

OUTDATED

StarWind Virtual SAN[®]

OVF Deployment Guide

JULY 2015

TECHNICAL PAPER



Trademarks

“StarWind”, “StarWind Software” and the StarWind and the StarWind Software logos are registered trademarks of StarWind Software. “StarWind LSF5” is a trademark of StarWind Software which may be registered in some jurisdictions. All other trademarks are owned by their respective owners.

Changes

The material in this document is for information only and is subject to change without notice. While reasonable efforts have been made in the preparation of this document to assure its accuracy, StarWind Software assumes no liability resulting from errors or omissions in this document, or from the use of the information contained herein. StarWind Software reserves the right to make changes in the product design without reservation and without notification to its users.

Technical Support and Services

If you have questions about installing or using this software, check this and other documents first - you will find answers to most of your questions on the [Technical Papers](#) webpage or in [StarWind Forum](#). If you need further assistance, please [contact us](#).

Copyright ©2009-2015 StarWind Software Inc.

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior written consent of StarWind Software.

In 2016, Gartner named StarWind “Cool Vendor for Compute Platforms”.

Gartner does not endorse any vendor, product or service depicted in its research publications, and does not advise technology users to select only those vendors with the highest ratings or other designation. Gartner research publications consist of the opinions of Gartner's research organization and should not be construed as statements of fact. Gartner disclaims all warranties, expressed or implied, with respect to this research, including any warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose.

About StarWind

StarWind is a pioneer in virtualization and a company that participated in the development of this technology from its earliest days. Now the company is among the leading vendors of software and hardware hyper-converged solutions. The company's core product is the years-proven StarWind Virtual SAN, which allows SMB and ROBO to benefit from cost-efficient hyperconverged IT infrastructure. Having earned a reputation of reliability, StarWind created a hardware product line and is actively tapping into hyperconverged and storage appliances market. In 2016, Gartner named StarWind “Cool Vendor for Compute Platforms” following the success and popularity of StarWind HyperConverged Appliance. StarWind partners with world-known companies: Microsoft, VMware, Veeam, Intel, Dell, Mellanox, Citrix, Western Digital, etc.

Contents

Introduction	4
Pre-Configuring the Servers.....	5
Convert VHDX to VMDK using V2V Converter:	6
Deploy OVF Template to ESXi host.....	9
Summary	16
Contacts.....	17

Introduction

StarWind Virtual SAN® is entirely software-based, hypervisor-centric virtual machine storage. It creates a fully fault-tolerant and high-performing storage pool that is built for the virtualization workload “from scratch”. StarWind Virtual SAN basically “mirrors” inexpensive internal storage between hosts. Virtual SAN completely eliminates any need for an expensive SAN or NAS or other physical shared storage.

OVF Template is designed to make your StarWind Virtual SAN configuration in Hyper-Converged scenario easier, since you do not need to set any settings manually or install any additional software.

Due to Microsoft licensing policy we, unfortunately, cannot provide you with a Virtual Machine in vmdk format, but that is not an issue since StarWind has free V2V converter. Thus, you just take our vhdx file, convert it into vmdk file and deploy as an OVF template in your ESXi box.

Therefore, here is a brief step-by-step description of the process:

1. Launch V2V converter
2. Convert vhdx to vmdk
3. Place vmdk and OVF in the same folder
4. Deploy OVF in ESXi box
5. Fill in the IP addresses field to assign your networks per certain NICs
6. Wait for Virtual Machine creation and configuration

Please refer to the further document content for the detailed step-by-step instructions.

For any technical inquiries, please visit our online community, Frequently Asked Questions page, or use the support form to contact our technical support department.

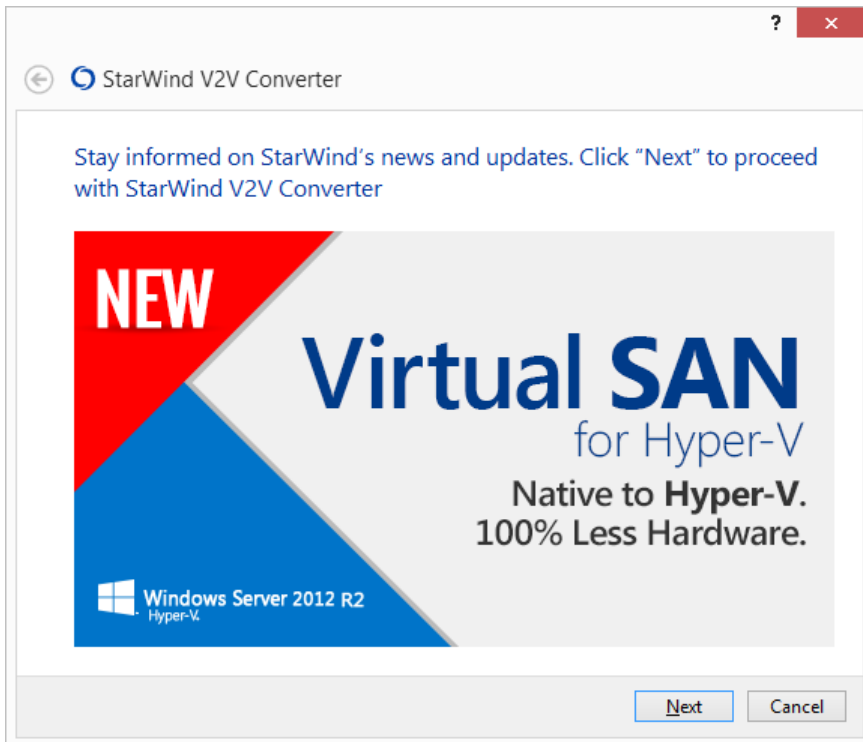
Pre-Configuring the Servers

This document assumes you have:

