Zerto - Prerequisites & Requirements for Microsoft Hyper-V Environments

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ZVR-REH-7.5
Zerto is installed in a site with virtual machines to be protected as well as in the site where these virtual machines will be recovered.

This document describes Zerto Prerequisites and Requirements for Microsoft Hyper-V Environments. For the requirements of VMware, Microsoft Azure or AWS protected sites, go to myZerto > Technical Documentation portal.

- The Zerto installation includes:
  - A **Zerto Virtual Manager (ZVM)**: This is a Windows service, and manages replication at the site level.
  - A **Virtual Replication Appliance (VRA)**: This is a virtual machine installed on each Hyper-V host to move the data to be replicated from the protected to the recovery site.
  - A **Virtual Backup Appliance (VBA)**: A Windows service that manages File Level Recovery operations within Zerto Virtual Replication. These repositories can be local or on a shared network.
  - Zerto can be installed at **multiple** sites and each site can be paired to any other site.
  - Each site is managed with the **Zerto User Interface**.
  - For **small branch offices**, Zerto also supports both the protected and recovery sites being managed by one SCVMM. For example, from one datacenter to another datacenter, both managed by the same SCVMM.

See the following sections:

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- **Considerations and Guidelines on page 6**
- **For Virtual Replication Appliances on the Hyper-V Host on page 7**
- **Recommended Best Practices for the Zerto Hyper-V Site on page 10**
- **Open Firewall Ports for Hyper-V Environments on page 11**
For Each Zerto Hyper-V Site

- **Microsoft System Center 2012 R2, or 2016 with VMM** (SCVMM) (i.e. a separate SCVMM for each site), and at least one **Hyper-V host**

- Only 2012 R2 and 2016 Hyper-V hosts are supported.

- The Zerto Virtual Manager must have access to **SCVMM** via a user with **administrator level privileges to SCVMM**. The user must be a member of an SCVMM User Role with a **Full Administrator** profile, accessible via **Settings > Security > User Roles** in the SCVMM Console.

- On the machines where **Zerto** is installed:
  - 64-bit Operating System
  - The Operating system version number must be 6.1 or higher
  - The Windows operating system must be Server Edition
  - **Supported Operating Systems:**
    - Windows Server 2008 R2 SP1 with KB3033929 and KB2864202
    - Windows Server 2012 base
    - Windows Server 2012 R2
    - Windows Server 2016
    - Windows Server 2019
  - **Microsoft .NET Framework 4.7.2. or higher**
    - The 4.7.2 installation executable is **included** as part of the Zerto installation kit and it needs an additional **4.5GB of free disk space**
    - If you install .NET Framework 4.7.2 as part of the Zerto installation, you will be prompted to restart
  - Minimum PowerShell version: **4.0**
  - Reserve at least **2 CPUs** and **4GB RAM** for the machine.
  - For performing Search and Restore operations reserve at least 4 vCPUs and 10GB RAM for the machine.
  - The following CPU and RAM are **recommended** by Zerto for the machine running Zerto, dependent on the size of the site.
    - **Zerto recommends running with at least 16GB memory.**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Virtual Machines or Peer Sites</th>
<th>Number of CPUs</th>
<th>RAM Size</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Up to <strong>150</strong> virtual machines</td>
<td>4 CPUs</td>
<td>8GB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>And up to <strong>2</strong> peer sites</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Between <strong>150-750</strong> virtual machines</td>
<td>4 CPUs</td>
<td>8GB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>And up to <strong>5</strong> peer sites</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Between <strong>750-5000</strong> virtual machines</td>
<td>4 CPUs</td>
<td>16GB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>And up to <strong>80</strong> peer sites</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Between <strong>5000-10000</strong> virtual machines</td>
<td>Or <strong>80+</strong> peer sites</td>
<td>4 CPUs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>And up to <strong>80</strong> peer sites</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The **clocks** on the machines where Zerto is installed must be **synchronized with UTC** and with each other (the timezones can be different). Zerto recommends synchronizing the clocks using NTP.

- At least **4GB** of free disk space.

