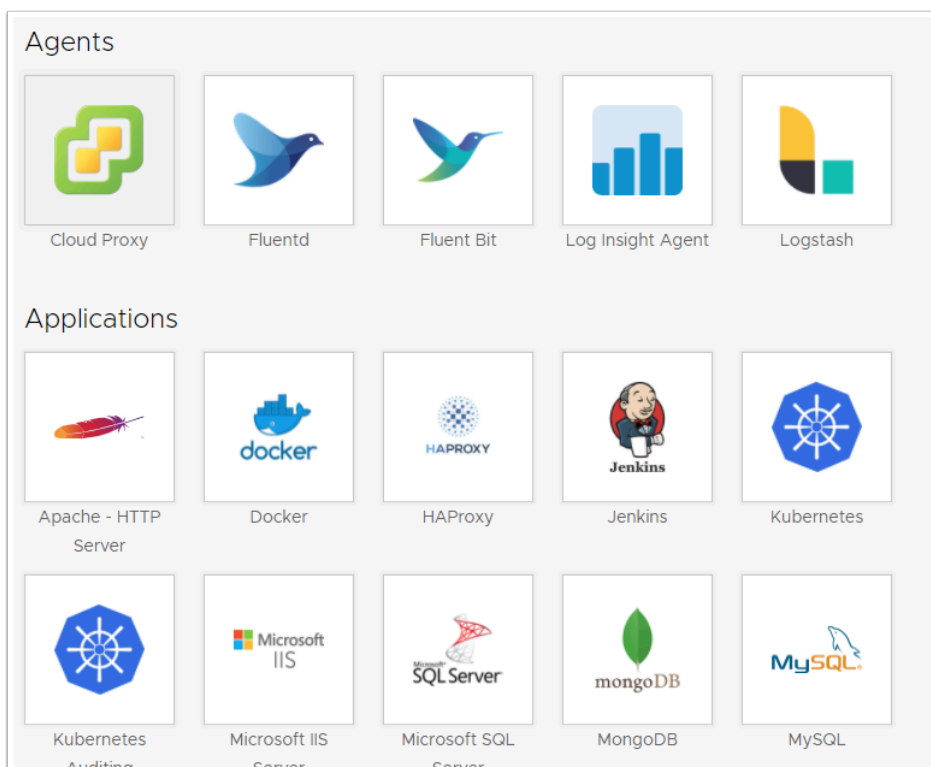
SHOW ALL Items per page 10 1 - 10 of 69 items 1 / 7

We'll now take a look at Log Insight where we will be able to see log entries providing more details and from multiple sources.

2. Click **vRealize Log Insight Cloud**
3. In the left pane Click **Content Packs**
4. Confirm the following content packs are enabled and if not enable them
  - **NSX-T events for VMware Cloud SDDC**
  - **NSX-T for VMware Cloud on AWS**
5. Look through the list of other Content Packs you can enable for vRealize Log Insight Cloud  
**NOTE:** Content packs contain dashboards, extracted fields, saved queries, and alerts that are related to a specific product or set of logs



6. In the left Pane, Click Log Sources, to see all of the sources log insight cloud supports



7. In the Left Pane, Click **Dashboards**

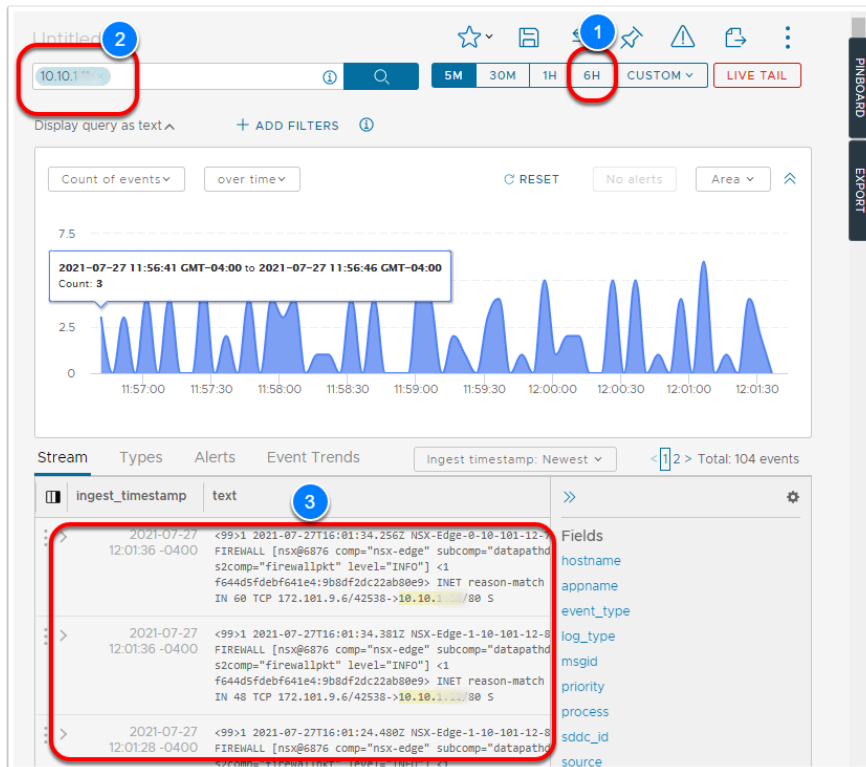
8. Scroll down and click **Distributed Firewall - Traffic**

