High Availability VMs in vWorkspace

A step-by-step guide to the deployment of highly available VMs in vWorkspace

Dell Cloud Client-Computing
August 2015

A Dell Deployment and Configuration Guide

Revisions

Date	Description
August 2015	Initial release v.8.6

Table of contents

Objective

The purpose of this guide is to provide you with detailed, step by step instructions of the process used to deploy VMs in a vWorkspace 8.6 environment configured for high availability (HA).

Audience

This document is intended for VDI administrators and technical personnel with moderate to advanced knowledge of vWorkspace, Windows Server clusters, VDI administration and a broad IT skill set. It is also assumed that advanced Windows operating system knowledge is possessed by the reader.

Configuration Prerequisites

The following list of items must be in place before proceeding:

- vWorkspace installed and operational
- Windows Server cluster in place and operational
- Compute nodes in cluster
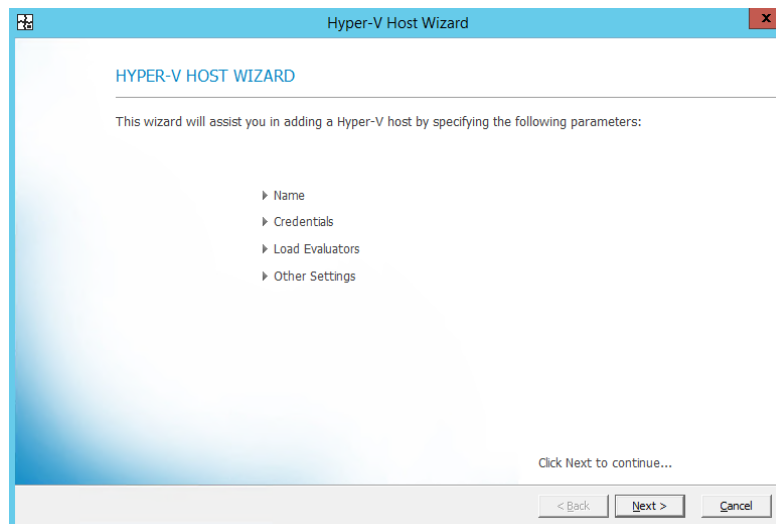- Master "gold VM image" created for VM deployment

