

Carl Stalhood

Filling gaps in EUC vendor documentation

Provisioning Services – Console Config

Last Modified: Sep 17, 2016 @ 8:17 am

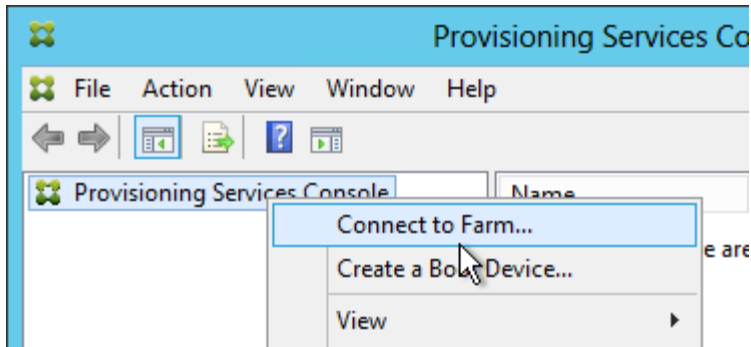
🗨 11 Comments

Navigation

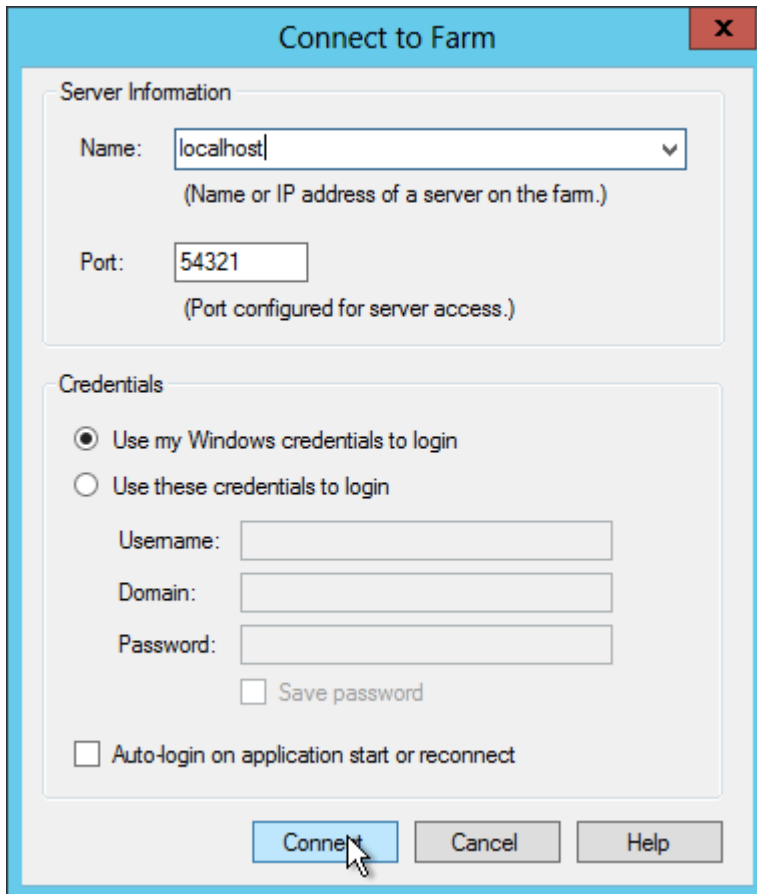
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Launch the Console

1. Launch the Provisioning Services Console.
2. Right-click the top-left node and click **Connect to Farm**.

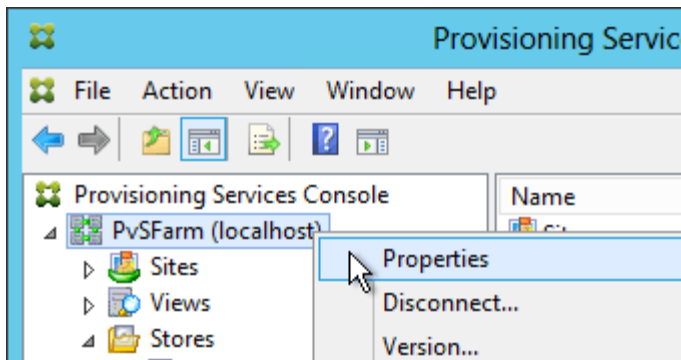


3. Enter **localhost** and click **Connect**.

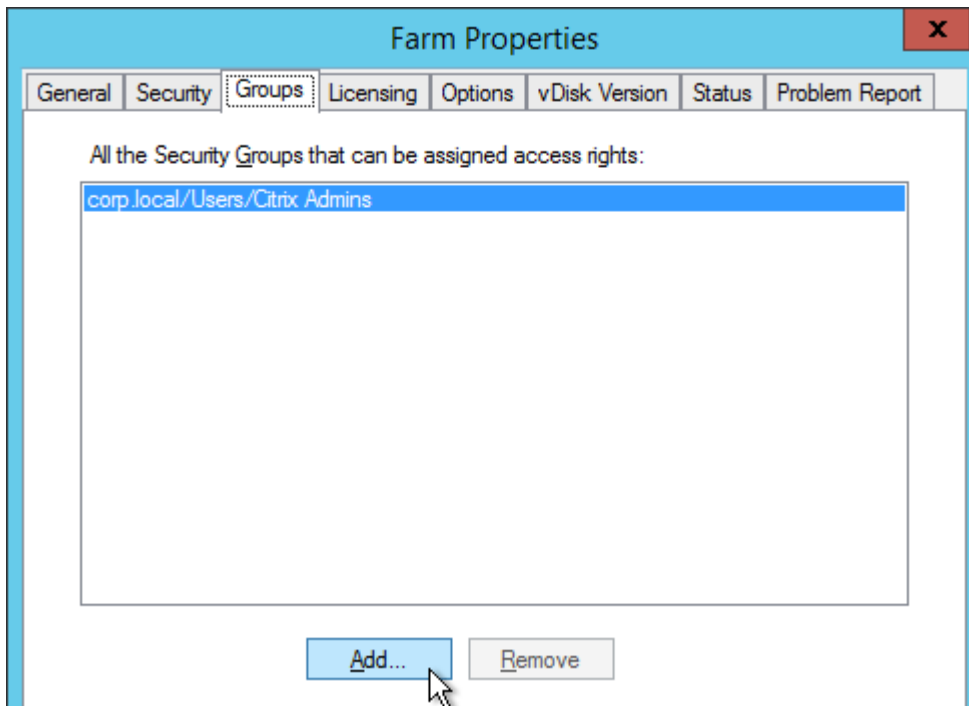


Farm Properties

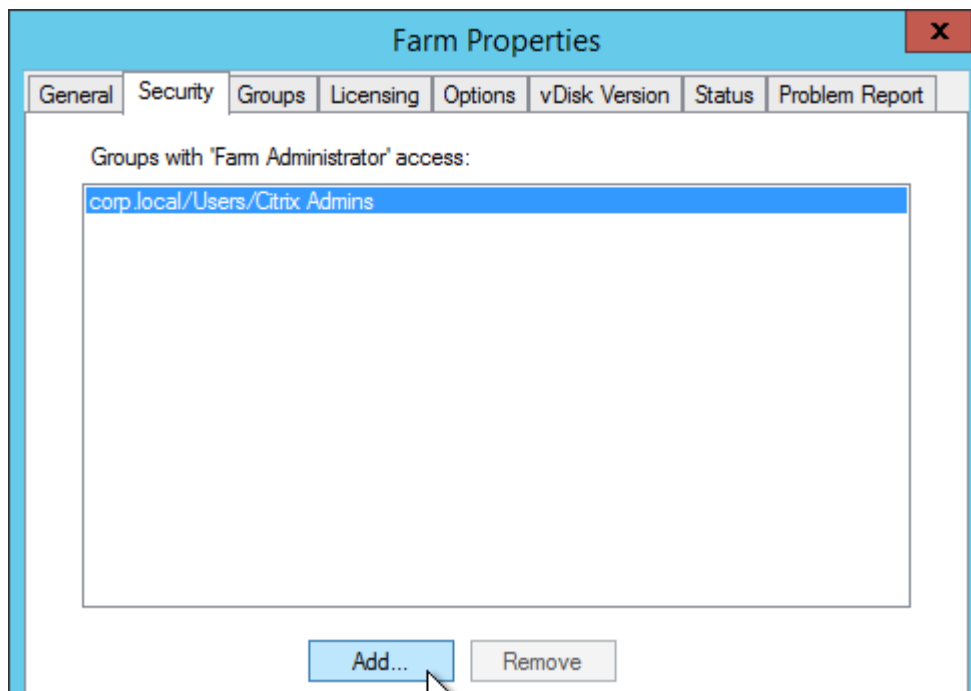
1. Right-click the farm name and click **Properties**.



