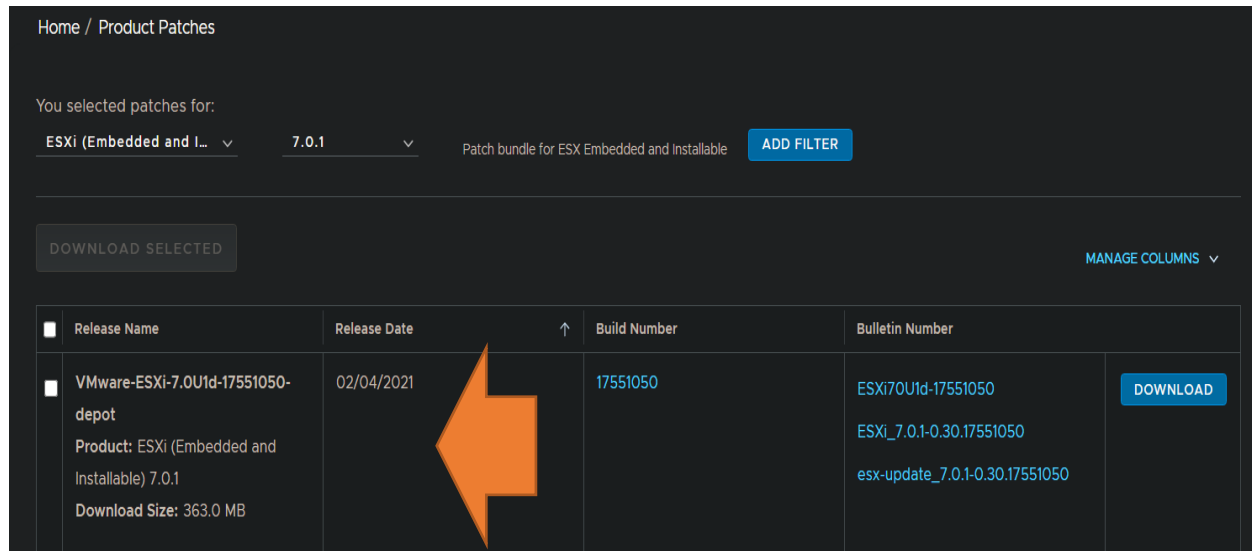


How to patch esxi host manually through CLI

In this post, I will show you the steps and commands to patch esxi host manually through command line. I am doing this because, I have only **ONE** esxi host with vCenter running. I cannot update from vCenter because it requires esxi host to be in maintenance mode and any VM's running should be migrated to another host. The only way to update esxi host is through command line.

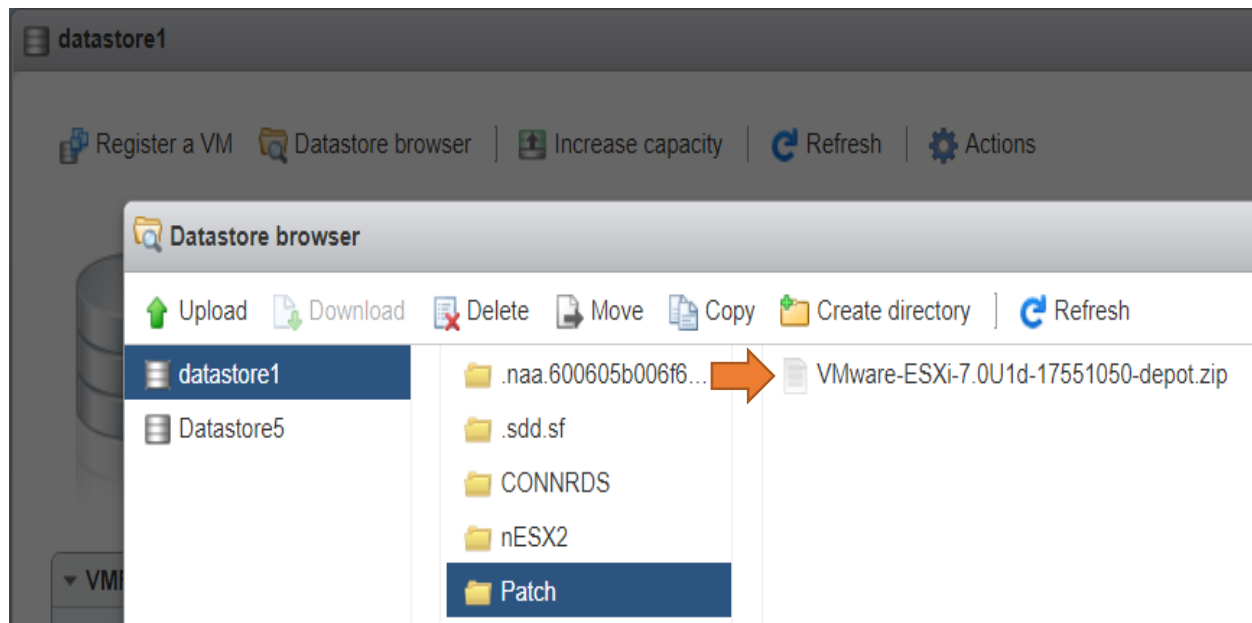
I downloaded the patch from here after login to vmware site.