1 Adding a virtualization host to vWorkspace
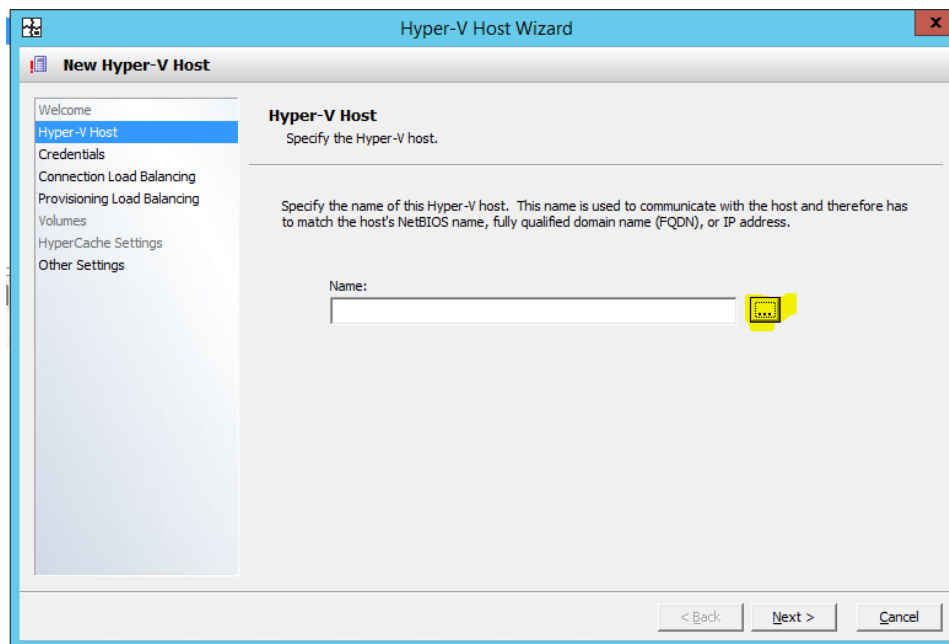
From the connection broker VM:

1. Launch the vWorkspace Management Console.
2. Navigate to and expand "Virtualization Hosts".
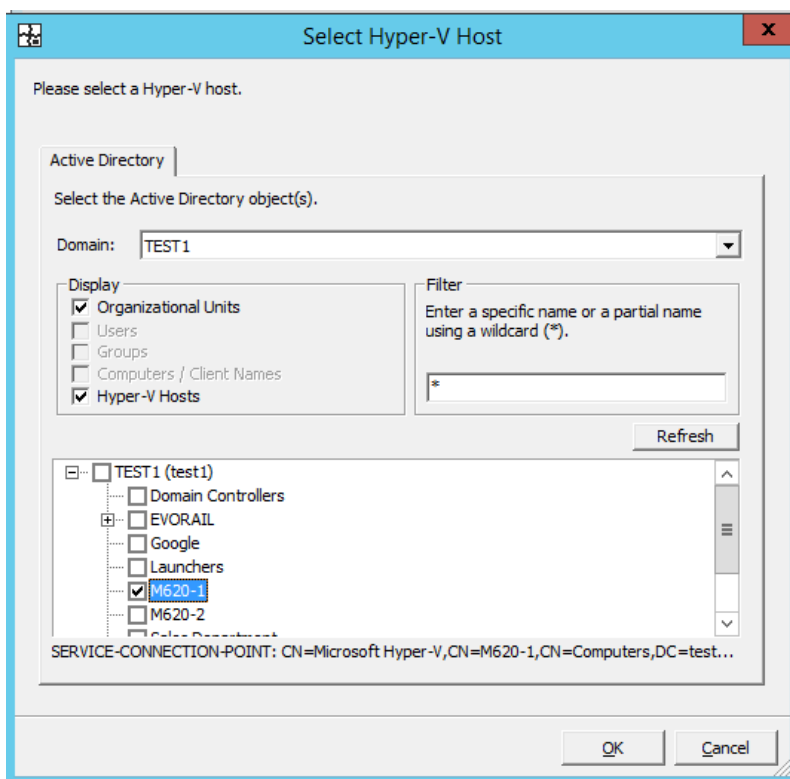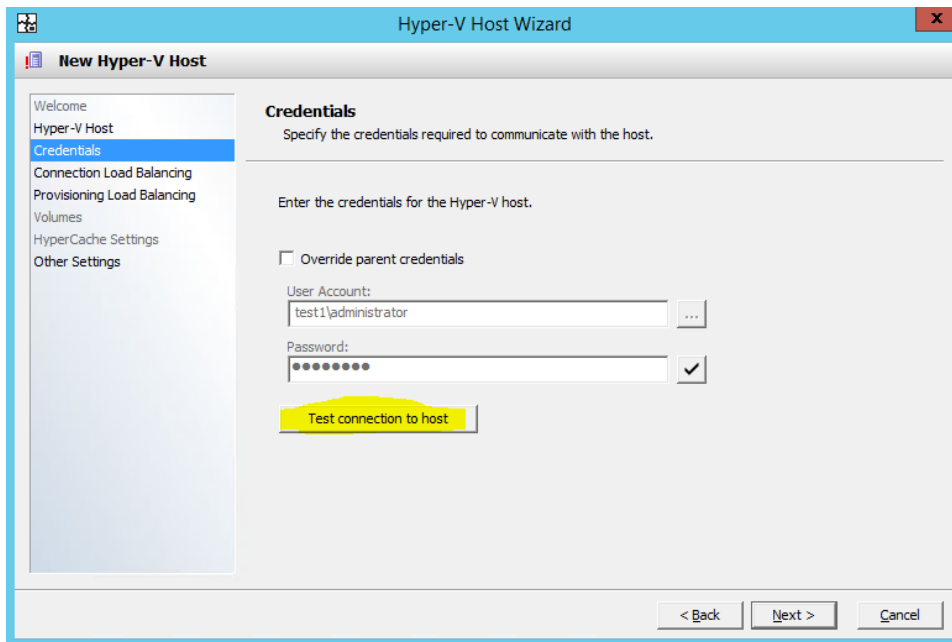3. Right click "Hyper-V" and select "add host".
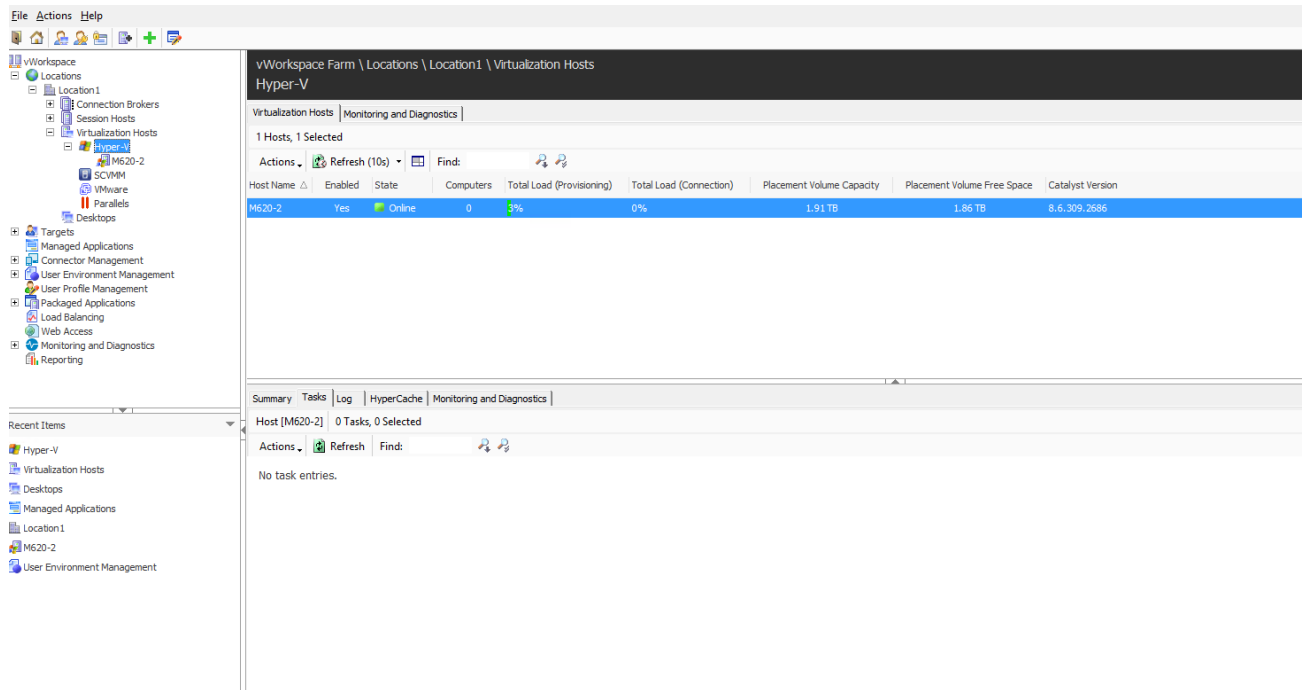
4. Click "next".

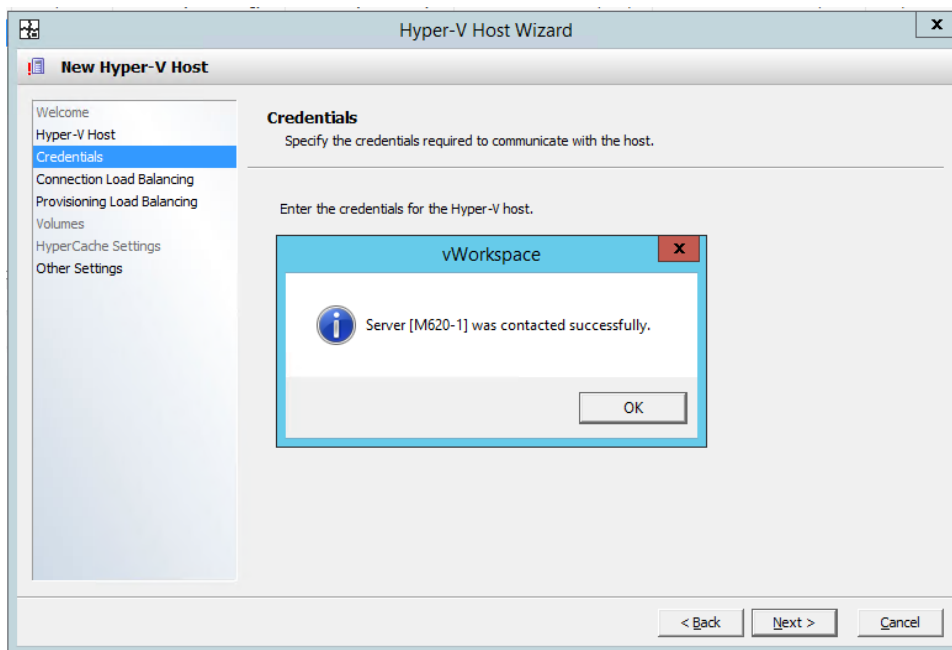5. Click the ellipsis and browse the Active Directory for the host to be added.