9. **adjust the time scope to 6H. to See log entries over the past 6 hours**

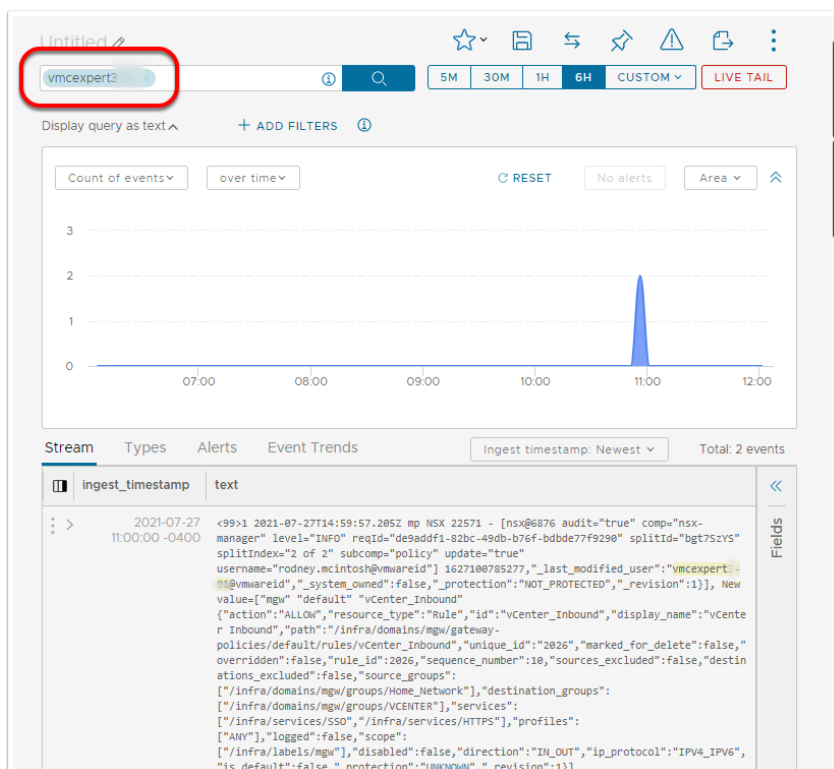
10. Click **Explore Log**, in the left pane




11. In the search bar type in the <IP address of your webserver01> (10.10.x.x)
12. Notice the firewall log entries from your earlier pings



12. Also search for your <SDDC user account> (vmcexpert#-xx) to see audit events for the user account



# Conclusion

-  In this module, we explored the setup of configuration of a VMware Cloud on AWS SDDC including utilizing the content library, deploying virtual machines, modifying firewall rules and working with virtual machines

2<sup>nd</sup> Gen Intel® Xeon® Scalable processors are designed to take full advantage of the scalable memory, storage and network bandwidth offered by AWS storage-optimized i3en instances to deliver optimal performance for your applications running in VMware Cloud on AWS.

<https://www.vmware.com/company/news/releases/vmw-newsfeed.VMware-Cloud-on-AWS-Delivers-on-Customer-Requirements-for-Agility-Business-Continuity-and-Better-Cloud-Economics.7aa53d77-e377-458d-960f-5bf151e3f90c.html>

VMware Cloud on AWS running on i3en.metal instances powered by 2nd Generation Intel® Xeon® Scalable processors, include new capabilities that provide an enhanced solution for disaster recovery and migrating application to the cloud.

- Intel® Mesh architecture optimizes data sharing and memory access between all vCPUs to fully take advantage of the 1.5x more RAM and 4.3x more raw storage capacity (as compared to i3) while delivering consistent, low latencies.
- VMware vSphere® vMotion® allows live migration of VMs from one Intel host to another with zero downtime.
- I3en instances deliver 4x the raw storage capacity at roughly half the cost per GB of storage per host compared to previous offerings, making them ideal for disaster recovery and other storage-demanding use cases.
  - Double orders per minute on scaled up i3.en instances running SQL Server:<https://www.vmware.com/techpapers/2020/sqlserver-vmconaws-i3en-perf.html>
  - Double the Oracle database operations per minute in a scale out scenario:<https://www.vmware.com/techpapers/2020/oracle-vmc-aws-i3en-perf.html>