

IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family Storage Replication
Adapter
Version 3.0.1

User Guide



Note

Before using this document and the product it supports, read the information in “Notices” on page 49.

Edition notice

Publication number: GA32-1067-09. This edition applies to version 3.0.1 of the IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family Storage Replication Adapter and to all subsequent releases and modifications until otherwise indicated in a newer publication.

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About this guide

This guide describes how to prepare for, install, configure, and use the IBM® Spectrum Accelerate Family Storage Replication Adapter.

Who should use this guide

This guide is intended for system administrators who are familiar with the VMware vCenter, Site Recovery Manager, and vSphere platforms, and with the relevant IBM storage systems.

Conventions used in this guide

These notices are used in this guide to highlight key information.

Note: These notices provide important tips, guidance, or advice.

Important: These notices provide information or advice that might help you avoid inconvenient or difficult situations.

Attention: These notices indicate possible damage to programs, devices, or data. An attention notice appears before the instruction or situation in which damage can occur.

Related information and publications

You can find additional information and publications related to the IBM Spectrum Accelerate™ Family Storage Replication Adapter on the following information sources.

- IBM Knowledge Center
- IBM XIV® Storage System on IBM Knowledge Center
- IBM Spectrum Accelerate on IBM Knowledge Center
- IBM FlashSystem® A9000 on IBM Knowledge Center
- IBM FlashSystem A9000R on IBM Knowledge Center
- VMware vCenter Site Recovery Manager Documentation (www.vmware.com/support/pubs)
- VMware Technical Resources (www.vmware.com/technical-resources)
- VMware knowledgebase (kb.vmware.com)
- For SRA deployment with IBM HyperSwap® solution, also refer to the following VMware documents:
 - Stretched Clusters & VMware Site Recovery Manager
 - Site Recovery Manager and Stretched Storage: Tech Preview of a New Approach® to Active-Active Data Centers

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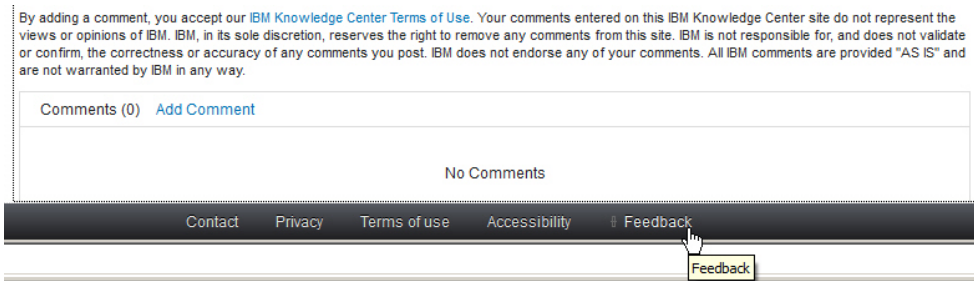
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 - Exact publication title and product version
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Chapter 1. Introduction

The IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family Storage Replication Adapter (SAF SRA, or SRA) is a software add-on that integrates with the VMware vCenter Site Recovery Manager (SRM) platform and enables site-to-site failovers together with supported IBM storage systems.

The IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA extends the VMware vCenter Site Recovery Manager capabilities by allowing it to employ the replication and mirroring features for continuous storage availability at both the protected site and recovery site.

Using the IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA, VMware administrators can automate the failover of a supported storage system at the protected (primary) SRM site to a storage system at a recovery (secondary) SRM site. Immediately upon a failover, the ESX and ESXi servers at the recovery SRM site start using the replicated datastores on the mirrored volumes of the secondary storage system.

When the primary site is back online, failback from the recovery site to the primary site can be performed manually or automatically.

Starting from version 3.0.0, the IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA can be integrated with IBM HyperSwap solution, as introduced by the FlashSystem A9000 and A9000R storage systems (version 12.1). See “IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA in the IBM HyperSwap solution” on page 3 for details.

Full description of the IBM HyperSwap solution appears in the Product Overview of the IBM FlashSystem A9000 and A9000R storage systems.

In addition, the SRA is compatible with Multi-site HA/DR solution, as introduced by the IBM FlashSystem A9000 and A9000R storage systems (version 12.3). While not actively supporting this function, the SRA is agnostic to the underlying HA/DR configuration and does not interfere with its operation.

Concept diagram

The following figure illustrates how two supported IBM storage systems are integrated in a typical VMware SRM disaster recovery solution. The IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA is used on the VMware vCenter Site Recovery Manager server at both the protected and recovery sites.

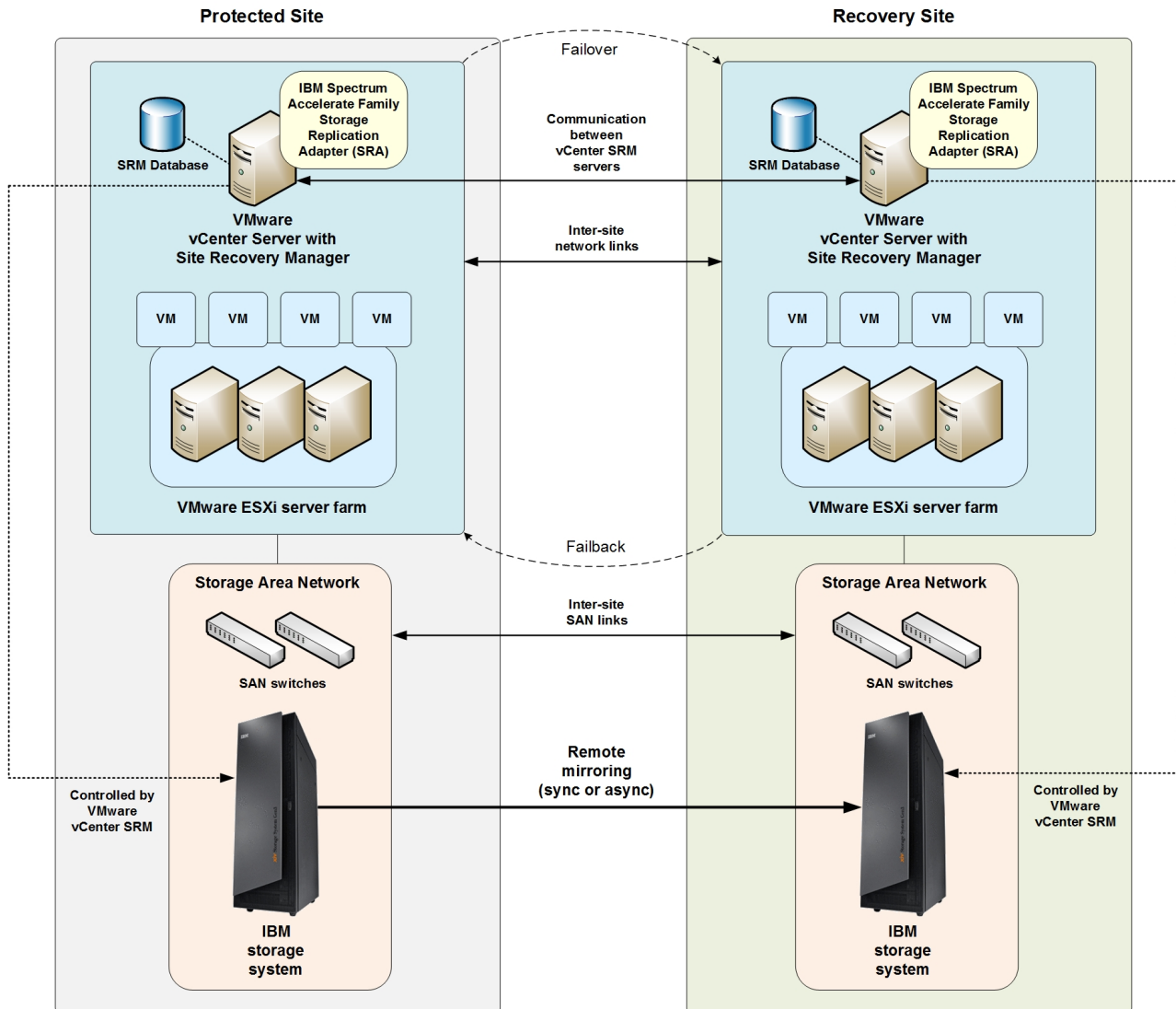


Figure 1. IBM storage systems in a typical protection and recovery deployment

Volume mapping principles

At both the protected and recovery sites, the IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA aims to best achieve the following configuration goals on the supported IBM storage system, if possible:

- Keep the volume LUN numbers upon failover, and reuse the same ones upon failback.
- Map volumes with the same LUN IDs across all the specific ESXi hosts that are requested for the failover.
- In more scenarios, map volumes to a cluster that contains all the specific ESXi hosts that are requested for the failover, rather than mapping to individual hosts.

Note: The above configuration goals are attained on a best-effort basis, depending on the specific configuration scenario at the protected and recovery sites.

The following figure illustrates the volume mapping principles (attained on a best-effort basis):

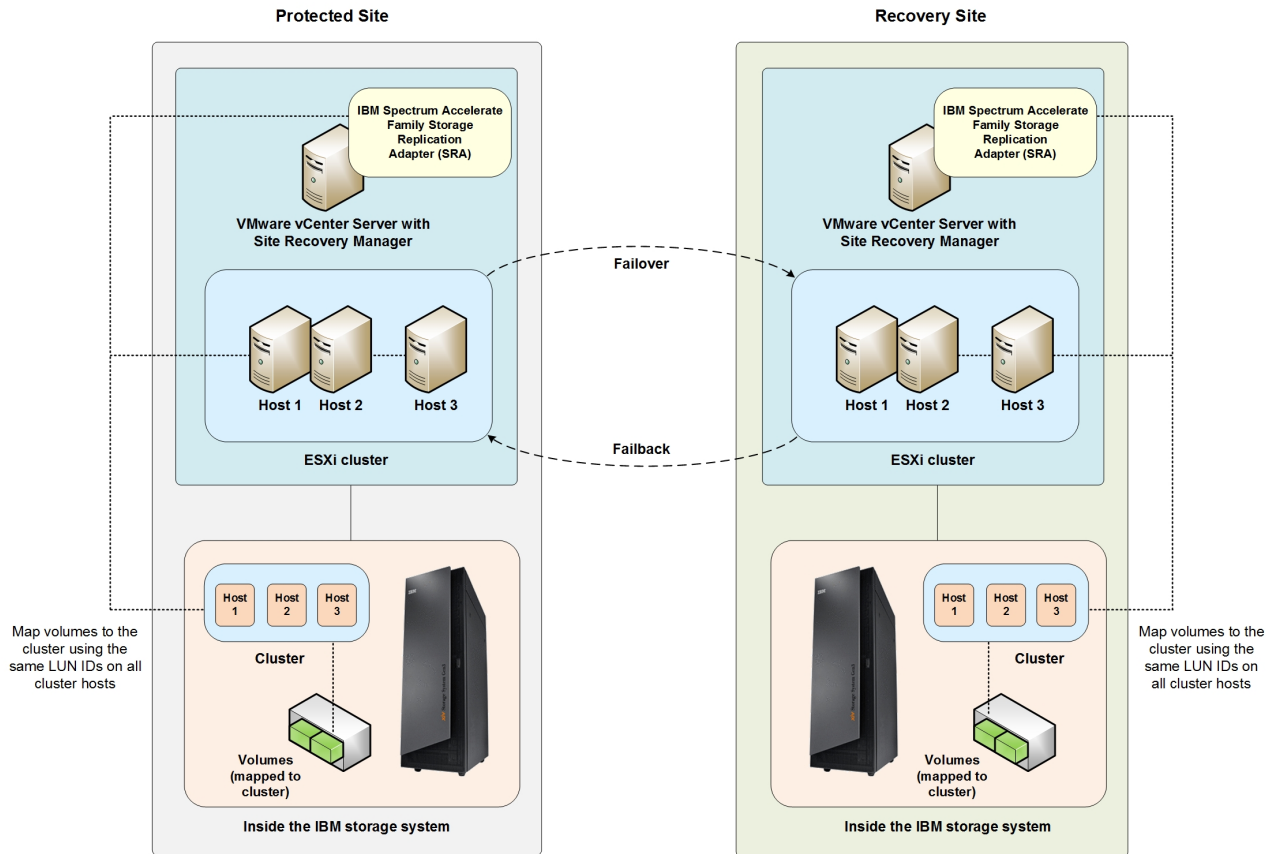


Figure 2. Best-effort volume mapping principles

For in-depth understanding of how the different IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA operations are carried out, see “Initiating SRA operations” on page 35.

IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA in the IBM HyperSwap solution

SRM support for active-active storage scenarios can be leveraged with FlashSystem A9000 and A9000R HyperSwap.

HyperSwap high availability is based on active-active pairing of storage systems per volume or per consistency group. Each volume or consistency group pair uses synchronous replication to keep both systems updated at all times. When certain conditions apply, an automatic and completely transparent failover is performed, so that the applications experience no downtime. As soon as the actual failure is recovered, the pair is automatically resynchronized.

As in other high availability solutions, HyperSwap requires a quorum witness component, to avoid split-brain situations. The IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family HyperSwap Quorum Witness is constantly monitoring the status of the related storage systems, and, if necessary, acts as a tiebreaker for conflict resolution.

The HyperSwap solution relies on Asymmetrical Logical Unit Access (ALUA) support to inform the host about the optimized paths to the storage system, and

minimize I/O latency. HyperSwap does not require an external solution that provides an active-active solution, and no separate licensing.

