

Configuring SRM 8.7 Stretched Storage Certification with Hitachi Ops Center Protector SRA 5.0.1 on a VSP Storage System using GAD

v1.0

Implementation Guide

This guide provides instructions for configuring and implementing a stretched storage certification using Hitachi SRA 5.0.1 to certify VMware SRM 8.7 on VMware ESXi using Hitachi Global-Active Device (GAD), managed through Ops Center Protector.

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Hitachi Vantara

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Table of Contents

Preface	5
About this document	5
Intended audience	5
Revision History	5
Accessing product downloads	5
Getting Help	5
Comments	6
Introduction	7
Purpose	7
Connectivity Block Diagram	7
Hardware Requirements	8
Software Requirements	8
Installing VMware vCenter Server Appliance (VCSA)	9
Prerequisites	9
Preparing the Environment	9
Deploying and Configuring VCSA	10
Installing VMware Site Recovery Manager	11
Prerequisites	11
Installing SRM	11
Configuring the Storage System	12
Configuring Command Device	
Configuring the External Storage System and Quorum Disk	
Creating Resource Groups and Adding Resources	
Creating LDEVs for the Block Host and GAD Replication	
Creating a Datastore	21
Installing Ops Center Protector and Configuring GADGAR	22
Installing Ops Center Protector	22
Configuring GAD with Ops Center Protector	22
Creating Nodes with Hitachi Block Devices	22
Creating a Hitachi Block Host	26
Creating a Policy	27
Creating a Data Flow	30

References	61
Conclusion	60
Planned Migration Test	54
SRM Operation	54
Creating a Protection Group and a Recovery Plan	50
Creating an Array Pair	49
Configuring Resource Mapping	46
Creating an SRM Site Pair	43
Installing Ops Center Protector SRA	41
Installing SRA and Configuring SRM	41
Triggering Data Flow Operations	39

Preface

About this document

This guide shows how to set up VMware Site Recovery Manager (SRM) 8.7 using Storage Replication Adapter (SRA) 5.0.1 on VMware ESXi hosts with Hitachi Global-Active Device (GAD) managed through Hitachi Ops Center Protector.

Intended audience

This document is intended for technical audiences responsible for configuring and managing disaster recovery solutions using SRA and SRM to automate failover, failback, and replication management.

To use this document, you must be familiar with VMware vSphere, SRM, SRA, GAD, and VSP storage systems.

Revision History

Revision	Changes	Date
v1.0	Initial Release	June 2025

Accessing product downloads

Product software, drivers, and firmware downloads are available on Hitachi Vantara Support Connect: https://support.hitachivantara.com/.

Log in and select Product Downloads to access the most current downloads, including updates that may have been made after the release of the product.

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Introduction

VMware Site Recovery Manager (SRM) automates disaster recovery by replicating and recovering virtual machines across data centers. Paired with Hitachi Global-Active Device (GAD), SRM enables zero-downtime failover.

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide step-by-step instructions for SRM 8.7 with Storage Replication Adapter (SRA) 5.0.1 on VMware ESXi, using GAD managed through Ops Center Protector. This setup is designed for organizations seeking a reliable disaster recovery solution that minimizes downtime and data loss across geographically dispersed sites.

Connectivity Block Diagram

The following connectivity diagram illustrates the setup of SRM for a stretched storage certification, using SRA on VMware ESXi hosts with GAD managed through Ops Center Protector.

The setup includes two ESXi Hosts, one for primary host A and another for secondary host B, along with Ops Center Protector connected to both the Virtual Storage Platform (VSP) primary and secondary sites. An external VSP storage system is configured with GAD to enable real-time data replication, ensure high availability, and support disaster recovery between the primary and secondary storage systems.

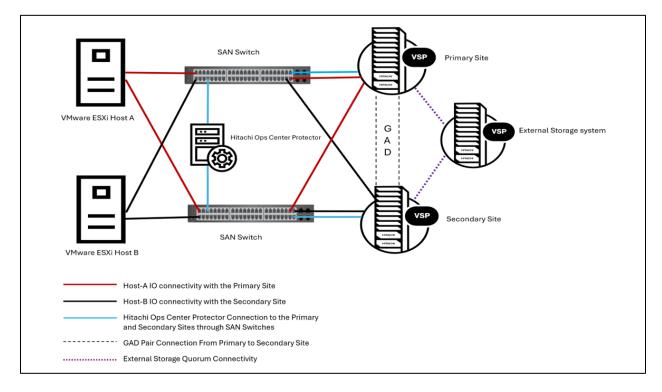


Figure 1: SRM 8.7 with SRA and GAD connectivity overview

Hardware Requirements

The following lists the hardware requirements:

- Two compatible VSP storage systems with support for GAD configuration, and an external VSP storage system for replicating data.
- VMware ESXi servers at both primary and secondary sites.
- Supported Fibre Channel (FC) HBA.
- High-speed network connectivity between the primary and secondary sites for replication and failover operations.
- Enterprise-grade FC/Ethernet switches (such as Cisco or Brocade) that support high-speed, low-latency connections between the host and storage sites.

Software Requirements

The following lists the software requirements:

- vSphere client version: Version 6.7.0
- VMware VCSA: Version 8.0.1-21560480 compatible with SRM 8.7
- VMware SRM: Version 8.7, including license information and supported features
- Hitachi SRA: Version 5.0.1, with installation requirements and version compatibility
- Hitachi Ops Center Protector: Version 7.8.0
- OS install media: ESXi 8.0U1

Installing VMware vCenter Server Appliance (VCSA)

The VMware vCenter Server Appliance (VCSA) is a preconfigured Linux-based virtual machine optimized for managing VMware ESXi hosts. This section shows how to deploy and configure VCSA as part of the SRM 8.7 environment setup.

Prerequisites

- VMware ESXi host running version 7.x or later
- Network connectivity with DNS, NTP, and IP configurations
- VCSA ISO file from VMware official website VCSA Download URL
- Administrator access to the ESXi host for deployment
- Properly configured DNS records for forward and reverse lookup of the vCenter Server hostname
- The following three VCSAs had been configured in this test environment with the respective names as follows:
 - o vcsaext.vmcert.com → Master VCSA
 - vcsapro81.vmcert.com → Protected Site A VCSA
 - vcsarec81.vmcert.com → Recovery Site B VCSA

Preparing the Environment

- 1. Configure DNS:
 - a. Ensure that a fully qualified domain name (FQDN) is resolvable by DNS.
 - b. Verify forward and reverse DNS lookups for the vCenter hostname and IP address.
- 2. Download VCSA ISO. Obtain the ISO image of VCSA from the VMware Customer Connect portal: https://tap.broadcom.com/docs/-/certkit/Storage-Certification/8.0-8.0U1-8.0U3.
- 3. Verify NTP configuration. Use a reliable NTP server for time synchronization to avoid clock drift issues.

Deploying and Configuring VCSA

For deploying and configuring the VCSA, refer to the official Broadcom documentation. The process includes:

- 1. Deploying VCSA on the ESXi host.
- 2. Accepting the EULA, configuring the target ESXi host, selecting the deployment size, and providing network settings.
- 3. Configuring the vCenter Server with SSO domain information and setting up the administrator password.
- 4. Completing the configuration and starting the vCenter services.

Installing VMware Site Recovery Manager

This section shows how to install VMware SRM 8.7 with GAD and Ops Center Protector.

Prerequisites

- VMware vCenter Server installed and configured on both the protected and recovery sites.
- Fully qualified domain names (FQDN) and static IP addresses for SRM servers.
- Ensure SRM servers can communicate with vCenter servers on both sites.
- Open required ports:
 - o TCP 443: For vCenter communication
 - TCP 902: For ESXi communication

Installing SRM

For detailed instructions on installing and configuring VMware SRM, see the official VMware installation guide. The process includes:

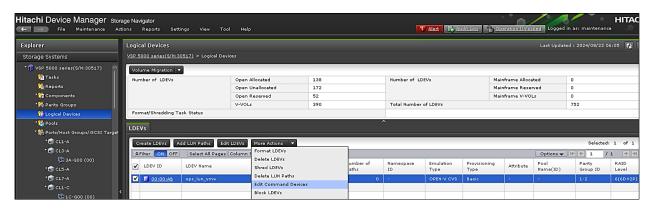
- 1. Downloading the SRM installer and selecting the appropriate version from the VMware site.
- 2. Mounting the SRM ISO and accessing the OVF files in the bin directory.
- 3. Deploying the SRM OVF template through the vSphere Client by selecting the target host and providing necessary configuration details, including VM name, storage, network settings, and password.
- 4. Completing the installation and powering on the VM.
- 5. Deploying SRM on the Protected and Recovery Sites (Site A and Site B), ensuring both sites are properly configured with the vCenter Server and necessary SRM appliance settings.

Configuring the Storage System

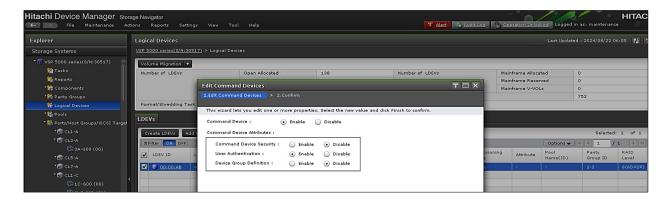
This section shows how to configure the storage system for installing VMware SRM 8.7 with SRA 5.0.1.

Configuring Command Device

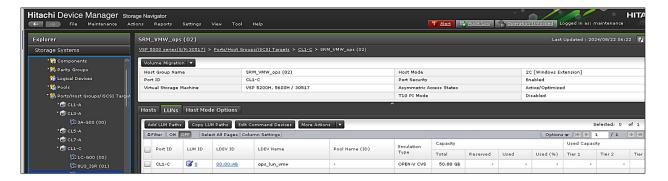
- 1. Create host groups for all ports on both storage systems.
- Create two basic 50GB LDEVs on both storage systems for command device.
- 3. Select the LDEV, navigate to More Actions click Edit Command Devices and edit the LDEVs.