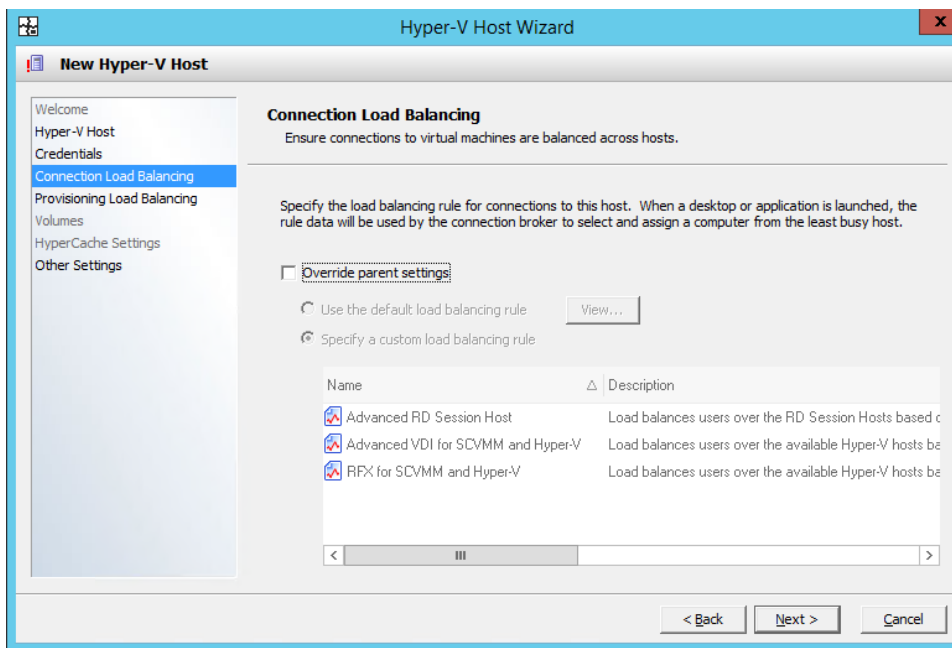6. Select the host that is to be added and click "OK". May need to select the domain and refresh.
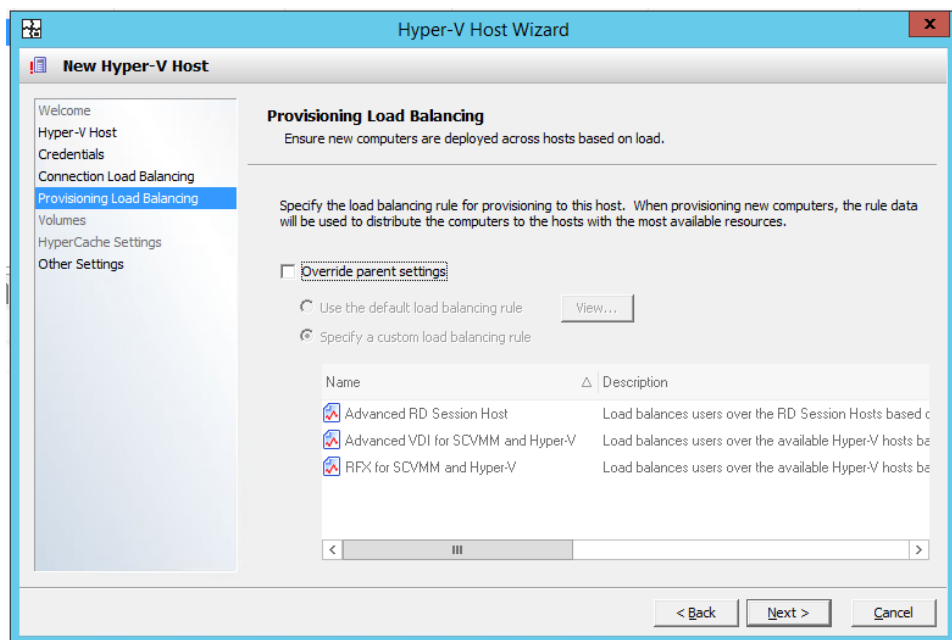
7. Provide domain admin credentials and click "Next".

8. Click "OK".

9. Click "Next".

10. Click "Next".
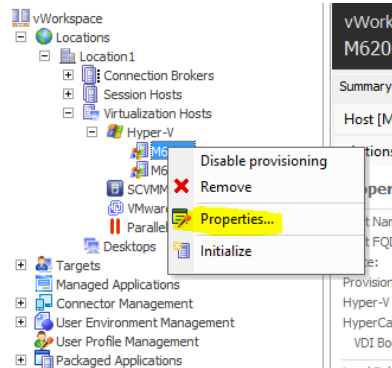
11. Click "Finish".
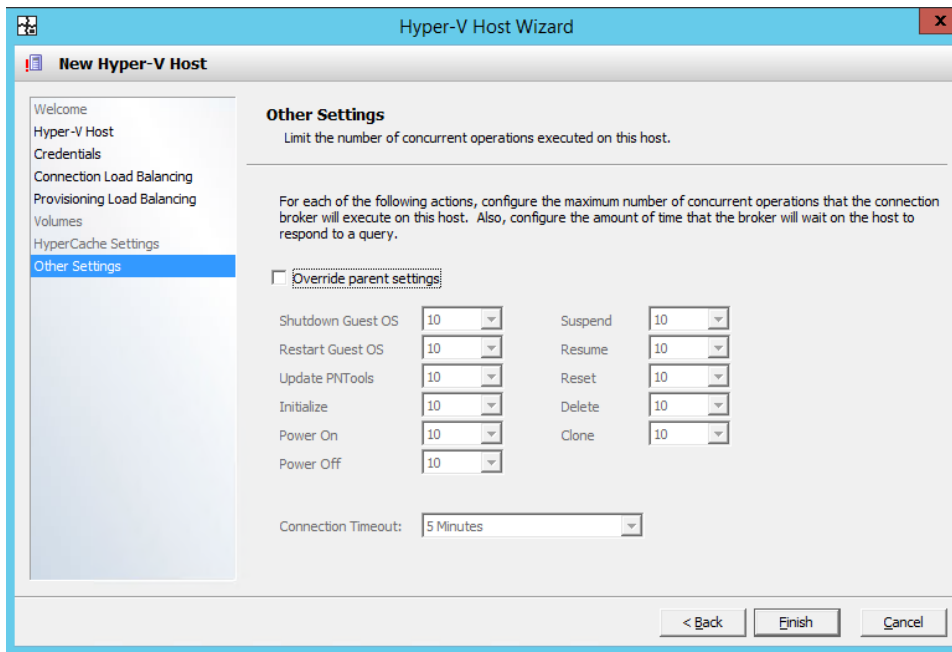
12. Click "Finish".
13. Verify that the host initialization completed successfully and shows to be online in the vWorkspace Management Console.
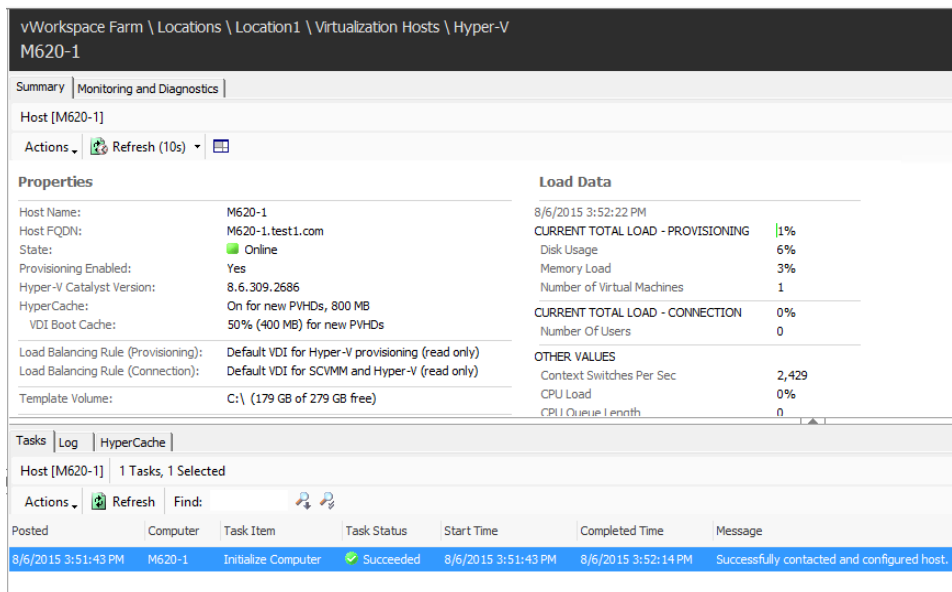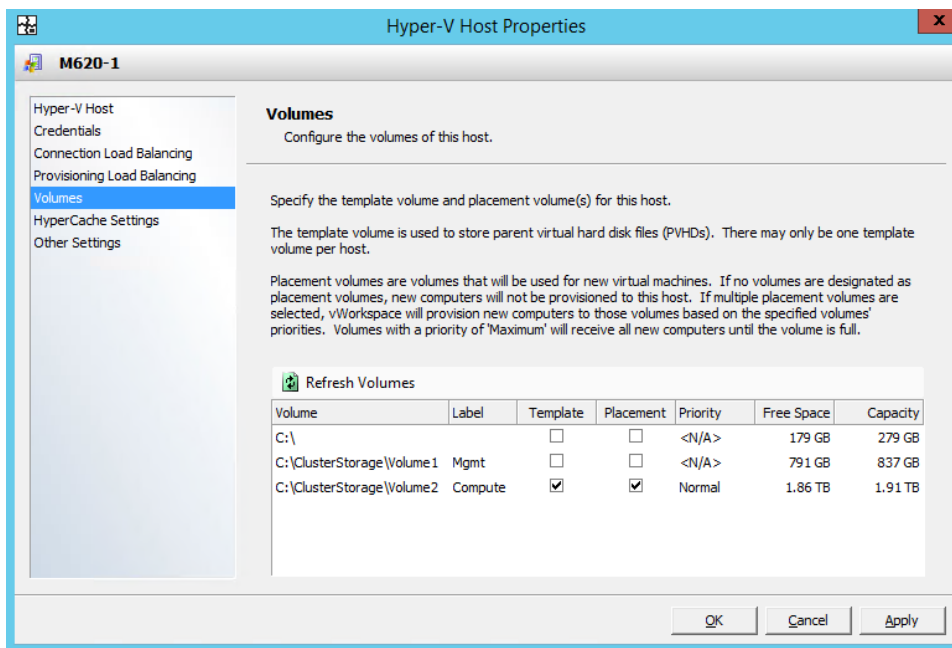
2   Virtual machine storage volume selection