With HyperSwap support, SRM stretch clustering capabilities can be leveraged with FlashSystem A9000 and A9000R to:

- Provide cross-site non-disruptive mobility of workloads between active-active datacenters.
- Enable multi-site load balancing
- Increase the availability of workloads through partial or complete site and subsystem failures

Full description of the IBM HyperSwap solution appears in the Product Overview of the IBM FlashSystem A9000 and A9000R storage systems.

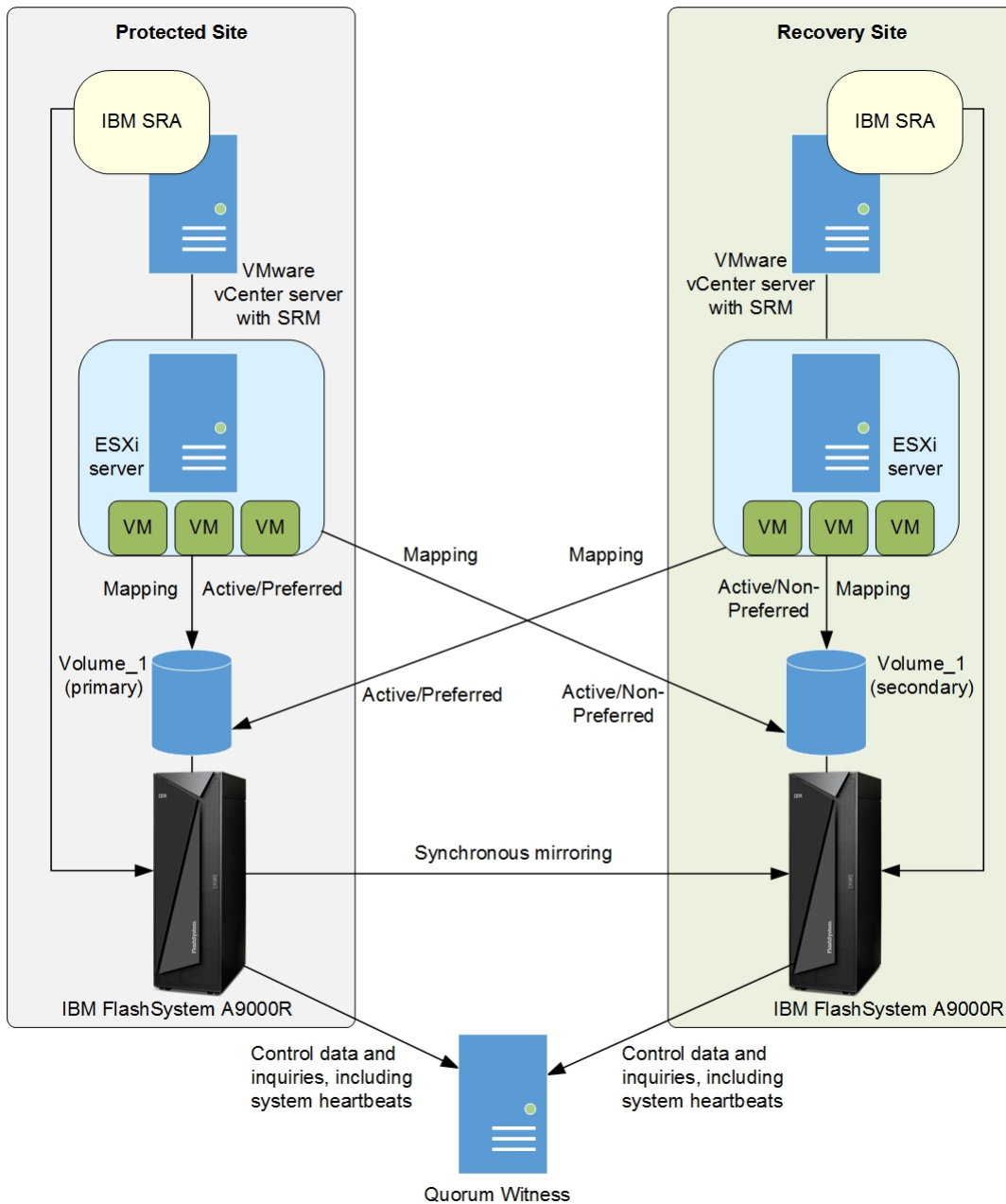


Figure 3. IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA with FlashSystem A9000R systems in IBM HyperSwap solution

See “SRM operation in the IBM HyperSwap solution” on page 42 for details on different SRM and HyperSwap deployment scenarios.

Compatibility and requirements

For the complete and up-to-date information about the compatibility and requirements of the IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family Storage Replication Adapter, refer to the latest release notes.

You can find the latest release notes on the IBM Knowledge Center.

Note: Refer to the relevant VMware documentation for information about how to install the compatible versions of vCenter Server and vSphere Client. You should also refer to the latest installation and configuration instructions for ESXi servers.

Important: To learn about the requirements for using VMware vCenter Site Recovery Manager (SRM) at your sites, refer to the Administration Guide that was issued for the SRM version that you are using. The guide is available at the VMware vCenter Site Recovery Manager Documentation website (www.vmware.com/support/pubs/srm_pubs.html).

Before you proceed

Before you proceed to the Preparation chapter, you must have access to a workstation on which your preferred storage management software is locally installed or accessible via a remote connection.

You can manage the connected storage system using the Hyper-Scale Manager user interface (UI) or CLI (command-line interface).

Chapter 2. Preparation

Preparation is required depending on your specific site configuration.

Prior to installing and using the IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family Storage Replication Adapter (SRA), the following verification tasks are required:

- Verifying the mirroring configuration
- Verifying the VMware vCenter SRM installation

To learn about how to prepare your sites from scratch, refer to “Setting up site-to-site mirroring from scratch” on page 10.

Verifying the mirroring configuration

All storage systems, volumes, and ESXi hosts at both the protected (primary) and recovery (secondary) sites must be properly connected to their remote counterparts and configured for site mirroring.

Prior to installing and using the IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA, make sure that:

- Your local storage system at the protected site has mirroring connectivity with the target storage system at the recovery site.
- The name of each storage system is unique in both the protected and recovery sites.
- The **Target Name** of any remote storage system is identical to the predefined System Name of that same remote storage system, as illustrated below.

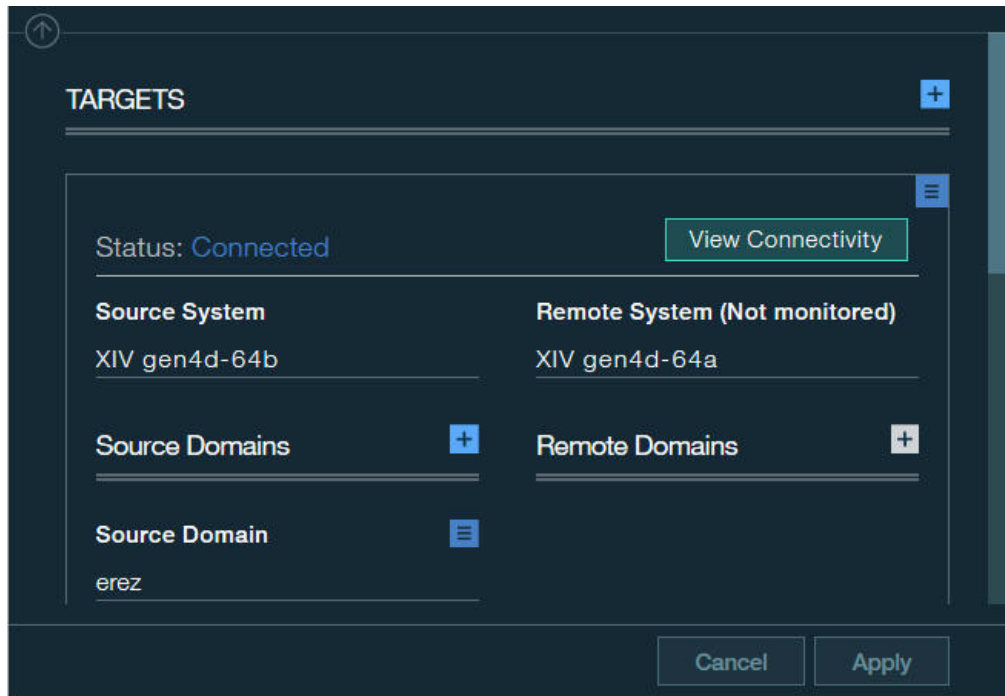


Figure 4. Targets form for FlashSystem A9000/9000R – Remote System name is "XIV gen4d-64a"

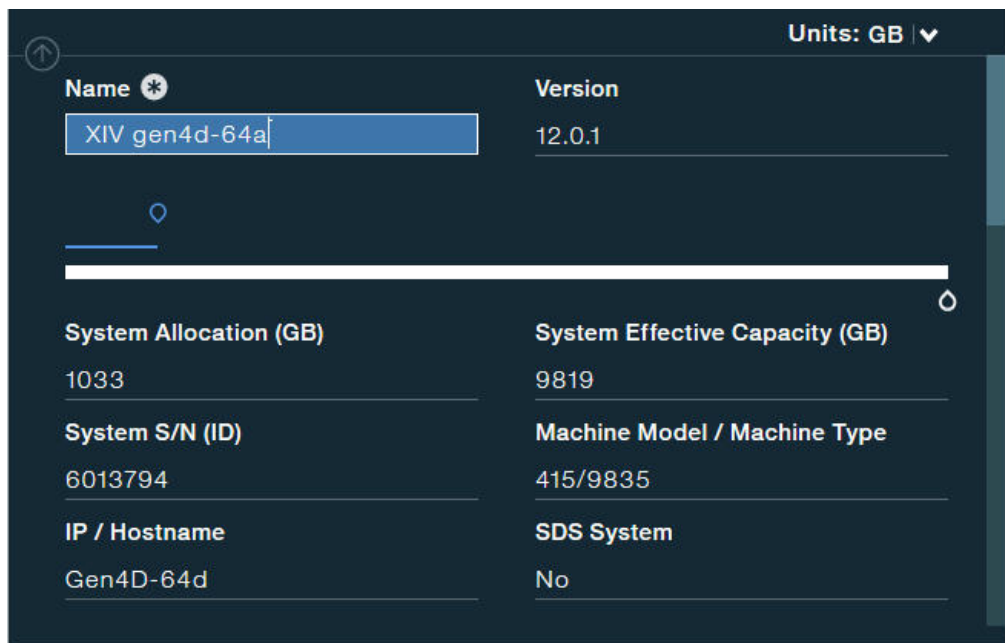


Figure 5. Properties information for FlashSystem A9000/9000R – System name is "XIV gen4d-64a"

- The storage pools that contain the replicated volumes at both the protected and recovery sites have sufficient size for creating the snapshots of all replicated volumes concurrently. For IBM XIV and Spectrum Accelerate storage systems, allocate a minimum of 17 GB for each volume, with additional 17 GB as spare space.

- Remote mirroring is defined for all volumes that you intend to protect as part of your Disaster Recovery Plan (DRP).
- Your protected (primary) volumes are mapped to the protected ESXi hosts.
- The recovery (secondary) volumes remain unmapped.
- Your recovery (secondary) ESXi hosts are defined as storage system hosts at the recovery site.
- Your recovery ESXi host ports are FC-zoned with the storage system at the recovery site, and are visible by that storage system.

Attention: Confirm with your storage administrator that all the requirements above are met.

Note: To learn how to set up mirroring in a "start from scratch" scenario, refer to "Setting up site-to-site mirroring from scratch" on page 10.

Verifying the VMware vCenter SRM installation

Before installing the IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family Storage Replication Adapter, make sure that VMware vCenter Site Recovery Manager is already installed and accessible at the protected (primary) site, as well as at the recovery (secondary) site.

On the vSphere client application, go to the Home page and check that the **Site Recovery** icon is displayed under **Solutions and Applications**.