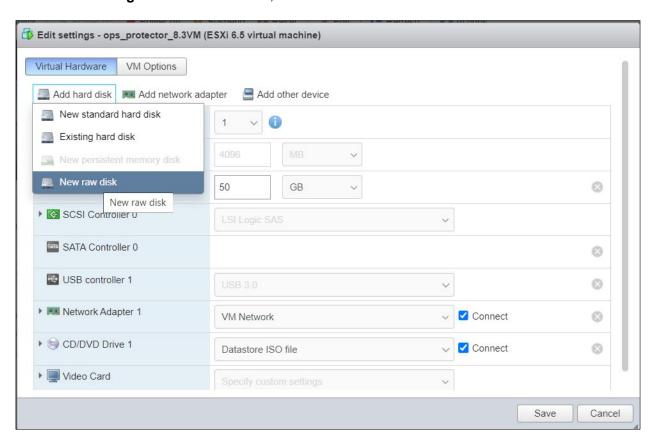
4. In the Edit Command Devices window, select Enable for Command Device.



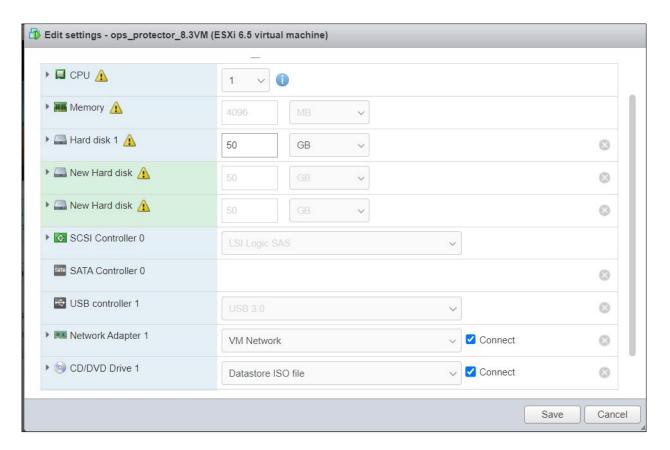
5. Add the command device to the Host Group that you created.



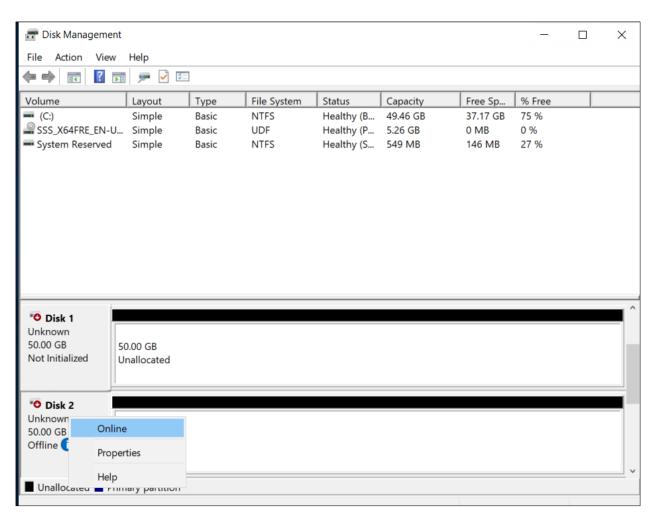
- Ensure that the command device is zoned to the Ops Center Protector server on a SAN switch.
- 7. Verify zoning and connectivity between the storage and the ESXi host or management server.
- 8. Add a new raw Hard Disk to the Ops Center Protector VM based on the configured LUN. Select **Edit Settings** > **Virtual Hardware**, and then click **New raw disk**.

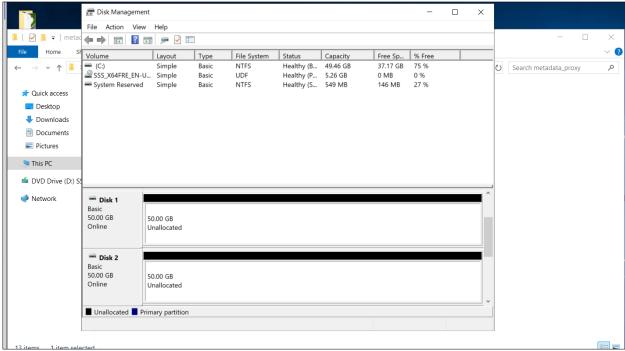


The hard disk is added.



9. Log in to the VM, select the disk, right click on it, and then click **Online**.



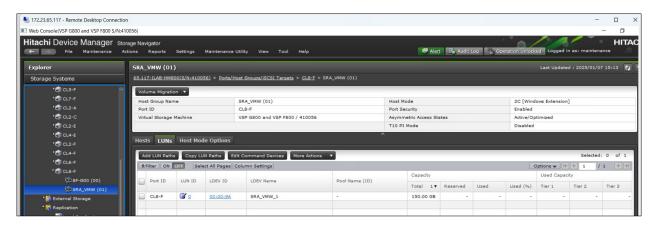


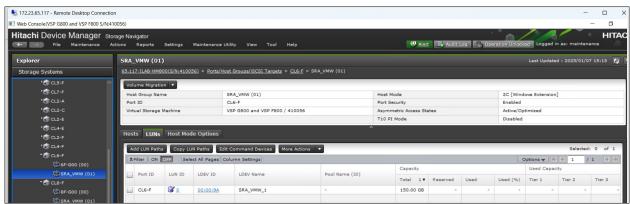
Note: Dynamic Pools must be created on both the primary and secondary storage systems. Verify that zoning is configured on both switches. Set up Host Groups and LUNs to allow each host to access the designated storage system (primary or secondary) through both available paths from both hosts (primary and secondary).

Configuring the External Storage System and Quorum Disk

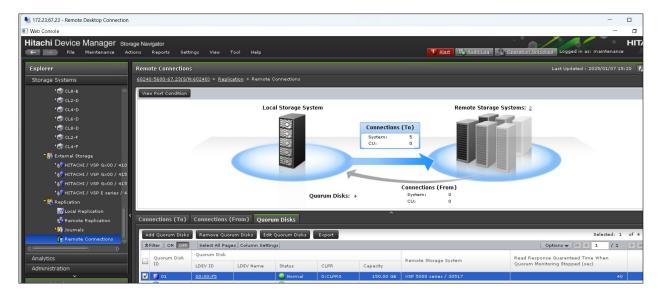
For detailed instructions, see the Hitachi guide on adding the external storage system for the quorum disk.

- Map an LDEV from the external storage to the host group of the storage system and set it as a quorum disk. For more details, see the Hitachi documentation for configuring a quorum disk.
- 2. Create host groups and add them on both the ports of the external storage system. The LDEV is added to the respective host groups, as shown in the following screenshots:





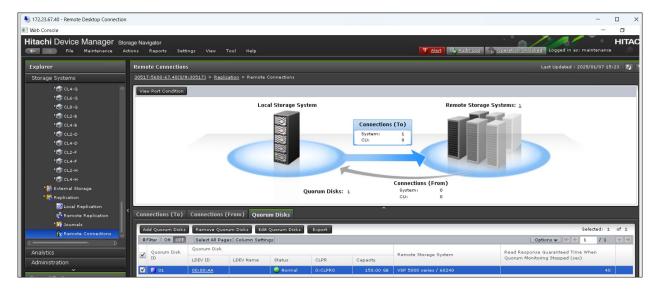
3. Create and specify the quorum disk in the primary storage system.



Primary storage system Quorum LDEV information:

```
[root@cci~]# raidcom get ldev -ldev_id 00:F5 -fx -IH
Serial# : 5****5
LDEV : f5
SL : 0
CL : 0
VOL TYPE : OPEN-V
VOL Capacity(BLK) : 314572800
NUM PORT : 0
PORTs :
F POOLID : NONE
VOL ATTR : ELUN : QRD
CMP : -
EXP SPACE : -
E VendorID : HITACHI
E ProductID : OPEN-V
E VOLID :
E_VOLID_C : HITACHI 50402748009A.....
NUM E PORT : 1
E PORTs : CL4-C-0 0 50060e8012274855
LDEV NAMING :
STS : NML
OPE TYPE : NONE
OPE RATE: 100
MP# : 0
ASSIGNED MP# : 0
SSID : 0\overline{0}04
QRDID : 1
QRP_Serial# : 5****6
QRP ID : R9
ALUA : Disable
RSGID : 0
PWSV S : -
CL MIG : N
[root@cci~]#
```

4. Create and specify the quorum disk in the secondary storage system.



Secondary storage system Quorum LDEV information:

```
[root@cci~] # raidcom get ldev -ldev id 00:AA -fx -IH
Serial# : 5***6
LDEV : aa
SL : 0
CL : 0
VOL TYPE : OPEN-V
VOL_Capacity(BLK) : 314572800
NUM PORT : 0
PORTs :
F POOLID : NONE
VOL ATTR : ELUN : QRD
CMP : -
EXP SPACE : -
E VendorID : HITACHI
E ProductID : OPEN-V
E VOLID :
E VOLID C : HITACHI 50402748009A.....
NUM E PORT : 1
E_PORTs : CL4-C-0 0 50060e8012274875
LDEV NAMING :
STS : NML
OPE TYPE : NONE
OPE RATE: 100
MP# : 0
ASSIGNED MP# : 0
SSID : 0004
QRDID : 1
QRP Serial# : 5****5
QRP ID : R9
ALUA : Disable
RSGID : 0
PWSV S : -
CL MIG : N
[root@cci~]#
```