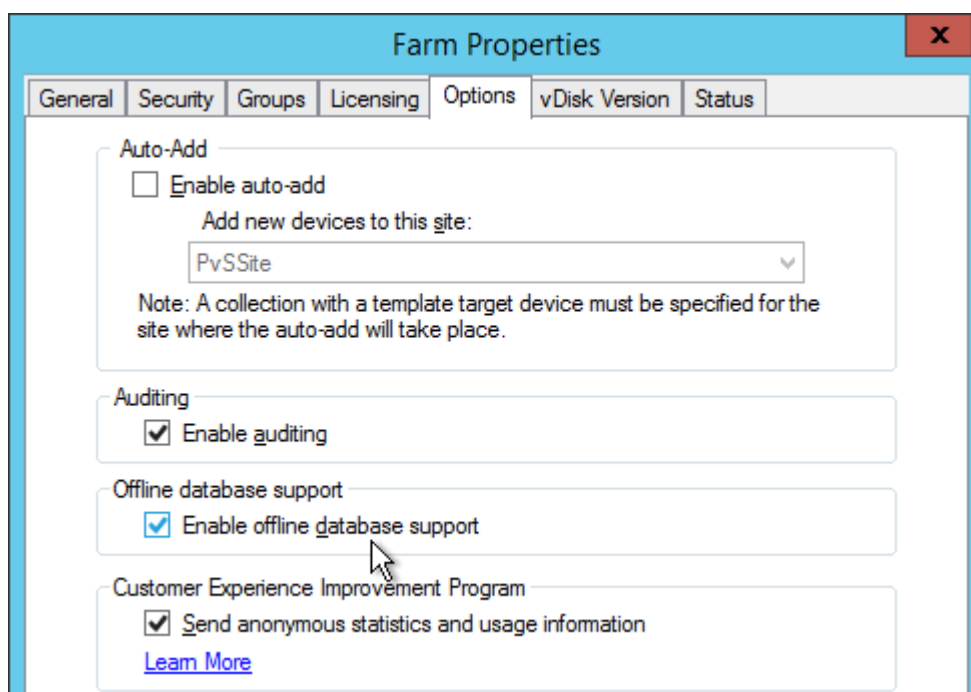
2. On the **Groups** tab, add the **Citrix Admins** group.



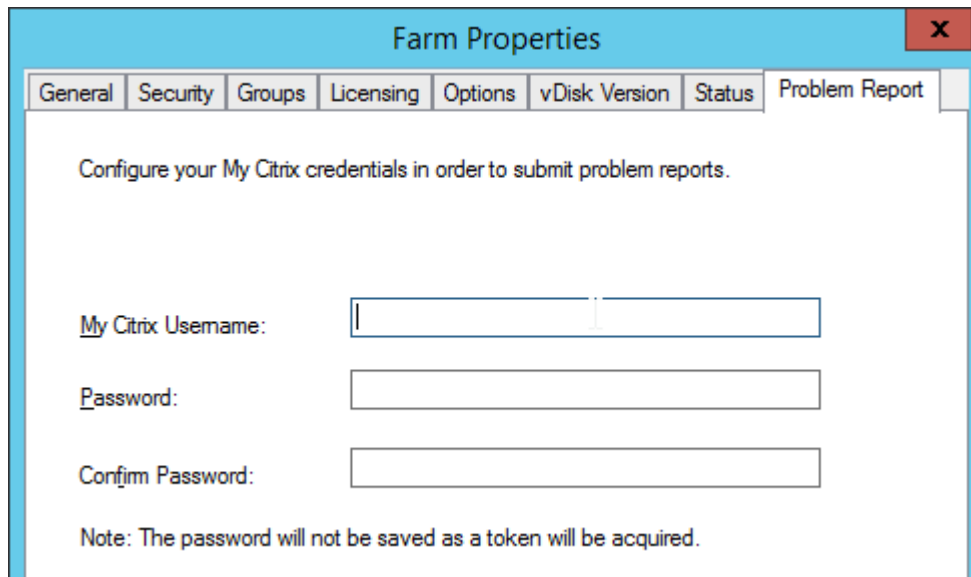
3. On the **Security** tab, add the **Citrix Administrators** group to grant it full permission to the entire Provisioning Services farm. You can also assign permissions in various nodes in the Provisioning Services console.



4. On the **Options** tab, check the boxes next to **Enable Auditing** and **Enable offline database support**.
5. In Provisioning Services 7.9 and newer, notice the new **Send anonymous statistics and usage information** checkbox.



6. In the **Problem Report** tab, you can enter MyCitrix credentials.



The screenshot shows the 'Farm Properties' dialog box with the 'Problem Report' tab selected. The dialog has a blue title bar and a red close button. The main content area is white and contains the following text and fields:

Configure your My Citrix credentials in order to submit problem reports.

My Citrix Username:

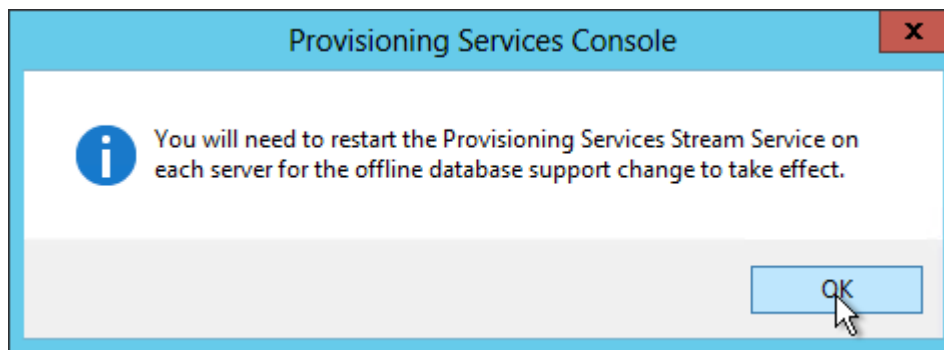
Password:

Confirm Password:

Note: The password will not be saved as a token will be acquired.

7. Click **OK** to close *Farm Properties*.

8. Click **OK** when prompted that a restart of the service is required.



Server Properties

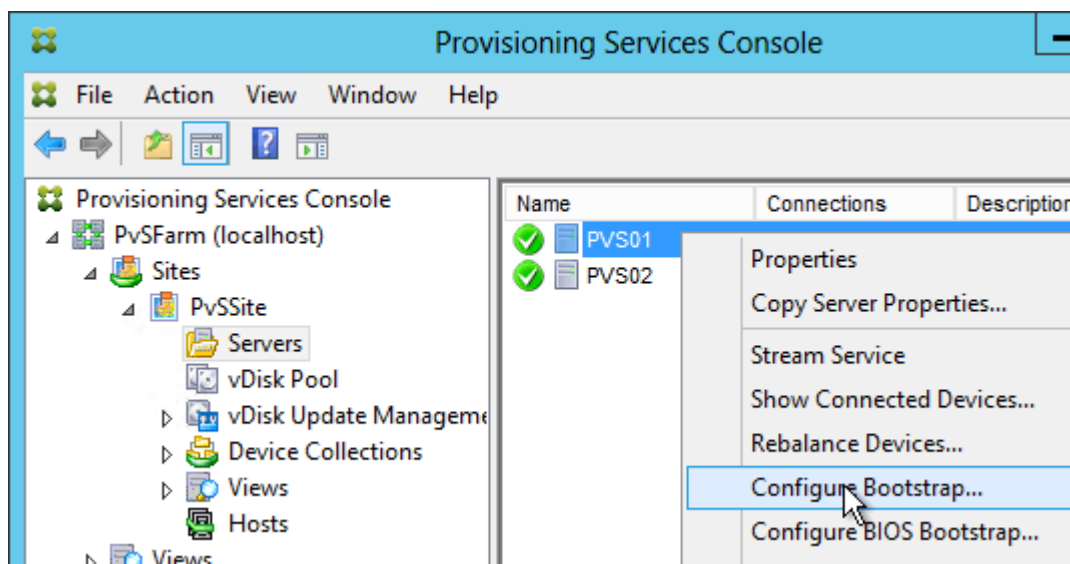
From Citrix Blog Posts [Updated Guidance on PVS Ports and Threads](#) and [PVS Secrets \(Part 3\) – Ports & Threads](#):

Q: What is the optimum number of ports for the Stream Service?