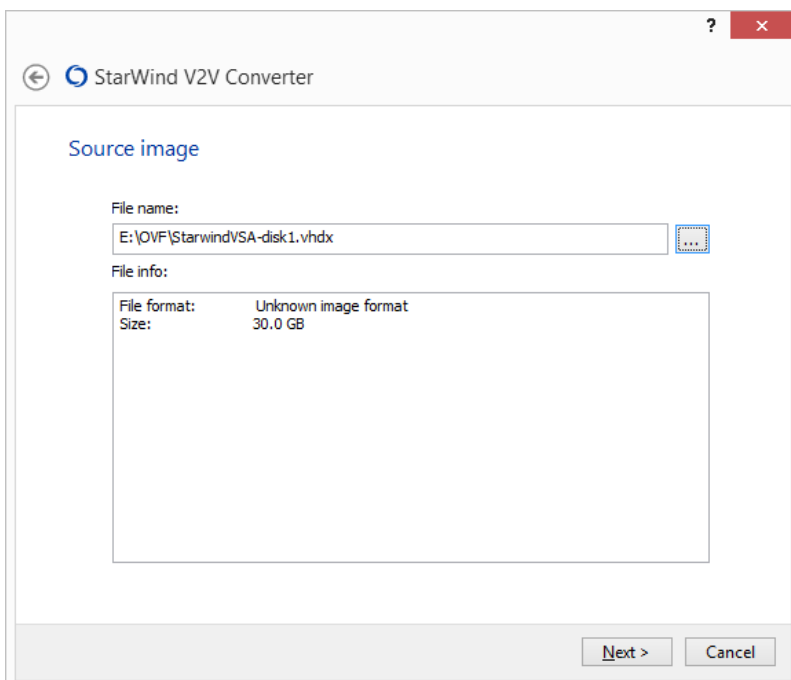
1. 2 Physical Hosts with ESXi hypervisor installed on them
2. vCenter configured
3. 2 additional vSwitch for StarWind iSCSI-Data and StarWind Synchronization data configured
4. Downloaded files for creating OVF package: link is provided in the email
5. Original VHD packed in RAR archive (Windows Server 2012 R2.exe)
6. V2V Converter (StarwindConverter.exe)
7. OVF template without virtual hard drive file (Starwind Virtual SAN.ovf)

Convert VHDX to VMDK using V2V Converter:

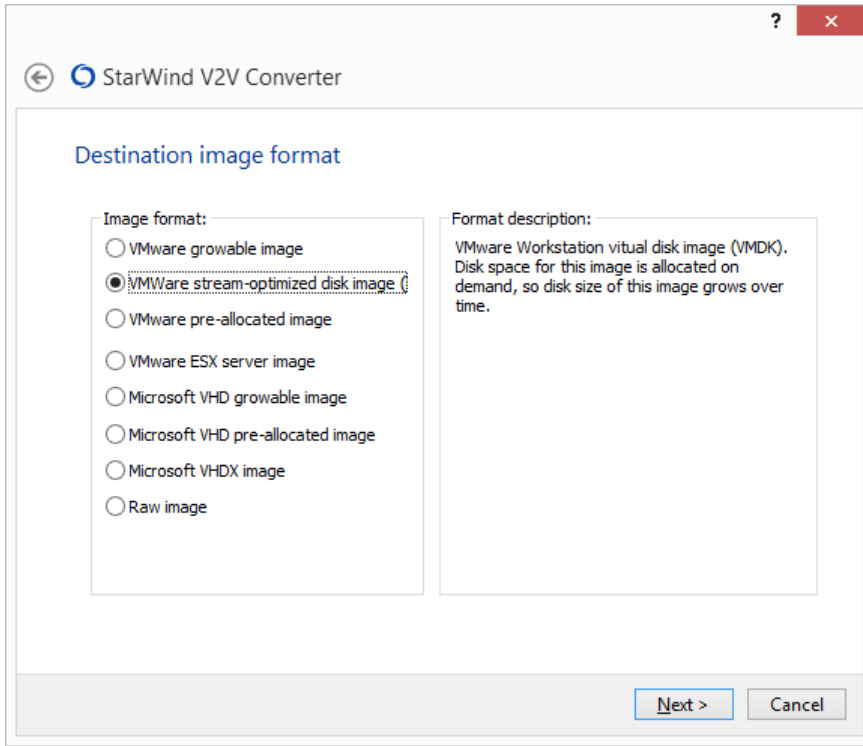
1. Run V2V Converter and click Next



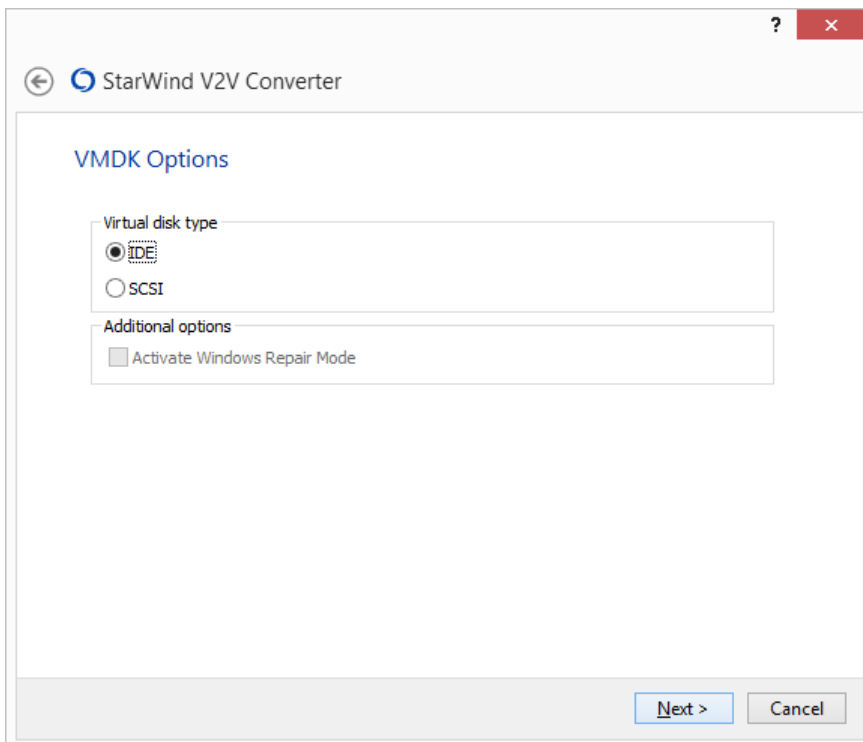
2. Choose path to VHDX file and click Next



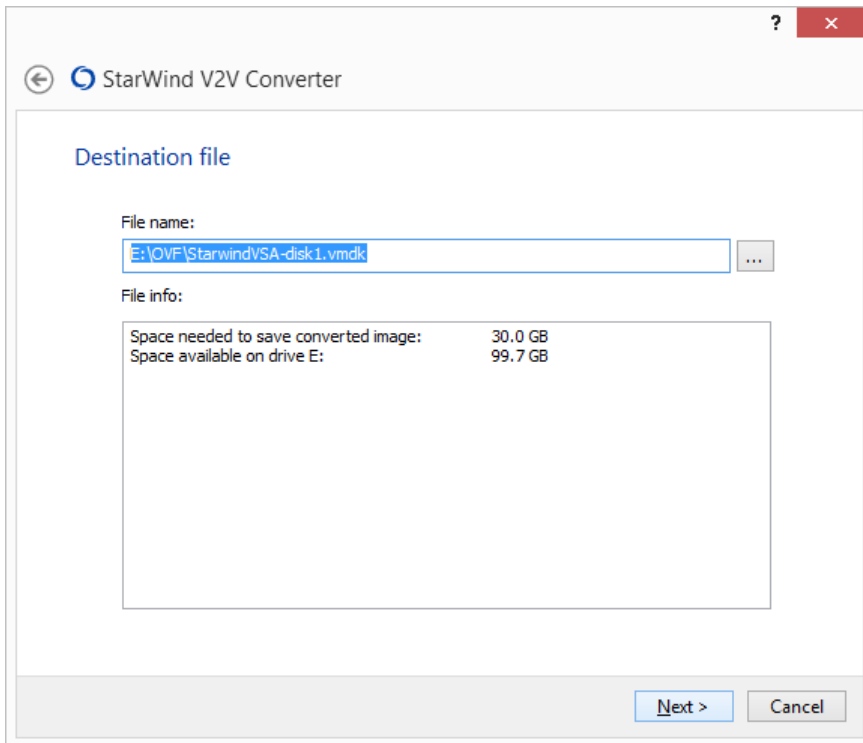
3. Choose VMWare stream-optimized disk image and click Next



