Managing VMware Templates

This chapter contains the following sections:

VMware Templates

A VMware Template is a master image of a virtual machine that can be used to create and provision virtual machines. A template typically includes a specified operating system and a configuration that provides virtual counterparts to hardware components. It cannot be powered on or edited, and is more difficult to alter than an ordinary virtual machine. Templates offer a more secure way of preserving a virtual machine configuration that you want to deploy multiple times.

Optionally, an administrator can create a standard catalog item on the VMware vSphere cloud that hosts a specific template. When an end user requests the catalog, a VM is provisioned based on the template that is mapped in the catalog. You can provision a VM on a datacenter by using a template available on a different datacenter under the same cloud.

Converting VMs to Images

Procedure

Step 1 Choose **Virtual** > **Compute**.

Step 2 On the **Compute** page, click **VMs**.

Step 3 Click the row with the VM that you want to convert to an image.

Step 4 From the **More Actions** drop-down list, choose **Convert VM as Image**.

Step 5 In the **Convert VM as Image** screen, complete the fields.

Step 6 Click **Submit**.

Cloning VMs as Images

Procedure

Step 1 Choose **Virtual** > **Compute**.
Step 2 On the **Compute** page, click **VMs**.
Step 3 Click the row with the VM that you want to clone as an image.
Step 4 From the **More Actions** drop-down list, choose **Clone VM as Image**.
Step 5 On the **Clone VM as Image** screen, complete the fields.
Step 6 Click **Submit**.

Viewing Image Reports

After you log into UCS Director, perform the following procedure to view all the images that belong to your group.

The images reports provide the following types of information:

- **Cloud**
- **Image ID**
- **Parent Node**
- **Datacenter**
- **Guest OS**
- **VMware Tools Installed**
- **VMWare Tools Version**
- **VM Version**
- **Platform**
- **Architecture**
- **Number of CPUs**
- **Provisioned Disk**
- **CPU Reservation(MHz)**

Procedure

Step 1 Choose **Virtual** > **Compute**.
Step 2 On the **Compute** page, click **Images**.

Converting Images to VMs

Procedure

Step 1 Choose **Virtual** > **Compute**.
Step 2 On the **Compute** page, choose the cloud.
Step 3 On the **Compute** page, click **Images**.
Step 4 Click the row with the image that you want to convert to a VM.
Step 5 Click **Convert as VM**.
Step 6 In the **Convert Image as VM** screen, click **Submit**.

Assigning Images to Groups

Procedure

Step 1 Choose **Virtual** > **Compute**.
Step 2 On the **Compute** page, choose the cloud.
Step 3 On the **Compute** page, click **Images**.
Step 4 Click the row with the image that you want to assign to a group.
Step 5 Click **Assign Image to Group**.
Step 6 On the **Assign Image to Group** screen, choose the user and group that will be associated with the image.
Step 7 Click **Submit**.

Deploying a VM from a Template

You can deploy a VM from a template in the image report. The **Deploy VM from the Template** action provides the same functionality as the **Clone VM** action. You can quickly deploy a VM from a template, and modify any parameters necessary.

See the Cisco UCS Director Administration Guide.

Procedure

Step 1 Choose **Virtual** > **Compute**.

Step 2 On the **Compute** page, choose the cloud.

Step 3 On the **Compute** page, click **Images**.

Step 4 Click the row with the image from which you want to deploy a VM.

Step 5 Click **Deploy VM from the Template**.

Step 6 On the **Deploy VM from the Template** screen, click **Assign To User** to assign the VM to a user.

Step 7 Check **Use Linked Clone** to clone a VM from a linked clone, and choose the snapshot to associate with the linked clone.

Step 8 Click **Next**.

Step 9 On the **Customizations Option** screen, specify the option to be customized for the provisioned VM and click **Next**.

Step 10 On the **Deployment Configuration** screen, complete the fields to choose where to deploy the VM, to choose to perform provisioning now or later, and to determine how long to keep the deployed VMs running.

Step 11 Click **Next**.

Step 12 On the **Custom Specification** screen, complete the fields for custom CPU and memory parameters, if applicable.

The number of cores per socket available is specified in the VM computing policy.

Step 13 Click **Next**.

Step 14 On the **Custom Workflow** screen, click **Next**.

Step 15 On the **Select Datastores** screen, choose the VM disk to which you want to assign the datastores.

Step 16 Click **Next**.

Step 17 On the **Select VM Networks** screen, choose the VM network.

Step 18 Click **Next**.

Step 19 On the **Summary** screen, review the information and click **Submit**.