- You must **exclude** the following folders from **antivirus scanning**:

  - Zerto Virtual Replication
    - %ProgramData%\Zerto\Data\zvm_db.mdf
    - C:\Program Files\Zerto\Zerto Virtual Replication\Zerto.Zvm.Service.exe
    - C:\Program Files\Zerto\Zerto Virtual Replication\Zerto.Vba.VbaService.exe
    - C:\Program Files\Zerto\Zerto Virtual Replication\Zerto Online Services Connector\Zerto.Online.Services.Connector.exe
    - C:\Program Files\Zerto\Zerto Virtual Replication\Embedded DB Manager Service\Zerto.LocalDbInstanceManagerService.exe

Failure to do so may lead to the Zerto Virtual Replication folder being incorrectly identified as a threat and in some circumstances corrupt the Zerto Virtual Replication folder.
Considerations and Guidelines

- The following **restriction** applies to **recovering individual files and folders** and **not** to recovering the whole virtual machine:
  - The operating system of the machine on which the recovery site Zerto Virtual Manager is installed determines the types of file systems from which individual files and folders can be recovered.
  - When the recovery site Zerto Virtual Manager virtual machine operating system supports a file system, files and folders can be recovered from this file system in virtual machines that this Zerto Virtual Manager will manage the recovery of.
    
    For Example: If a protected virtual machine running Windows 2012 has files using the ReFS file system and requires one or more of these files to be recovered and the recovery site Zerto Virtual Manager is on a machine with Windows 2008, which does not support ReFS, the protected virtual machine files and folders cannot be recovered, **but the whole virtual machine can be recovered**.
  - You cannot take snapshots of the Zerto Virtual Manager as snapshots cause operational problems for the Zerto Virtual Manager, such as creating inconsistencies with peer site Zerto Virtual Managers.
For Virtual Replication Appliances on the Hyper-V Host

In Hyper-V environments on page 7
In vSphere environments on page 7

In Hyper-V environments

To **install a VRA** you require the following on the **Hyper-V host**:

- 15GB storage space
- At least 1GB of **reserved memory**.
- Port 8100 must be enabled on SCVMM.
- Minimum PowerShell version: 4.0
- The following PowerShell cmdlet has been run:

  ```powershell
  Install-WindowsFeature -Name Hyper-V -IncludeManagementTools -Restart
  ```

You must know the following information to install a VRA:

- The **storage** the VRA will use, and the **local network** used by the **host**.
- The **network settings** to access the **peer site**: either the default gateway or the IP address, subnet mask, and gateway.
- If a **static IP** is used, instead of DHCP, which is the Zerto recommendation, you need to know the IP address, subnet mask, and default gateway to be used by the VRA.

  **Note:** In a non-production environment it is often convenient to use DHCP to allocate an IP to the VRA. In a production environment this is not recommended. For example, if the DHCP server changes the IP allocation on a reboot, the VRA does not handle the change.

In vSphere environments

To **install a VRA** you require the following on the **ESX/ESXi**:

- 15GB storage space
- At least 1GB of **reserved memory**.
- The ESX/ESXi version must be **5.1 or higher**.
- **Ports 22 and 443** must be **enabled on the host** during the installation.
Note: For the duration of the installation of the VRA, the Zerto Virtual Manager enables SSH in the vCenter Server.

You must know the following information to install a VRA:

- The **password** to access the **host root account**, for ESXi 5.x and higher.
- The **datastore** the VRA will use and the **local network** used by the host.
- The **network settings** to access the **peer** site; either the default gateway or the IP address, subnet mask, and gateway.
- If a **static IP** is used, instead of DHCP, which is the Zerto recommendation, you need to know the IP address, subnet mask, and default gateway to be used by the VRA.

Note: In a non-production environment it is often convenient to use DHCP to allocate an IP to the VRA. In a production environment this is not recommended. For example, if the DHCP server changes the IP allocation on a reboot, the VRA does not handle the change.

**Routable Networks**

The Zerto architecture supports the following network configurations:

- In on-premise environments:
  - Flat LAN networks
  - VLAN networks, including private VLANs and stretched VLANs
  - WAN emulation
  - VPN IPsec
- In Cloud environments:
  - The instance (virtual machine) on which the Zerto Cloud Appliance is installed must use a subnet that is accessible from all Zerto Virtual Managers that may be connected to this instance.