From the vWorkspace Management Console:

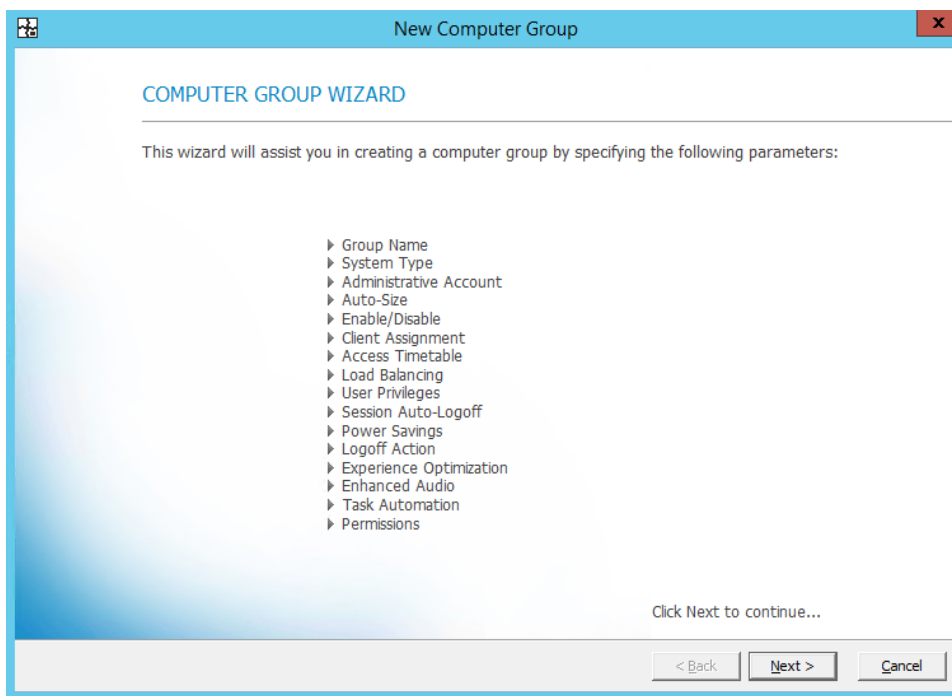1. Right click on the host that was added in the previous section and select "Properties…"

2. Select "Volumes" and check the boxes where you want the VMs to be stored (shared storage) then click "Apply" and "OK".

3. In the vWorkspace Management Console, right click on "Desktops" and select "New computer group…"
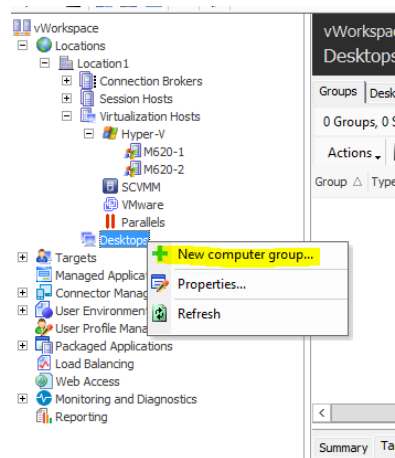
4. Click "Next".