The screenshot shows the VMware Product Patches interface. At the top, it says "Home / Product Patches". Below that, it says "You selected patches for:" followed by two dropdown menus: "ESXi (Embedded and I..." and "7.0.1". To the right of these is a button "ADD FILTER". Below the filters is a button "DOWNLOAD SELECTED" and a link "MANAGE COLUMNS". The main part of the page is a table with the following columns: "Release Name", "Release Date", "Build Number", and "Bulletin Number". The first row in the table is for "VMware-ESXi-7.0U1d-17551050-depot". The "Release Date" is "02/04/2021", the "Build Number" is "17551050", and the "Bulletin Number" is "ESXi70U1d-17551050". There is a "DOWNLOAD" button next to the bulletin number. An orange arrow points to the "Release Date" column.

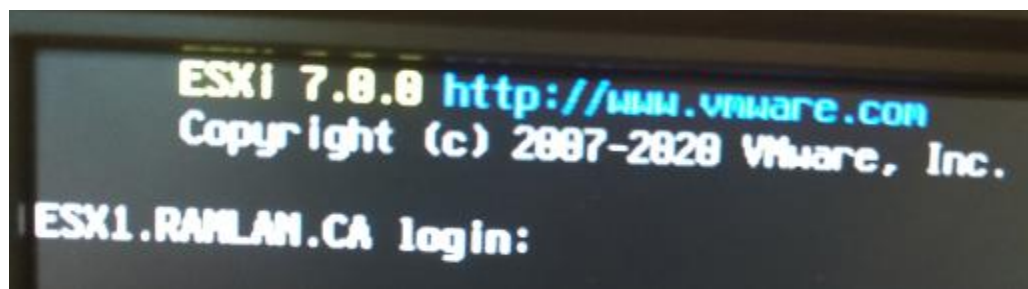
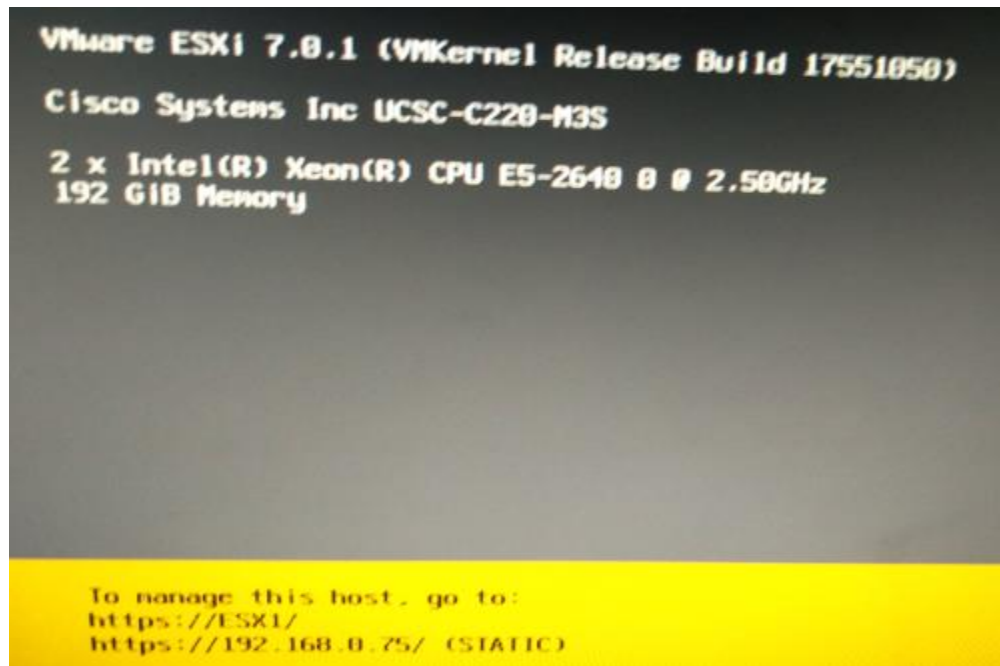
Release Name	Release Date	Build Number	Bulletin Number
VMware-ESXi-7.0U1d-17551050-depot Product: ESXi (Embedded and Installable) 7.0.1 Download Size: 363.0 MB	02/04/2021	17551050	ESXi70U1d-17551050 ESXi_7.0.1-0.30.17551050 esx-update_7.0.1-0.30.17551050

Uploaded the file to esxi host datastore1.

