Getting started with Veritas Risk Advisor

What's included

This guide provides an overview of the software that is included in this release. It also explains how to obtain a product license and describes the method for installing Veritas Risk Advisor (VRA), formerly known as Disaster Recovery Advisor (DRA).

The following topics are included:

Overview

This document provides important information about Veritas Risk Advisor (VRA).

For the latest information on updates and software issues for this release, see the Late-Breaking News TechNote:

https://www.veritas.com/support/en_US/article.000037525

Licensing

VRA is a licensed product. Your VRA license controls the number of hosts that you can scan and is perpetual. VRA comes with a 14-day trial period.

For information on activating your VRA license, see the *Veritas Risk Advisor User's Guide*.

About this release

VRA is a data protection risk assessment solution that lets you diagnose disaster recovery problems (also called gaps) and optimize data protection. VRA enables enterprises to effectively manage business continuity implementations to ensure that critical business data is protected. VRA automatically detects and alerts you to any potential gaps, best practice violations, or Service Level Agreement (SLA) breaches.

VRA is an agentless enterprise discovery and monitoring tool that automatically scans your infrastructure and detects gaps and infrastructure vulnerabilities in your Disaster Recovery implementation.

VRA gathers information about your environment and does the following:

- Provides automated insight into your data replication environment to create an online, detailed, and up-to-date disaster recovery topology

- Automatically detects and analyzes gaps and unprotected production areas using a signature knowledge base of over 5,000 signatures

- Discovers the current data protection status of your critical applications and compares it to the state needed to comply with Disaster Recovery SLAs

VRA uses this information to provide the following:

- Detailed recommendations on how you can improve your environment, based on best practices and recovery objectives.

- Detailed lists and information about current data protection and disaster recovery risks and the prioritized actions for fixing them. VRA also provides a variety of tools that let you drill down and analyze your environment using detailed tables and topology maps. You can use this information to fix the problems that VRA detects.

- Auditing and compliance documentation, including a map of your production environment, disaster recovery configuration, and dependencies.

Supported platforms

VRA runs on Windows Server 2012 R2 or Windows Server 2008 R2 Standard Edition 64-bit. VRA requires administrator rights on the VRA application server.

Table 1-1   Servers that VRA can scan

Server	Operating system version	Processor architecture
AIX	4 and later	POWER3 series and later
HP-UX	11 and later	PA8700/8800/8900, IA64, IA64 Dual Core Montecito
Linux Red Hat/SUSE	Red Hat Advanced Server, SUSE	Intel EM64T, AMD Opteron
Solaris	8 and later	UltraSPARC II/III/IV/T1/T2/T2+, SPARC64-V/ VI / VII series
Solaris x64	8 and later	Intel EM64T, AMD Opteron
Windows	Windows Server XP Windows Server 2000 Windows Server 2003 Windows Server 2008 Windows Server 2008 R2 Windows Server 2012 R2	Intel EM64T, AMD Opteron
ESX, ESXi	3.5 and later	

For detailed information about supported hardware and software, and the other entities VRA can scan, see *Veritas Risk Advisor Support Requirements*.

Release contents

The following table lists the contents of this release.

Table 1-2   Files included in this release

Directory or File	Contents
copyright	Copyright statement
VRA_7.2.1.exe	VRA executable file

About installation

The VRA installation wizard leads you step-by-step through the process of installing or upgrading to this release of VRA.

Before you install, be sure to read the following:

- *Veritas Risk Advisor Release Notes*
- *Veritas Risk Advisor Deployment Guide*
- "Installing or upgrading VRA" chapter of the *Veritas Risk Advisor User's Guide*

About the guides

Product guides are in Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) and located on Veritas Services and Operations Readiness Tools website at:

https://sort.veritas.com/documents/

Table 1-3   VRA guides

Title	File name
VRA Getting Started Guide	vra_gsg_721.pdf
VRA Release Notes	vra_rn_721.pdf
VRA Support Requirements	vra_support_req_721.pdf
VRA Deployment Requirements	vra_deploy_req_721.pdf
VRA User's Guide	vra_ug_721.pdf
VRA Third-Party Legal Notices	vra_tpa_721.pdf