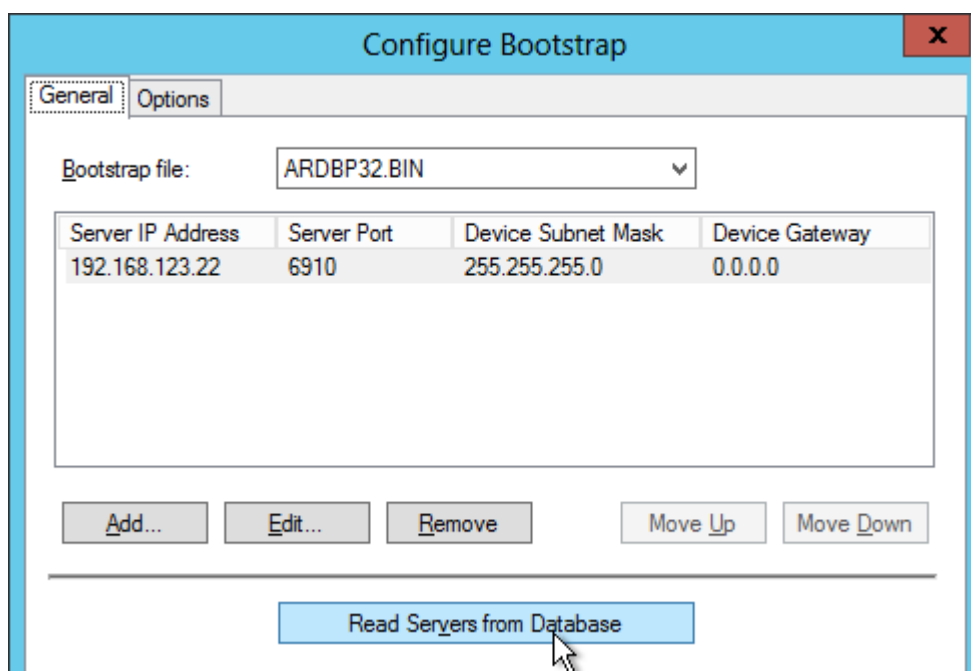
A: The best Stream Process performance is attained when the threads per port is not greater than the number of cores available on the Provisioning Server. For best performance, use the following formula:

of ports x # of threads/port = max clients

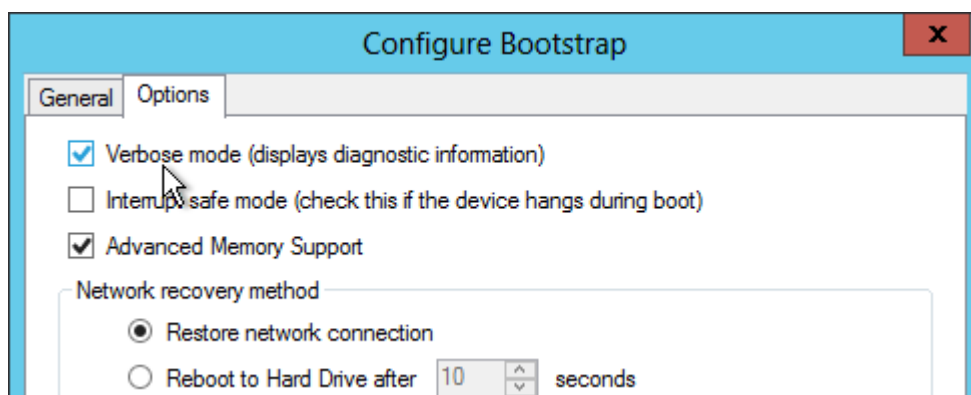
1. Expand the site and click **Servers**. For each Provisioning Server, right-click it, and click **Configure Bootstrap**.



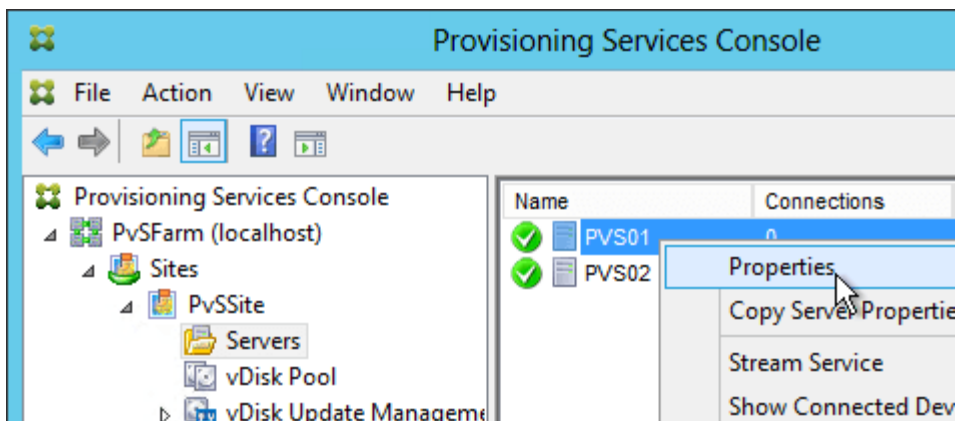
2. Click **Read Servers from Database**. This should cause both servers to appear in the list.