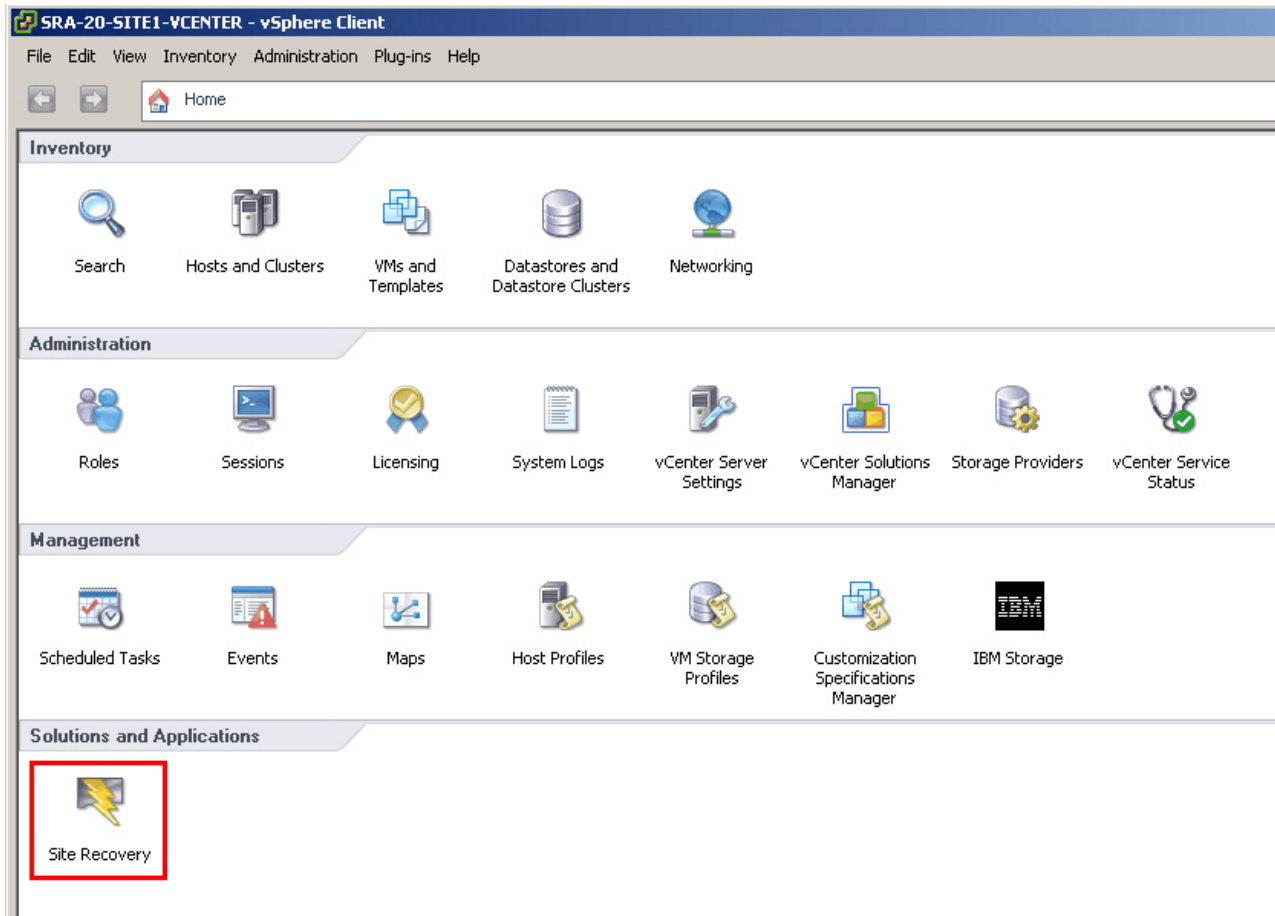


Figure 6. VMware vSphere Client – Site Recovery Manager is installed

Setting up site-to-site mirroring from scratch

This section covers the specific scenario when no previous setup for mirroring has been performed at your sites.

The specific scenario of setting up mirroring from scratch includes the following configuration stages:

- “Stage 1: Establish mirroring connection” on page 11
- “Stage 2: Create a storage pool for the protected volumes” on page 14
- “Stage 3: Create a storage pool for the recovery volumes” on page 14
- “Stage 4: Create protected volumes” on page 15
- “Stage 5: Create recovery volumes” on page 15
- “Stage 6: Map protected volumes to protected ESXi hosts” on page 16
- “Stage 7: Define recovery ESXi hosts” on page 18
- “Stage 8: Define mirroring for volumes” on page 21
- “Stage 9: Define consistency groups (optional)” on page 23

Note:

- If your sites are already partially configured for mirroring, perform only the stages or steps that are relevant to your specific case.
 - The following sections provide setup examples from version 5.0 of the Hyper-Scale Manager UI. If you are using an older or a newer management package version, refer to its online help or documentation.
-

Stage 1: Establish mirroring connection

Your first task is to determine which of your storage systems should be used as the protected (primary) system, and which should be used as the recovery (secondary) system.

About this task

Complete the following procedure to define a mirroring connection with the secondary storage system, using the IBM Hyper-Scale Manager UI.

Important: The target storage system at the remote site must already be up and running, as well as added to the IBM Hyper-Scale Manager UI before you can set the mirroring connection to it. In addition, all iSCSI or FC connections to the remote storage system must be operational as well. Confirm with your storage administrator that the remote storage system is ready for establishing the mirroring connection.

Procedure

1. Select **System and Domains Views > System Connectivity**.
2. From the Hub, click on **Targets**. The list of targets is displayed in the **System Connectivity** form. If there are no targets connected to this system, the display will be empty.
3. From the top of the **System Connectivity** form, click on the plus (+) sign to add a target. The System Connectivity form is displayed.

System Connectivity

TARGETS +

Status: Creating New Connectivity Define Connectivity

Monitored Remote System
 Unmonitored Remote System

Source System
 XIV gen4d-64a

Remote System *
 [Dropdown Menu]

Source Domains +
 [List]

Remote Domains +
 [List]

Source Domain [Menu]
 /Global Space/

TARGET PARAMETERS

Migration
 Mirroring / Mobility

FC
 iSCSI

Max Sync Job Rate (MB/s)
 300

Max Resync Rate (MB/s)
 300

Max Initialization Rate (MB/s)
 100

Figure 7. System Connectivity form

4. Add a remote system that is either monitored by management server or unmonitored and define all of its parameters, including **Mirroring/Mobility**. Click **Apply**.
5. Click **Define Connectivity** to view the Connectivity Patch Panel displaying the defined ports on the source and target systems. A dotted line between the source and target systems shows that the connectivity is not yet defined.
6. Click **Auto Connect**. The system sees all of the ports on the target and connects the ports. You can switch between the source and target views on the Connectivity Patch Panel to see the ports and the port status defined on both.
7. To see a graphical image of the Connectivity Patch Panel and the connections between the ports of the source and target systems, click on **Connectivity Details**.

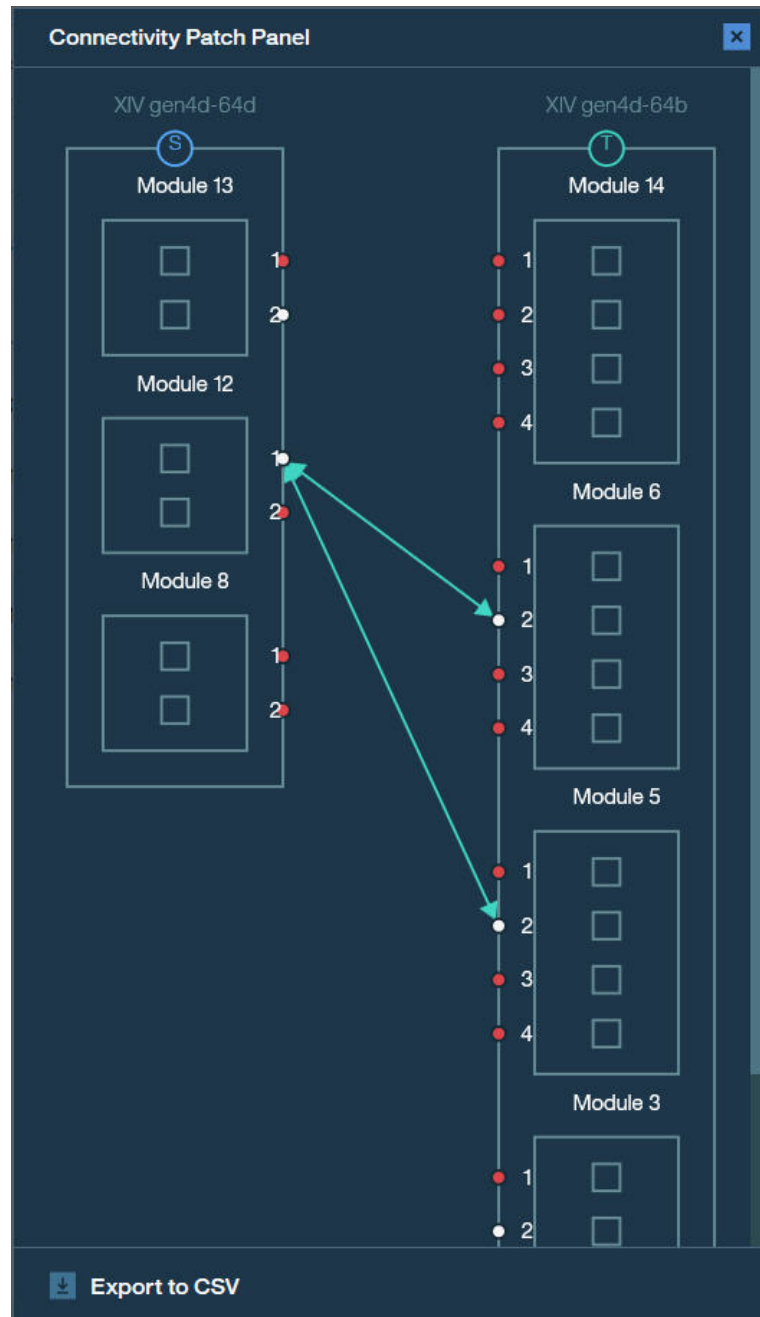


Figure 8. Connectivity Patch Panel

The auto-detected physical connections (iSCSI or FC) between the two storage systems are displayed graphically as green arrow lines between the interface connections of both storage systems.

- Make sure that a bi-directional connection is established with the target storage system.
- Fibre Channel (FC) connections can be auto-detected only through proper FC zoning. Confirm with your storage administrator that FC zoning has been properly set in advance.

8. Click **Approve** to use the graphically displayed connections.

Stage 2: Create a storage pool for the protected volumes

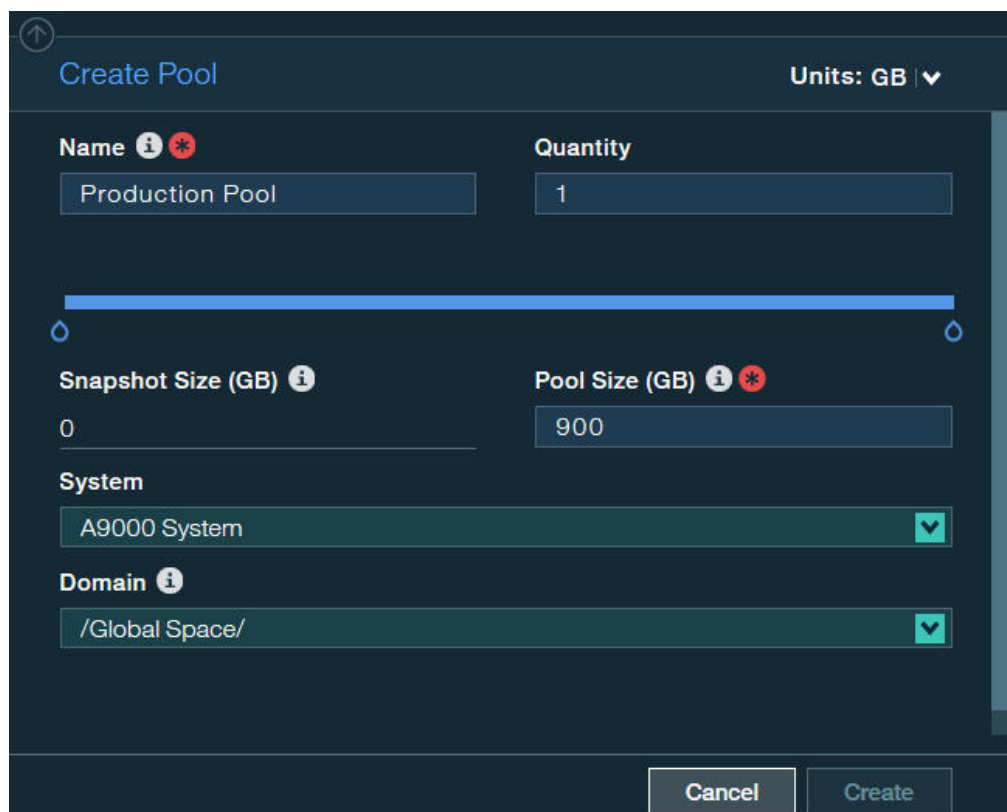
In this preparation stage you create a storage pool for the protected volumes.

About this task

After the mirroring between the storage systems is set, create a storage pool for the protected volumes on the primary storage system.

Procedure

1. Select **Pools and Volumes Views > Pools**. The list of pools is displayed. If there are no pools in this system, the display will be empty.
2. From the Hub, click on the plus (+) sign to add a new pool. The **Create Pool** form is displayed.



The screenshot shows the 'Create Pool' form with the following details:

- Title:** Create Pool
- Units:** GB
- Name:** Production Pool
- Quantity:** 1
- Snapshot Size (GB):** 0
- Pool Size (GB):** 900
- System:** A9000 System
- Domain:** /Global Space/
- Buttons:** Cancel, Create

Figure 9. Create Pool form

3. Define the pool name, its size, primary storage system and domain.
4. Click **Create**. The storage pool is created.

Stage 3: Create a storage pool for the recovery volumes

In this preparation stage you create a storage pool for the recovery volumes.

Procedure

Complete the pool creation procedure (see “Stage 2: Create a storage pool for the protected volumes”) at the recovery (secondary) site as well. When you do so, you may want to give an identical name to the storage pool at the recovery site.

