Exam Certification VC-VIP vs. VCP

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Introduction

VMware certification is important for any IT professional wanting to prove knowledge and experience.

Problem Statement

VMware's VCP certification is less of a measurement of knowledge and experience, but more of a measurement of one's pocketbook. Unlike most professional certifications, VMware requires an individual to pay for and sit an authorized VMware class before qualifying for certification. VMware's strategy is simply a marketing approach to drive training revenue, which de-values their certification.

Previous Options

Attend VMware courses in order to take VMware Exams.

The Virtualization Council Solution

The Virtualization Council was created to address the needs of real-world professionals with cross-platform certification and resources. There are no limits to types of questions when it comes to passing this certification. The exam covers a broad range of topics forcing the student to prove their knowledge and professional experience. With over 2500 rotating questions along with aggressive monitoring the web for any possible exam leaks the Virtualization Council is the proven leader in the IT industry for proving the knowledge level of professionals in the High Tech Field.

Benefit 1
The Virtualization Council is the industry-leading, non-vendor-aligned authority.

Benefit 2
The Virtualization Council provides certification and a dynamic online community for all virtualization professionals.

Benefit 3
You are free to choose your training vendor or even the self study route at home, and still be able to take the exam and get certified.

Implementation
Obtaining Virtualization Council Vendor Neutral Certification.

Case Study
The Virtualization Council offered the VC-VIP exam to over 100 VCPs to test their knowledge against the VC-VIP requirements. The results show that VCPs struggle with a lack of knowledge and experience using the vSphere product suite. VCPs score on average 34 out of 100 on the VC-VIP exam. This gap shows a large discrepancy between VCP and VC-VIP certified individuals. The Virtualization Council's goal is to build strong and knowledgeable engineers, not fill classes. A VC-VIP has a much higher skill set and process to be a much more valuable asset to themselves and their employer.

No Limits for non-authorized courses
Non-authorized classes offer more complete training because they offer the freedom to introduce vendor comparison, 3rd party product input and hybrid content delivery. This format gives an engineer the best exposure and experience one can get in the classroom and best prepares them for the VC-VIP Certification.

	Virtualization Council VC-VIP	VMware VCP4
Do I need to attend a class to qualify for certification, or can I just self study?	You are not required to take any specific class or course to test your knowledge with the VC-VIP exam.	VCP4 certification requires attendance of a VMware Authorized course. No exceptions are made to the requirement.
Is there a retake policy for the exam?	The VC-VIP exam may be retaken at any time.	There is a 7 calendar day waiting period between attempts. If a candidate passes the exam, they cannot take the exam again until a new major revision of the product and certification is released.
How can I certify my knowledge on vSphere 4?	The certification path is open to all virtualization professionals who wish to take the Virtualization Council's exams.	Four possible paths- If you are NEW to VMware - Attend the VMware vSphere: Install, Configure, Manage course; attend the VMware vSphere: Fast Track course or attend the VMware vSphere: Troubleshooting course. - Take and pass the VCP on vSphere™ 4 exam If you are currently a VCP on VMware Infrastructure 3 - VCPs on VI3 must attend the VMware vSphere 4: What's New class, then take and pass the VCP4 exam in order to upgrade. If you are currently a VCP on ESX 2.x - Follow Path 1. If you are not a VCP on VI3, but have attended one of the prerequisite classes (Install & Configure; Deploy Secure & Analyze; or Fast Track). - Attend the VMware vSphere: What's New course. - Take and pass the VCP on vSphere™ 4 Exam.
How do I register for the exam?	To register online within minutes, visit www.virtualizationcouncil.org, select "Certifications", then select the "VMware" category, then select "VC-VIP vSphere".	To register visit www.pearsonvue.com/vmware and select the VCP4 Certification Exam. Then enter the exam code.
How many questions are on the exam?	100 Real-World based exam questions.	There are 85 questions on the exam.
How much time will I have to complete the exam?	60 minutes are given to complete the exam once you have started.	The exam is 90 minutes long. Your total seat time will be 105 minutes. 15 minutes are used for a survey and agreements.

What is covered on the exam?