3. On the **Options** tab, check the box next to **Verbose mode**.

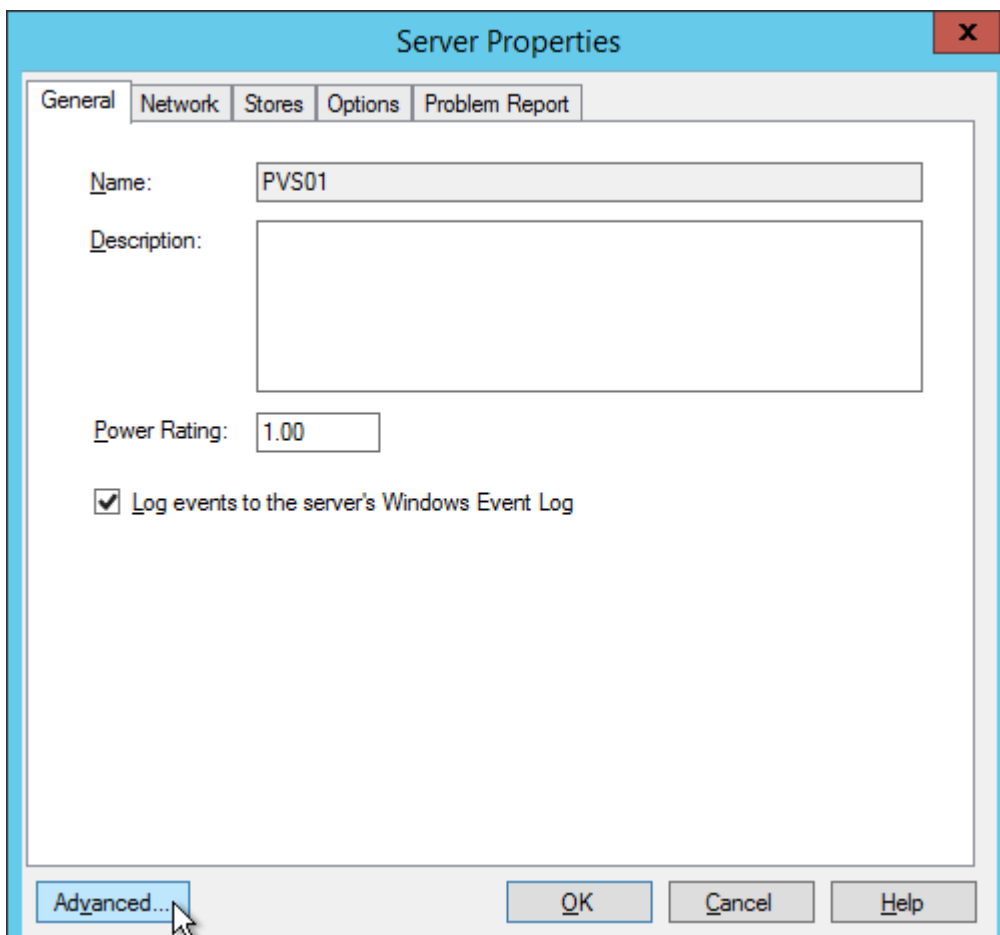


4. Right-click the server, and click **Properties**.

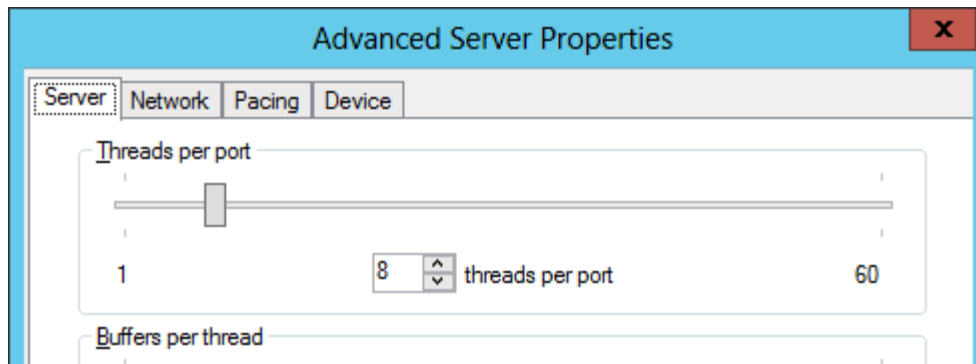


5. Check the box next to **Log events to the server's Windows Event Log**.

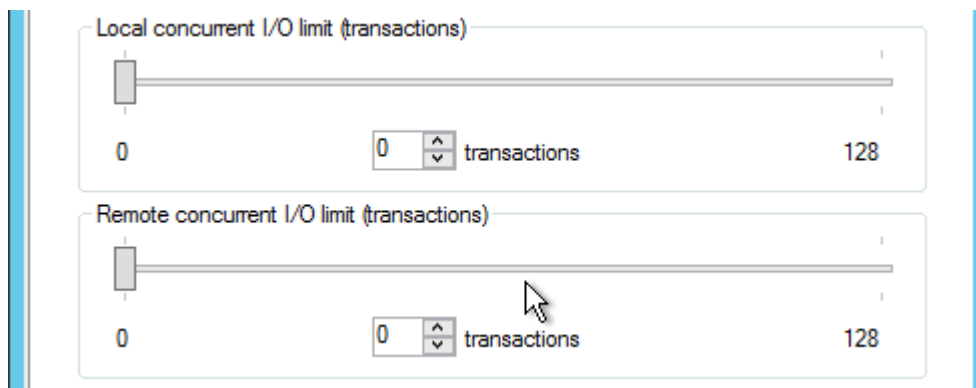
6. Click **Advanced**.



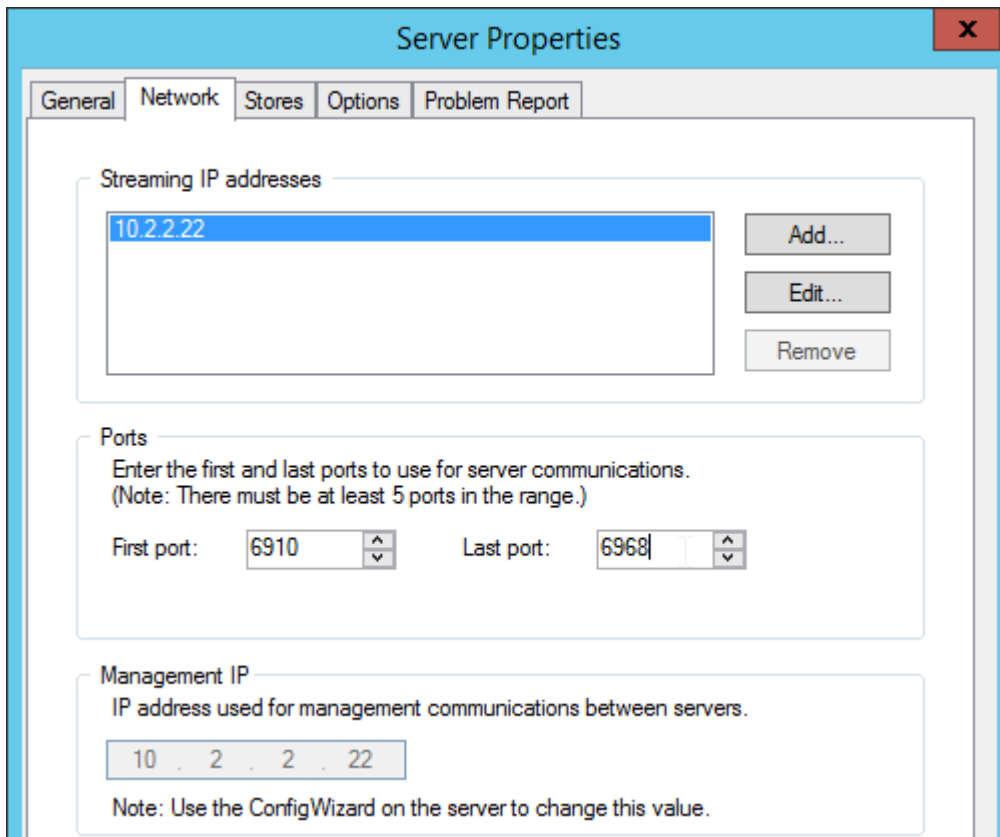
7. Increase the threads per port. The number of threads per port should match the number of vC-
PUs assigned to the server. Click **OK**.



8. On the same tab are concurrent I/O limits. Note that these throttle connections to local (drive letter) or remote (UNC path) storage. Setting them to 0 turns off the throttling. Only testing will determine the optimal number. See <http://blogs.citrix.com/2011/02/23/optimizing-pvs/> for more details.

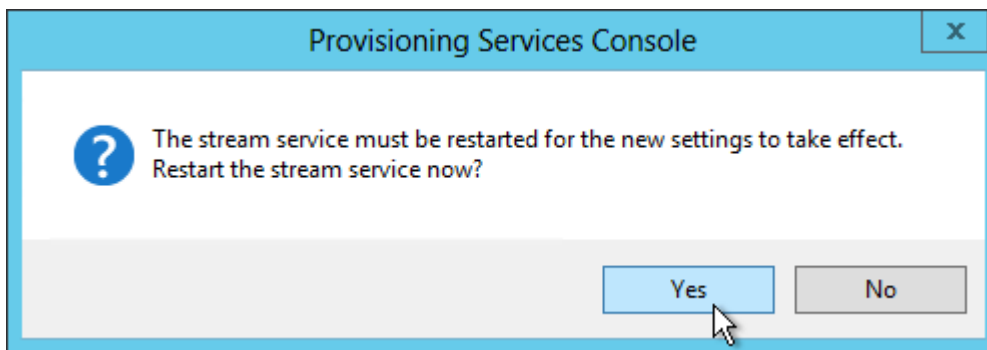


9. On the **Network** tab, change the *Last port* to 6968. Note that port 6969 is used by a different Provisioning Server component. Click **OK** when done.