The Zerto architecture does **not** support NAT (Network Address Translation) firewalls.

**Minimum Bandwidth**

- The connectivity between sites must have the bandwidth capacity to handle the data to be replicated between the sites. The **minimum dedicated bandwidth** must be at least 5 Mb/sec.

**The Zerto User Interface**

For supported browsers, see *Interoperability Matrix for All Zerto Versions*, in the section **Supported Browsers**.
The lowest supported screen resolution is 1366x768.
Recommended Best Practices for the Zerto Hyper-V Site

Zerto recommends the following best practices:

- Zerto recommends installing the Zerto Virtual Manager with the following profile:
  - On a dedicated virtual machine.
  - With a dedicated administrator account.
  - No other applications installed on this machine. If additional applications are installed, the Zerto Virtual Manager service must receive enough resources and HA remain enabled.
  - With the VM Restart Policy set to High.
- If a proxy server is used at the site, specify the IP address of the Zerto Virtual Manager in the exception list in the Proxy Server settings.
- Install a VRA on every host in a cluster so that if protected virtual machines are moved from one host to another, there is always a VRA to protect the moved virtual machines.
- Install VRAs using static IP addresses and not DHCP.
Open Firewall Ports for Hyper-V Environments

The following architecture diagram shows the ports that must be opened in the firewalls on all sites.

Zerto can be installed at multiple sites and each of these sites can be paired to any of the other sites.

Zerto supports both the protected and recovery sites being managed by a single vCenter Server or System Center Virtual Machine Manager. For example, in the following scenario:

- From a branch office, to the main office, both managed by the same System Center Virtual Machine Manager.
- From one host to a second host, both managed by the same System Center Virtual Machine Manager.
- To the same host but using different storage for recovery.

It is recommended to install Zerto in the main office site where protected machines will be recovered.

The following table provides basic information about the ports shown in the above diagram by Zerto. Consider firewall rules if the services are not installed on the same network.

The following table provides basic information about the ports shown in the above diagram by Zerto.

**Note:** UDP ports in the 444xx range for DHCP are not required, and can therefore be blocked.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Port</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>445</td>
<td>Required between LTR service and a network shared repository on top of SMB protocol.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2049</td>
<td>Required between LTR service and a network shared repository on top of NFS protocol.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4005</td>
<td>Log collection between the ZVM and site VRAs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4006</td>
<td>Communication between the ZVM and local site VRAs and the site VBA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4007</td>
<td>Control communication between protecting and peer VRAs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4008</td>
<td>Communication between VRAs to pass data from protected virtual machines to a VRA on a recovery site.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4009</td>
<td>Communication between the ZVM and local site VRAs to handle checkpoints.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 7073 | Internal port, used only on the ZVM VM. Used for communication with the service in charge of collecting data for the Zerto Resource Planner.  
**Note:** Unless you select the checkbox ‘Enable Support notification and product improvement feedback’, data is not transmitted to Zerto Analytics. |
| 8100 | Communication between the ZVM and the SCVMM (System Center Virtual Machine Manager). |
| 9080*| Communication between the ZVM, Zerto Powershell Cmdlets, and Zerto Diagnostic tool. |
| 9081*| Communication between paired ZVMs**  
**Note:**  
- When a single SCVMM is used for both protection and recovery, only one ZVM is installed and port 9081 is not used.  
- Recovery to a different SCVMM uses port 9081 between the ZVMs in each site. |
| 9180*| Communication between the ZVM and the VBA. |
| 9669*| Communication between ZVM and ZVM GUI and ZVM REST APIs, and the ZCM.  
Communication between every Hyper-V host and the Zerto Virtual Manager. |
| 9779 | Communication between ZVM and ZSSP (Zerto Self Service Portal). |
| 9989 | Communication between ZCM, and ZCM GUI and ZCM REST APIs. |

*The default port provided during the ZVR installation which can be changed during the installation.*
Zerto enhances the Zerto IT Resilience Platform by converging disaster recovery and backup to deliver continuous availability within a simple, scalable platform. Zerto delivers enhanced analytics, platform improvements and cloud performance upgrades required in the future of IT resilience.

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