Parallels® Virtual Automation 4.5 Release Notes

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This document provides first-priority information on the Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5 and supplements the included documentation.

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1. ABOUT PARALLELS VIRTUAL AUTOMATION 4.5

In this version, the product has changed its name from Parallels Infrastructure Manager to Parallels Virtual Automation.
Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5 is an advanced and easy-to-use administration tool designed for managing groups of physical servers running Parallels Virtuozzo Containers 4.0 and/or Parallels Server Bare Metal. With Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5, you can manage both the available physical servers and the virtual environments they host, using a standard web browser running on any platform.
With Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5, you can create groups of physical servers and perform both collective and individual administration operations on these groups. Moreover, you can also manage the virtual environments residing on the registered physical servers: their productivity and resources, system tasks and processes, configuration, and much more.

2. NEW FEATURES AND IMPROVEMENTS

Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5 enables you to take full advantage of the following:

- **Integration with Parallels Server Bare Metal** - Now it is possible to register multiple Parallels Server Bare Metal physical servers in Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5 and manage them the same way as Parallels Virtuozzo Containers servers.

- **Virtual machines and Containers on a single host** - Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5 has become a major tool for centralized data center management. It enables you to manage both Containers and virtual machines with the highest efficiency.

- **Centralized license management** - Parallels Virtual Automation allows you to manage both licenses for Parallels Virtuozzo Containers servers and for Parallels Server Bare Metal computers.

- **Massive virtual machine creation** - Now you can create several virtual machines at once via Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5.

- **Virtual machine cloning and converting** - Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5 allows you to clone your virtual machines to a complete copy, to clone or convert the virtual machine to a template.

- **VNC console support** - You can manage your virtual machines via integrated Virtual Network Computing Console.

- **Virtual machine mass operations** - Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5 allows you to start, stop, pause, restart, delete, etc. one or several virtual machines at a time. Additionally, you can change general and hardware configuration of several machines at once.

- **Viewing Parallels Server Bare Metal physical server and its virtual machines current resource usage** - Now you can always view the graph displaying the current resource usage of the chosen Parallels Server Bare Metal server and its virtual machines.

- **Resource usage history** - To gather statistics on a Parallels Server Bare Metal server or its virtual machine resource usage, you can view their resource usage during a certain period of time.

- **Top resource consumers** - You can range Containers and virtual machines according to their resource consumption.

- **Alerts** - If a Parallels Server Bare Metal server license is expired or a virtual machine exceeds the limit of resource consumption, you will be informed by special alerts.

- **Logical folders support for physical servers and virtual environments** - Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5 allows you to create logical folders and group your

physical servers and virtual environments the way you like.

- **Security policies for accessing Parallels Server Bare Metal servers and their virtual machines** - Using Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5, you can manage permissions of some user (a group of users) to access a Parallels Server Bare Metal server or its virtual machines and perform various operations on them.

- **Operations and events logs support** - You can also view the operations or events logs of the chosen physical server and its virtual machines and Containers.

- **ISO images library** - In Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5, you can now register any number of file shares storing CD/DVD disk images.

- **Power Panel policies -** In Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5, set up Power Panel policies to restrict access for users when managing virtual machines and Containers

- **Container to virtual machine migration -** In Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5, you can migrate a Container to a Parallels Server Bare Metal physical server and convert it to a virtual machine.

- **Warm virtual machine migration -** You can migrate a virtual machine between Parallels Server Bare Metal physical servers in the paused state.

- **RHCS failover clustering service support -** Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5 supports the RHCS (Red Hat Cluster Service) failover clustering technology allowing you to provide greater availability for your applications and services, including Linux-based Containers.

- **Microsoft Windows 2008 support -** Microsoft Windows 2008 operating system can be installed either on a Master physical server, or inside the Container which will also serve as a Master server.

- **Upgrade from Parallels Infrastructure Manager 4.0 to Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5 -** By performing simple upgrade instructions, you can update the 4.0 version of your physical servers to the PVA 4.5 version.

- **SOAP service for Windows- and Linux- based physical servers** - Manage your physical servers and virtual environments via SOAP API protocol.

- **Updating Parallels Virtual Automation applications** - Use the Parallels Virtual Automation built-in instrument for managing application updates for your physical servers.

and much more...

4. KNOWN ISSUES AND RESTRICTIONS

A list of limitations for Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5 is given bellow:

 - The network settings configuration is supported for the virtual machines with Parallels Tools installed.

 - The virtual machine administrator password can be changed only if Parallels Tools are installed.

 - The virtual machine VNC console performance improves if Parallels Tools are installed.

 - On Parallels Server Bare Metal physical servers, only one "Container to virtual machine" migration can be run at a time.

 - After the "Container to virtual machine" migration, some configuration settings are not preserved.

 - The virtual machine VNC console requires the Java version that is not supported by Mac computers.

 - The virtual machine disk I/O statistics are not available.

 - Activation keys cannot be installed on Linux physical servers with Parallels Virtuozzo Containers.

 - For Microsoft Windows 2008 operating system, "physical server to virtual environment" migration is not supported.

 - Parallels virtual machines do not support differential backups.

 - Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5 does not support Compat mode

 - Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5 does not support PBAS integration.

 - A virtual machine may freeze sometimes when installing Windows Server 2003 over a network using a PXE (Preboot Execution Environment) server.

 - After migrating a virtual machine to another Parallels server, the prl_vm_app process may consume up to 100% CPU time.

 - Parallels Transporter does not support migrating LVM physical volumes based on whole disks.

 - A virtual machine residing on some NFS configurations may have problems with accessing its virtual disk drives.

- Migrating Containers is supported from physical servers running Parallels Virtuozzo Containers 4.5 for Windows Hotfix 1and higher.

- Parallels Power Panel can manage Parallels virtual machines only if they are formatted as FAT32, NTFS, ext2, or ext3.

- Parallels Power Panel can't manage Parallels virtual machines over bridged network adapters.

- The Parallels Tools installation does not start automatically for virtual machines created by migrating physical servers or Containers. To work around this problem, start the Parallels Tools installation manually.

- Can't migrate Containers running Windows Server 2008 to virtual machines.

- The Parallels Tools installation does not start automatically if you are creating a virtual machine with Windows Vista and select the Express Windows Installation mode during the installation. To work around this problem, start the Parallels Tools installation manually.

- Running guest operating systems with the Xen kernel inside virtual machines is not supported.

- Creating split virtual disks greater than 1.8 TB may fail.

- Migrating a virtual machine between Parallels servers may fail if the virtual machine has one or more CD/DVD-ROM drives connected to the client computer. To work around this problem, disable all CD/DVD-ROM drives connected to the client computer before starting the migration:
1. Open Virtual Machine Configuration.
2. Under Hardware, click the name of the CD/DVD-ROM drive to be disabled.
3. Clear the Enabled checkbox, and click OK.

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5. COPYRIGHT NOTICE

7,099,948; 7,076,633 and having patents pending in the U.S.

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6. CONTACT INFO

Product Website: http://www.parallels.com/

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