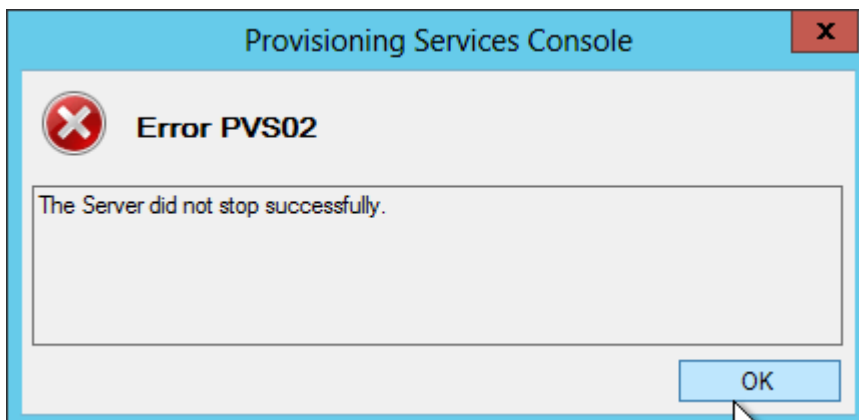


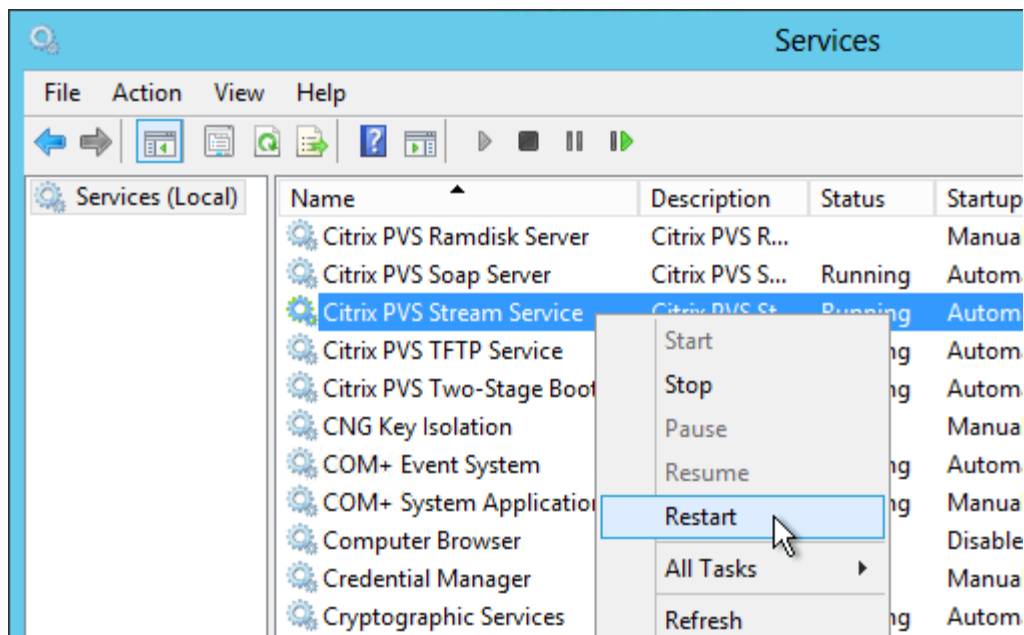
10. Repeat for the other servers.

11. Click **Yes** if prompted to restart the stream service.



12. If you get an error message about the stream service then you'll need to restart it manually.

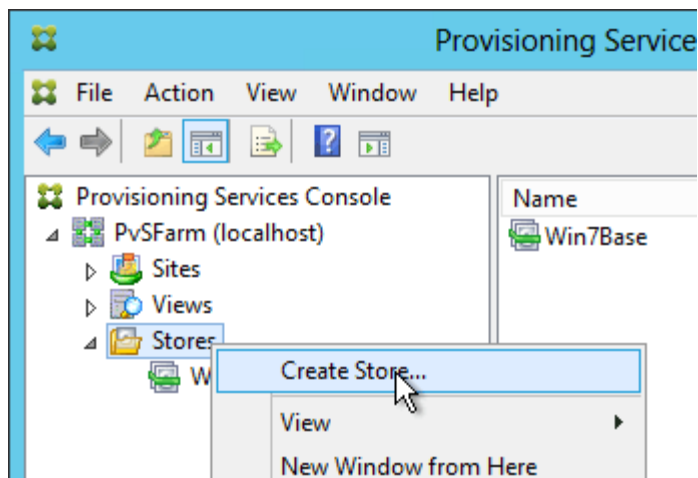




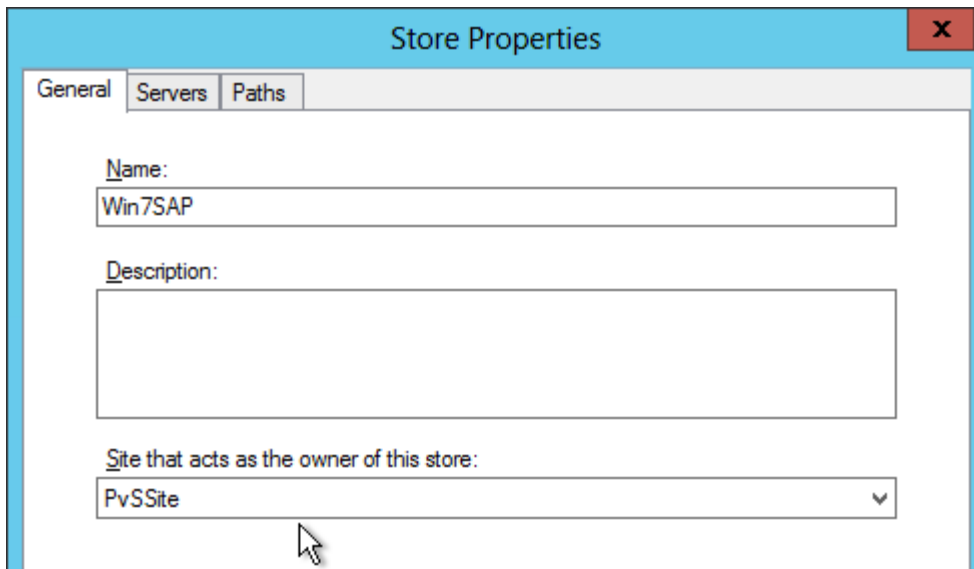
Create vDisk Stores

To create additional vDisk stores (one per vDisk / Delivery Group), do the following:

1. On the PvS servers, using Explorer, go to the local disk containing the vDisk folders and create a new folder. The folder name usually matches the vDisk name. Do this on both PvS servers.
2. In the Provisioning Server Console, right-click **Stores**, and click **Create Store**.



3. Enter the name for the vDisk store, select an existing site and switch to the **Servers** tab.



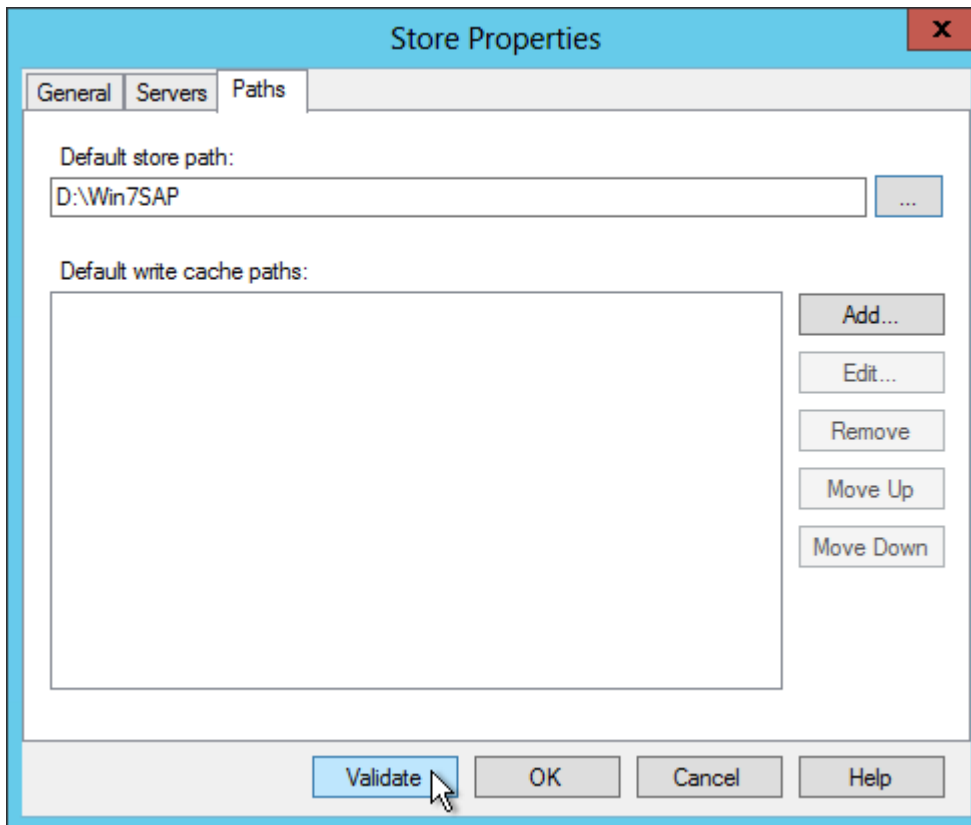
The screenshot shows the 'Store Properties' dialog box with the 'General' tab selected. The 'Name' field contains 'Win7SAP'. The 'Description' field is empty. The 'Site that acts as the owner of this store:' dropdown menu is set to 'PvSSite'. A mouse cursor is pointing at the bottom of the dropdown menu.