5. Assign a group name and click "Next".

6. Select "Hyper-V" and click "Next".

7. Select "Cloud" and click "Next". (Cloud group mode is a non-persistent VM mode).
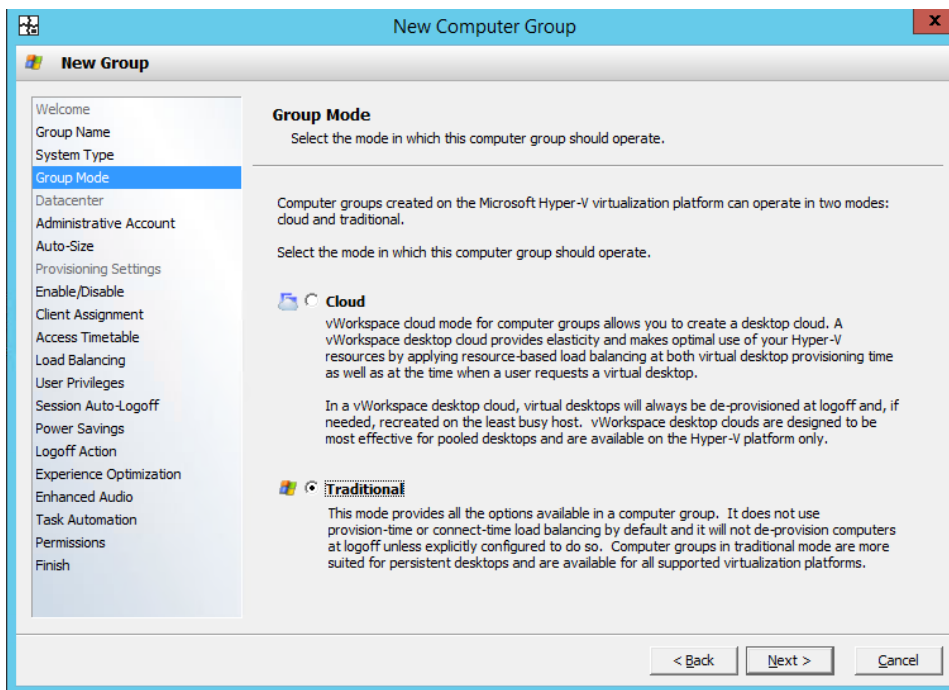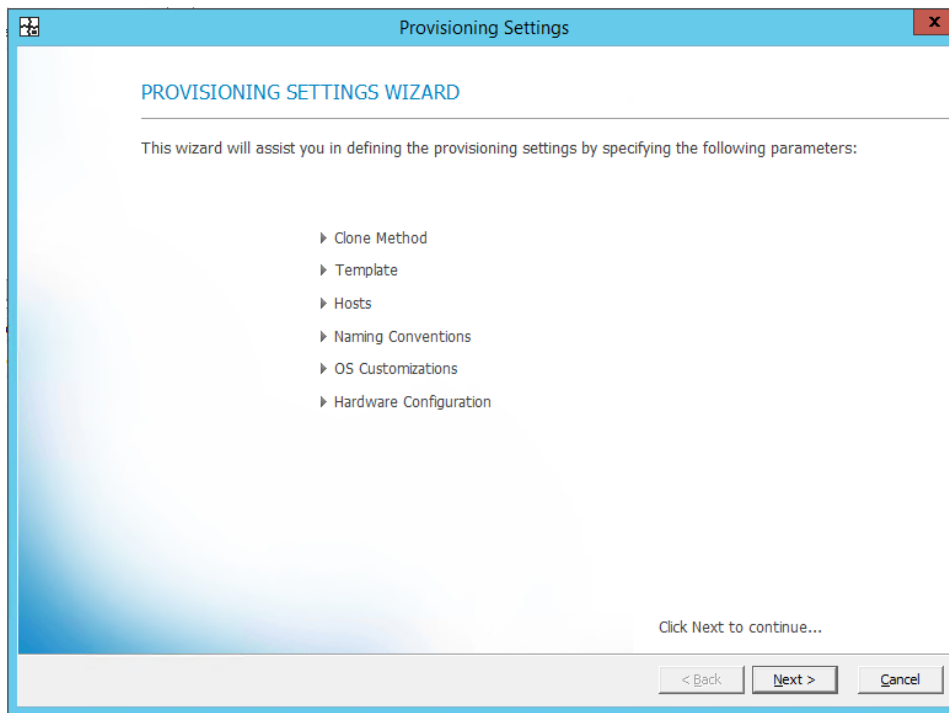

8. Provide domain admin credentials and click "Next.
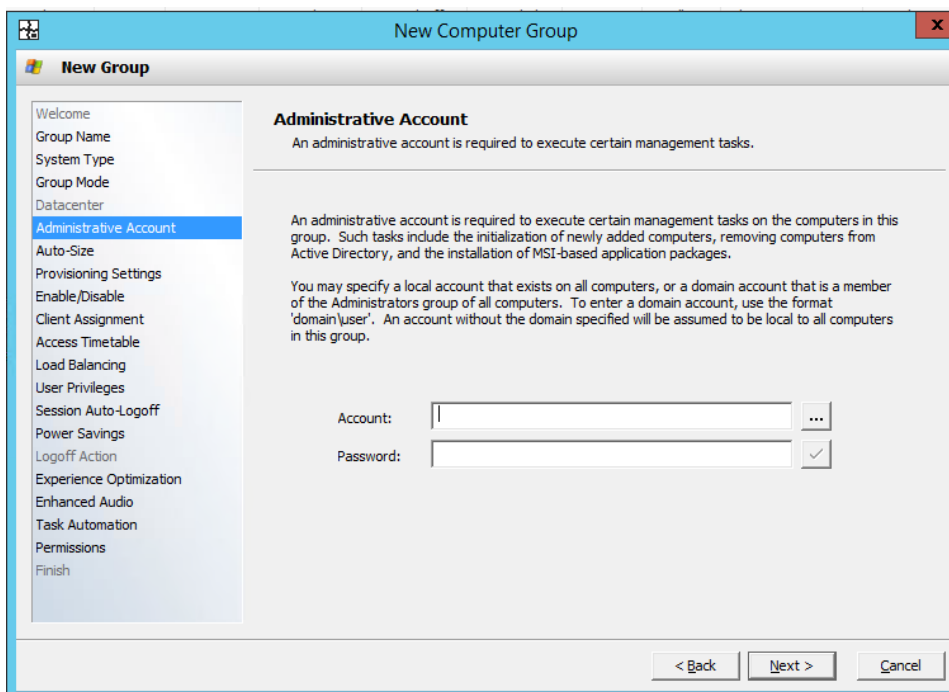
9. Define the number of VMs to be created.