Virtualization Council VC-VIP

Virtual Center
Clustering Configuration Settings
High Availability   DRS
Storage VMotion   Update Manager
Patch Manager   Topomaps
Databases   Performance charts
Alerts   Alarms
Resource pools   Cloning
Templates   OVF file format
Distributed Power Management
Guided Consolidation

Linux OS
Starting and stopping services
Run levels

ESX/ESXi
Installation methods
Partitioning the ESX server
ESX maximums
VMFS storage types/locations
Virtual Switches
Connection types
         Service Console   VMKernel
         Virtual Machine Port Group
Switch Security
Default Ports/services
Command line
         esxcfg commands   vmkfstools
         vmware-cmd
Critical Files
         Ifcfg-vswif0   resolv-conf
         Network   grub.conf
         anaconda-ks.cfg   install.log
         hosts   sshd_config

Virtual Machines
VM MAC address
         Dynamic   Static
VM files
         .vmdk   .vmx
         .nvram   .vmsd …etc
VM BIOS
Support SCSI controllers

Other
Log files
         ESX, Virtual Center, and Virtual
         Machines
Virtualization Layer
Customization Specification
ESX Server supported interfaces
ISCSI setup
VCB –Consolidated Backup
P2V solutions
Enterprise Converter
Monitor/Hypervisor
Persistent / non-persistent disks
iso and flp images
Terms
         vmnic
         vmnet …etc

VMware VCP4

Section 1 – Plan, Install and Upgrade ESX/ESXi
- Install VMware ESX/ESXi on local storage
- Upgrade VMware ESX/ESXi
- Secure VMware ESX/ESXi
- Install VMware ESX/ESXi on SAN Storage
- Identify vSphere Architecture Solutions

Section 2 – Configure ESX/ESXi Networking
- Configure Virtual Switches, vNetwork Distributed Switches and VMware ESX/ESXi Management Network

Section 3 – Configure ESX/ESXi Storage
- Configure FC SAN Storage
- Configure iSCSI SAN Storage
- Configure NFS Datastores
- Configure and Manage VMFS Datastores

Section 4 – Install and Configure vCenter Server
- Install vCenter Server
- Manage vSphere client plug-ins
- Configure vCenter Server
- Configure Access Control

Section 5 – Deploy and Manage VM's and vApps
- Create and Deploy VM's
- Manage VM's

Section 6 – Manage Compliance
- Install, Configure and Manage VMware vCenter Update Manager
- Establish and Apply ESX Host Profiles

Section 7 – Establish Service Levels
- Create and Configure VMware Clusters and Resource Pools
- Enable a Fault Tolerant VM
- Migrate VM's
- Backup and Restore VM's

Section 8 – Perform Basic Troubleshooting and Alarm Management
- Perform Basic Troubleshooting for ESX/ESXi Hosts, VMware FT, 3rd Party Clusters, Networking, HA/DRS and VMotion
- Create and Respond to vCenter Connectivity Alarms and Utilization Alarms
- Monitor vSphere ESX/ESXi and VM Performance

	Virtualization Council **VC-VIP**	**VMware** **VCP4**
What is the passing score for the exam?	You must answer 72 of the 100 exam questions correctly to achieve a passing score.	The passing score for the VCP4 exam is 300. The exam is scored on a scale of 100 to 500.
Which version should I study?	When preparing for the exam, always use the latest version of the product documentation.	When preparing for the exam, always use the latest version of the product documentation.
Prices	$125.00	$175.00

Summary

Certification has always played a role in the IT community, allowing individuals to benchmark their knowledge on a specific technology. With so many technologies in the market, certification has played the role of testing one's aptitude in whatever specific technologies they chose to showcase. Of course, most anyone can pass an exam. It is the knowledge, skill and experience backing up the certification that is important. VMware has made the decision to use their certification to drive training revenue, by requiring a person to pay for and sit one of their classes to attain certification, even if they have the product knowledge to pass the exam without it. The Virtualization Council feels that an individual should be given the choice, as to how they attain their knowledge and has provided a suite of VMware certifications for anyone wishing to take them. There are no class requirements, no politics and no hidden agendas. Not only are the Virtualization Council's exams a great alternative to VMware's "authorized" training and exams, but they have been shown to be superior.