Creating Resource Groups and Adding Resources

1. Create resource groups in both the primary and secondary storage systems:

- Create a 10 GB basic LDEV on both the primary and secondary storage systems to create the placeholder datastore for the SRM operation.
- 3. Assign the LDEVs to the resource group by running the following commands:

```
[root@cci~]# raidcom unmap resource -ldev_id 00:E8 -virtual_ldev_id 00:E8 -IH
[root@cci~]# raidcom add resource -resource_name SRM_GAD_VMW -ldev_id 00:E8
-IH
[root@cci~]# raidcom map resource -ldev_id 00:E8 -virtual_ldev_id 00:E8 -IH
[root@cci~]#
[root@cci~]#
[root@cci~]#
[root@cci~]# raidcom unmap resource -ldev_id 00:05 -virtual_ldev_id 00:05 -IH
[root@cci~]# raidcom add resource -resource_name SRM_GAD_VMW -ldev_id 00:05 -IH
[root@cci~]# raidcom map resource -ldev_id 00:05 -virtual_ldev_id 00:05 -IH
[root@cci~]# raidcom map resource -ldev_id 00:05 -virtual_ldev_id 00:05 -IH
```

Creating LDEVs for the Block Host and GAD Replication

1. Create a 50 GB Thin LDEV on the primary site for the block host:

```
[root@cci~]# raidcom get ldev -ldev id 00:F6 -fx -IH
Serial# : 5***5
LDEV : f6
SL : 0
CL : 0
VOL TYPE : OPEN-V-CVS
VOL Capacity(BLK): 104857600
NUM LDEV : 1
LDEVs : 0
NUM PORT : 0
PORTs :
F POOLID : NONE
VOL ATTR : CVS
CMP : NA
EXP SPACE : R
RAID LEVEL : RAID6
RAID TYPE : 6D+2P
NUM GROUP : 1
RAID GROUPs : 01-01
DRIVE TYPE : SNR5A-R3R8NC
DRIVE Capa : 7500000062
```

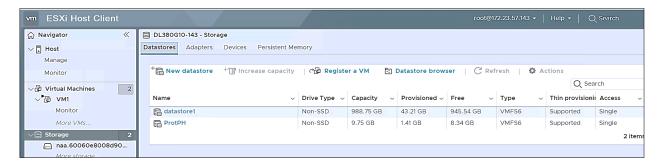
```
LDEV_NAMING : SRA_LUNS_50
STS : NML
OPE_TYPE : NONE
OPE_RATE : 100
MP# : 2
ASSIGNED_MP# : 2
SSID : 0004
ALUA : Disable
RSGID : 0
PWSV_S : -
CL_MIG : N
[root@cci~]#
```

2. Create a DP-VOL as a replication LUN and add it to the resource group of the primary storage system. Make sure that both the physical and virtual ID of the LDEV is the same.

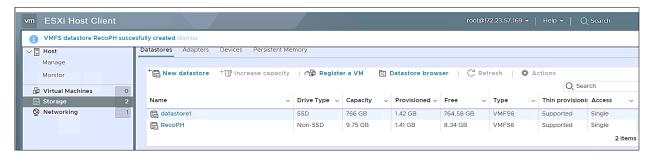
```
[root@cci~]# raidcom unmap resource -ldev id 00:FE -virtual ldev id 00:FE -IH
[root@cci~]# raidcom add resource -resource_name SRM_GAD_VMW -ldev_id 00:FE -IH
[root@cci~]# raidcom map resource -ldev id 00:FE -virtual ldev id 00:FE -IH
[root@cci~]#
[root@cci~]# raidcom get ldev -ldev id 00:FE -fx -IH
Serial# : 5***5
LDEV : fe VIR LDEV : fe
SL : 0
CL : 0
VOL TYPE : OPEN-V-CVS
VOL_Capacity(BLK) : 104857600
NUM PORT : 0
PORTs :
F POOLID : NONE
VOL ATTR : CVS : HDP
CMP : -
EXP SPACE : -
B POOLID : 13
LDEV NAMING : SRM LUNS 50
STS : NML
OPE TYPE : NONE
OPE RATE : 100
MP# : 1
ASSIGNED MP# : 1
SSID : 0004
Used Block(BLK): 0
FLA(MB): Disable
RSV(MB) : 0
CSV Status : DISABLED
CSV PROGRESS(%): -
CSV Mode : DISABLED
COMPRESSION ACCELERATION : -
COMPRESSION ACCELERATION STATUS : -
CSV PROCESS MODE : -
DEDUPLICATION DATA : DISABLED
ALUA : Disable
RSGID : 3
PWSV S : -
CL MIG : N
[root@cci~]#
```

Creating a Datastore

1. Create a datastore on top of the LUNs on each host. For more details, see the Broadcom documentation on creation of a Datastore. On the primary host, create a datastore (ProtPH) using the previously created LUN.



2. On the secondary host, create a datastore using the previously created LUN.



Installing Ops Center Protector and Configuring GAD

This section shows how to install Ops Center Protector, configure GAD, and set up Ops Center Protector Adapter for VMware SRM.

Installing Ops Center Protector

- 1. Download the installation package from https://support.hitachivantara.com/ and prepare a new VM with a Windows guest OS.
- 2. Transfer and unzip the package, then launch the installer (install.exe or setup.bat) with administrator privileges.
- Accept the license agreement.
- 4. Select the installation directory and type (for example, Master).
- 5. Configure the node name, user account type (for example, Administrator), and HTTPS port (default: 443).
- 6. Complete the installation and access Hitachi Ops Center Protector through a web browser using the configured IP address.

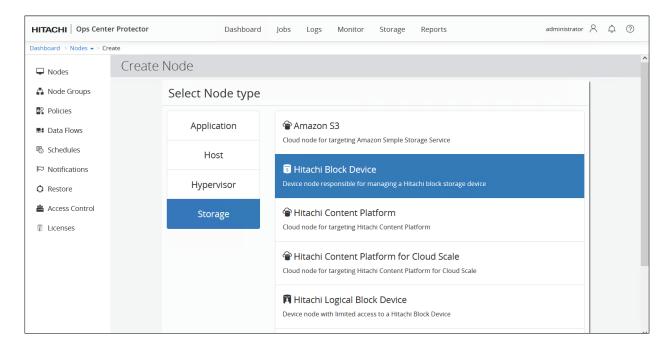
For detailed instructions on installing Hitachi Ops Center Protector, see the Hitachi documentation on Ops Center Protector.

Configuring GAD with Ops Center Protector

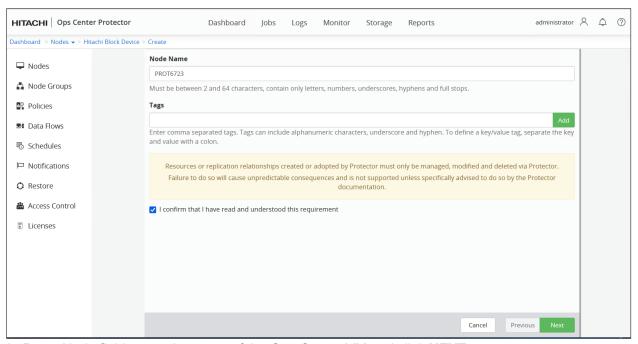
In Ops Center Protector, nodes represent resources such as storage systems, applications, or servers that can be managed, protected, or monitored. Storage nodes represent storage systems used for replication, snapshots, and backups.

Creating Nodes with Hitachi Block Devices

- 1. From Ops Center Protector, navigate to Nodes and select Create a new item. Click NEXT.
- 2. Select the Node Type as **Storage** and then select **Hitachi Block Device**. Click **NEXT**.



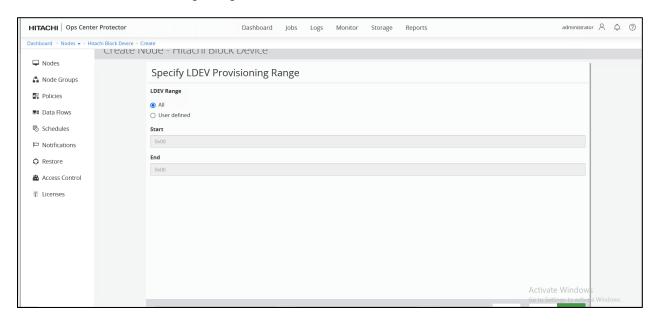
3. Enter a node name and select the checkbox to confirm the requirement. Click **NEXT**.



4. In Proxy Node field, enter the name of the Ops Center VM and click NEXT.



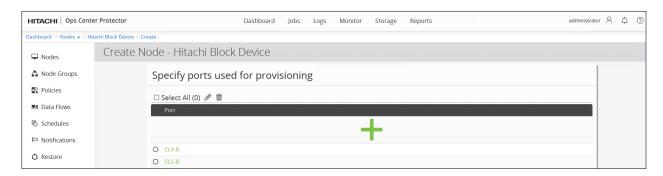
- 5. Enter the primary storage serial number and credentials, and click **NEXT**.
- 6. Select the LDEV Provisioning Range and click **NEXT**.



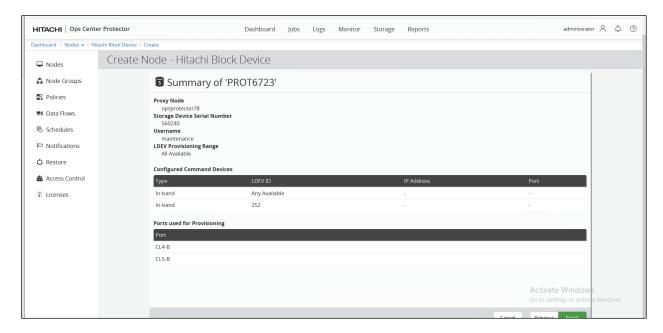
7. Enter the decimal digit LDEV ID of the command device and click NEXT.