Stage 4: Create protected volumes

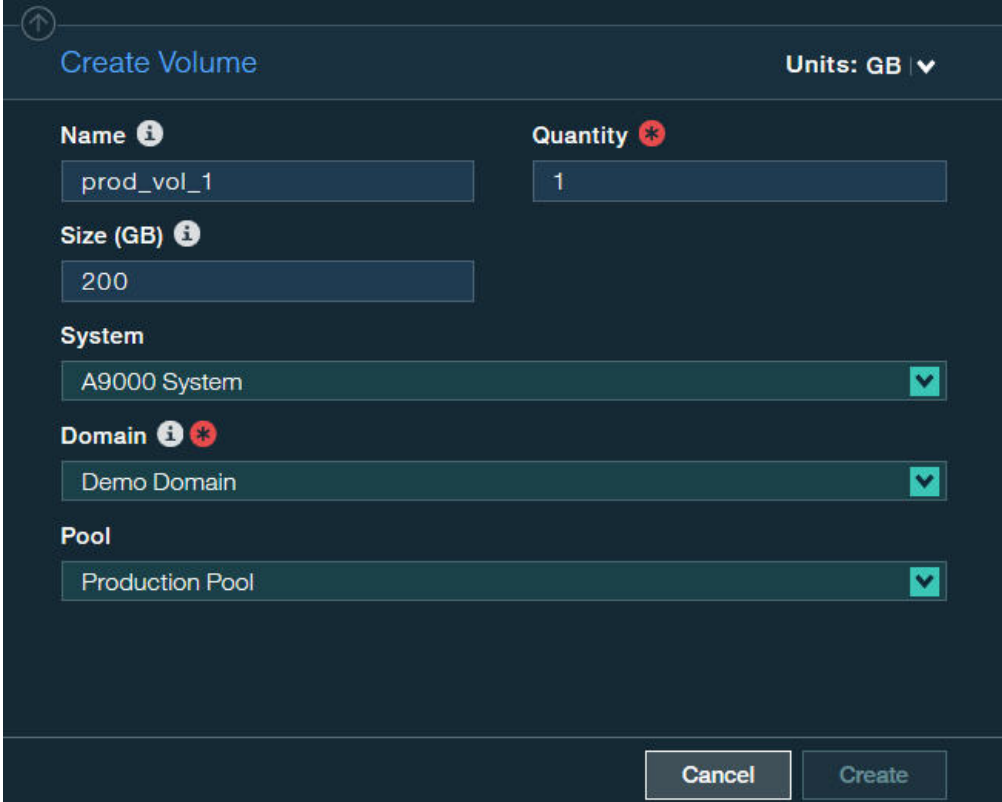
In this preparation stage you create protected volumes.

About this task

After the storage pool is created, create the protected volumes on it.

Procedure

1. Select **Pools and Volumes Views > Volumes**. The list of volumes is displayed. If there are no volumes in this system, the display will be empty.
2. From the Hub, click on the plus (+) sign to add a new volume. The **Create Volume** form is displayed.



The screenshot shows the 'Create Volume' form with the following fields and values:

- Name**: prod_vol_1
- Quantity**: 1
- Size (GB)**: 200
- System**: A9000 System
- Domain**: Demo Domain
- Pool**: Production Pool

Buttons: Cancel, Create

Figure 10. Create Volume form

3. Define the volume name, the number of volumes, volume size, primary storage system, its domain and the pool you created in the previous stage.
4. Click **Create**. The volume is created.

Stage 5: Create recovery volumes

In this preparation stage you create recovery volumes.

Procedure

Complete the volume creation procedure (see: “Stage 4: Create protected volumes”) at the recovery (secondary) site as well. When you do so, keep in mind:

- You might want to give identical names to the volumes at the recovery site.

- The volumes at the recovery site must have the same size as the volumes at the protected site.

Stage 6: Map protected volumes to protected ESXi hosts

In this preparation stage you map protected volumes to protected ESXi hosts.

About this task

After you have created protected volumes, map the volumes to the primary ESXi hosts that are to be protected by SRM, and then rescan these hosts.

Procedure

1. Select **Pools and Volumes Views > Volumes**. The list of volumes is displayed.
2. Select one or more protected volumes to which you want to map a host. The **Volume** mini-dashboard is displayed.



Figure 11. Volume mini-dashboard

3. From the **Volume** mini-dashboard, click the **Mapping** relation icon to display the empty **Volume Mapping** form with the **ADD** icon.
4. In the **Volume Mapping** form, click **ADD** icon to map the volume to an existing host.

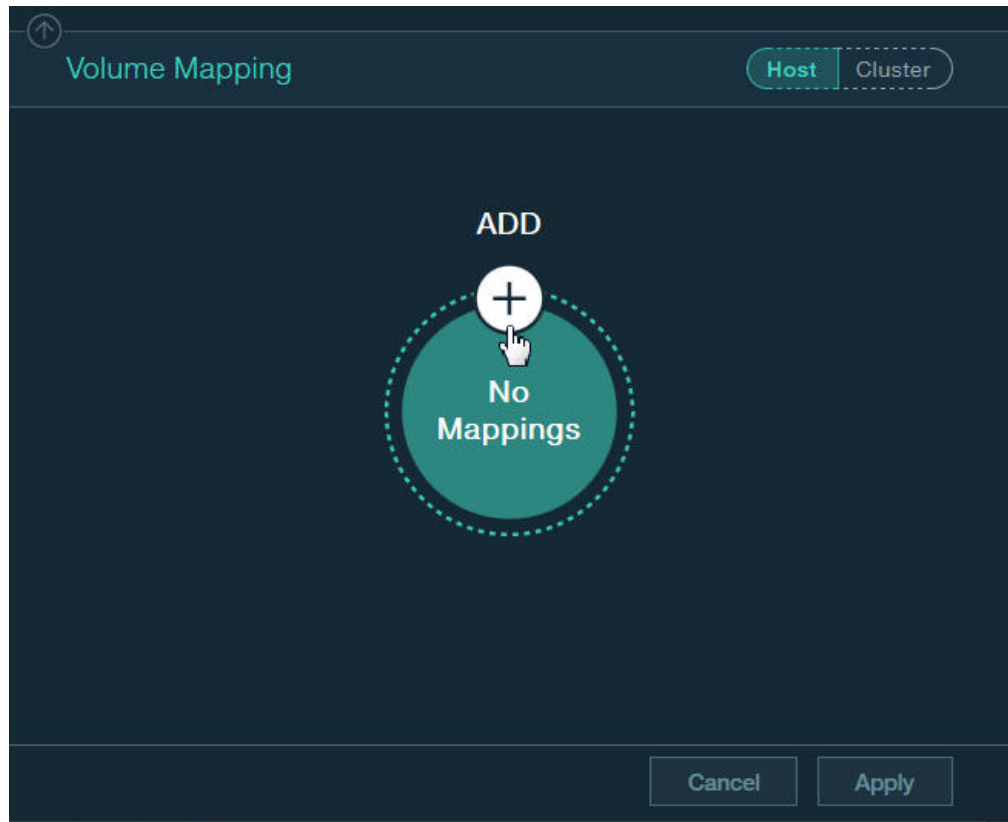


Figure 12. Adding new volume mapping to host

The **Host** and **LUN** drop-down lists are displayed in **Volume Mapping** form.

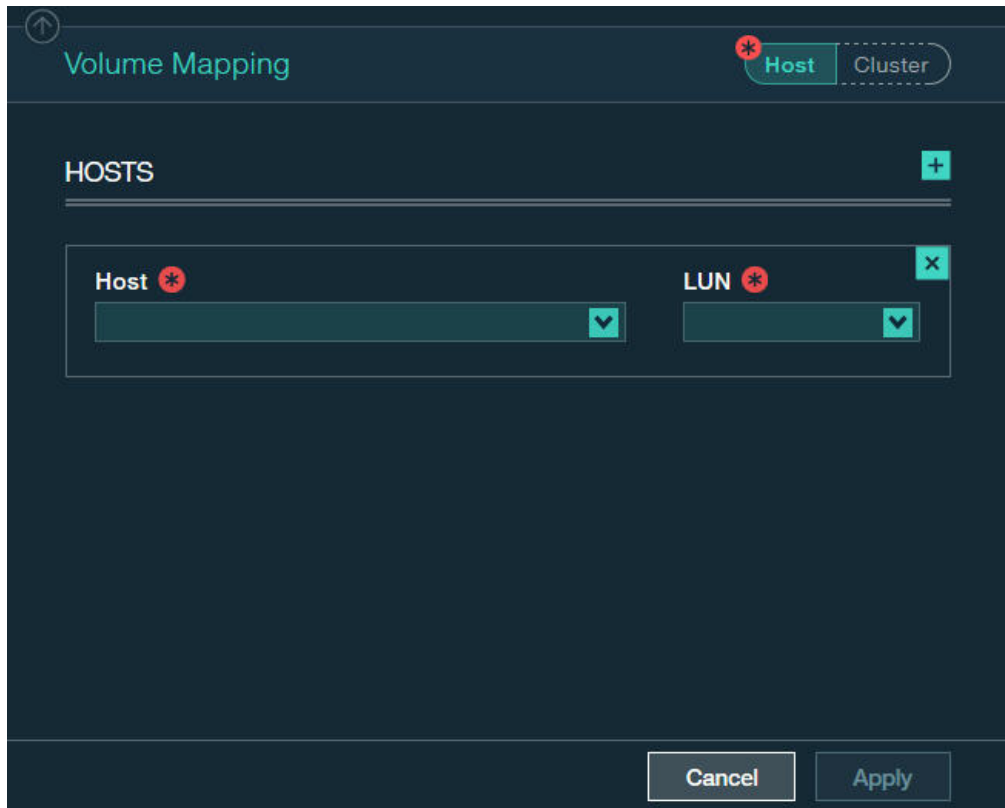


Figure 13. Adding new volume mapping for a host

5. In the **Volume Mapping** form, select a host and a LUN to be mapped, using the respective drop-down lists.
6. Click the plus sign in the right-hand corner if you want to continue the host mapping.
7. Click **Apply** to finish the mapping.

Stage 7: Define recovery ESXi hosts

In this preparation stage you define recovery ESXi hosts.

About this task

After mapping the protected volumes to the protected ESXi hosts, you can start defining your recovery (secondary) ESXi hosts at the recovery site.

Important: The recovery ESXi hosts should be connected over iSCSI or FC to the recovery storage system. For FC, proper zoning must be predefined.

Procedure

1. Click the **New** icon on the toolbar at the top and then select **Host**.

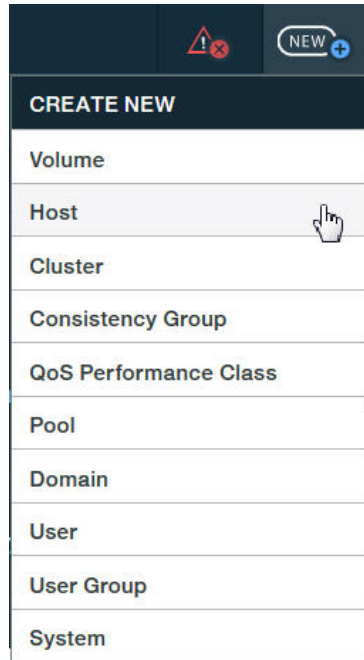


Figure 14. New Host option

The **Add Host** form is displayed.

Figure 15. Add Host form

2. Enter the following host details:
 - **Name** – Define name of the host.
 - **Type** – Select the host type from the drop down list.
 - **PORTS** – Select **FC** or **iSCSI** to define the port type. Depending on the selected port type, set the port address as follows:
 - For an FC port – Select the World Wide Port Name (WWPN) of the port from the drop down list.
 - For an iSCSI port – Enter the iSCSI Qualified Name (IQN) of the port.
 - **System** – Select the secondary storage system to which you want to attach the host.
 - **Cluster** – If the host is a member of a cluster, select the cluster name from the drop down list. Otherwise, leave this option blank.
 - **Domain** – Select the storage system domain or domains in which this host should be defined.
 - **Cluster's Domain** – Select the cluster domain or domains in which this host should be defined.
3. Click **Apply**. The host definition is added to the storage system.
4. Repeat steps 1–3 for each recovery host at the recovery site.

Note: The procedure above is for a single host. If some hosts are part of a cluster, go to **Hosts and Clusters Views > Hosts**, hold down the SHIFT key and select these hosts. Then, from the Hub and click **Actions > Clusters > Add/Remove Cluster** to add the hosts to the cluster.

Stage 8: Define mirroring for volumes

In this preparation stage you define mirroring for volumes on IBM storage systems.

About this task

After the recovery hosts are defined as storage system hosts at the recovery site, you can start defining the volume mirroring. The mirroring direction is from the protected site to the recovery site.

Procedure

1. Select **Pools and Volumes Views > Volumes**. The list of volumes is displayed.
2. Select one or more volumes to be mirrored. The **Volume** mini-dashboard is displayed.



Figure 16. Volume mini-dashboard

3. From the **Volume** mini-dashboard, click the **Mirror** relation icon to display the empty **Volume Mirroring** form with the **ADD** icon.
4. In the **Mirroring** form, click **ADD** icon to create mirroring.