10. Click the "Edit..." button.
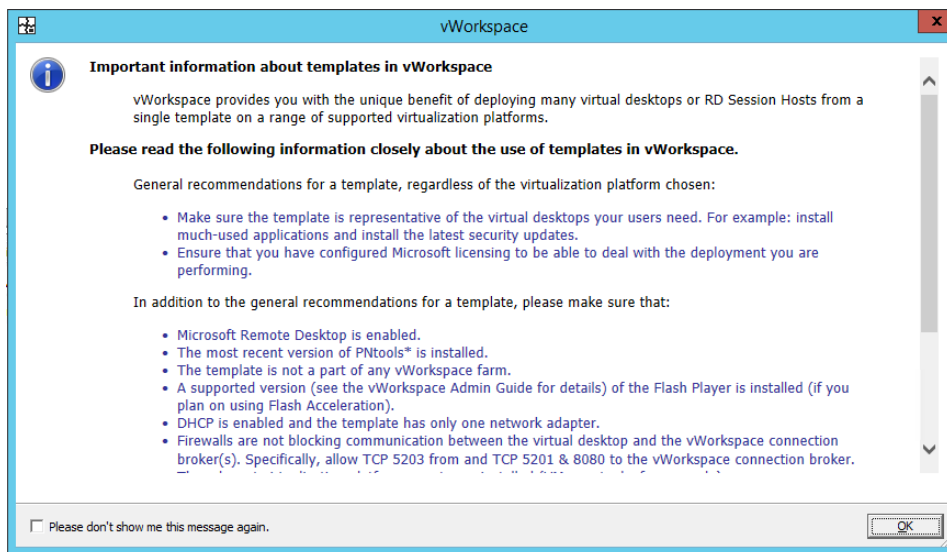
11. Click "Next".

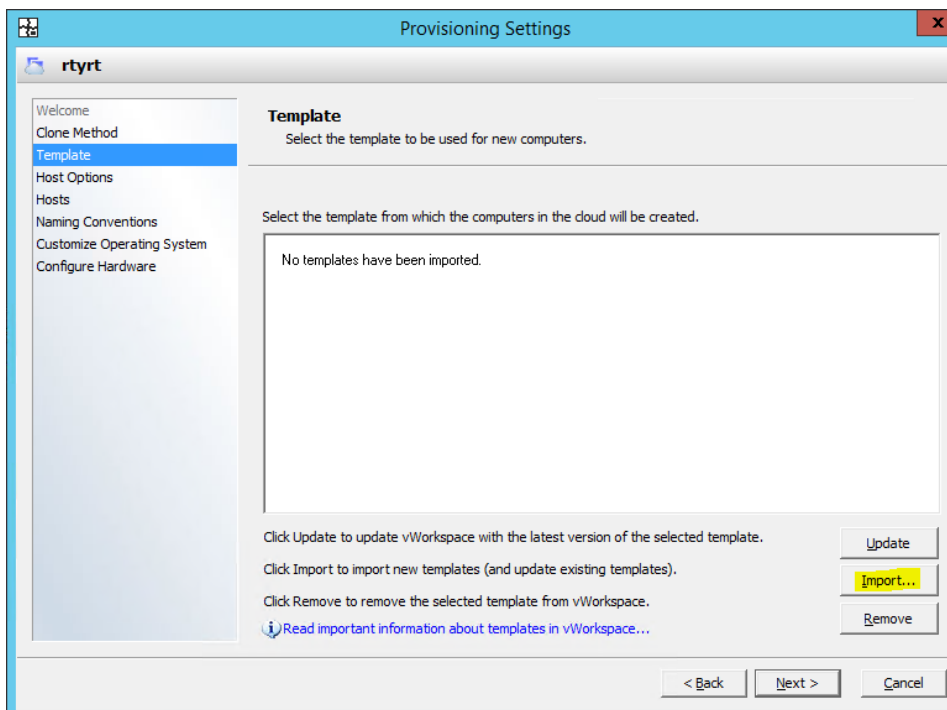12. Select a clone method and click "Next".
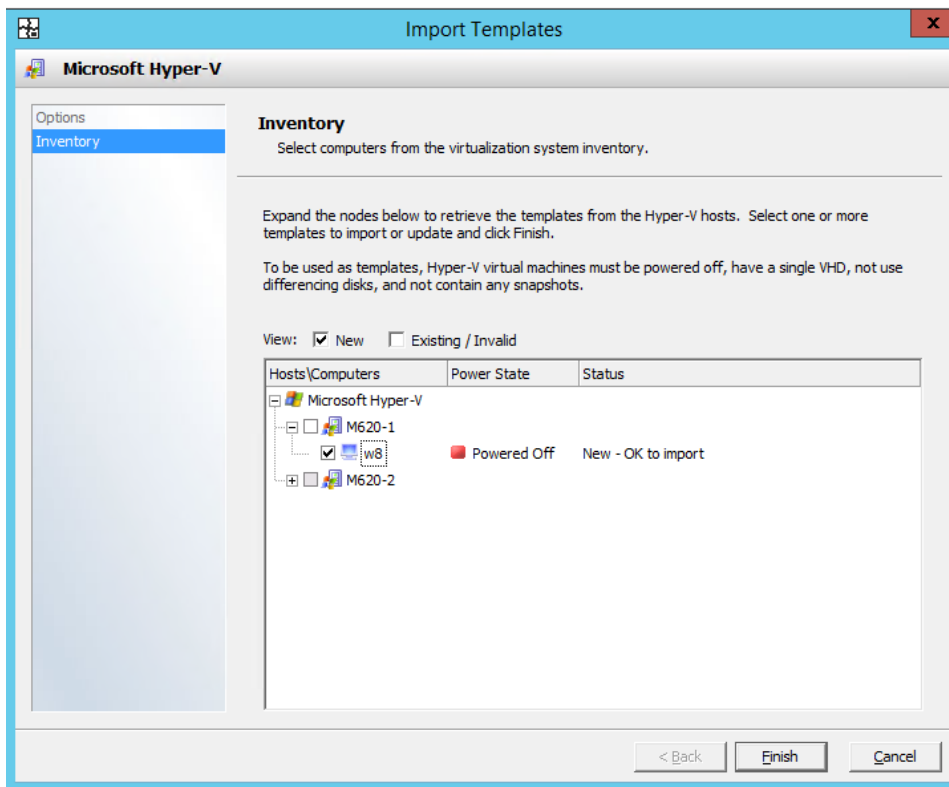
13. If an informational window pops open, click "OK".

vWorkspace

ⓘ **Important information about templates in vWorkspace**

vWorkspace provides you with the unique benefit of deploying many virtual desktops or RD Session Hosts from a single template on a range of supported virtualization platforms.

Please read the following information closely about the use of templates in vWorkspace.

General recommendations for a template, regardless of the virtualization platform chosen:

- Make sure the template is representative of the virtual desktops your users need. For example: install much-used applications and install the latest security updates.
- Ensure that you have configured Microsoft licensing to be able to deal with the deployment you are performing.

In addition to the general recommendations for a template, please make sure that:

- Microsoft Remote Desktop is enabled.
- The most recent version of PNtools* is installed.
- The template is not a part of any vWorkspace farm.
- A supported version (see the vWorkspace Admin Guide for details) of the Flash Player is installed (if you plan on using Flash Acceleration).
- DHCP is enabled and the template has only one network adapter.
- Firewalls are not blocking communication between the virtual desktop and the vWorkspace connection broker(s). Specifically, allow TCP 5203 from and TCP 5201 & 8080 to the vWorkspace connection broker.

☐ Please don't show me this message again.   [OK]

14. Click "Import..."

Provisioning Settings

📁 **rtyrt**

Welcome
Clone Method
Template
Host Options
Hosts
Naming Conventions
Customize Operating System
Configure Hardware

Template
Select the template to be used for new computers.