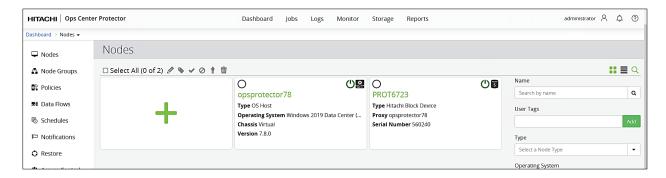
8. Specify the storage ports used for provisioning and click **NEXT**.



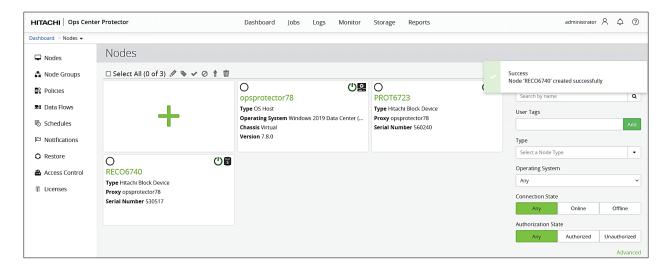
9. Create a Hitachi Block Device node and click FINISH.



The Hitachi Block Device is created under Nodes:



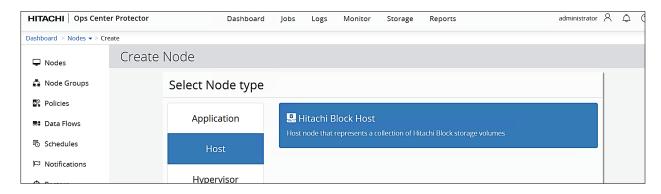
10. Repeat the procedure to create a new block host for the secondary storage system:



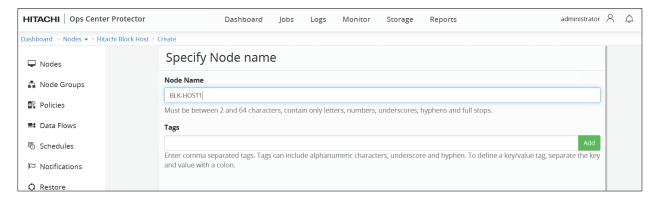
Creating a Hitachi Block Host

A Hitachi Block Host in Ops Center Protector represents a server connected to block storage devices, enabling data transfer through iSCSI or Fibre Channel protocols.

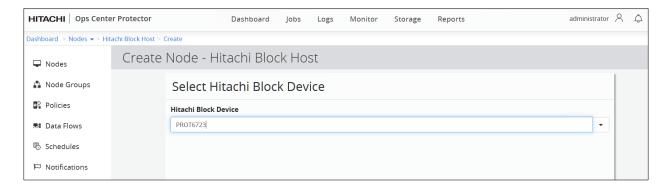
- 1. Navigate to Nodes and select Create a new item. Click Next.
- 2. Select the Node Type as Host and then select Hitachi Block Host.



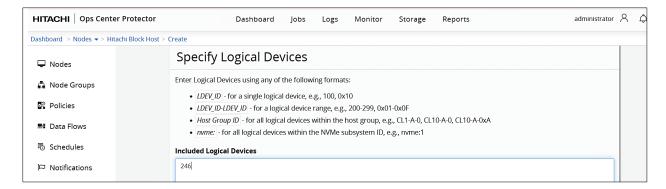
Enter a node name and click NEXT.



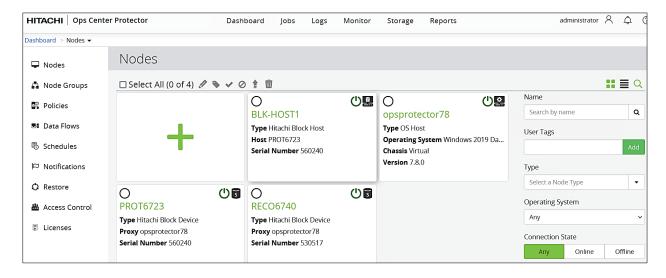
4. Enter the name of the Hitachi Block Device. Click **NEXT**.



5. Mention the Logical Devices number in the decimal format. Click **NEXT**.



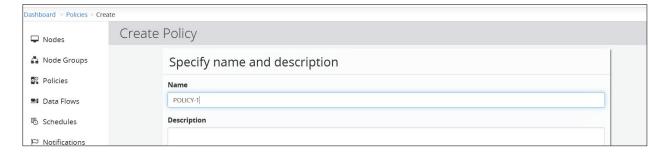
The Hitachi Block Device is created under Nodes:



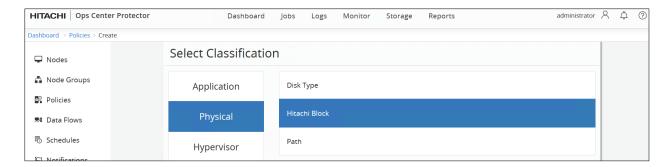
Creating a Policy

In Ops Center Protector, a policy defines rules for data protection, including backups, retention, and storage, ensuring efficient recovery and compliance.

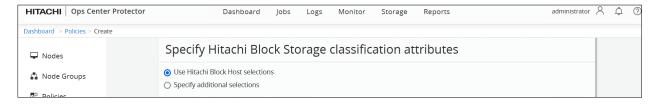
- 1. Click Create a new policy.
- Enter the policy name and click NEXT.



Select Classification as a Physical and then select Hitachi Block. Click NEXT.



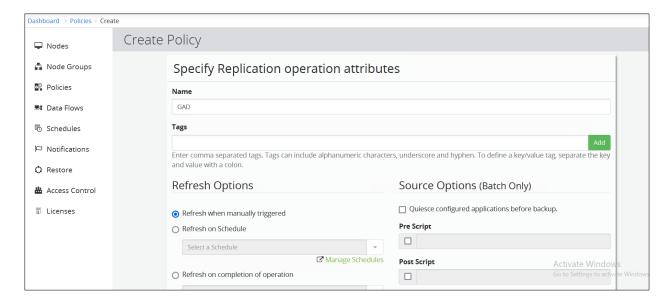
4. Select Use Hitachi Block Host Selection as Hitachi Block Storage Classification Attributes. Click **NEXT**.



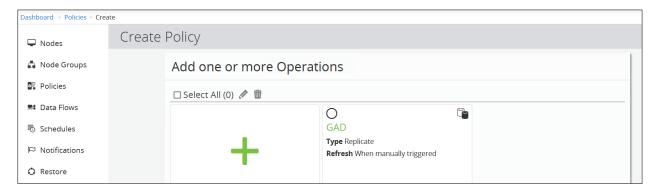
5. To add an operation, click the add (+) icon. Click **NEXT**.



- 6. For operation, select Replicate.
- 7. Specify the replication operation attributes and name. Click **NEXT**.



The GAD operation is created:



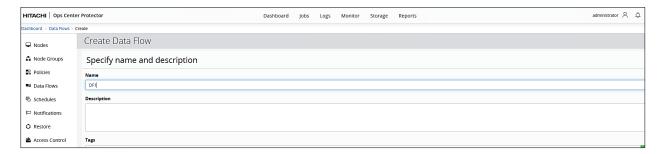
8. Repeat the procedure to define two other operations for primary and secondary storage SI.



Creating a Data Flow

Creating a data flow in Ops Center Protector involves setting up a sequence of operations for efficient data protection and replication.

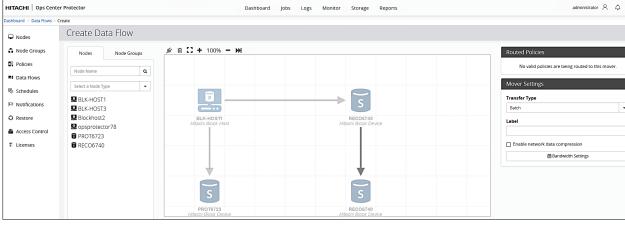
- 1. Select Create Data Flow and click NEXT.
- 2. Enter the name of the data flow and click **NEXT**.



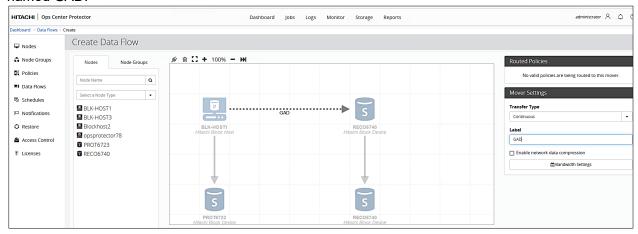
- Select the Source (Hitachi Block Host BLK-HOST1) where the data resides by assigning the resources as the Source, ensuring they are already registered in the system. Drag it to the flow.
- 4. Specify the destination by dragging it to the Flow (Hitachi Block Device RECO6740) where the data will be transferred or replicated.
- 5. Add all the assigned resources to the flow using the drag-and-drop method.

