

Citrix XenServer Workload Balancing 6.1 Release Notes

This document contains important information about the Citrix XenServer 6.1 Workload Balancing release. These release notes provide lists of known and fixed issues and high-level introductory information.

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Getting Started

Workload Balancing 6.1 provides security and stability improvements, simplifies certificate configuration, and provides upgrade functionality.

Workload Balancing 6.1 is explained in the following guides:

- [Citrix Workload Balancing 6.1 Administrator's Guide](#) provides information about balancing workloads and using the Workload Balancing component for workload reporting.
- [Citrix Workload Balancing 6.1 Quick Start](#) provides information about downloading and importing the Workload Balancing virtual appliance.

Note: The Workload Balancing virtual appliance is subject to the licenses contained in the `/opt/citrix/wlb/LICENSES` directory in the Workload Balancing virtual appliance.

Importing the Workload Balancing Virtual Appliance

The Workload Balancing virtual appliance is available as an `.xva` file that you can download from MyCitrix.com and import into your pool. To do so, follow the same process you use to import a regular virtual machine.

The process to get Workload Balancing up and running is relatively simple. However, there are a few points for existing Workload Balancing users to note:

- Users running Workload Balancing 6.0 or higher, can either install the new Workload Balancing 6.1 virtual appliance or they can upgrade their existing virtual appliance using the new upgrade feature in Workload Balancing, which is described in the *Citrix Workload Balancing Administrator's Guide*.
- For users upgrading from Workload Balancing 2.1, note that because Workload Balancing now runs on Linux whereas Workload Balancing 2.1 ran on Windows, migrating to the VPX constitutes a platform change. As a result, there is no upgrade or migration path between Workload Balancing 2.1 and Workload Balancing 6.1.

- Workload Balancing 2.1 users should also note that a single Workload Balancing 6.1 virtual appliance cannot monitor multiple pools simultaneously. You must configure one Workload Balancing virtual appliance for each pool you want to monitor.

For more information about obtaining and configuring Workload Balancing, see the [Citrix Workload Balancing 6.1 Quick Start](#).

Fixed Issues

- Previously, when configuring the Workload Balancing virtual appliance, you had to enter a hostname and a domain name for the appliance. It is now possible to use either an IP address or the host name. [CA-70339]
- When audit logging is enabled in your pool, virtual-machine names can now contain apostrophes. [CA-66210]
- Workload Balancing now extracts and stores less extraneous audit data. This reduces the impact of audit logging on the Workload Balancing database size.

Known Issues and Limitations

This section details known issues that apply to this release. This section includes any workarounds that can be applied.

Recommendations

- In some situations XenServer 6.1 may report network read/write activity for a host for which there is no VM network activity. Since Workload Balancing receives its resource metrics from XenServer, this issue may affect the accuracy of Workload Balancing recommendations. [CA-75976]

Upgrade

- When upgrading CentOS using the Workload Balancing upgrade functionality, the operating system time changes from Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) to the local time zone. One side effect of this change is that the timestamps in the Workload Balancing log file (LogFile.log) also change from UTC time to local time. If you want to change the system time back to UTC time, run the following command in the Workload Balancing virtual appliance: `rm -rf /etc/localtime`. [CA-90673]

Configuration

- When configuring the Workload Balancing virtual appliance, if you enter invalid or conflicting networking information, the Workload Balancing Configuration wizard does not display an error. However, when you are finished configuring Workload Balancing, the configuration wizard displays the virtual-appliance IP address as 127.0.0.1. If this happens, delete the Workload Balancing virtual appliance and reimport it. [CA-56199]

Storage XenMotion

- Using Workload Balancing with Storage XenMotion is not supported for this release. [CA-89918]

Localization

- When Workload Balancing reports are exported as PDF files, localized characters may display incorrectly in the PDF. Make sure the client locale is set to the correct region for the character set. For example, if you are attempting to generate reports with Japanese characters in virtual-machine

names, make sure that the locale in the operating system on which XenCenter is running is set to Japanese. [CA-59755]

Usability Notes

The following notes are intended to raise awareness of tips, potential pitfalls, and important information.

- **Connecting to Workload Balancing.** The Workload Balancing virtual appliance does not automatically add its fully qualified domain name (FQDN) to your Domain Name System (DNS) server. Consequently, if you use the Workload Balancing FQDN to connect your pool, you must add the FQDN to your DNS server. For more information, see the [Citrix Workload Balancing 6.1 Quick Start](#).
 - Typically, unless you want to configure certificates, connecting to Workload Balancing using its IP address is an easier user experience.
- **Changing the Database Maintenance Window in Peak Usage Periods.** Citrix recommends that regions where peak usage occurs around 12:00 AM (0:00) GMT change the time Workload Balancing database maintenance period, which occurs at 12:05 AM (0:05), to run at a low-usage period. Database maintenance runs daily for approximately six minutes. Load Balancing cannot occur during database maintenance, so Citrix does not recommend scheduling maintenance for periods of heavy usage, such as when users first arrive at work, or during the regular work day. It is particularly important for customers relying on automated VM optimizations and migrations who are in the Asia-Pacific region and the western Americas to be aware of this window. For more information, see the [Citrix Workload Balancing 6.1 Administrator's Guide](#).
- **Increasing Detail in Audit Logs.** For information about configuring the audit log, see [CTX130830—Monitoring Additional XenServer Audit Log Events](#).

Documentation and Support

Finding Documentation

For the most up-to-date product documentation for every Citrix product, visit [Citrix Product Documentation](#) website.

Information about licensing XenServer, including Workload Balancing, is in the *XenServer Installation Guide*.

Note: Because the Workload Balancing virtual appliance does not require installation *per se*, Citrix has discontinued the Workload Balancing installation guide and replaced it with a quick-start guide.

Getting Support

Citrix provides technical support primarily through Citrix Solutions Advisors. Contact your supplier for first-line support or use Citrix Online Technical Support to find the nearest Citrix Solutions Advisor.

Citrix offers online technical support services on the [Citrix Support Web site](#). This site includes links to downloads, the Citrix Knowledge Center, Citrix Consulting Services, and other useful resources.

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