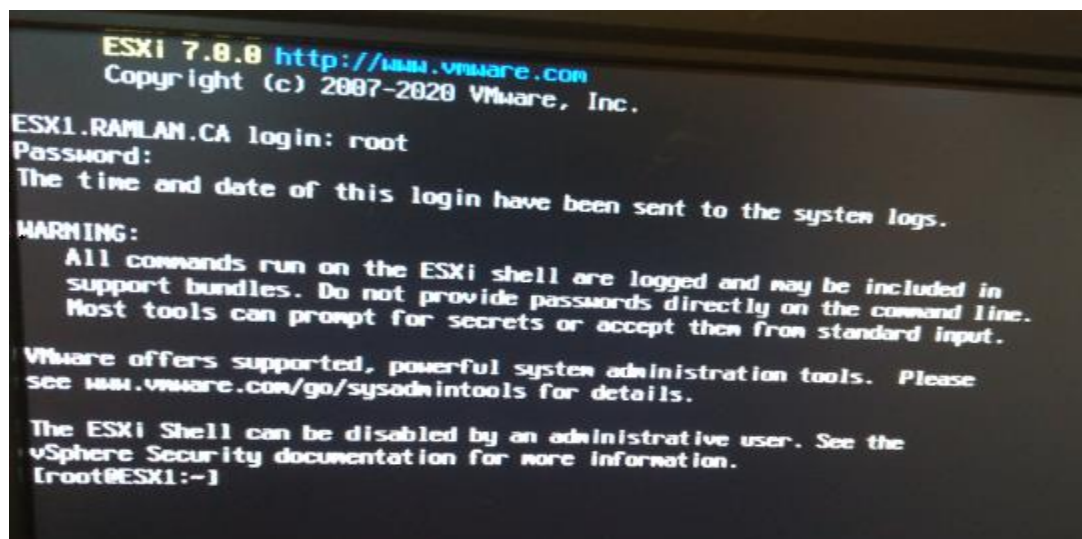


The screenshot shows the VMware Datastore browser interface. At the top, it says "datastore1". Below that, there are several icons: "Register a VM", "Datastore browser", "Increase capacity", "Refresh", and "Actions". The "Datastore browser" window is open, showing a list of files and folders. The "datastore1" folder is selected. The list of files and folders includes: ".naa.600605b006f6...", ".sdd.sf", "CONNRDS", "nESX2", and "Patch". An orange arrow points from the "Patch" folder to the file "VMware-ESXi-7.0U1d-17551050-depot.zip".

Now we have to **Press Alt + F1** to get into tech support mode from esxi console screen. Enter the credentials.



You will see this screen when you are in tech support mode



These are the commands you will use for this exercise

Maintenance Mode – `vim-cmd hostsvc/maintenance_mode_enter`

Browse to Datastore where the patch file is – `cd /vmfs/volumes/datastore1`

To perform the update – `esxcli software vib update -d cd /vmfs/volumes/datastore1/VMware-ESXi-7.0U1d-17551050-depot.zip`

You will see something like this when the updates are done

```
Installation Result
Message: The update completed successfully, but the system needs to be re
Reboot Required: true
VIBs Installed: VMware_bootbank_esx-base_6.0.0-1.20.3073146
VIBs Removed: VMware_bootbank_esx-base_6.0.0-1.17.3029758
VIBs Skipped: VMWARE_bootbank_mt ip32xx-native_3.8.5-1vmw.600.0.0.2494585
```

After that we have to reboot esxi host. The command is **reboot**

Once the esxi is up and running – we have to go to tech support mode **Alt + F1** and run **vim-cmd hostsvc/maintenance_mode_exit**. To exit tech support mode screen **Press Alt + F2**

After that power on the VM's and check update screen from vCenter.

Installed on Host esx1.ramlan.ca		
Name	ID	Type
PVSCSI Driver	VMware-pvscsi_0.1-2vmw.701.0.0.16850804	Host Extension
ATA Driver	VMware-vmkata_0.1-1vmw.701.0.25.17325551	Patch
Native Software FCoE Driver for VMware ESX	VMware-vmkfc0e_1.0.0.2-1vmw.701.0.20.17325020	Patch
USB Driver	VMware-vmkusb_0.1-1vmw.701.0.25.17325551	Patch
ESXi Install/Upgrade Component	esx-update_7.0.1-0.30.17551050	Patch

This concludes updating esxi host manually.

Thanks

Ram Lan
25th Feb 2021