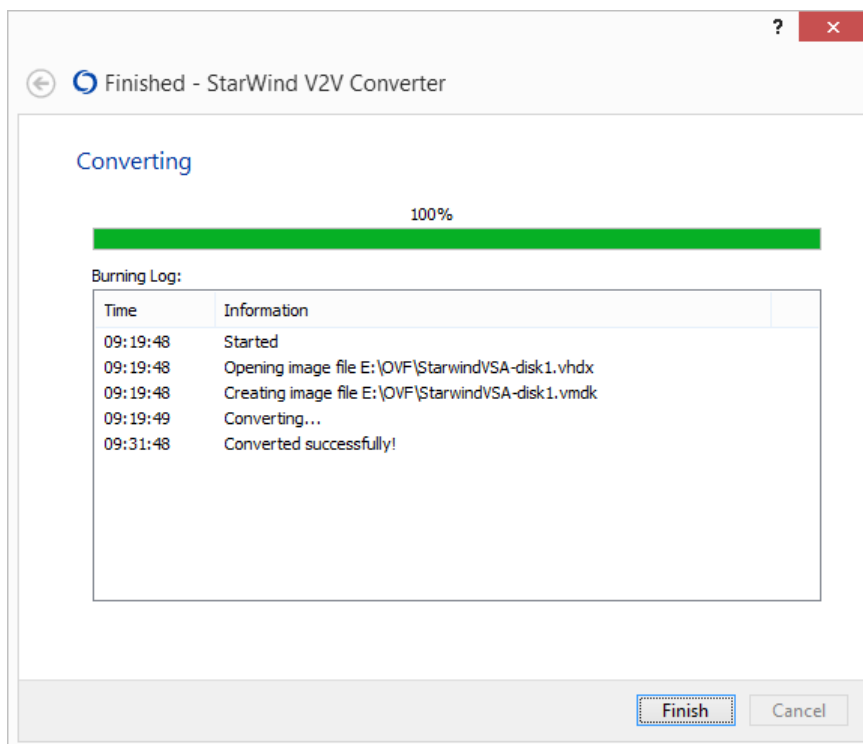
4. Choose disk type and click Next



5. Enter a file name and click **Next**

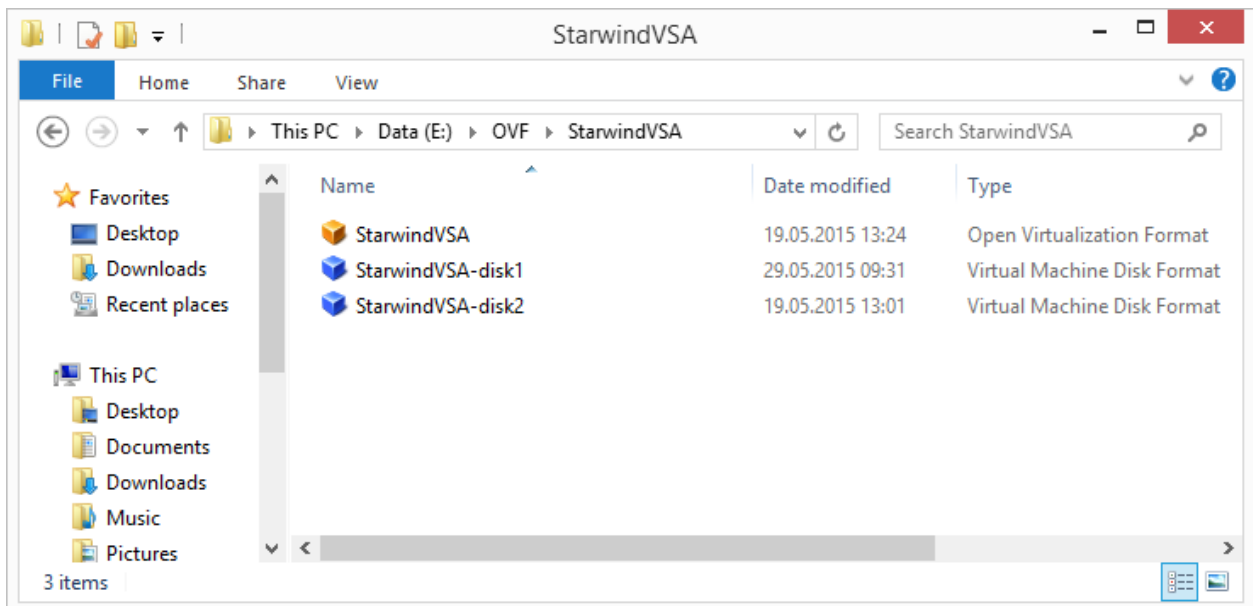


6. Wait until converter finishes the conversion and click **Finish**

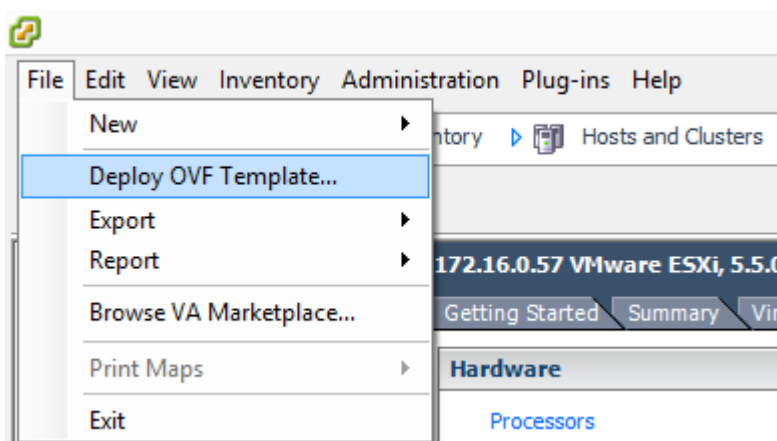