4. Check the boxes next to the Provisioning Servers.

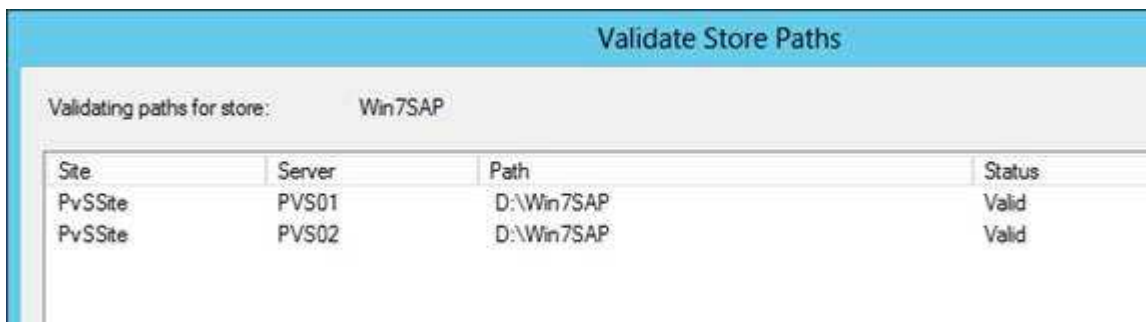


The screenshot shows the 'Store Properties' dialog box with the 'Servers' tab selected. The 'Site:' dropdown menu is set to 'PvSSite'. The 'Servers that provide this store:' list contains two entries: 'PVS01' and 'PVS02'. Both entries have their checkboxes checked. The 'PVS02' entry is highlighted in blue, and a mouse cursor is pointing at the checkbox for 'PVS02'.

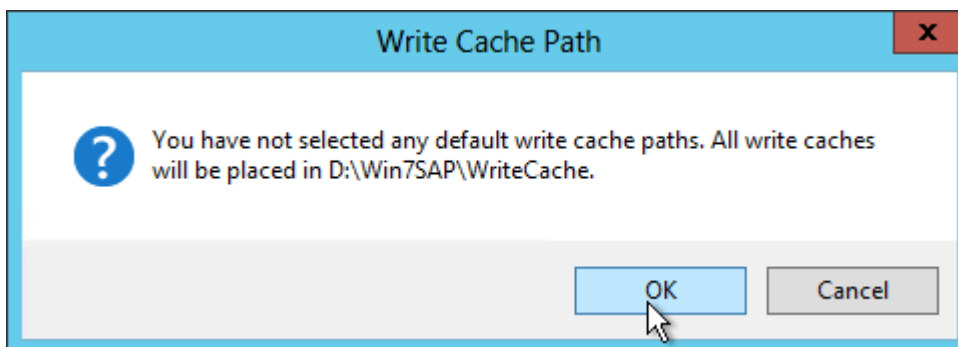
5. On the **Paths** tab, enter the path for the Delivery Group's vDisk files. Click **Validate**.



6. Click **OK** twice.

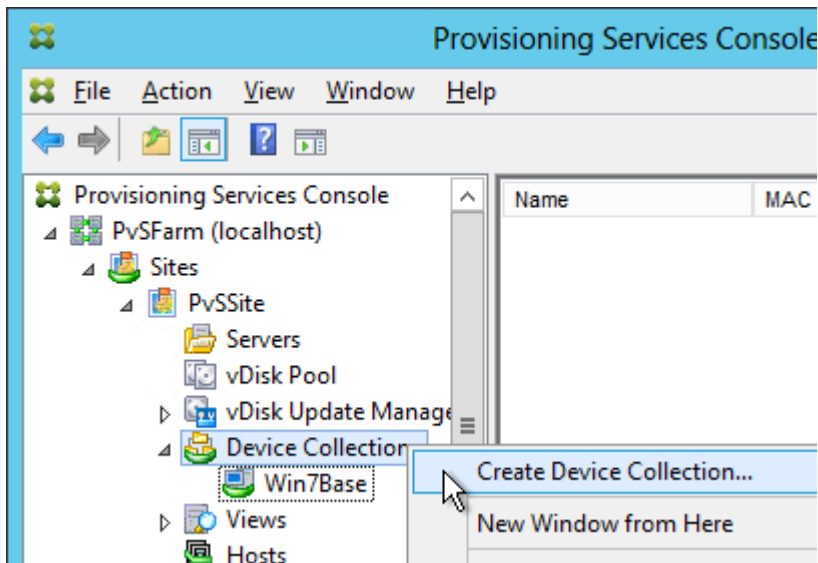


7. Click **Yes** when asked for the location of write caches.

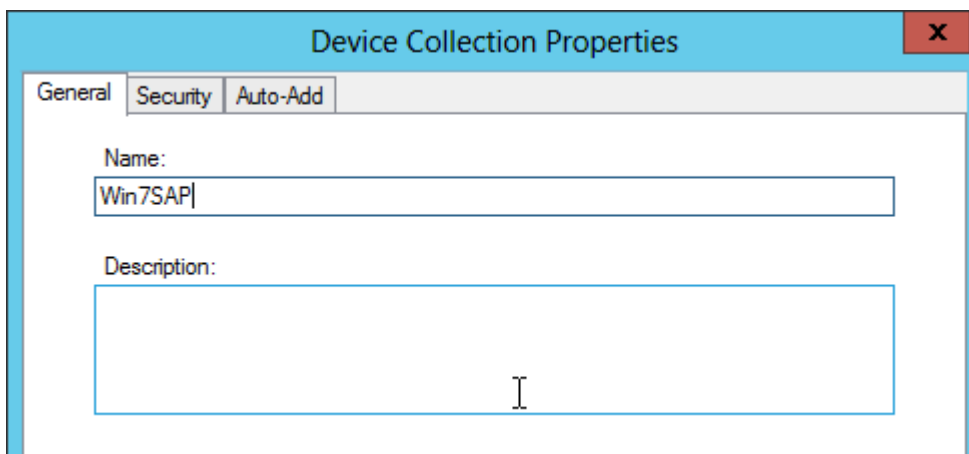


Create Device Collections

1. Expand the site, right-click **Device Collections**, and click **Create Device Collection**.



2. Name the collection in some fashion related to the name of the Delivery Group and click **OK**.

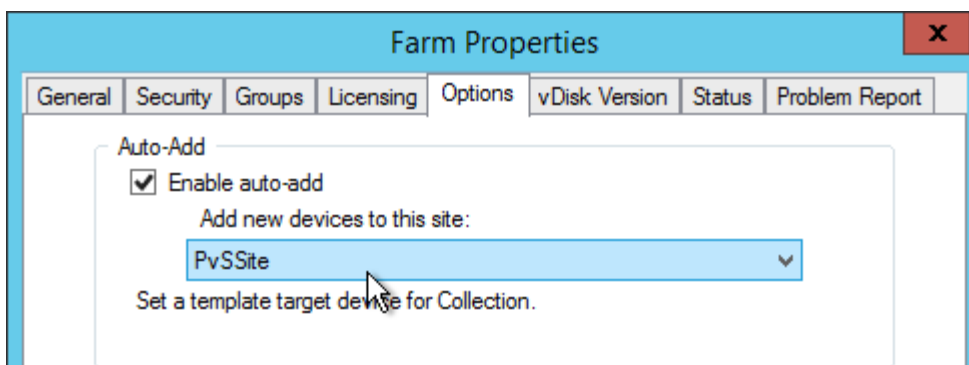
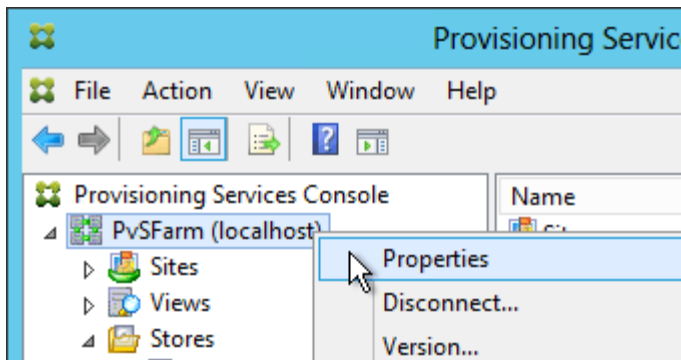


If you are migrating from one PvS farm to another, see Kyle Wise [How To Migrate PVS Target Devices](#).

