Creating Virtual Disks

Introduction

Now that managed disks have been added to a managed disk group, it is possible to create virtual disks (Vdisks). There are 3 types of virtual disks which can be created:

•**Striped**: The virtual disk is created from extents striped across the disks in the managed disk group.
•**Sequential**: The virtual disk uses contiguous extents from a disk.
•**Image**: Image mode is used to migrate existing disks to be managed.

A virtual disk is made up of multiple disk drives, allowing you to create one large virtual disk and stripe data across the multiple disks that make up the virtual disk. Striping data across multiple disks increases the performance of the virtual disk. Virtual disks are also owned by a specific I/O group in the cluster. The I/O group handles all reads and writes to the specific disks. A Vdisk can be moved from one I/O group to another and, if required, can also be migrated to a different managed disk group.

In this lab, you learn how to create a virtual disk and view the details of a virtual disk.

Instructions

The first task is to create a virtual disk.

1. Click 'Work with Virtual Disks' from the menu on the left of the browser screen.
2. Click 'Virtual Disks' from the Work with Managed Disks submenu.

Since you are going to create a virtual disk, there is no need to use the filter.

3. Click the 'Bypass Filter' button.

Since you want to **Create a VDisk**, simply click the **Go** button.

4. Click the 'Go' button to the right of the drop down menu.

The Create Virtual Disks wizard will guide you through the steps to create a VDisk.

5. Click the 'Next' button.

The first step is to name the VDisk and select the type of VDisk you want to create.

6. In the Type the name of the VDisk field, type 'svc2Vdisk1'.
7. Leave the I/O Group on io_grp0.
8. Under the Select the MDisk Group, select 'svc2testGrp1'.
9. Leave the VDisk as Striped.
10. Click the 'Next' button on the wizard.

The next step is to choose the preferred node, add a managed disk (svc2test) and select the capacity of the VDisk.

11. Select 'node1' from the Preferred Node for I/O drop down list.
12. Since the svc2test mdisk is already selected, click the 'Add' button.
13. Type '20' in the Type the Capacity of the VDisk field.
14. Choose 'GB' from the drop down.
15. Click the 'Next' button on the wizard.

More Information Note on Adding Managed Disks: In this lab, you only add one managed disk to the new virtual disk. However, when creating a virtual disk, you always want to add at least 2 managed disks to the virtual disk. Ideally you would like to use 4 or 5 managed disks in a virtual disk. With 4 or 5 managed disks, you create a Vdisk to stripe the data across the managed disks, increasing the performance of your storage.

The last step is to verify your selections before creating the VDisk.

16. Click the 'Finish' button on the wizard.

You can see the virtual disk **svc2Vdisk1** you just created. To see the details of the Vdisk, click the **svc2Vdisk1** link.

17. Click the underlined 'svc2Vdisk1' link from the list of virtual disks.

You can see the details of the virtual disk **svc2Vdisk1.**

Congratulations! You have completed this lab.