

# VMware Optimization: Architecture and Design Review

*Continuing the focus on cost reduction and increased IT efficiency*




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## Highlights

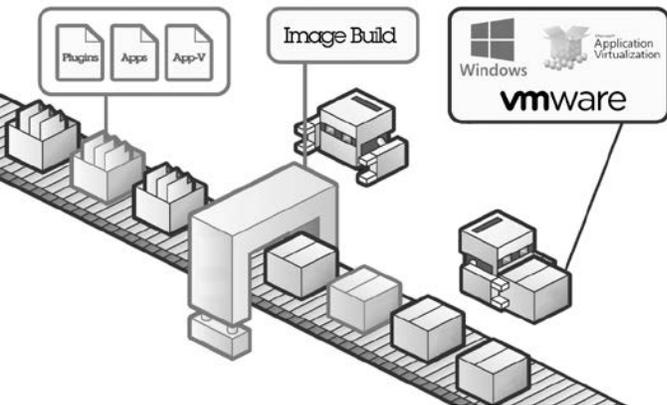
- Helping you get more value from your IT infrastructure
  - Delivering strategies to reduce costs and optimize resources
  - Leveraging IBM expertise to achieve better results
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Many school districts have seen some of the benefits of using virtualization technology to reduce their server footprint, deploy applications faster and increase performance and reliability. This has resulted in lower operating costs and increased IT efficiency. Over time, as technology and user needs change, your VMware environment may no longer be optimized and may still be capable of delivering even greater benefits.

Organizations that have started to consolidate and virtualize their servers have uncovered new problems managing their VMware environment such as:

- Virtual server growth increases the number of resources to manage and control
- Application performance requires visibility through the virtualization layer
- Workload planning means understanding consumption of virtual resources
- Virtual images can be easily created while bypassing controls
- Storage provisioning can become a new bottleneck or area of inefficiency
- Hypervisor and vCenter environment may not be up to date

An optimized VMware environment includes many complex tasks that require a high level of skill, advanced tools and proven methodologies.



## Helps develop a solid business case and provide a more flexible and resilient IT infrastructure

Our services start with understanding your current uses and future expectations for your VMware infrastructure by reviewing:

- the current state (analyzing all known VMware settings and configurations)
- the resource configuration for under/over utilization
- the district organizational structure and interviewing departments to assess virtual resource needs
- the server and application resource and licensing requirements
- aligning the environment with VMware and education sector best practices

After data retrieval from your systems and departments, we will meet with the IT Department and other Department heads to conduct whiteboard resource mapping scenarios for your input. We then align your observed VMware environment with the best practices of VMware implementations in school districts.

We can help you build a solid business case to justify the investment in optimizing your VMware environment to better meet your business needs and support future growth.

The VMware Optimization: Architecture and Design Review may consist of best practice analysis and tuning recommendations in the areas of:

- High Availability
- Distributed Resource Scheduler (DRS)
- Distributed Power Management (DPM)
- Resource Pool Utilization
- ESXi Hosts
- VCenter Server
- VMware Networking
- VMware Storage

We perform a comparative analysis of your existing VMware solution and anticipated goals designed to identify potential gaps within your existing infrastructure. Combining this with a comprehensive understanding of your requirements, our consultants develop a road map to help you optimize performance, improve availability and increase recoverability and operational resiliency within your VMware environment.

**Typical Length of Engagement:** 3 weeks

## Why IBM?

Leveraging established methodologies, tools, and deep industry expertise, IBM K-12 can help you determine the optimal VMware configuration to support your growing infrastructure requirements. Our best practices from many prior projects provide unparalleled experience to improve the performance and health of your VMware environment and ultimately help you cost-effectively meet the heightened IT demands of today's educational environment.

## For more information

To learn more about the IBM K-12 **VMware Optimization: Architecture and Design Review**, please contact your IBM Marketing Representative. For information on all the IBM K-12 Consulting and Professional Services, visit: [www.ibm.com/industries/education/canada-k-12-service-briefs](http://www.ibm.com/industries/education/canada-k-12-service-briefs)



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