Select the template from which the computers in the cloud will be created.

> No templates have been imported.

Click Update to update vWorkspace with the latest version of the selected template.   [Update]

Click Import to import new templates (and update existing templates).   [Import...]

Click Remove to remove the selected template from vWorkspace.   [Remove]

ⓘ Read important information about templates in vWorkspace...

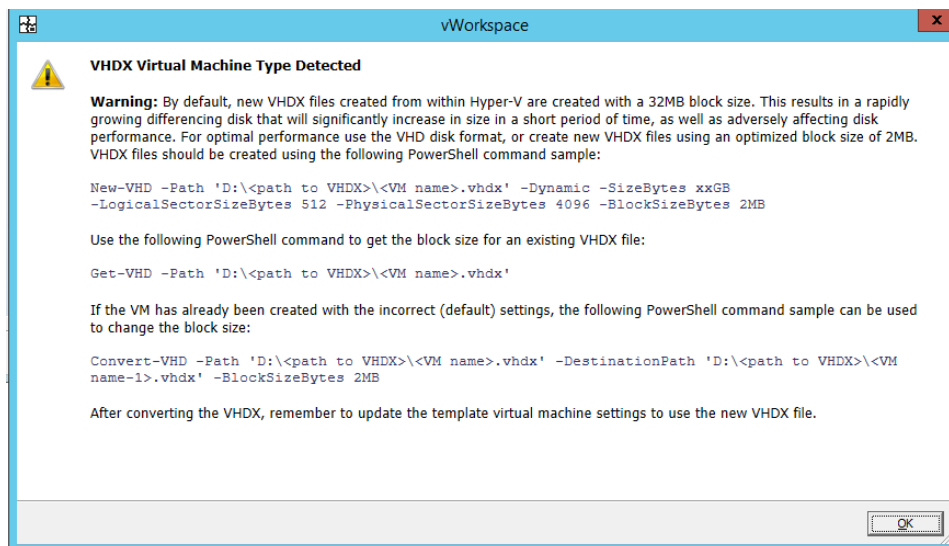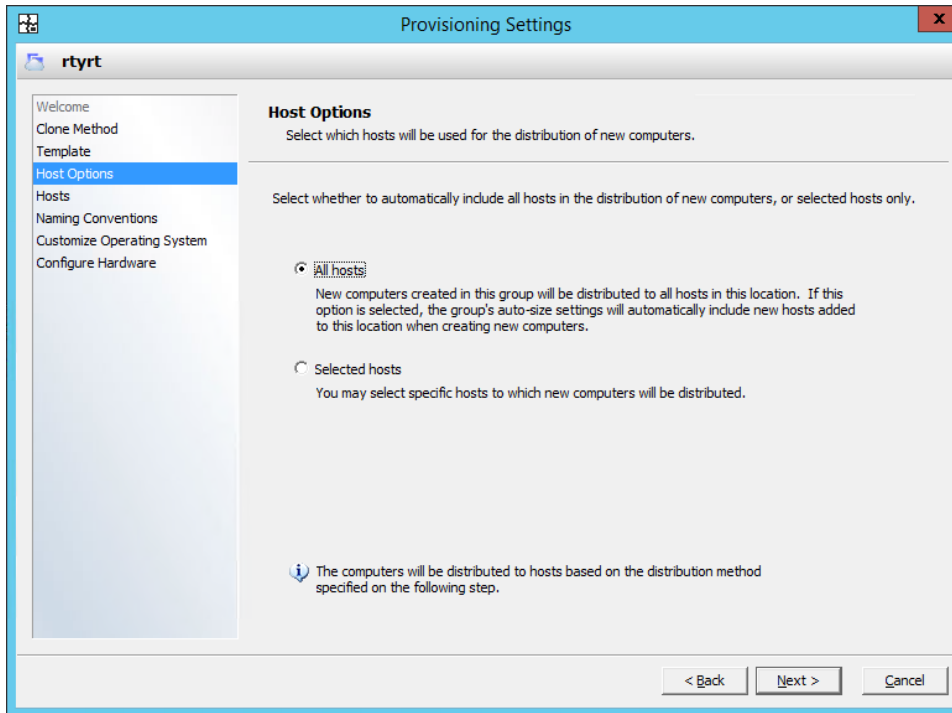[< Back] [Next >] [Cancel]

DELL

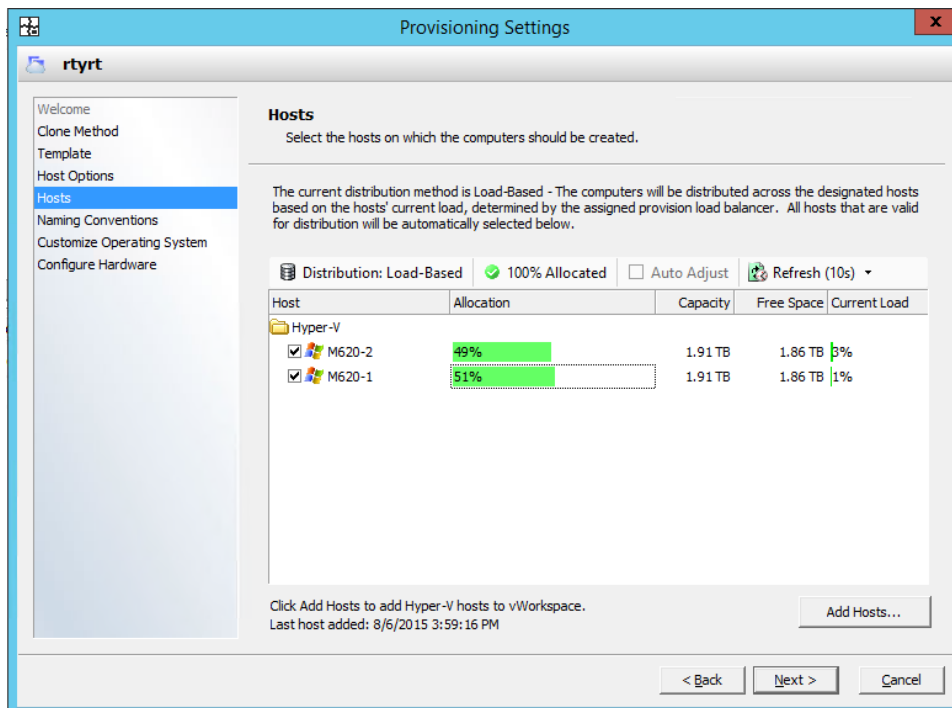15. Select the location of the master VM image and click "Finish".