 HITACHI | DOS CENTER PROTECTOR

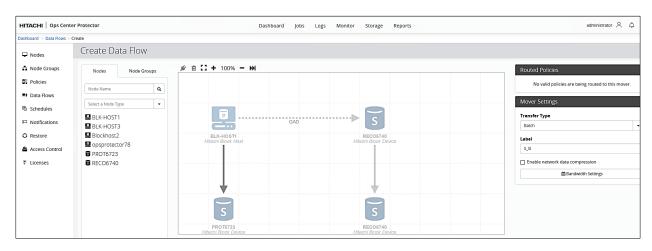
 DASHBOARD | LOPE | MODITOR | STOTAPP | Reports

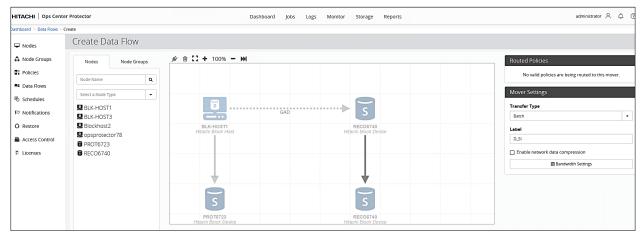


6. Select **Block Host** and set the Transfer Type to **Continuous**. In this scenario, the label is named GAD.

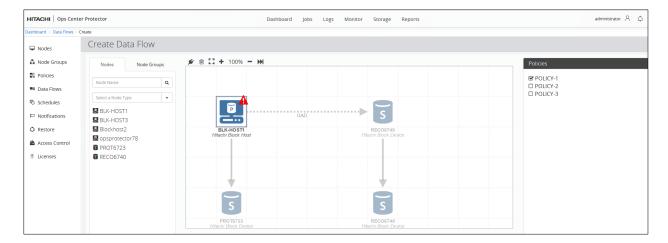


7. Rename the labels of the remaining transfers.





8. Select the block host and select the policy.



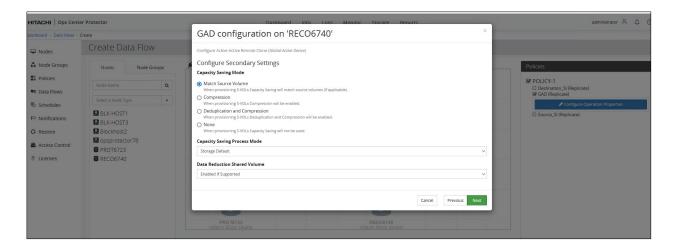
9. Specify the GAD policy to attach to the block host and configure the policy settings. Select the Creation Mode of the GAD policy and click **NEXT**.

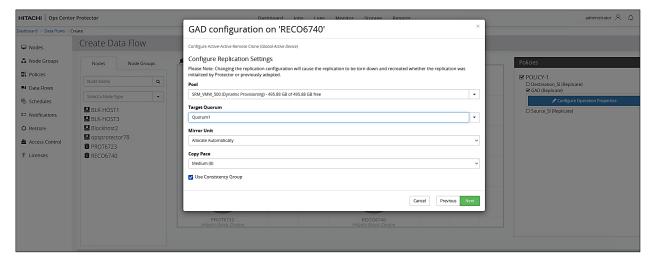


 Select the replication type as Active-Active Remote Clone (Global-Active Device). Click NEXT.

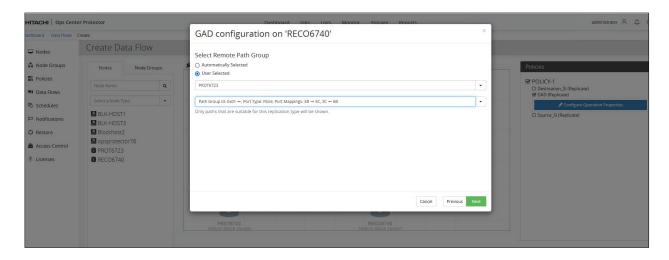


11. Set up the configuration by entering the following details. Click **NEXT**.

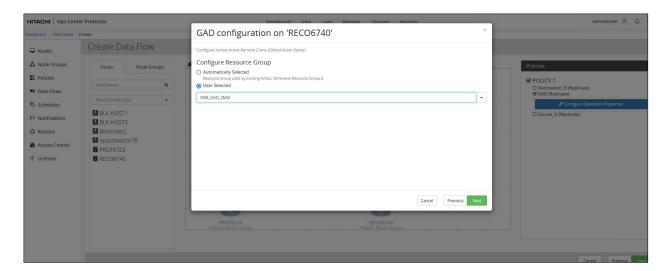




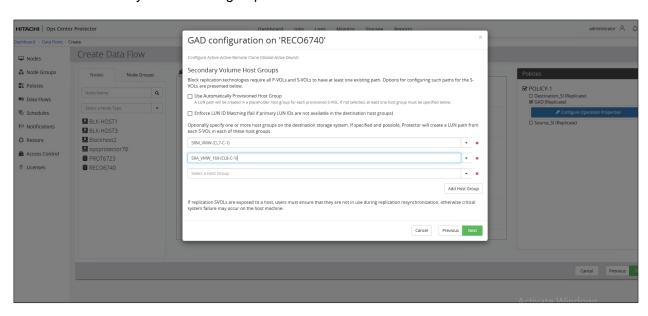
12. Specify the Remote Path Group details and click NEXT.



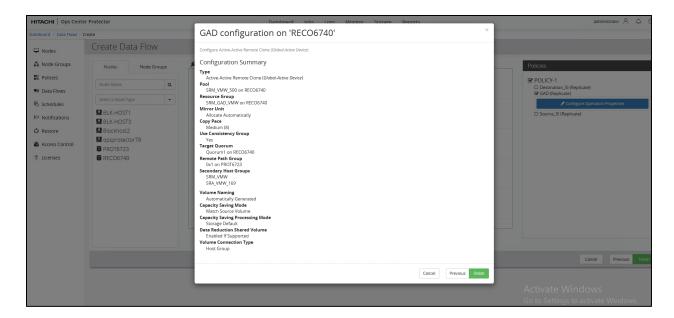
13. Add the details in the Configure Resource Group window and click **NEXT**.



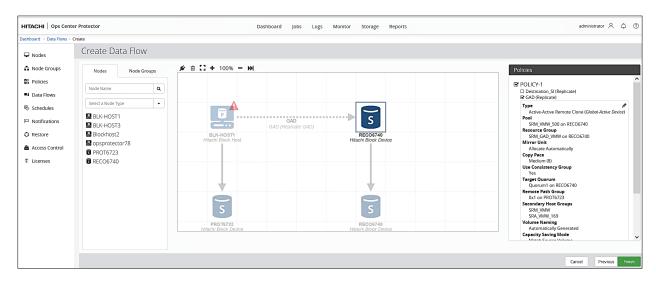
14. Select the secondary volume host group and click **NEXT**.



15. Click Finish.

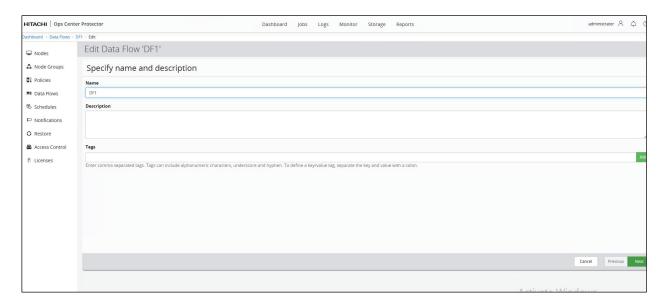


The GAD Configuration Policy is complete.

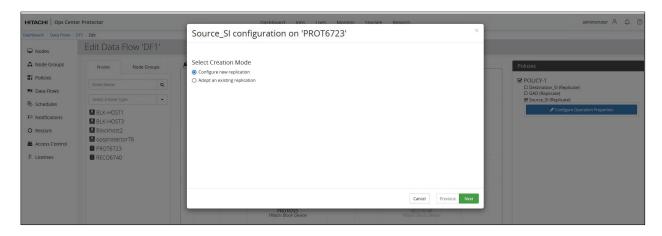


Modify the other two policies, Source_SI and Destination_SI, as follows:

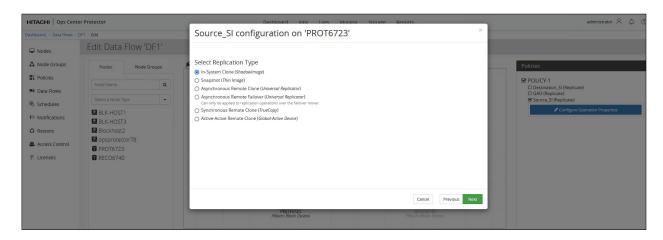
1. Edit the Data Flow 'DF1' as shown in the following screenshot and then click **NEXT**.



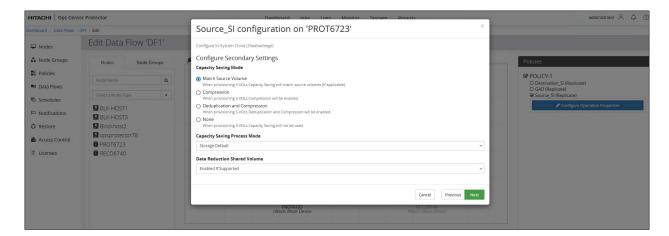
2. For creation mode, select Configure new replication. Click NEXT.



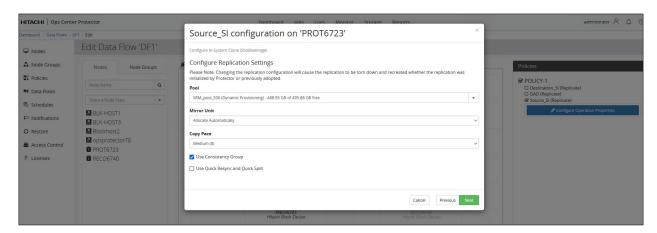
3. For replication type, select In-System Clone (ShadowImage). Click NEXT.



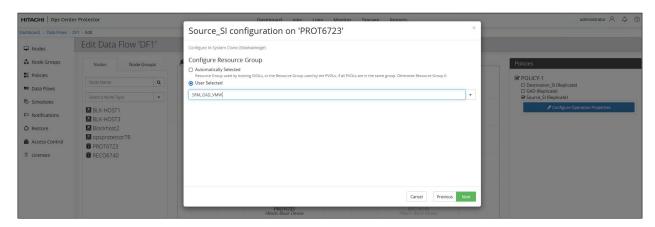
4. Configure the In-System Clone (Shadowlmage) and click NEXT.



5. Specify the Pool, Mirror unit, and Copy pace. Click **NEXT**.



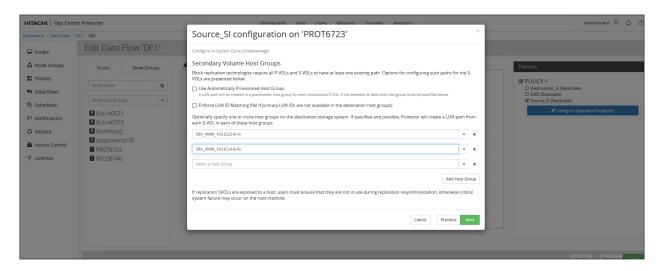
6. Specify the resource group. Click NEXT.