Deploy OVF Template to ESXi host

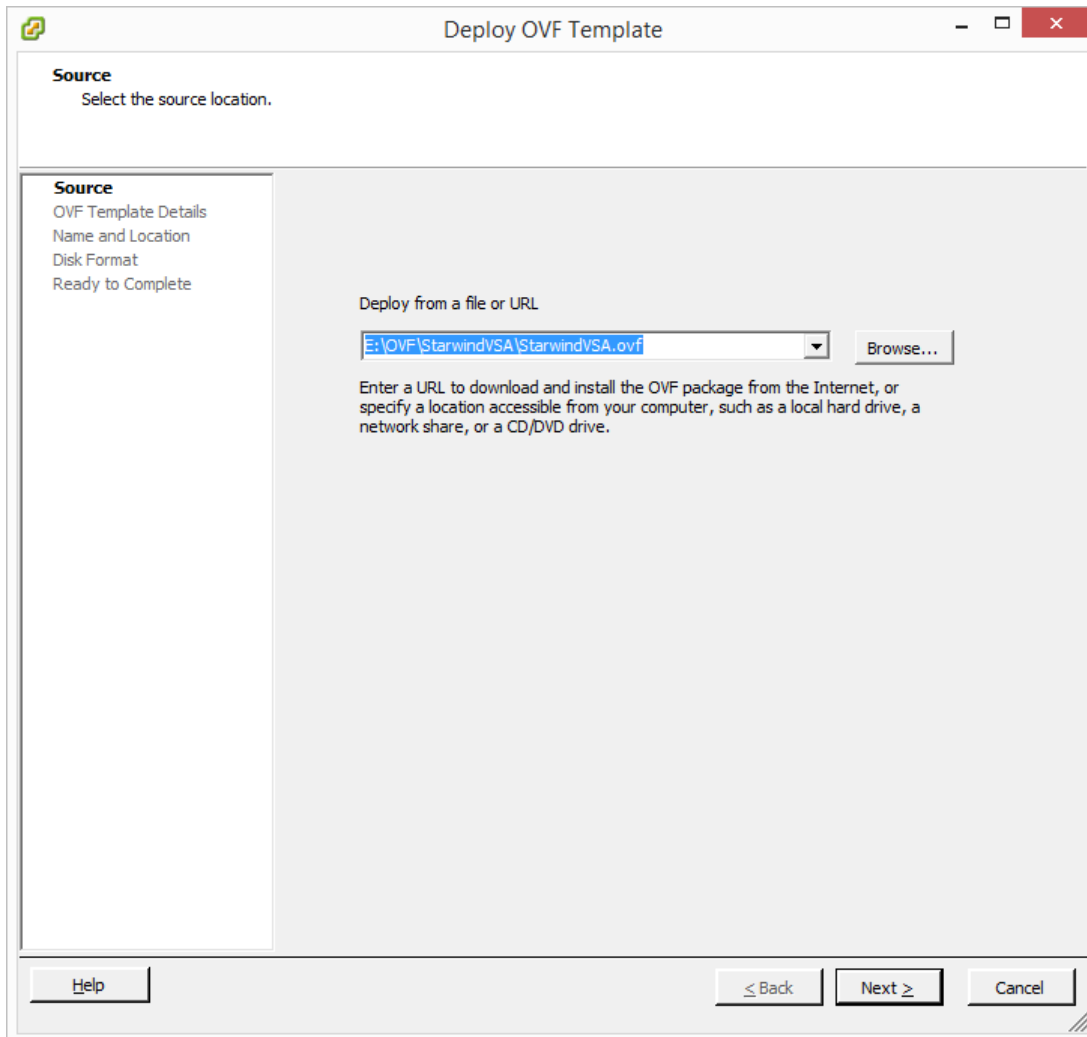
1. Put OVF and VMDK files in the same folder



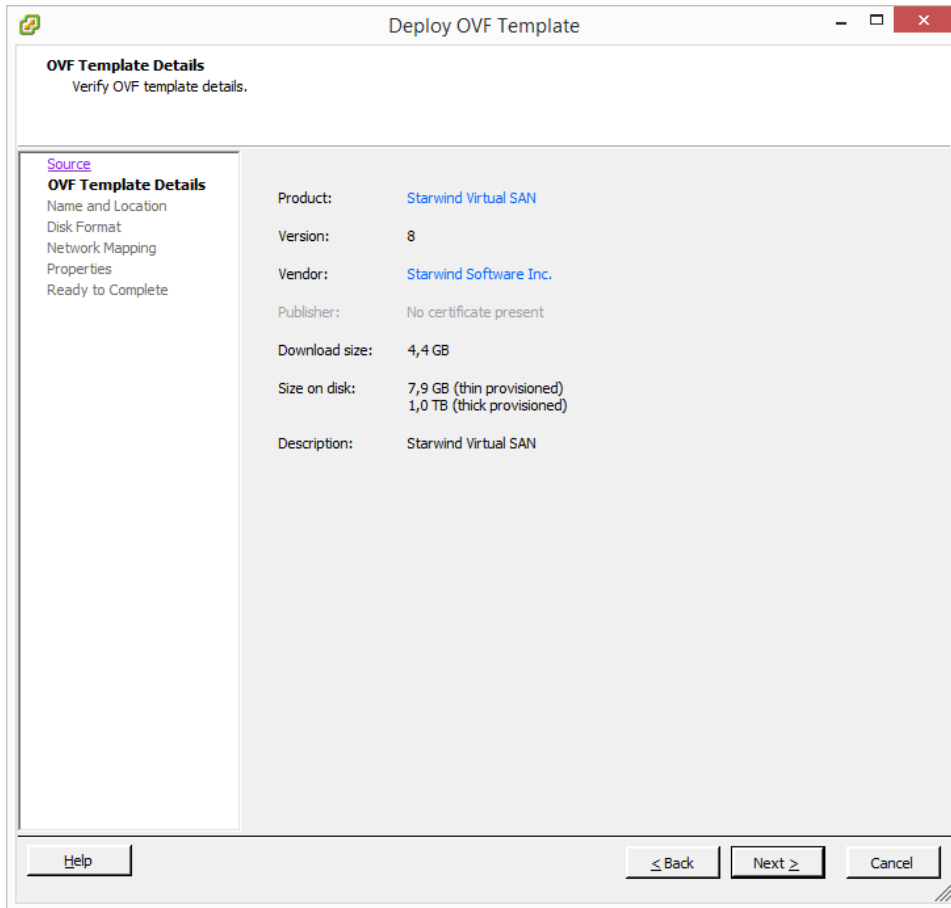
2. Run Deploy OVF Template wizard. Choose File > Deploy OVF Template in vSphere client