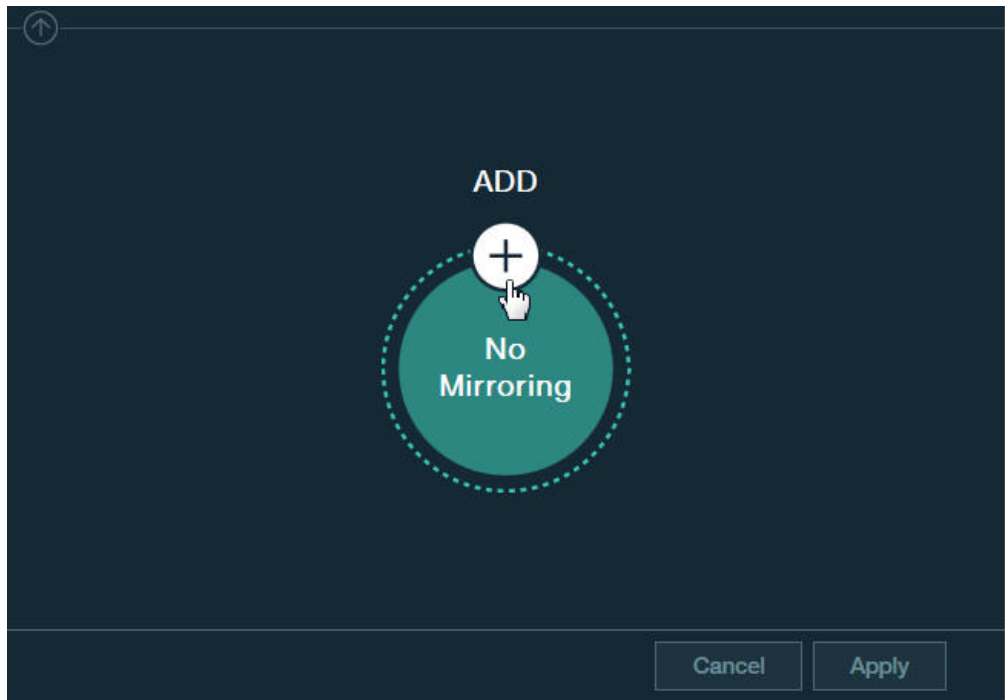


Figure 17. Adding volume mirroring

The full **Mirroring** form is displayed.

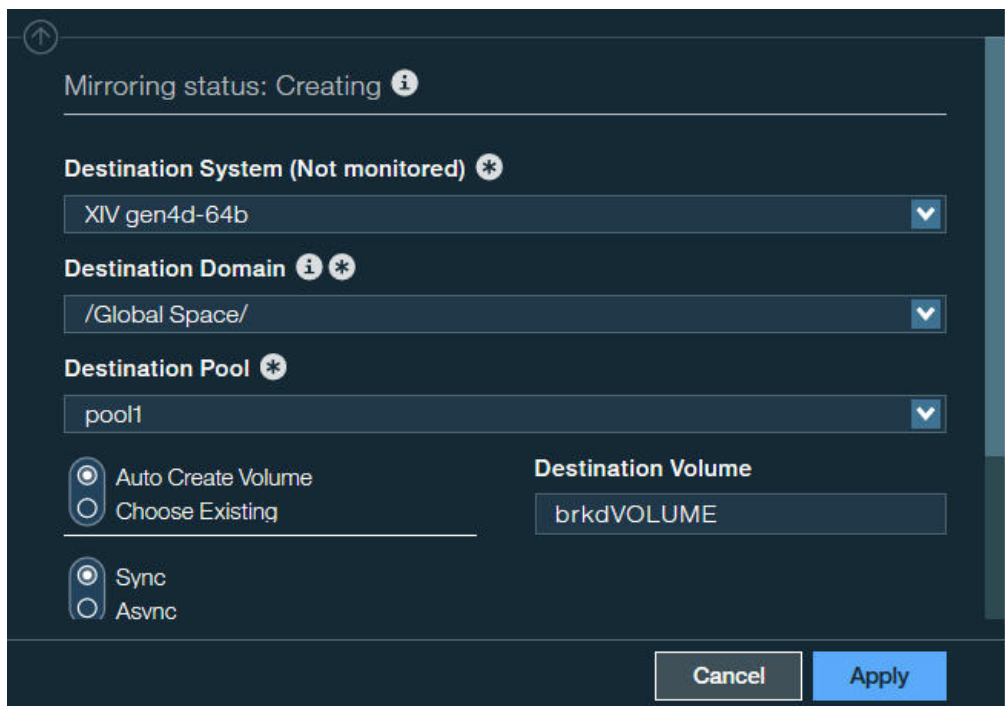


Figure 18. Mirroring form

5. In the **Mirroring** form, select the destination system, domain, pool, and other relevant mirroring details.
6. Click **Apply** to finish the mirroring configuration.

Stage 9: Define consistency groups (optional)

If your volumes require replication in consistency with each other (for example, when a datastore consists of more than one volume), create a consistency group for these volumes.

About this task

Define a mirrored consistency group on a storage system, which will contain previously created mirrored volumes.

Procedure

1. Click the **New** icon on the toolbar at the top and then select **Consistency Group**.

The **Create Consistency Group** form is displayed.

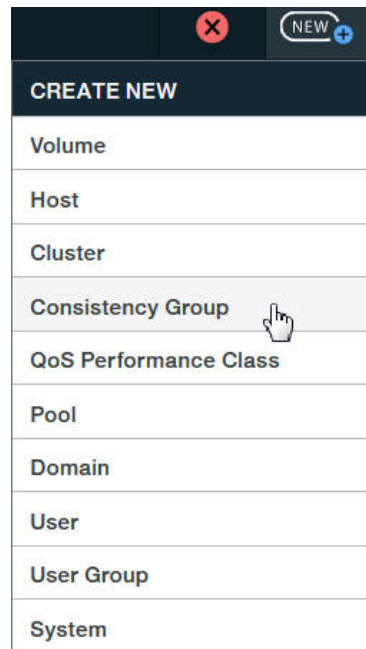


Figure 19. New Consistency Group option

The screenshot shows a 'Create Consistency Group' form. At the top, the title 'Create Consistency Group' is displayed. Below the title is a diagram illustrating a consistency group (CG) with four connected nodes. The central node is labeled 'CG' and has a 'NEW' button below it. The form below the diagram contains the following fields:

- Name ***: A text input field.
- System ***: A dropdown menu.
- Domain ⓘ ***: A dropdown menu with an information icon.
- Pool ***: A dropdown menu.

At the bottom of the form, there are two buttons: 'Cancel' and 'Create'.

Figure 20. Create Consistency Group form

2. Enter the consistency group's name, storage system, domain and select the storage pool on which it should be created. Then, click **Create**.
3. Define mirroring for the consistency group (CG) you have created. The mirroring should be of the same type and characteristics of the mirrored volumes that you intend to add to the group. Then, click **Apply**.

Mirroring status: Creating ⓘ

Destination System *

NO_CODE-form.mirroring.destination.label.cg_name

Sync
 Async

NO_CODE-form.mirror.label... ⓘ *
 Automatically set Schedule ⓘ
 Manually set Schedule

Activation State: Active ⓘ
 Activation State: Inactive

Cancel Apply

Figure 21. Create Mirror form – for a CG

4. Select **Pools and Volumes Views > Volumes**. The list of volumes is displayed.
5. Select one or more mirrored volumes which you want to add to the mirrored consistency group.
6. From the Hub, select **Actions > Consistency Group > Move to a Group**.

x Actions Volume Properties	
Properties >	Move to a Group
Snapshots >	Remove from Group i
Mirroring >	
Mapping >	
Consistency Group >	
QoS >	
Volume Capacity >	
Statistics >	
Migration >	
Mobility >	
Volume Data >	
Delete >	

Figure 22. Move Mirrored Volumes to a CG option

The mirrored volumes are now part of the mirrored consistency group.

Chapter 3. Installation

After the required preparation has been performed, you can start the IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA installation.

This chapter describes:

- “Running the SRA installation wizard”
- “Verifying the SRA installation” on page 29
- “Removing the SRA software” on page 30

Running the SRA installation wizard

This section describes how to run the IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family Storage Replication Adapter installation wizard.

Before you begin

Do not upgrade Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA while the VMware SRM service is running and there are pending operations related to the Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA to be updated. Always check VMware SRM service status and stop the service if it is active.

About this task

Complete the following procedure on the VMware vCenter SRM server to install the IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA.

Note: You can upgrade from version 2.1.0, 2.1.1, 2.1.1.1, 2.3.0 or 3.0.0 to version 3.0.1 by performing this installation procedure, without having to uninstall the existing version.

Procedure

1. Run the installation package file:
IBM_SAF_Storage_Replication_Adapter-3.0.1-build-x64.exe
2. From the language selection dialog box, select the language that you want to use in the installation wizard, and then click **OK**.



Figure 23. Language selection dialog box

The installation wizard of IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family Storage Replication Adapter starts.

3. Click **Next**. The License Agreement panel is displayed.
4. Read the IBM License Agreement and then select **I accept the terms in the license agreement**.
5. Click **Next**. The Ready to Install the Program panel is displayed.

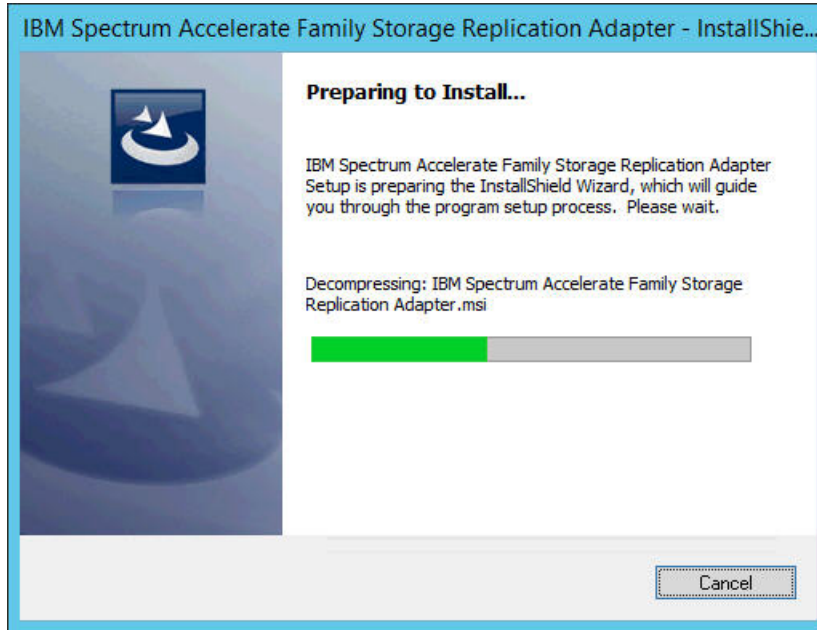


Figure 24. Ready to Install the Program panel

6. Click **Install** to begin the installation.

Note: The IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA files are installed in the SRM installation directory (default: C:\Program Files\VMware\VMware vCenter Site Recovery Manager), under the subfolder: \storage\sra\IBM SAF

After the installation is complete, the Completed panel is displayed.

7. If you want to display the documentation for the installed version, keep the documentation check box selected. Otherwise, clear the check box. Then, click **Finish**.



Figure 25. SRA documentation check box selected

What to do next

Verify that the IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA is properly installed, as explained in “Verifying the SRA installation.”

Verifying the SRA installation

After the installation, you can verify that the IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA is properly installed.

Procedure

1. On the vSphere client application, go to **Site Recovery > Array Managers**.
2. Click the top hierarchy of a listed array, and then click the **SRAs** tab.

IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA	
SRA:	IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA
Status:	OK
Version:	3.0.0
Vendor:	IBM Corp.
Install Location:	C:\Program Files\VMware\VMware vCenter Site Recovery Manager\storagesra\IBM XIV
Vendor URL:	http://www.ibm.com/support/knowledgecenter/STJTAG/hsg/hsg_sra_xiv_kowelcome.html
Supported Array Models:	IBM Corp., IBM XIV IBM Corp., IBM Spectrum Accelerate IBM Corp., IBM FlashSystem A9000/A9000R
Supported Software:	IBM XIV Remote Mirroring10.2 IBM XIV Remote Mirroring11 IBM FlashSystem A9000/A9000R Remote Mirroring12
Stretched Storage:	Supported

Figure 26. Array Managers – SRAs tab

3. Click **Rescan SRAs** and then verify that the correct IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA version details are displayed.

Removing the SRA software

If you want to remove the IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA from the SRM server, perform the Windows Server software removal procedure.

Procedure

1. From the Control Panel, click **Programs > Programs and Features**, and select IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family Storage Replication Adapter from the list of installed programs.
2. Click **Uninstall**. The uninstallation wizard guides you through the uninstallation steps.

Chapter 4. Usage

This chapter describes the usage of the IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA together with VMware SRM for performing dependable Disaster Recovery Planning (DRP) and protecting VMware sites that utilize supported IBM storage resources.

This includes:

- “Adding a storage system as an Array Manager”
- “Initiating SRA operations” on page 35
- “Snapshot creation principles” on page 38

Adding a storage system as an Array Manager

After the IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA is installed, you can start adding IBM storage systems (referred to as *array managers*) to your protected and recovery sites, as described in the following procedure.

Procedure

1. On the **Site Recovery** panel, select a site to which you want to add a storage system, select the **Array Based Replication** tab and click the + sign to launch the **Add Array Manager** wizard.
The SRM Add Array Manager wizard appears.

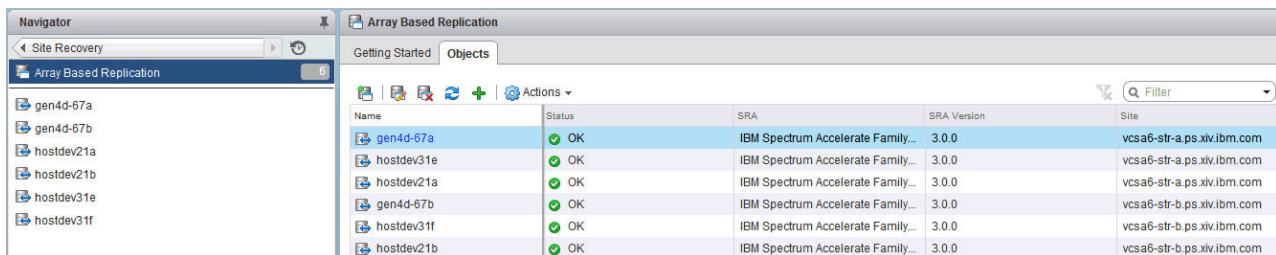


Figure 27. Sites panel

2. In the **Options** dialog box of the Add Array Manager wizard, select an option of adding a single array manager or two managers, one for each site. Then, click **Next**.

