

ESX Virtualization II

Needs - Needs are the same as before, Windows XP or Vista Box, with Workstation 6.5 on it. Duo Processors (try to stay away from Atholons), and as much RAM as you can get, 3 GBs minimum, 4 is better. Open disk space, at least 50 GBs, (running things from an external hard disk will work just fine).

Software (ESX4.iso, ESXi4.iso, VCenter, anything else) will be posted on the Saisoft site.

Windows 2003 servers will also be provided. I will provide links for base Windows 2003 servers.

In this course

In the ESX 1 class, we concentrated more on the single ESX server, In this course, we're going to concentrate a bit more on the Enterprise level.

New to this course: Upgrades – We will start with an ESX 3.5, VirtualCenter 2.5 build, and upgrade to vSphere. We'll also examine machine updates.

ESX scripting-basic and advanced. Part of this will take a more indepth look at the various commands used in ESX and how to write scripts that will take advantage of them. We'll also look at running these scripts from the CLI as well as from VCenter, and using the VMware Powershell tool.

Advanced Disaster Recovery - How to get an ESX server recovered, swiftly and easily. Advanced HA, and different schemes on implementing it. We will build on what we've covered before in the ESX 1 class, and examine additional tools, and best practices, and develop a rough disaster recovery plan using VMware.

Building domains to run virtually - Tips and tricks on running Domain Controllers, Exchange servers. File and Application servers.

Advanced Security - Going beyond patching, using different approaches to security, and fully integrating ESX and vCenter with AD and other security products.

Advanced VMs – Building bigger and better VMs.

Virtual Applications - Building Virtual Applications.

Battling Virtual Sprawl - Tools to help with Virtual Sprawl, some home built, others commercial. We'll also look at practices and policies to help keep sprawl and machine abuse under control.

A look at - Third party tools, and playing nice with other Virtualization schemes.