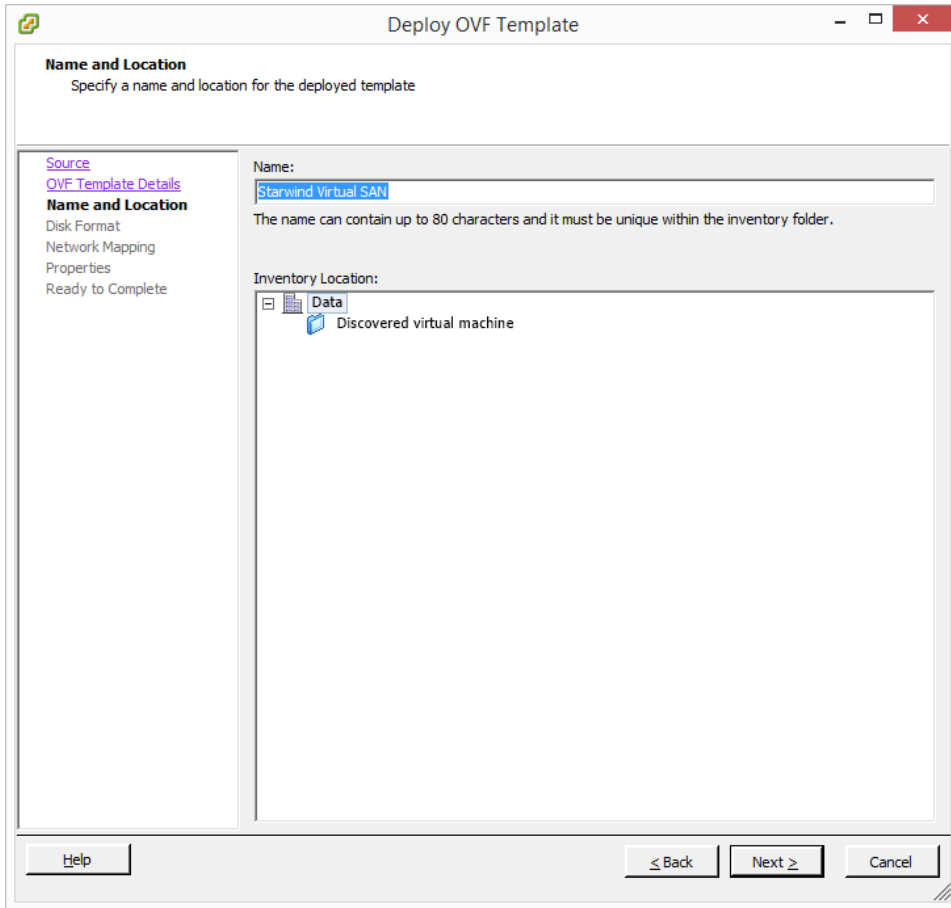
3. Click **Browse**, set a path to your *.ovf file and click **Next**



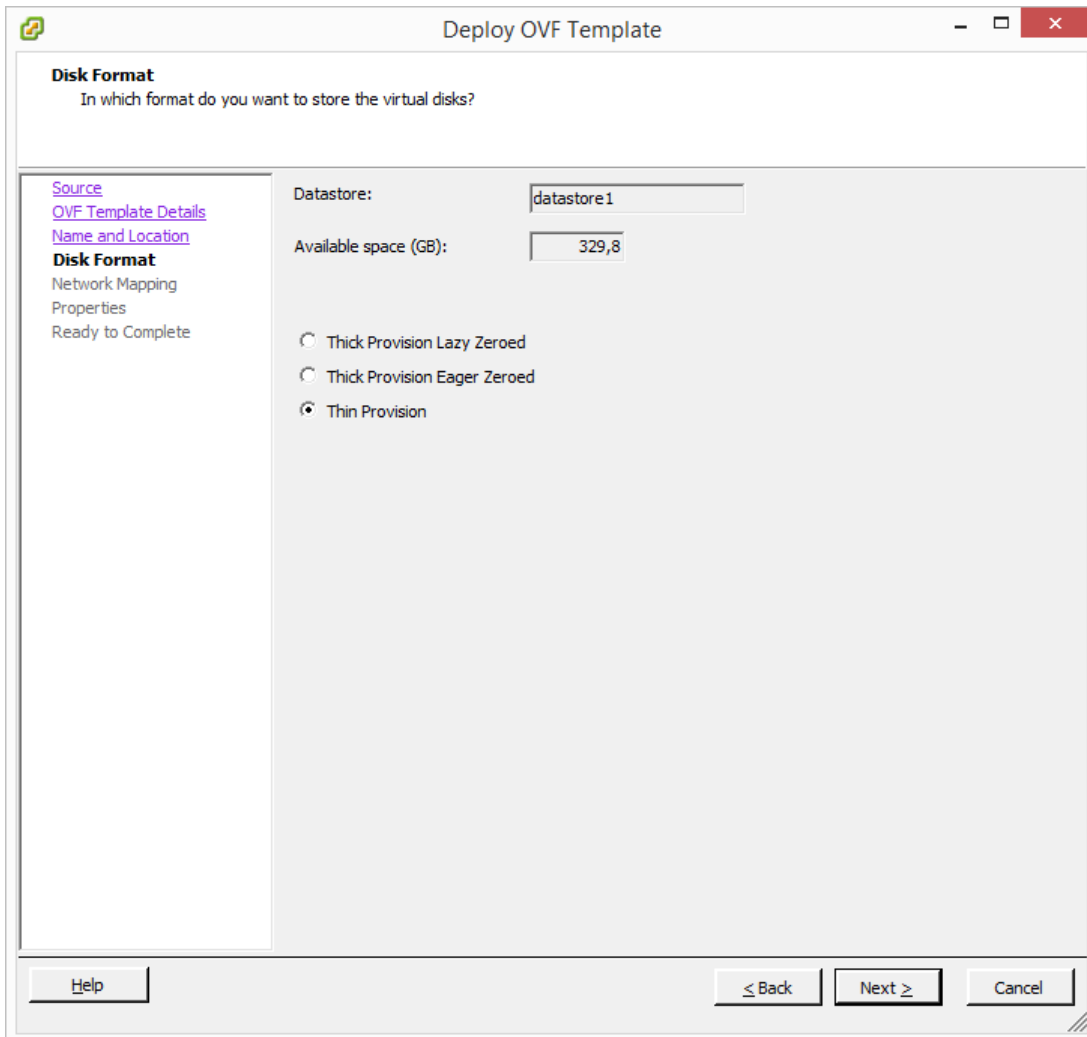
4. Read OVF Template Specification and click **Next**