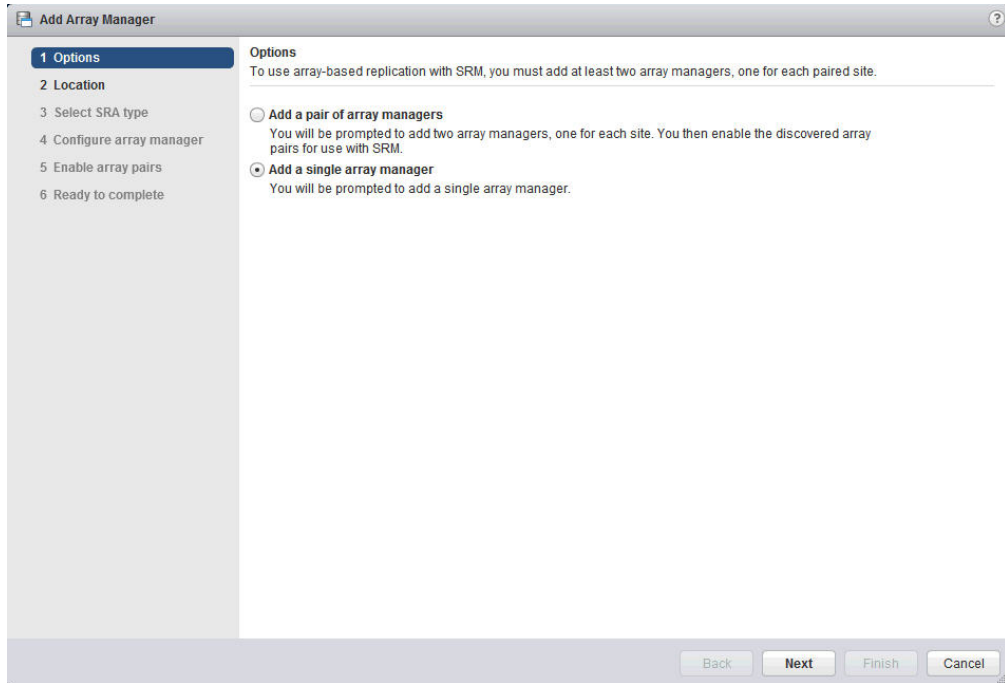


Figure 28. Add Array Manager – Options

The **Location** panel is displayed .

3. In the **Location** panel, select a protected or recovery site. If you chose to add a pair of managers in the previous step, you would be prompted to select the pair of sites. Then, click **Next**.

The **Select SRA Type** panel is displayed. The wizard automatically detects the

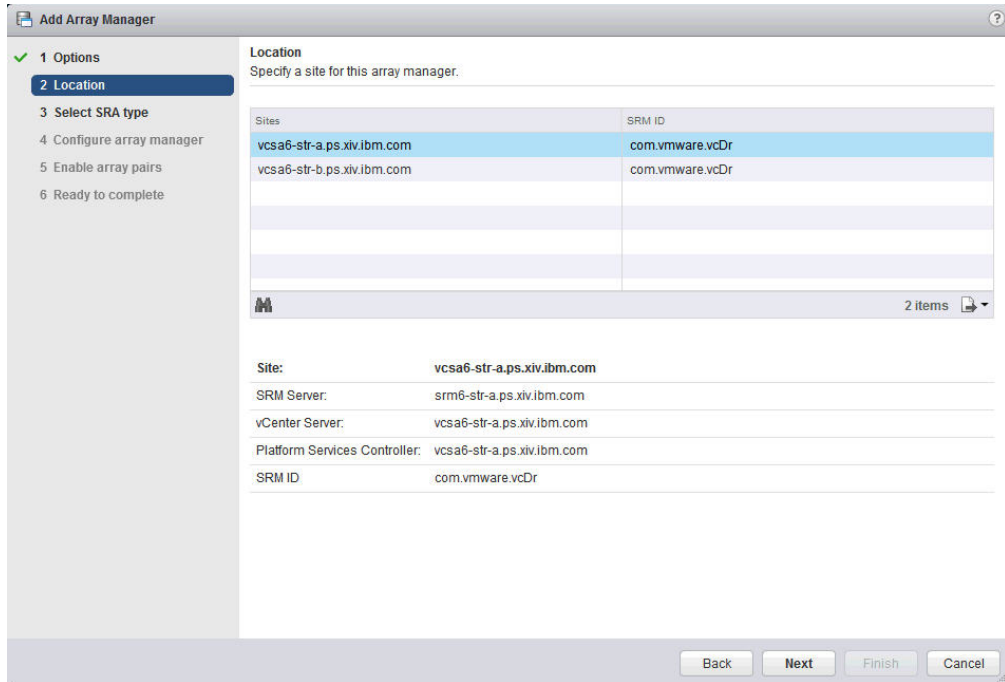


Figure 29. Add Array Manager – Location

type of Storage Replication Adapters (SRAs) installed on the site and status of SRA.

4. In the **Select SRA Type** panel, verify the displayed SRA information. Then, click **Next**.
The **Configure Array Manager** panel is displayed.

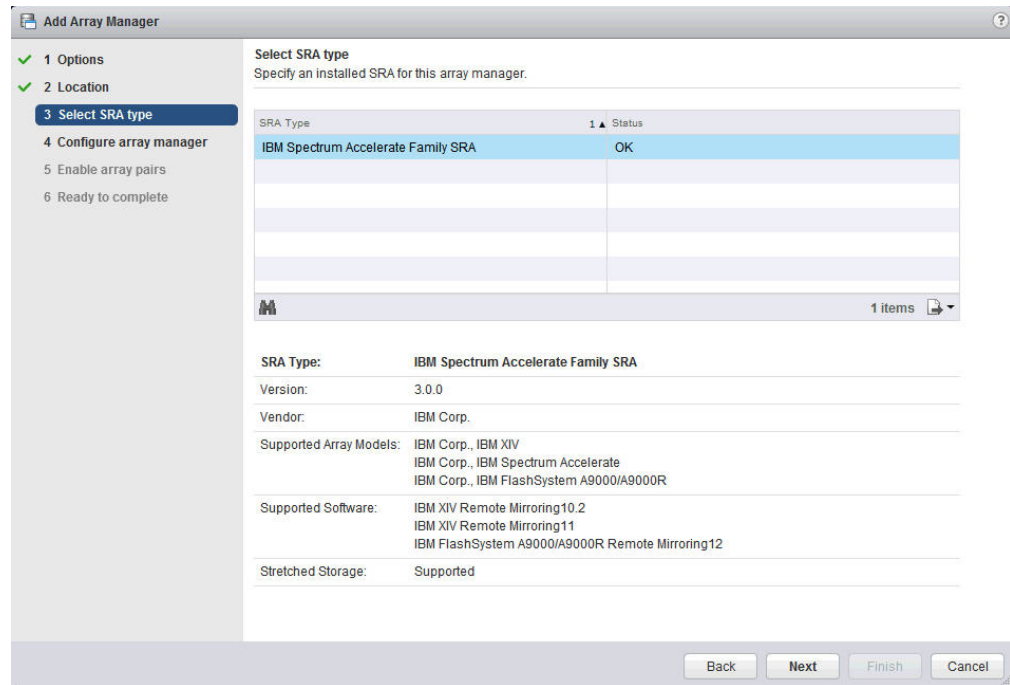


Figure 30. Add Array Manager – Select SRA type

5. In the **Configure Array Manager** panel, enter the following connection parameters for the storage system that you want to add. Click **Next**, when done.
 - **Display Name** – A name for the storage system (array manager).
 - **First management IP address / hostname** – Primary IP address or hostname of the storage system that you want to add.
 - **Second management IP address / hostname** – Alternative IP address or hostname of the storage system that you want to add.
 - **Third management IP address / hostname** – Another alternative IP address or hostname of the storage system that you want to add.

Important:

- You must fill in all three text fields.
 - If you have only two addresses, you can use the primary address in the First text field, and use the second address in the Second and Third text fields.
 - If you have only one address, enter it in all three text fields.
-

- **Username** – User name for accessing the specified storage system.
 - **Password** – Password for accessing the specified storage system.
-

Important: You must use login credentials of a storage administrator.

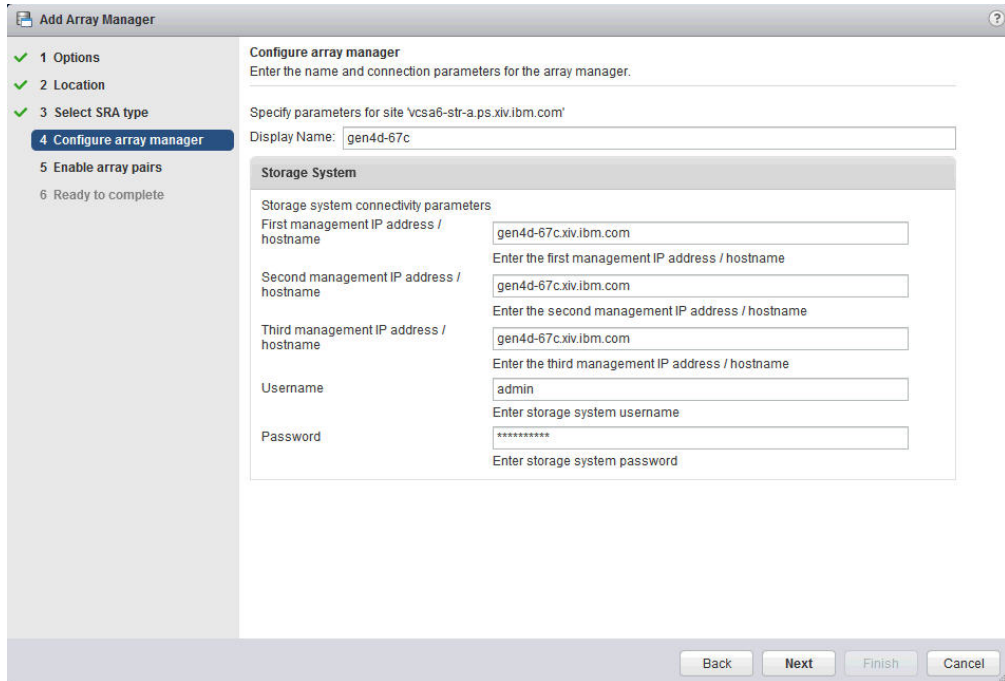


Figure 31. Add Array Manager – Configure array manager

The **Enable Array Pairs** panel is displayed.

- In the **Enable Array Pairs** panel, select the relevant check boxes to enable the array pairs. Then, click **Next**.

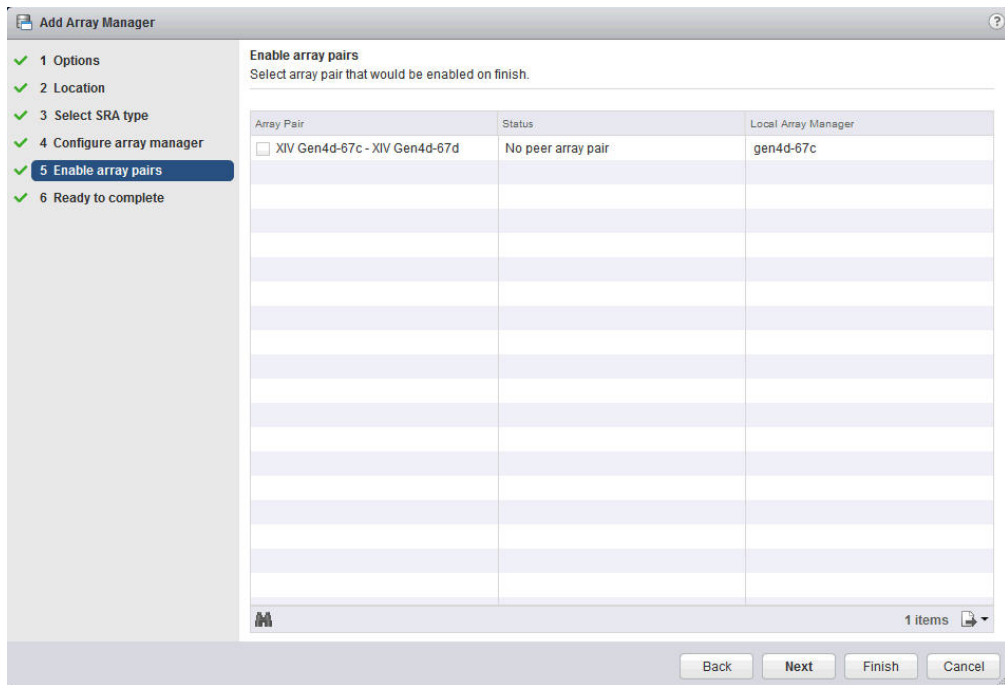


Figure 32. Add Array Manager – Enable array pairs

- If the connection to the storage system is successful, a message about the connection success is displayed. Review the specified information for array manager, and then click **Finish** to exit the wizard. If the connection is not

successful, click **Back** and check the storage system connection parameters.