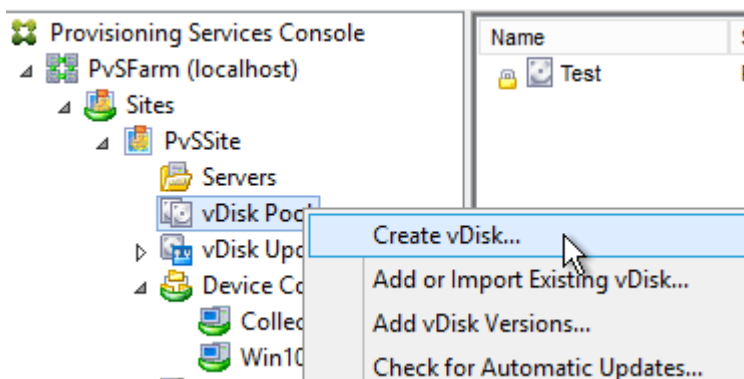
Prevent “No vDisk Found” PXE Message

If you PXE boot a machine that is not added as a device in the PvS console, then the machine will pause booting with a “No vDisk Found” message at the BIOS boot screen. Do the following to prevent this.

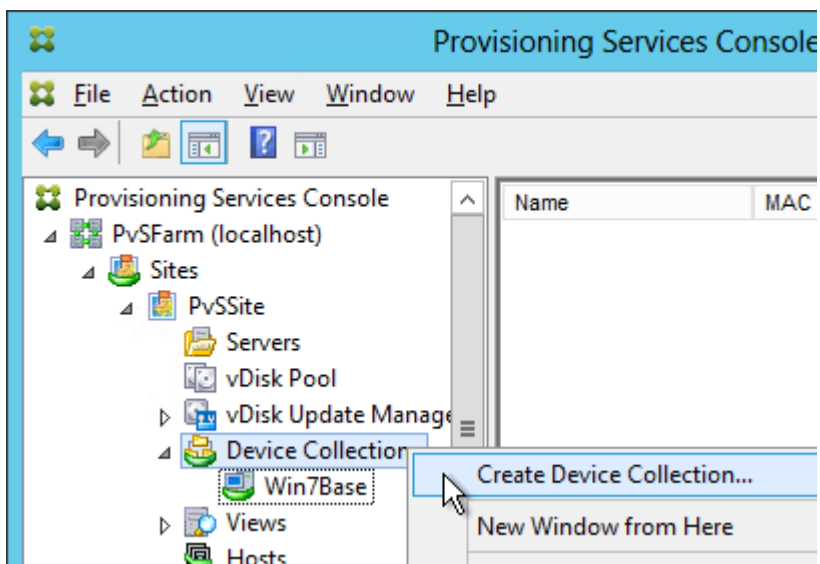
1. Enable the **Auto-Add** feature in the farm Properties on the **Options** tab.

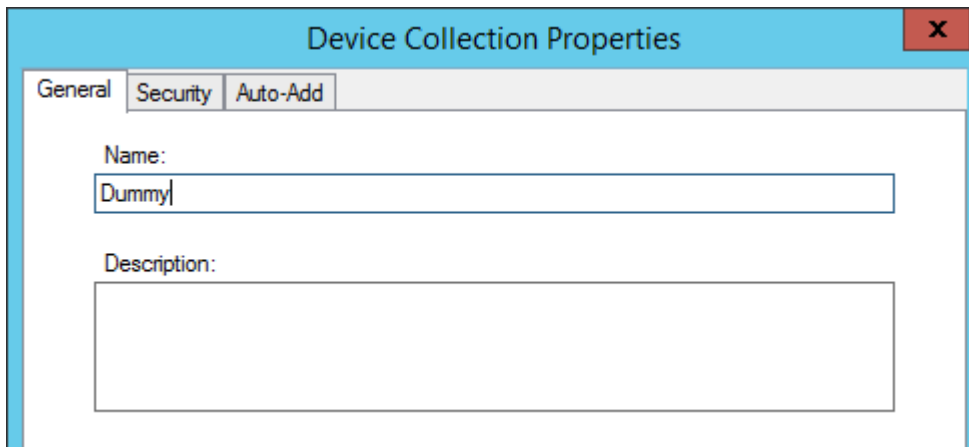


2. Create a small dummy vDisk (that is 100 MB).

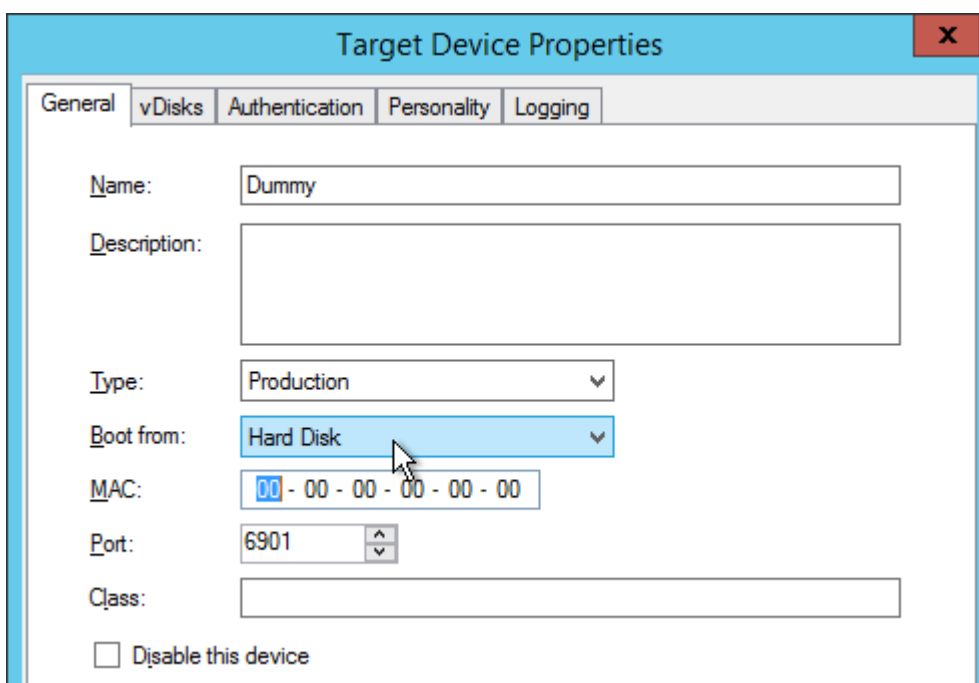
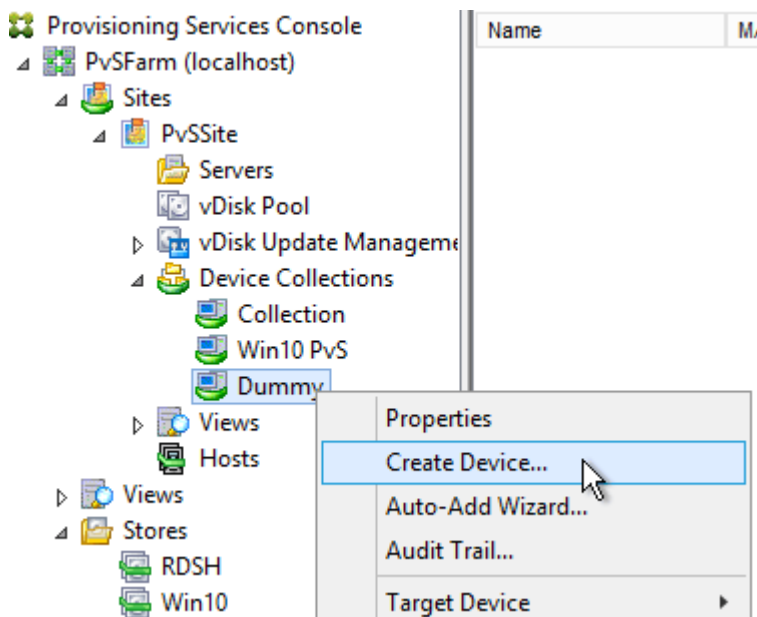


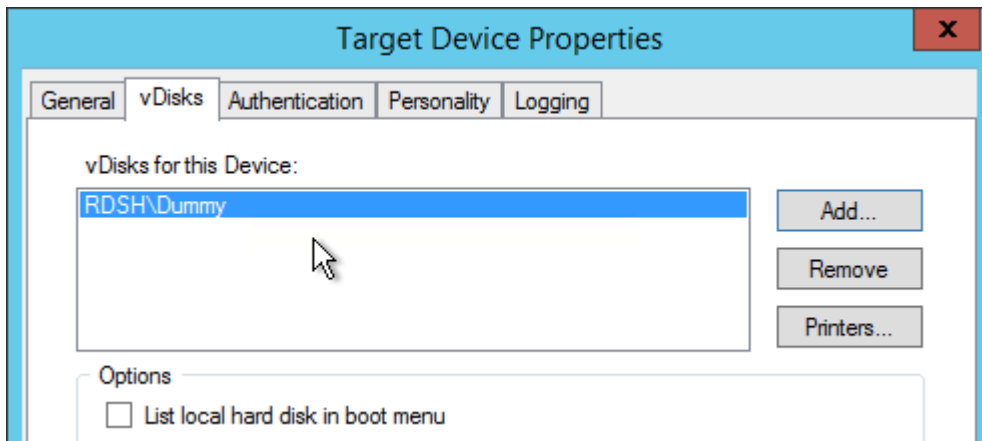
3. Create a dummy Device Collection.



