Cisco UCS vCenter Plug-in 0.9.2 Quick Start Guide

April, 2013
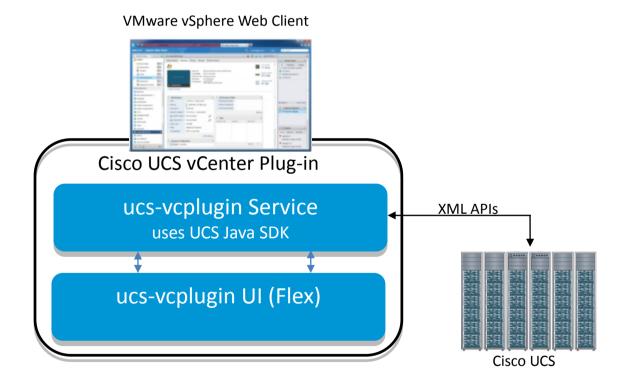
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1 Overview

Cisco UCS vCenter Plug-in is a VMware vSphere web-client plug-in which enables virtualization administrator to view, manage and monitor various aspects of Cisco UCS Physical infrastructure. The plugin gives a physical view of the UCS hardware inventory deployment right inside the web client.

The Plug-in is supported on the VMware vSphere Web Client 5.1 or higher versions only.

1.1   Plugin Architecture

The Cisco UCS Plug-in can be divided into two major components, ucs-vcplugin service and ucs-vcplugin UI. ucs-vcplugin services use UCS Java SDK to interact with UCS domains over XML API interface. ucs-vcplugin UI is the flex based extension to the web client, which communicates to the ucs-vcplugin services to populate the UI.

VMware vSphere Web Client

Cisco UCS vCenter Plug-in

ucs-vcplugin Service
uses UCS Java SDK

ucs-vcplugin UI (Flex)

XML APIs

Cisco UCS

2 Installation

2.1   Pre-Install Checklist

- VMware vCenter 5.0 or higher.
- VMware vSphere web client 5.1 and its pre-requisites. Refer web client pre-requisites [here](#) .

2.2   Installation Steps

- Please read carefully the terms and conditions of [End User License Agreement](#) before installing or using the plug-in.
- Use RegisterVCPlugin092.exe to register the Cisco UCS vCenter Plug-in.
- Refer to RegisterVCPlugin-README.html for more help.
- After a successful install, you would be able to see a Cisco UCS Icon on the Home screen view, Administration category

2.3   What is new in Cisco UCS Plugin 0.9(2)

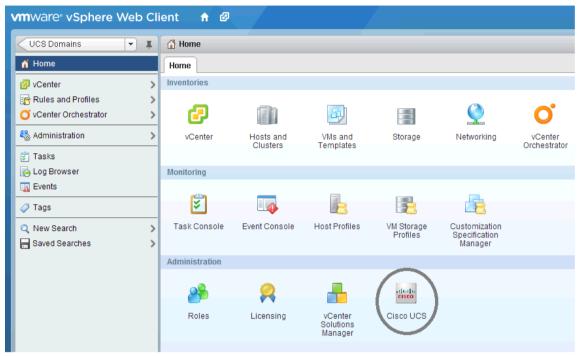Following caveats were resolved in 0.9(2) release
- CSCue57514 - ESX servers are shown as non-ESX servers in vcenter plugin
- CSCue78623 - Download fails when using HTTPS server for hosting plugin

Now administrators need not download and host the plugin on a HTTP/HTTPS server if the Cisco Developer Network (CDN) site is reachable from their machine running vSphere Web Client. User can choose to register the plugin available in CDN and the vSphere Web Client will download it directly from CDN.
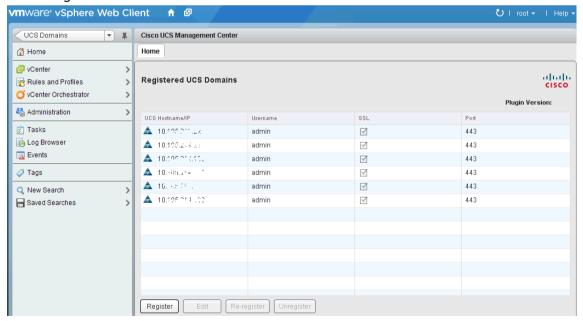
Lot of enhancements has been done in the plugin registration tool to make it user friendly and avoid errors during registration.

2.4   Getting Started

- Go to Home screen view, click on Cisco UCS Icon under administration category, this will open Cisco UCS Management center.
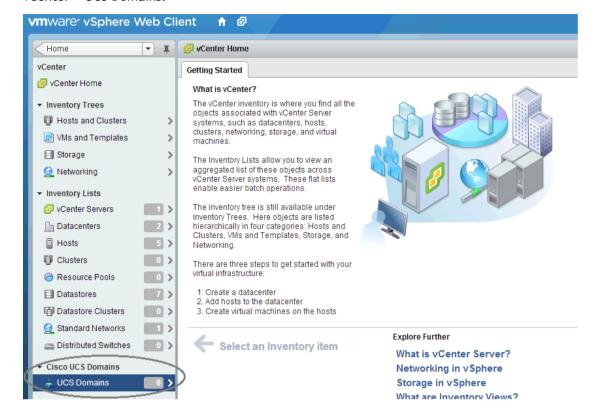

- Register all your UCS domains here, this page also provides other functionalities to handle registrations.

Note: Current version of plugin only supports one registration per UCS domain, which means you can register a UCS domain with only one user.

- After registration of UCS domains, you will able to navigate to various UCS components from the object navigator.

- To view to hierarchy of physical components, in the object navigator, navigate to vCenter > UCS Domains.

3 Views and Extensions

3.1   Home Screen View

Displays the number of registered UCS domains with username, port and SSL information.

3.2   UCS Domains View (Object Navigator)

- Object View
    - o Displays the number of active UCS domain sessions with name, virtual IP address, username, privileges, version, port number and session Id information.

3.3   Chassis Views (Object Navigator)

- Summary View
    - o Displays the IO Modules, Fans and PSUs information.
- Column View
    - o Displays the chassis with name, model, vendor, overall status, thermal, power, operability and configuration state information.

3.4   Fabric Interconnect Views (Object Navigator)

- Summary View
    - o Displays Fans and PSUs information.
- Column View
    - o Displays the fabric interconnects with name, model, vendor, total memory, serial and overall status information.

3.5   ESX server Views (Object Navigator)

- Summary View
    - o Displays basic information about the server including UCS domain name, server location, UUID, service profile, serial and overall status. Also provides functionalities like launch KVM, launch UCSM GUI and toggle locator LED.
- Monitor View
    - o Displays faults and various power and temperature stats.

- Manage View
    - o Displays various firmware and inventory components.

3.6   Non ESX server Views (Object Navigator)

- Summary View
    - o Displays basic information about the server including UCS domain name, server location, UUID, service profile, serial and overall status. Also provides functionalities like, launch KVM, launch UCSM GUI and toggle locator LED.
- Monitor View
    - o Displays faults and various power and temperature stats.

- Manage View
    - o Displays various firmware and inventory components.

- Column View
    - o Displays servers with name, model, vendor, association, overall status, number of CPUs, number of cores and total memory information.

3.7   Fabric Extender Views (Object Navigator)

- Summary View
    - o Displays IO Modules, Fans and PSUs information.
- Column View
    - o Displays the FEX with name, model, vendor and overall status information.