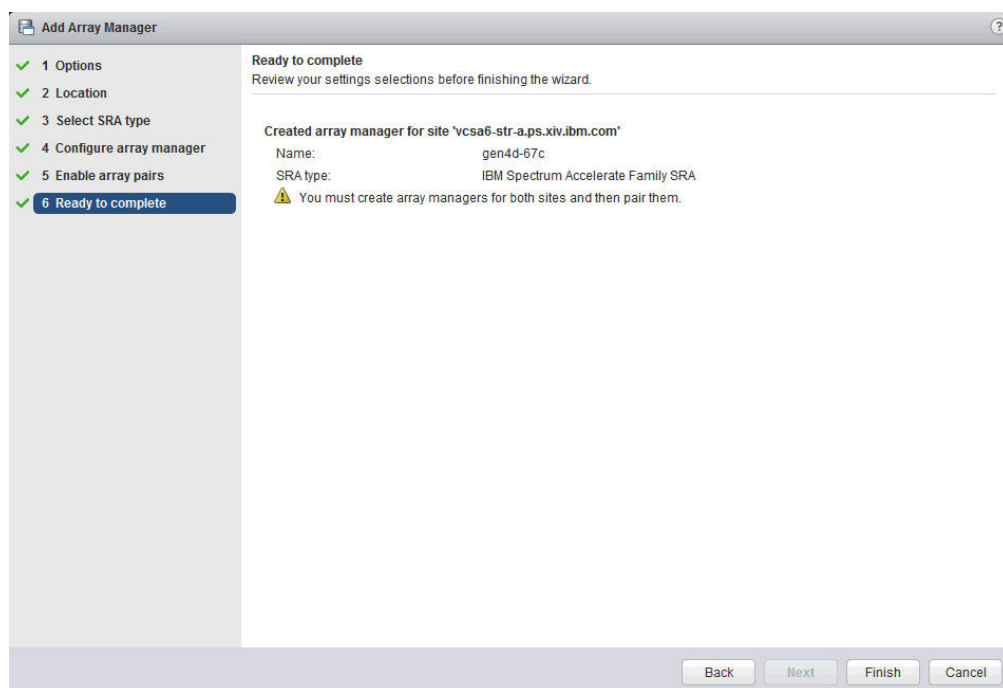


Figure 33. Add Array Manager – Ready to Complete

Initiating SRA operations

The IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA supports different VMware vCenter SRM operations, as detailed in the following table.

Table 1. IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA operation types

Operation type	Description or reference
Add supported IBM storage systems	See “Adding a storage system as an Array Manager” on page 31.
Refresh volume information (display updated information)	See Figure 35 on page 37.
Create protection groups and recovery plans for storage volumes and datastores that utilize these volumes.	See Figure 35 on page 37.
Test (failover test)	<p>Test the storage replication configuration by creating snapshots at the recovery site and then mapping these snapshots, in the following manner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In case of synchronous mirroring, the snapshots are created at the recovery site and are mapped to the ESXi host or hosts. • In case of asynchronous mirroring, the last replicated snapshot is duplicated at the recovery site and then mapped to the ESXi host or hosts. • At the end of the failover test workflow, these temporary snapshots are unmapped and deleted.

Table 1. IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA operation types (continued)

Operation type	Description or reference
Cleanup	Delete existing snapshots after the Test operation. Only the snapshots that were created by the IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA are deleted.
Recovery (failover)	Switch the operation to the recovery site in case of a planned migration or an unplanned disaster (when the protected site is unavailable), in the following manner: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At the recovery site, the Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA creates snapshots of the volumes as backup. If the recovery is part of a planned migration (as opposed to unplanned disaster), the protected site volumes are first locked to read-only state. 2. The Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA promotes the recovery site volumes to Master volumes (role). 3. The Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA maps these volumes to the ESXi host or hosts.
Reprotect	Reverse the replication direction and mirroring from failed-over devices to the primary protected devices, in the following manner: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA creates a fail-safe snapshot of the previously protected volumes. 2. The Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA unmaps the volumes at the original protected site and sets these volumes as the mirror targets. 3. The Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA changes the role of the previously protected volumes to Slave volumes (role). 4. The Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA activates the mirroring and restores the replication between the two sites.

Note: Depending on the mirroring type:

- If the mirroring is asynchronous, the IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA starts the synchronization job before the initiation of the Test, Recovery, and Reprotect operations.
- If the mirror is synchronous, the IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA only verifies that the mirroring state is indeed synchronized before initiating the Test, Recovery, and Reprotect operations.
- For IBM HyperSwap solution, if there is no target connectivity between the peers and the recovery storage system is in the Slave role, the IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA cannot perform failover from the protected to recovery site.

Tip:

- To better visualize the Test, Recovery, and Reprotect operations, see “Concept diagram” on page 1.
- For more information about the snapshot aspects of Test, Recovery, and Reprotect, see “Snapshot creation principles” on page 38.

The following figures show the typical contents of the following tabs, which are available when a specific storage system is selected on the Array Based Replication panel:

- **Summary** – Displays general details regarding the selected storage system and its interoperability with the IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA
- **Manage** – Displays the details of storage systems that are paired with the selected storage system. You can enable or disable the pairing as needed. In addition, it displays the details of mirrored volumes that are defined on the selected storage system, including information regarding the mirroring direction, remote volume, related datastore, protection group and consistency group.

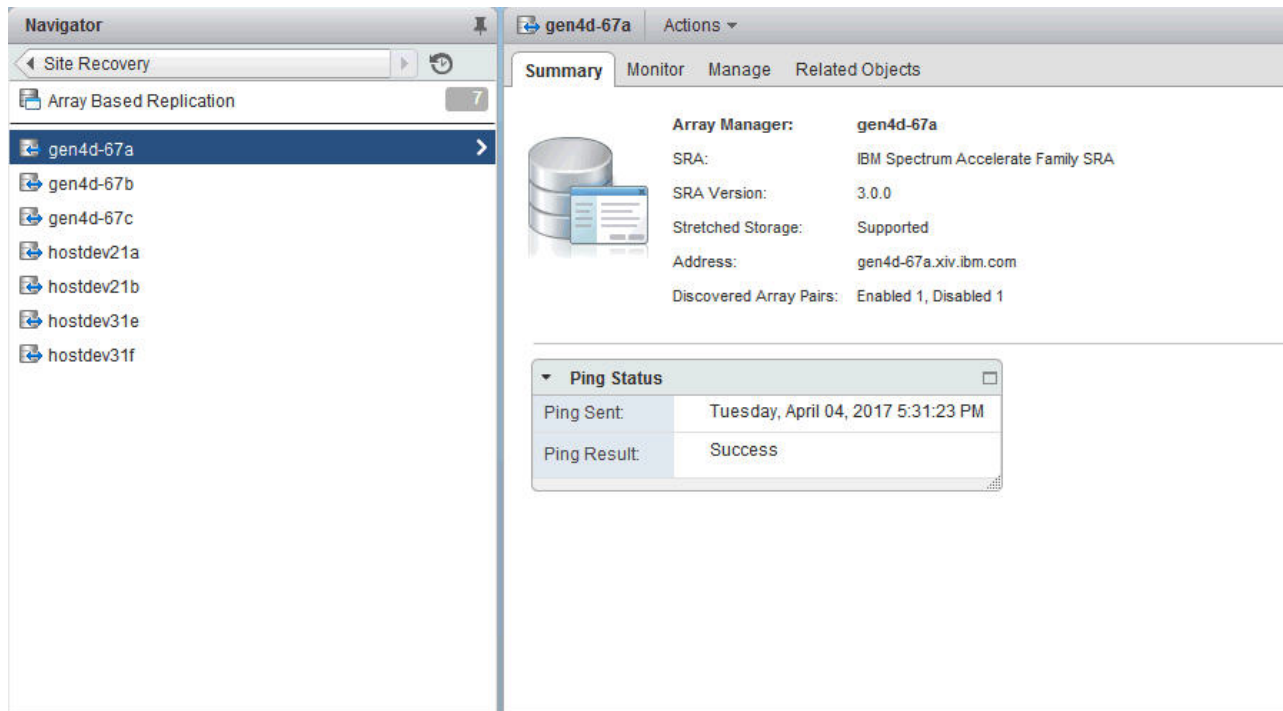


Figure 34. Array Based Replication – Summary tab

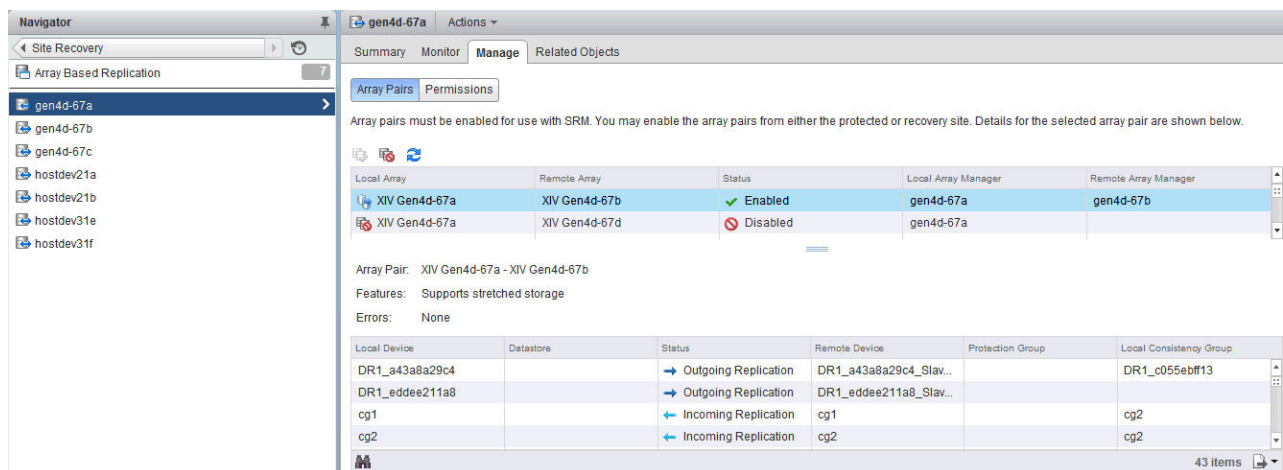


Figure 35. Array Based Replication – Manage tab

For more detailed information about how to operate Site Recovery Manager and perform complete DRP for your VMware server sites, refer to the relevant VMware vCenter Site Recovery Manager documentation.

Snapshot creation principles

Snapshots are created when the following SRM operations are initiated: Test, Recovery, and Reprotect.

Table 2 summarizes the snapshot creation principles per SRM operation type.

Table 2. SRM operations and snapshot creation

VMware vCenter SRM operation	Results	Snapshot name format
Test (a site-to-site failover test is performed)	Snapshots of the target volumes are created, unlocked for read-write, and then mapped and used at the recovery site. Note: These volume snapshots are unmapped and deleted when the Cleanup operation is initiated after the Test operation is concluded.	sra_test_<volume name>_<time stamp>
Recovery (a site-to-site failover is performed)	Snapshots of the target volumes are created at the recovery site before these volumes are opened for read-write operations.	sra_synced_<volume name>
Reprotect (the previously protected site becomes the recovery site)	Snapshots of the original source volumes are created before these volumes can be used as the mirroring target.	sra_synced_<volume name>

Note: When using consistency groups, the name of each consistency group replaces the volume in the snapshot name. For more information about consistency groups, refer to the relevant IBM storage system documentation.

To view the history log of these SRM operations, click **Recovery Plans > History**.

VCENTERSGA - vSphere Client

File Edit View Inventory Administration Plug-ins Help

Home Solutions and Applications Site Recovery VCENTERSGA Search Inventory

Edit Recovery Plan Test Cleanup Recovery Reprotect Cancel

Recovery Plans

Name Status

- All Recovery Plans
 - CG
 - RDM

Sites

- Array Managers
- Protection Groups
- Recovery Plans

CG

Summary Protection Groups Virtual Machines Recovery Steps History Permissions

Test Cleanup Recovery Reprotect Cancel

Last Month 7/ 8/2012 to: 8/ 8/2012 Update Export List

Plan Name	User	Operation	Result	Date	Duration	Actions
CG	Administrator	Reprotect	Success	7/11/2012 5:31:26 PM	00:00:37	View Export
CG	Administrator	Recovery	Success	7/11/2012 5:26:25 PM	00:02:51	View Export
CG	Administrator	Reprotect	Success	7/11/2012 5:24:26 PM	00:00:46	View Export
CG	Administrator	Recovery	Success	7/11/2012 5:17:08 PM	00:02:52	View Export
CG	Administrator	Cleanup	Success	7/11/2012 5:16:25 PM	00:00:37	View Export
CG	Administrator	Test	Success	7/11/2012 5:11:26 PM	00:03:13	View Export

Recent Tasks

Name, Target or Status contains: Clear X

Name	Target	Status	Details	Initiated by	vCenter Server	Requested Start Time	Start Time	CG
Retrieve IBM Storage Information from VMware and Storage Arrays	VCENTERSGA	Completed		Administrator	VCENTERSGA	8/8/2012 1:35:29 PM	8/8/2012 1:35:29 PM	8j
Retrieve IBM Storage Information from VMware and Storage Arrays	VCENTERSGA	Completed		Administrator	VCENTERSGA	8/8/2012 1:30:29 PM	8/8/2012 1:30:29 PM	8j
Reconnect host	9.151.162.184	In Progress		Administrator	VCENTERSGA	8/8/2012 1:27:05 PM	8/8/2012 1:27:05 PM	
Retrieve IBM Storage Information from VMware and Storage Arrays	VCENTERSGA	Completed		Administrator	VCENTERSGA	8/8/2012 1:25:30 PM	8/8/2012 1:25:30 PM	8j
Rescan VMFS	9.151.162.184	An error		Administrator	VCENTERSGA	8/8/2012 12:15:59 PM	8/8/2012 12:16:00 PM	8j

Figure 36. Recovery Plans – History tab

Chapter 5. Best practices

This chapter summarizes recommended practices when using the IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA.