7. For connection type, select Connect S-VOLs to Host Groups. Click NEXT.



8. Specify the secondary volume host groups. Click **NEXT**.

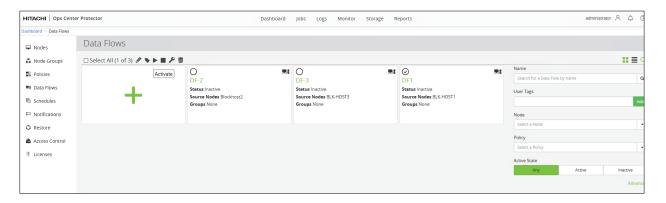


9. Click Finish.



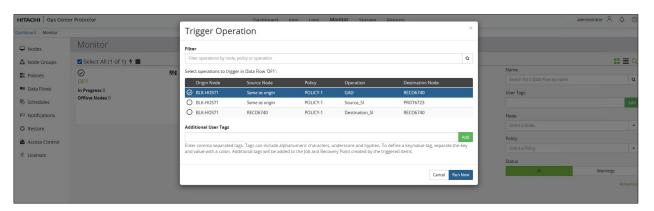
The Soure_SI is created successfully.

- 10. Repeat the procedure to edit and configure the operations for the Destination_SI policy.
- 11. Select the Data Flow and click **Activate**.

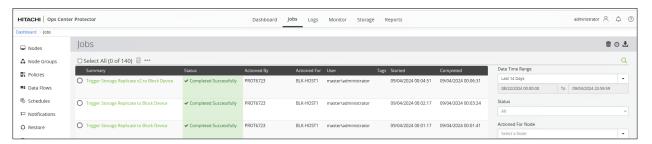


Triggering Data Flow Operations

- 1. Select the previously configured data flow and run each operation individually.
- 2. Select the GAD operation and click Run Now.

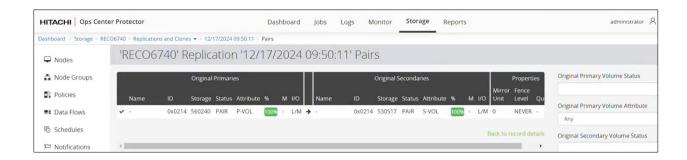


- 3. Select the subsequent operations and click Run Now.
- 4. Verify whether the trigger operation has run successfully.



The GAD Pair is created successfully.

5. Verify the GAD pair.

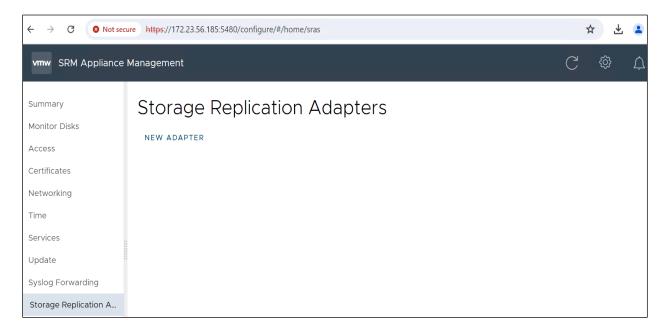


Installing SRA and Configuring SRM

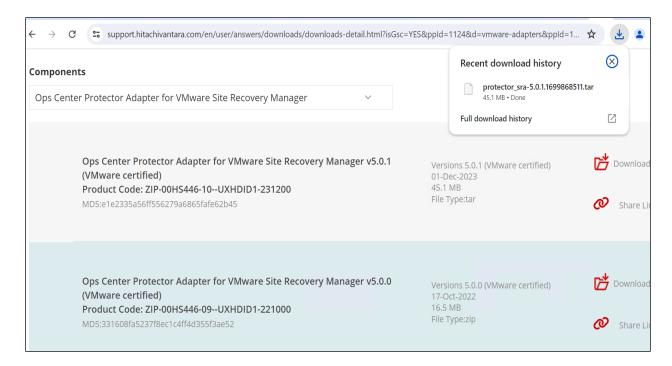
Installing Ops Center Protector SRA

Ops Center Protector Adapter for VMware SRM is an integration module that connects Hitachi Ops Center Protector with VMware SRM to enhance disaster recovery and data protection capabilities in virtualized environments. To install the adapter, complete the following steps:

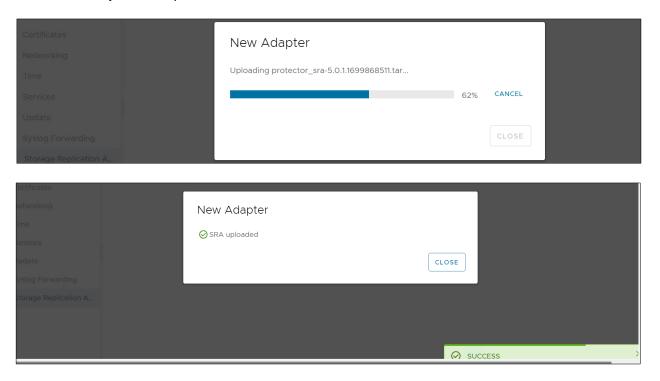
- 1. Download the adapter package and extract the contents on the VMware SRM server from https://support.hitachivantara.com/.
- 2. Navigate to the primary SRM site, select **Storage Replication Adapters**, and click **NEW ADAPTER**.



3. Upload the downloaded protector file. You can download the file from support.hitachivantara.com.



4. Click **New Adapter** and upload the file to the SRM site.



5. Verify the details of the adapter on the primary site.

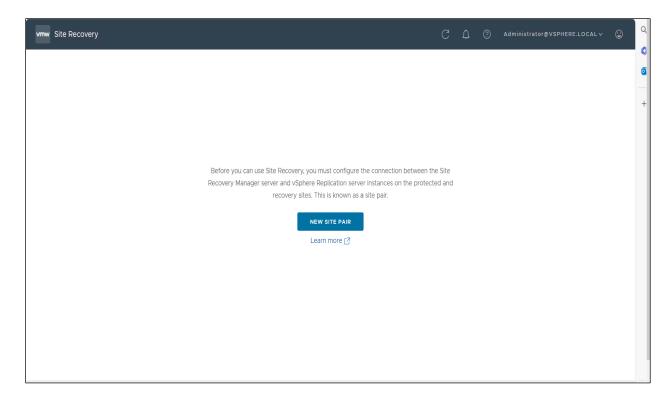


6. Verify the same for the secondary SRM site.



Creating an SRM Site Pair

1. Navigate to the primary SRM interface and click **New Site Pair**.



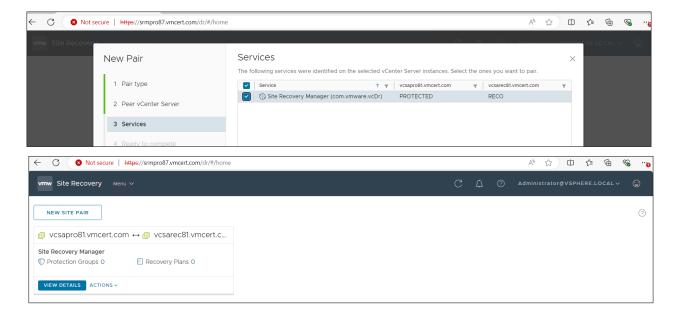
2. Select the pair type and the local vCenter server as follows and click **NEXT**.



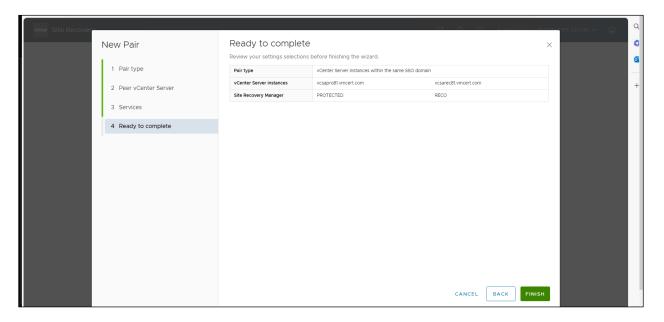
3. Select the vCenter server you want to pair with and click **NEXT**.



4. Specify the services and click **NEXT**.



5. Click Finish.



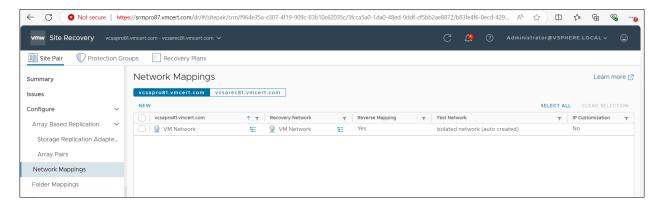
6. Verify that the pair is created and reflected on both the sites (primary and secondary):



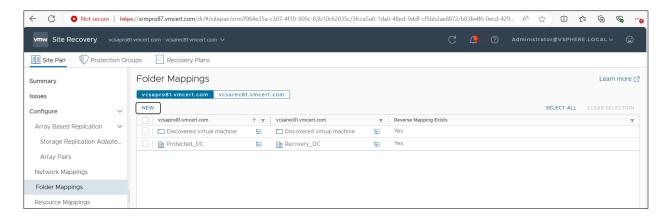
Configuring Resource Mapping

For more details on how to map the resources, create TAG, and other storage policies, see the Broadcom documentation.