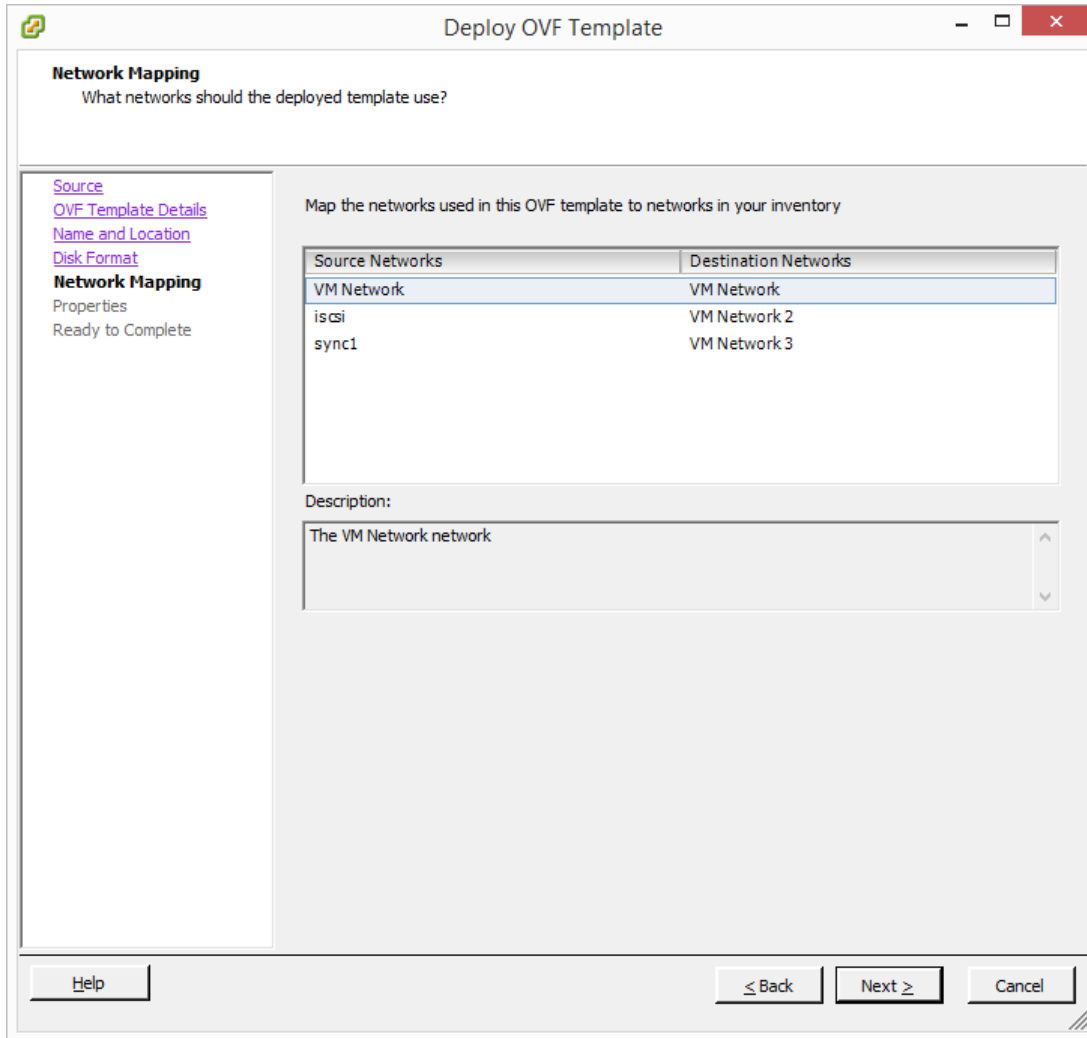
5. Enter a name for VM and click **Next**