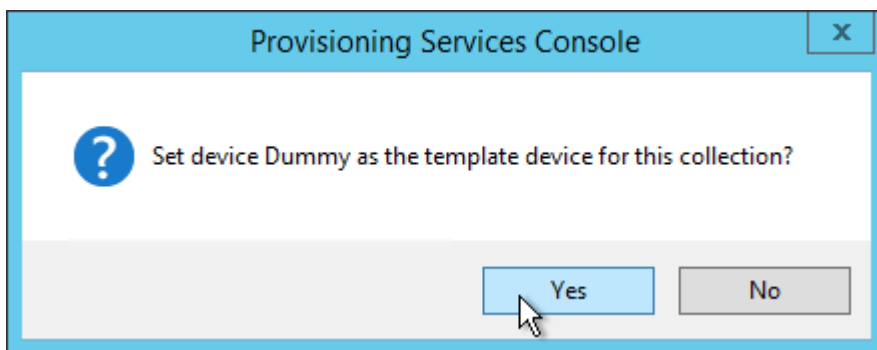
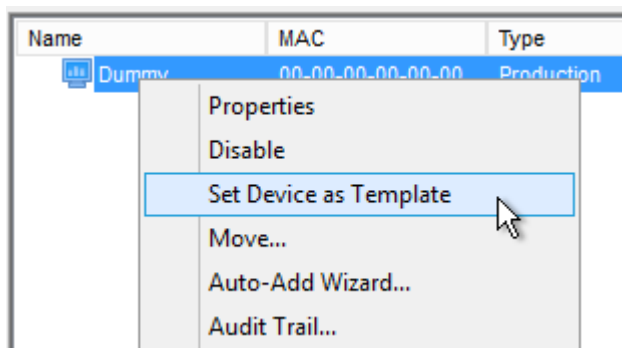


4. Create a dummy device and set it to boot from Hard Disk. Assign the dummy vDisk.

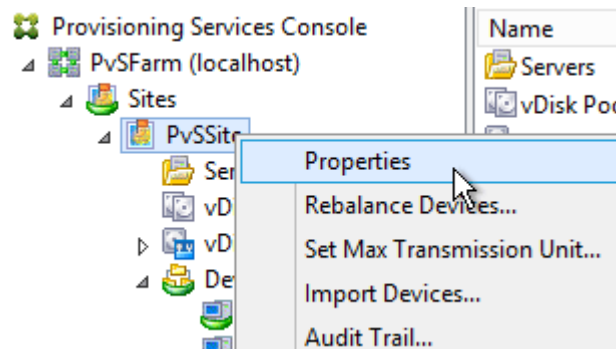


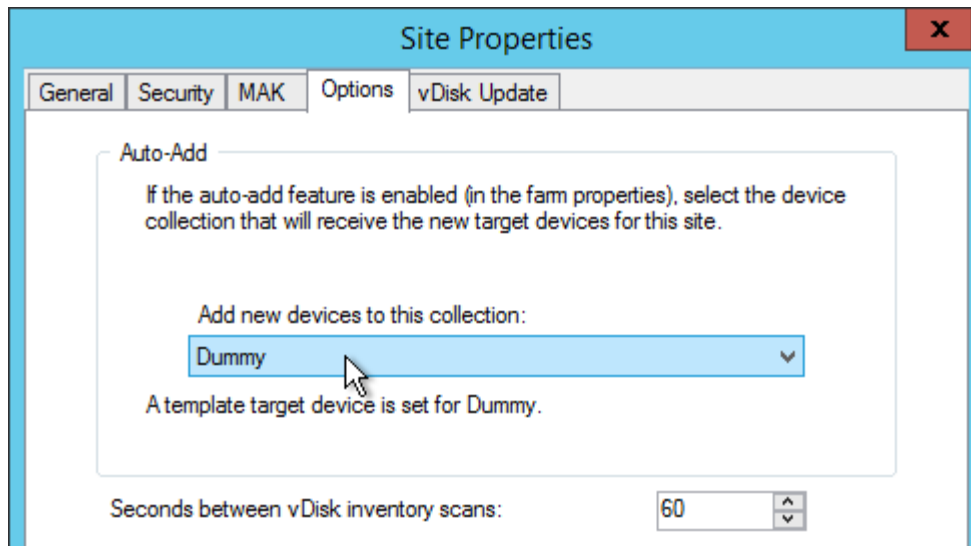


5. Set the dummy device as the Template.



6. In site properties, on the **Options** tab, point the Auto-Add feature to Dummy collection.






Related Topics

- [Prepare a Master Target Device](#)
- [Back to Provisioning Services](#)



📅 March 7, 2015 👤 Carl Stalhood 📁 Provisioning Services

11 thoughts on “Provisioning Services – Console Config”

 **gingerdazza**
August 15, 2016 at 8:37 am

Hi Carl
Why wouldn't anyone NOT enable the offline DB support? (Why isn't it enabled by default)?

 **Rick**
July 25, 2016 at 3:45 am

Increase the threads per port. The number of threads per port should match the number of cores in the server (including hyperthreading).

Do you mean the cores of the provisioning server Virtual Machine or really the physical vSphere host ?



Carl Stalhood 🧑

July 25, 2016 at 5:42 am

Some PvS servers are physical. But yes, I meant the VM.



Terry

July 20, 2015 at 12:22 pm

Carl, when going to a server, and clicking Show Connected Devices, do you know of a way to export that data? I was thinking with MCLI-GET, but I don't see the option.



Carl Stalhood 🧑

July 21, 2015 at 5:54 am

Maybe **MCLI Get DeviceStatus**? There should be a serverIpConnection column. You can probably filter the command to only retrieve devices for a specific server.



Mo A.

June 18, 2015 at 10:19 am

Carl,
Can you find the XenDesktop Controller address in the PVS console? if not where will that information be displayed?



Carl Stalhood 👤

June 18, 2015 at 10:21 am

PvS only talks to Controllers when you run the XenDesktop Setup Wizard. Or are you asking about the Controllers that the VDAs are registering with? If so, check the ListOfDDCs registry key on the VDA.



Mo A.

June 18, 2015 at 4:16 pm

If we were going to run XenDesktop Setup Wizard in PvS console and didn't have the information on the controller host or IP where would the place be to look?



Carl Stalhood 👤

June 18, 2015 at 4:35 pm

Check HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Citrix\ProvisioningServices\VdiWizard



Matheen

June 15, 2015 at 5:46 am

Hi Carl

Thanks for excellent article. I see that you are using local folder for PVS vDisk. I have a question regarding that

I am doing design of PVS. I have 3 PVS servers and will be hosting around 5 vdisks for now (standard mode). I have not been given information on if CIFS is available or not.

Where can I place these vDisks. I can think of two options and would like to know which one is better in your opinion.

Option 1

Place vDisks locally on each PVS server. Configure DFS-R in each PVS and let it synchronise the vdisks across PVS servers. This will avoid single point of failure but require extra space to store vDisks in each server.

Option 2

Place vDisk on CIFS SMB 3.0 share. All updates gets stored in share to which all PVS are connected to. This could be single point of failure but require less space.

I also read that by default PVS streams from disk for first target and cache vDisk contents locally in Server RAM and subsequent streams are served from PVS server RAM. Does this happens for both options?

Thanks
Matheen



Carl Stalhood 👤

June 15, 2015 at 6:06 am

1. This is the traditional configuration because it provides maximum availability, maximum performance, and less network activity. But yes, extra disk space.
 2. Where I've seen SMB shares the performance seems to be lower than local storage. Also, older versions of PvS did not cache SMB vDisks but newer versions should now cache them.
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