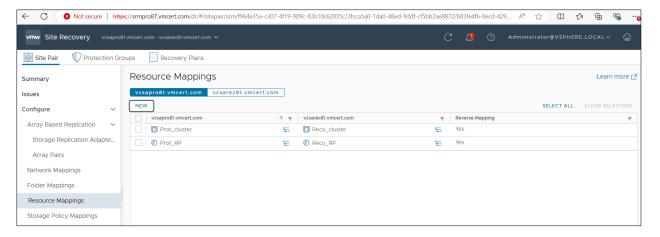
 To create network mapping, navigate to Configure > Network Mappings, select the network from both sites, and map them to each other to ensure proper connectivity during recovery.



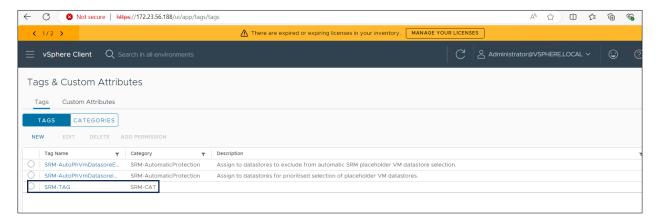
2. To create folder mapping, navigate to **Configure > Folder Mapping**, select the VM folders from both sites, and map them to align resources correctly during recovery.



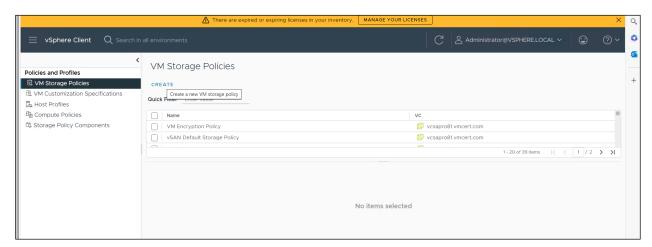
To create resource mapping, navigate to SRM Settings > Resource Mapping, select the
resource from both sites, and map them to ensure proper alignment of compute resources
during failover.



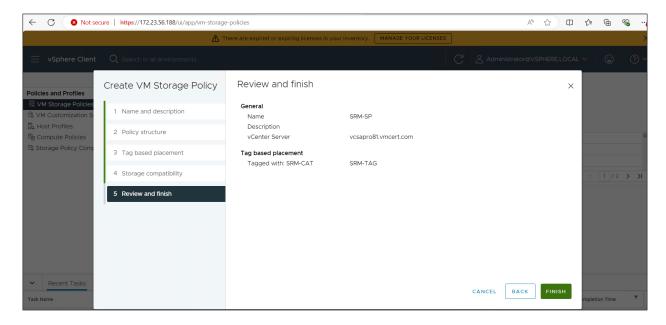
- 4. For storage policy tagging, navigate to **vSphere Client > Tags & Custom Attributes**, and create a new tag category.
- 5. Create a TAG. Click **NEW** and assign it to the relevant datastore. In this scenario, SRM-TAG is created in the TAGS section.



6. Navigate to **VM Storage Policies**, and either create a new storage policy, or edit an existing one. To create a new policy, click **CREATE**.



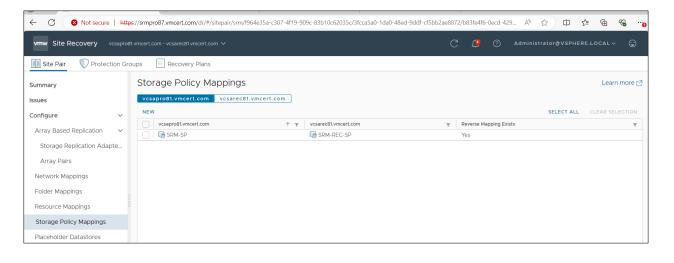
7. Complete the storage creation policy by clicking **FINISH**.

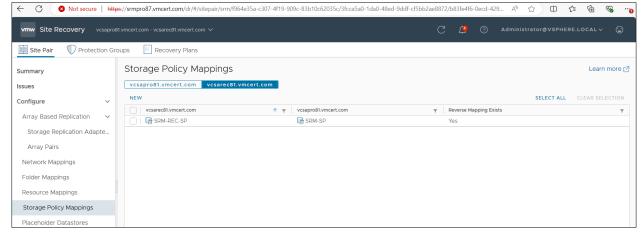


- 8. Associate the storage policy with the VM by adding the tag and category you created to enforce compliance, as shown in the following screenshot. This ensures that virtual machines are automatically placed on the appropriate storage based on the defined tag and category during provisioning.
- 9. Click the VM, select VM Policies, navigate to Edit VM Storage Policies, and map the policy.



Storage policy mapping is created for both primary and secondary sites:

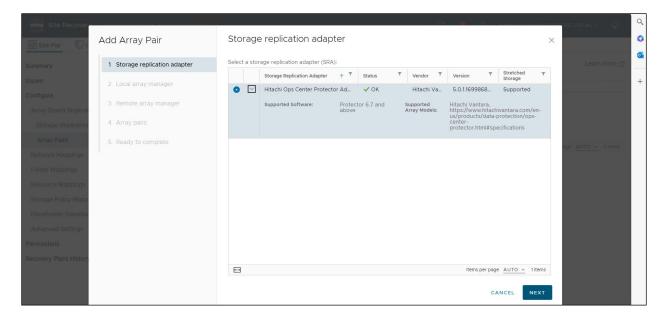




Creating an Array Pair

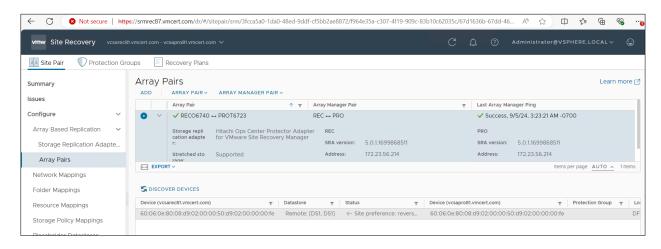
An array pair in VMware SRM links storage systems at the protected and recovery sites for disaster recovery, enabling datastore replication to ensure synchronized data. To create an array pair, complete the following steps:

- 1. In the vSphere Client, navigate to **SRM > Configure > Array Pairs**.
- 2. Select **Add Array Pair** and select the storage systems from both the protected and recovery sites. Click **NEXT**.



- Enter the connection details for both storage systems. Click NEXT.
- 4. Select the storage replication type and edit replication settings.

The pair is created as follows:

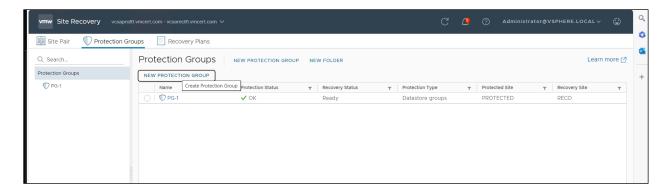


After the array pair is created, you can map datastores and configure replication between the two storage systems for disaster recovery.

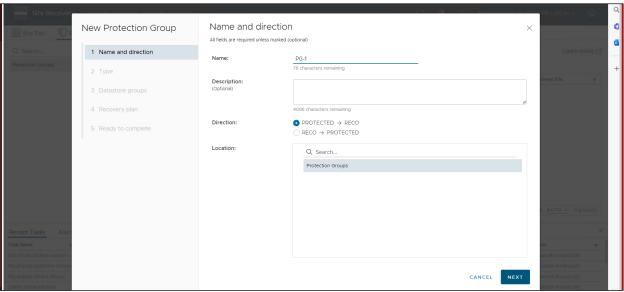
Creating a Protection Group and a Recovery Plan

In VMware SRM, a protection group is a set of VMs configured for replication between protected and recovery sites. A recovery plan automates failover, including VM startups, network reconfiguration, and scripts, ensuring business continuity during disasters or migrations.

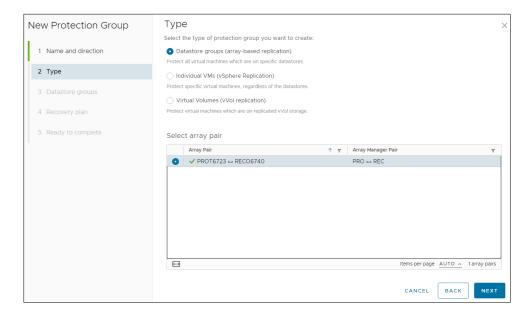
- 1. Log in to the vSphere Client and navigate to Site Recovery > Protection Groups.
- 2. Click New Protection Group.



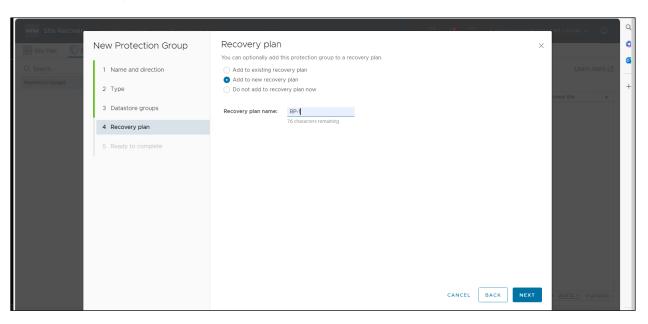
3. Select the name and direction. Click NEXT.



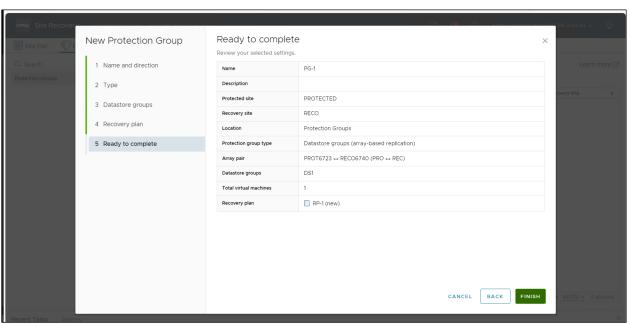
4. Select the type of replication. In this scenario, we selected Datastore groups (array-based replication). Click **NEXT**.



5. Select the recovery plan and click **NEXT**.



6. Review the summary and click FINISH.



The Protection Group is created.