Consider the following recommendations for:

- Storage pool snapshot size
- Naming convention
- Volumes in a consistency group
- Immediate log collection
- Reversing replication roles
- IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA in the IBM HyperSwap solution

Storage pool snapshot size

Consider allocating extra storage pool snapshot space for storage volumes on XIV and Spectrum Accelerate storage systems.

As mentioned in “Verifying the mirroring configuration” on page 7, the storage pools that contain the replicated volumes at both the protected and recovery sites should have sufficient size for creating the volume snapshots.

For XIV and Spectrum Accelerate storage systems, the requirement is to allocate a minimum of 17 GB for each volume, with additional 17 GB as spare space. No such limitation exists for FlashSystem A9000 and A9000R.

As a best practice, if your volumes are working in a high write rate, consider allocating larger storage pool space for snapshots.

Naming convention

Naming storage pools and volumes across different sites might need identical names.

To avoid confusion and to attain a 100% duplicated recovery site, give identical names to the storage pools and volumes at both the protected and recovery sites.

Volumes in a consistency group

If the volumes of a single datastore are not grouped together, datastore consistency issues may arise.

To ensure datastore consistency in Recovery or Test operations, place all volumes of a single datastore in one consistency group. For more information about consistency groups, refer to the relevant IBM storage system documentation.

Immediate log collection

The SRA log information might be overwritten due to fast log filling and rotation.

To ensure that the full information is provided to IBM Support in case of a technical issue, it is recommended to collect the SRA log immediately, as explained in “Checking the log file” on page 45.

Reversing replication roles

When mirroring is enabled, the master volume or consistency group is designated as 'primary' and the slave volume or consistency group is designated as 'secondary'. If for any reason, the replication roles have been reversed, the IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA may fail to identify the current replication state properly.

If the administrator manually switches volume or consistency group role in the IBM HyperSwap solution (using the **ha_switch_roles** command), the SRM presents the new state as a failover and considers the VMs as unprotected. In this case, change the highly-available peer designation manually (using the **ha_change_designation** command) to indicate that protection preference has moved to the other side. Alternatively, switch the volume/consistency group role to its original state and allow SRM to protect the VMs on the protected site.

To optimize host I/O performance, by preferring local vs remote connectivity, use the following XCLI commands:

- **mirror_list -x** to check the current replication role designations.
- **mirror_change_destination** to switch the volume or consistency group replication roles.
- **ha_change_designation** to switch designations of the highly-available peers from primary to secondary, and vice versa.

For full description of the relevant XCLI commands, refer to the relevant IBM storage system documentation.

SRM operation in the IBM HyperSwap solution

SRM support for active-active storage scenarios can be leveraged with FlashSystem A9000 and A9000R HyperSwap.

The following sections describe SRM operation with HyperSwap in these scenarios:

- “Planned failover with SRA in an IBM HyperSwap solution.”
- “Unplanned failover with SRA in an IBM HyperSwap solution” on page 43.
- “Recovery from rolling disaster with SRA in IBM HyperSwap solution” on page 44.

Planned failover with SRA in an IBM HyperSwap solution

SRM support for planned failover is with A9000 and A9000R HyperSwap.

When the planned migration operation is initiated, SRM uses IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA to instruct the storage systems to:

1. Switch HyperSwap volume roles from Primary to Secondary, and vice versa.
2. Switch HyperSwap volume roles designations from Primary to Secondary, and vice versa.

If the VMotion option is enabled, live VM migration between protected and recovery sites is performed without noticeable downtime. However, for successful

VMotion operation, the relevant HyperSwap relations must be active and synchronized. Without VMotion, the VMs are shut down at protected site and then switched on at the recovery site. In this case, a short period of downtime is expected.

Unplanned failover with SRA in an IBM HyperSwap solution

If the protected site goes offline, or its storage system becomes unavailable, you can perform an unplanned failover.

Protected site failure

If there is protected site failure (including FlashSystem A9000 or A9000R storage system, SRM server and vSphere ESXi hosts), the volume at the recovery site becomes preferred. After the failover, you can initiate the SRM disaster recovery to activate VMs on the recovery site. After the protected site goes online, the status of its storage system remains as *Master unavailable*, and there is no mapping between the protected host and the recovery storage system. To re-activate site protection, initiate the SRM reprotect procedure to:

1. Define the recovery site as protected, and vice versa.
2. Switch storage system designations from Primary to Secondary, and vice versa.

Once reprotection is completed, the sites are fully protected again.

The result is a complete failover where now the recovery site has become Primary and it is protected by the formerly protected site. In order to fail back to the formerly protected site, use a planned failover with migration to failover, following by a reprotect.

Protected storage system failure

If a storage system fails at the protected site, or it loses connectivity to its target and the Quorum Witness, the volume at the recovery site becomes preferred. Due to an SRM known issue, the protected VMs become unprotected and cannot be failed over, using SRM. However, the VMs continue to run, using storage at the recovery site. When the protected storage system is back online, use the following manual procedure to restore the initial protection state:

1. Verify that the protected storage became operational again.
2. Change the protected storage system role to Slave (**ha_change_role** command).
3. Activate the HyperSwap relation on the recovery (Master) storage system (**ha_activate** command).
4. Wait for the HyperSwap relation to synchronize.
5. Switch the storage system roles (**ha_switch_roles** command).

Alternatively, use the following manual procedure to move VMs to the recovery site:

1. Power off the VMs on the protected site.
2. Power off the SRM server or service on the protected site.
3. Once SRM server on the protected site is down, initiate a failover to power on the VMs on the recovery site.
4. After the failed protected storage system becomes operational again, power on the SRM server or service if it was powered off at the protected site.
5. Run SRM failover to migrate the VMs to the recovery site.

6. Initiate SRM reprotect to define the recovery site as protected, and vice versa.

Recovery from rolling disaster with SRA in IBM HyperSwap solution

Rolling disaster is a chain of events leading to multiple failures, which in some cases may result in data inconsistency.

For example, losing connectivity over mirroring link leads to claiming of the HyperSwap volume by the protected storage. A subsequent failure of the protected storage itself will result in a potential data loss if SRM failover is triggered. In order to avoid this, IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA prevents the failover and notifies the user that manual intervention is required. To re-activate site protection, use this procedure:

- Verify the protected storage is unavailable and isolated from all ESXi hosts at the protected and recovery sites. This is a critical step to prevent data inconsistency.
- Establish connection to the recovery site storage system.
- Manually change roles of the recovery site volumes from secondary to primary.
- Initiate the SRM failover procedure at the recovery site.

Chapter 6. Troubleshooting

This chapter can help you solve technical problems that you may encounter when using the IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA.

If you encounter an error, refer to the following troubleshooting sections:

- “Checking the log file”
- “Handling warning and error messages” on page 46

Note: For up-to-date information about known issues and possible workarounds, refer to the latest IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family Storage Replication Adapter release notes.

Checking the log file

Events are recorded separately at each site in a log file (each site with its own log file).

About this task

The IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA log file records events at the local site. When encountering an issue and you are not sure whether the problem is at the local site or the remote site, you can collect a log file from the local site as well as from the remote site. These two log files may provide helpful information.

Note:

- It is recommended to always attach the log files when opening a new support request. In most cases you will be requested to provide the log file so that the support team could have more detailed information about the technical problem you encountered.
 - Upon any technical issue that you might encounter, try to collect the SRA log immediately or as fast as possible, as it might be overwritten due to rapid log file filling and rotation.
-

Perform the following procedure to retrieve the SRA log together with other SRM logs at a given site (local or remote).

Procedure

1. From the vSphere Client Home page, go to **Solutions and Application > Site Recovery > Sites**.
2. Right-click on the local site name and then click **Export System Logs**.

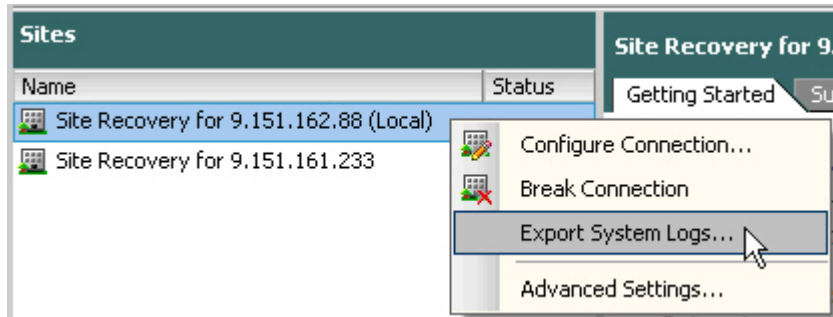


Figure 37. Clicking Export System Logs

3. Click **Browse** to set the directory to which you want to export the log file, and then click **OK**.

Note: When a volume mapping operation fails (for example, when the specified FC ports do not belong to any storage system host), the Test or Failover operations fail. However, SRM does not display a proper message, so the SRA log file can provide indication regarding the mapping failure.

Handling warning and error messages

The following tables summarize the different possible warnings or errors you might encounter when working with the IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA.

Table 3 lists the warning messages, and Table 4 on page 47 lists the error messages.

Table 3. IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA warning messages

Warning code number	Warning text	Recommended action
500	The replication process for this device is already in progress.	No further action is required.
2001	No access groups were provided during the Failover Test operation. Snapshots were created but could not be mapped.	Check the SRA log file, request assistance from your storage administrator, or open a support request.
2002	Snapshot space in the storage pool may exceed its limit if snapshots are created for the requested groups or devices.	Extend the snapshot size for the pool, or delete old snapshots.
2003	Could not find hosts on the storage system that matches the provided initiators.	Verify that your ESX/ESXi hosts are defined in the storage arrays.
2004	The mapping operation has failed.	Check the SRA log file, request assistance from your storage administrator, or open a support request.

Table 4. IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA error messages

Error code number	Error text	How to resolve
100	Command is not supported. An internal error has occurred.	Open a support request and receive specific guidance from the support team. In your request, attach the relevant log file or files.
101	Locale is not supported. An internal error has occurred.	Change to English locale or open a support request and receive specific guidance from the support team.
1001	Failed to connect.	Make sure that the IP address or hostname is correct, and verify your user credentials.
1002	Already in Test state.	Check the SRA log file, request assistance from your storage administrator, or open a support request.
1003	The snapshot for this storage device was not found.	Check the SRA log file, request assistance from your storage administrator, or open a support request.
1004	Removal of mapping for this device has failed.	Check the SRA log file, request assistance from your storage administrator, or open a support request.
1005	The secondary volume or consistency group is not in consistency state.	Wait for the initialization or synchronization to complete, and then retry the operation.
1006	Failover operation could not be performed for this device.	Check the SRA log file, request assistance from your storage administrator, or open a support request.
1007	The device could not be verified for a failover operation.	Check the SRA log file, request assistance from your storage administrator, or open a support request.
1008	The mapping removal and snapshot deletion operations could not be performed.	Check the SRA log file, request assistance from your storage administrator, or open a support request.
1009	Could not find the remote mirroring definition for the storage device.	Check the SRA log file, request assistance from your storage administrator, or open a support request.
1010	The restore replication operation has failed.	Check the SRA log file, request assistance from your storage administrator, or open a support request.
1011	The reverse replication operation has failed.	Check the SRA log file, request assistance from your storage administrator, or open a support request.

Table 4. IBM Spectrum Accelerate Family SRA error messages (continued)

Error code number	Error text	How to resolve
1012	Could not establish an immediate synchronization.	Check the SRA log file, request assistance from your storage administrator, or open a support request.
1013	There is insufficient space allocated in the storage pool for creating new snapshots for this device.	Extend the storage pool, or delete old snapshots.
1014	The operation has failed.	Check the SRA log file, request assistance from your storage administrator, or open a support request.
1015	SRA internal error has occurred.	Open a support request and provide the information detailed in the log file.
1016	The failover preparation operation has failed.	Check the SRA log file, request assistance from your storage administrator, or open a support request.
1017	There is no mirror connectivity between the protected site and the recovery site.	Request assistance from your storage administrator.
1018	Failed to create snapshot for the storage device.	Check the SRA log file, contact your storage administrator, or open a support request.
1019	Already in Failover state.	Check the SRA log file, request assistance from your storage administrator, or open a support request.
1020	There are no target mirroring connections for this storage device.	Make sure that the mirroring connectivity for your recovery storage device is properly set. For assistance, contact your storage administrator.
1021	Unsupported storage system microcode version has been detected.	Make sure that the microcode version of the relevant storage system that you are trying to connect is supported. For more information, refer to the release notes.
1022	Insufficient user privileges.	Make sure that the user account you are using has the required privileges.
1023	Mirroring error: inactive mirroring.	Check the SRA log file or use the Hyper-Scale Manager UI to find the cause of this error.

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