6. Set name and size of datastore. Then choose «Thin Provision» and click Next



7. Choose VM networks according to their purpose and click **Next**



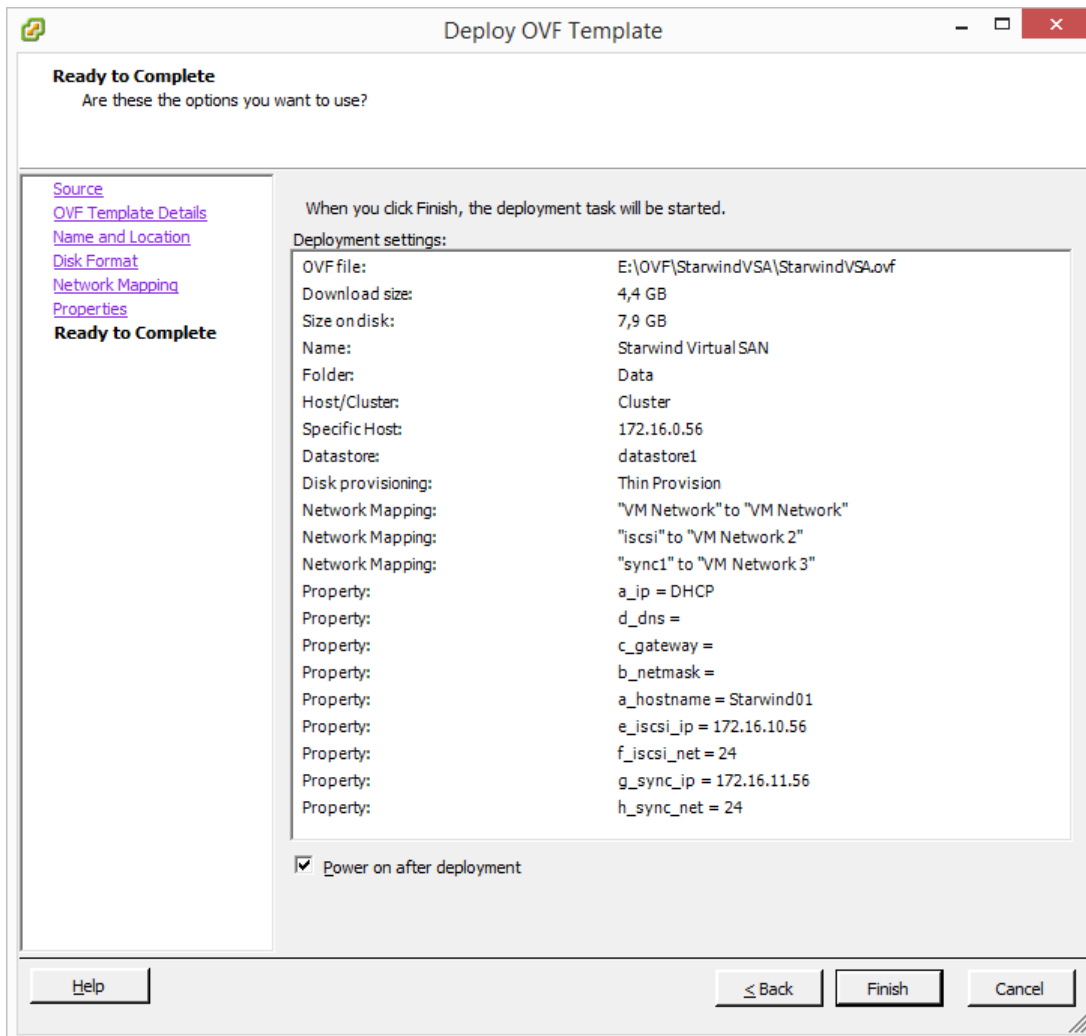
8. Enter required information and click **Next**

The screenshot shows a window titled "Deploy OVF Template" with a standard Windows-style title bar (minimize, maximize, close buttons). The main content area is titled "Properties" and contains the instruction "Customize the software solution for this deployment." On the left side, there is a navigation pane with links: "Source", "OVF Template Details", "Name and Location", "Disk Format", "Network Mapping", and "Properties" (which is highlighted and shows "Ready to Complete"). The main area is titled "Starwind Setup" and contains several sections with input fields:

- IP Address:** "Enter DHCP if required." The input field contains "DHCP".
- DNS:** "Leave blank if DHCP is desired." The input field is empty.
- Gateway:** "Leave blank if DHCP is desired." The input field is empty.
- Netmask:** "Provide in CIDR format(example 24). Leave blank if DHCP is desired." The input field is empty.
- Hostname:** "Provide Hostname for VM." The input field contains "Starwind01".
- ISCSI Network:** "Provide IP Address for ISCSI Network." The input field contains "172.16.10.56".

At the bottom of the window, there are four buttons: "Help", "≤ Back", "Next ≥", and "Cancel".

9. Tick **Power on after deployment** on the last step, click **Finish** and wait until VM is deployed.










10. Install VMware Tools.
11. Restart VM.

Summary

By following this document, you will make your StarWind Virtual SAN Deployment much easier. Since now, it is all about using pre-configured template that eliminates tremendous amount of time spent on a Virtual Machine configuration as well as possible misconfiguration issues.

Contacts

US Headquarters	EMEA and APAC
 1-617-449-7717	 +44 20 3769 1857 (UK)
 1-617-507-5845	 +49 302 1788 849 (Germany)
	 +33 097 7197 857 (France)
	 +7 495 975 94 39 (Russian Federation and CIS)
	 1-866-790-2646

Customer Support Portal: <https://www.starwind.com/support>

Support Forum: <https://www.starwind.com/forums>

Sales: sales@starwind.com

General Information: info@starwind.com



StarWind Software, Inc. 35 Village Rd., Suite 100, Middleton, MA 01949

©2015, StarWind Software Inc. All rights reserved.