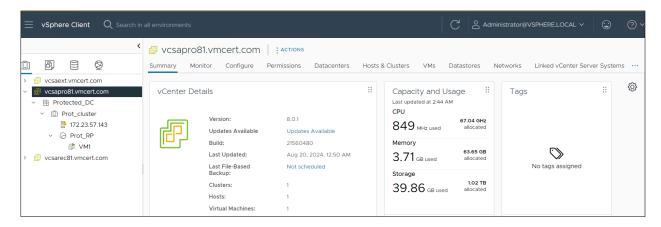
7. Verify that the recovery plan is created.



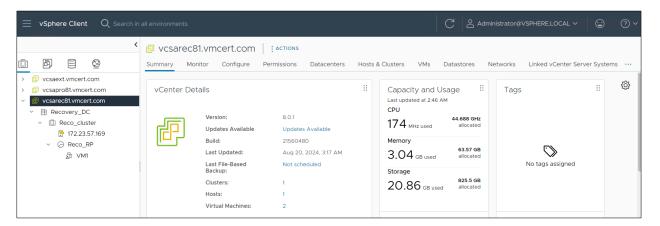
SRM Operation

Planned Migration Test

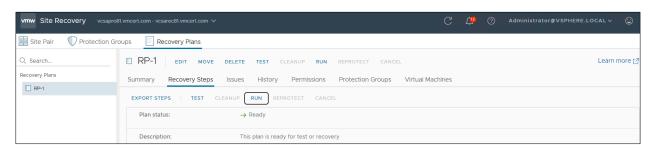
1. Log in to the VCSA where the VM resides and verify the primary host status.



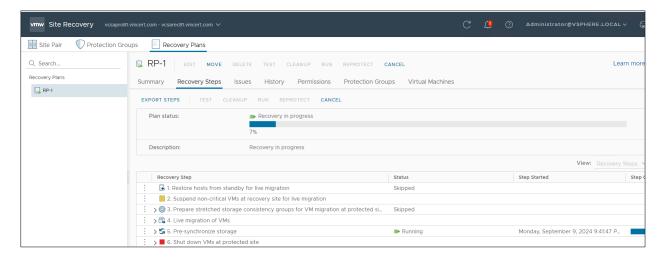
2. Verify the secondary host status.



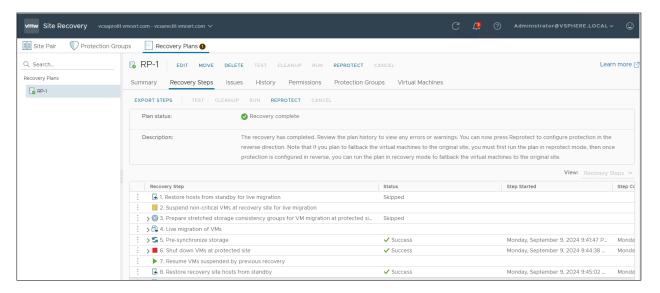
3. Log in to the SRM site and run the failover test. Click RUN.



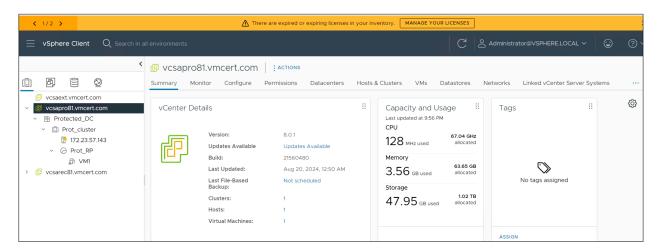
4. Verify the test progress.



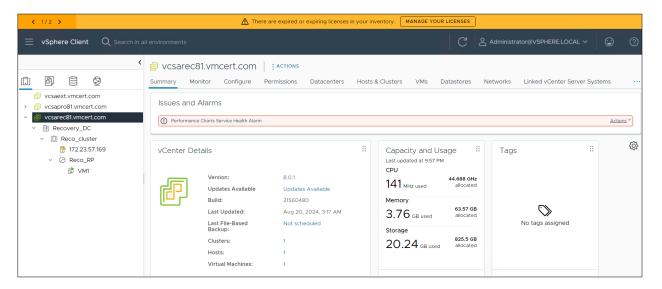
5. Check whether the test status shows Recovery complete.



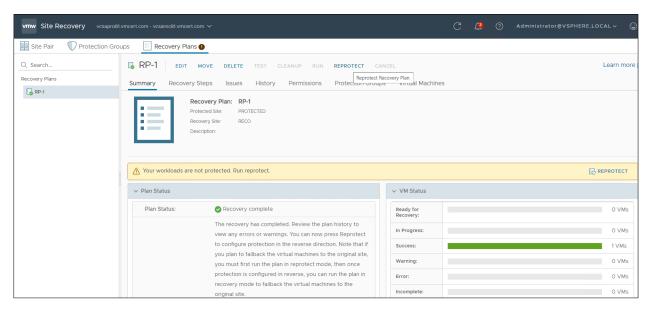
6. Check the status of the primary host from the vSphere Client after running the failover test operation:



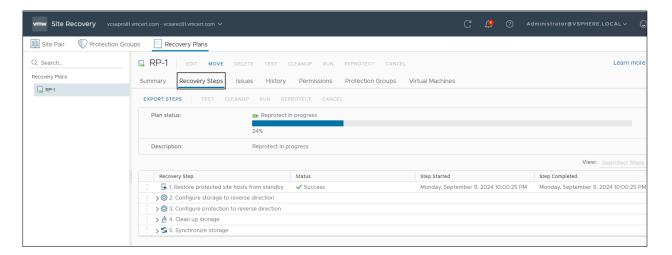
7. Check the status of the VM located on the secondary host after the test operation is run. In this scenario, the VM was migrated to the secondary site after the test was completed.



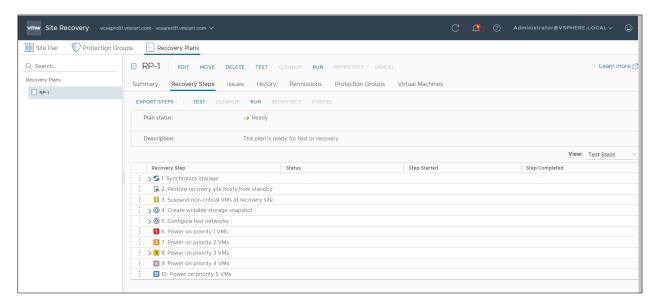
8. After a failover test in VMware SRM, reprotection is required to reverse the replication direction from the recovery site back to the original site. This ensures that the original site is ready to act as the recovery site in case of future failovers. Click **REPROTECT**.



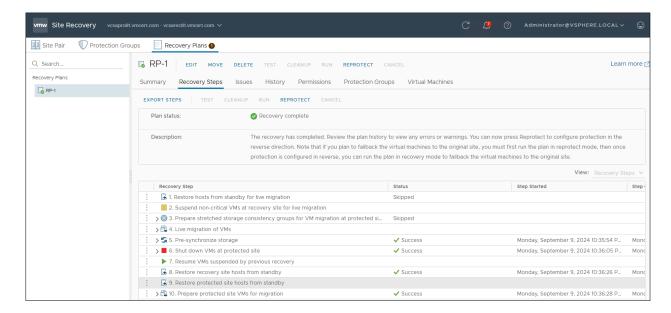
9. Verify the Reprotection progress from the Recovery Steps tab.



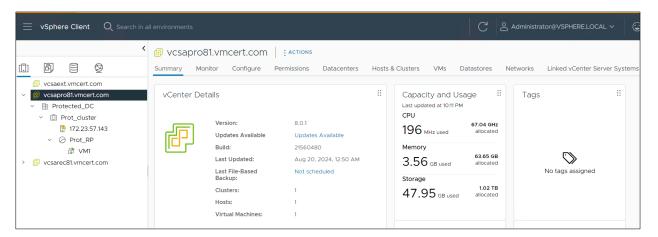
10. Verify whether the plan status shows Ready.



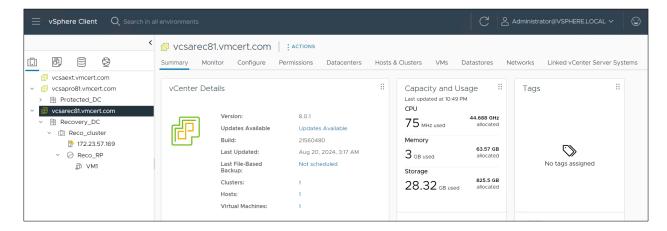
11. Repeat the procedure and click RUN.



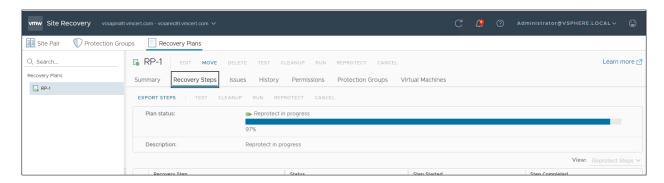
Status of the primary host after reversed planned migration:



Status of the secondary host after the planned migration:



12. Reprotect the Recovery Plan after the test.



Conclusion

Configuring SRM 8.7 with stretched storage certification using SRA 5.0.1 and GAD provides a powerful disaster recovery solution that leverages high-availability storage and automated failover capabilities. With seamless integration between VMware SRM, GAD, and Ops Center Protector, this solution delivers robust, reliable, and scalable disaster recovery, ensuring business continuity across sites.

References

- Adding the external storage system for the quorum disk
- Configuring a quorum disk
- Creating a datastore
- Deploying and configuring VCSA
- Download VCSA
- Download VCSA ISO and obtain the ISO image of VCSA from the VMware Customer Connect portal
- Hitachi Ops Center Protector
- Hitachi Vantara Support
- Mapping resources, creating TAG, and creating storage policies
- SRM installation guide



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