16. If an informational window pops open, click "OK".

17. Select "All hosts" and click "Next".

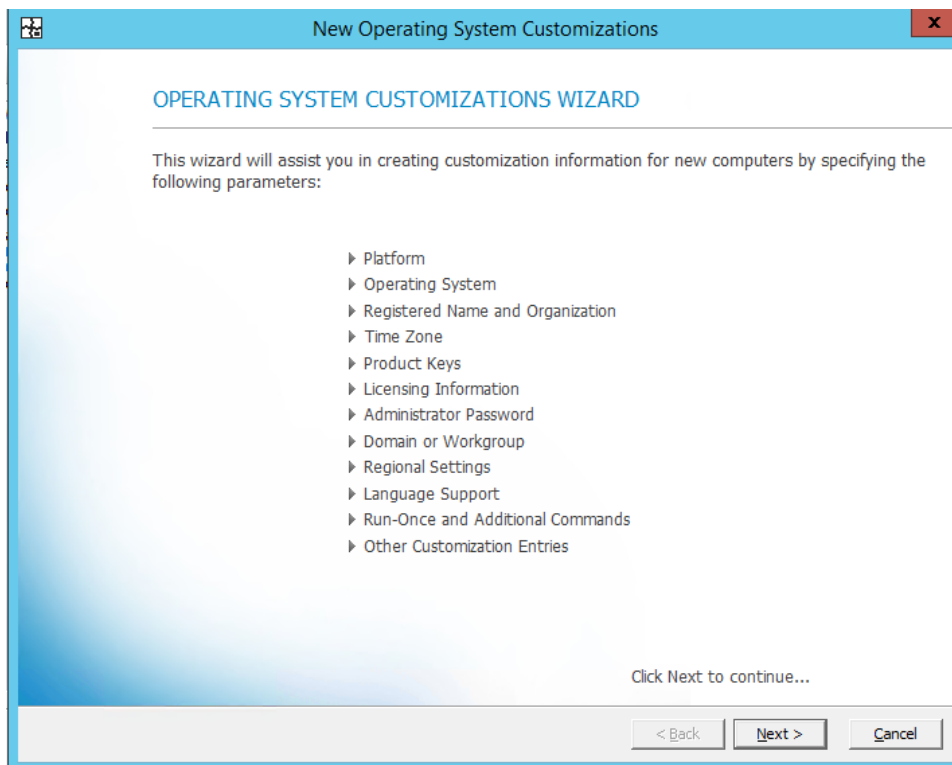18. Confirm host selections and click "Next".

19. Specify the naming convention and click "Next".
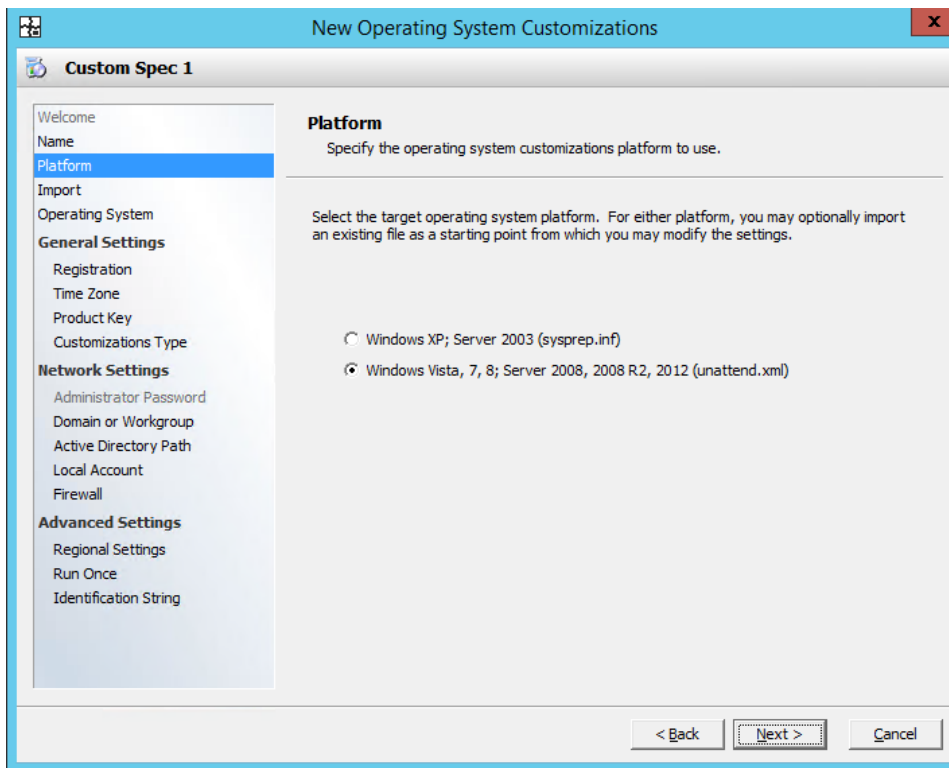

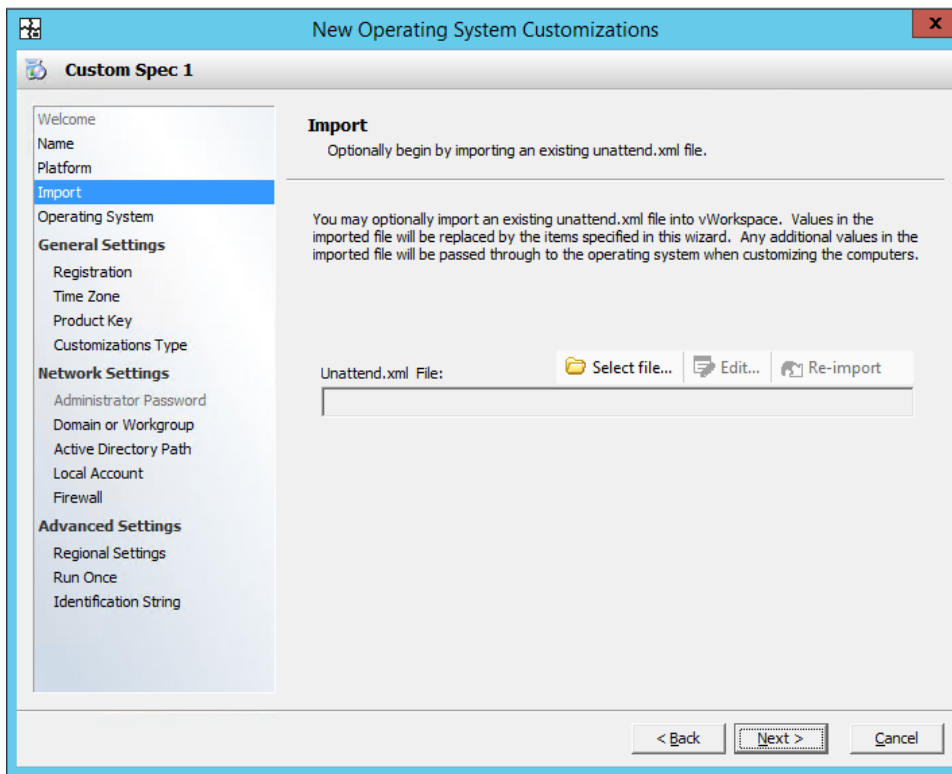
20. Create a new customization by clicking "New…"

21. Click "Next".

22. Enter a friendly name for the customization and click "Next".
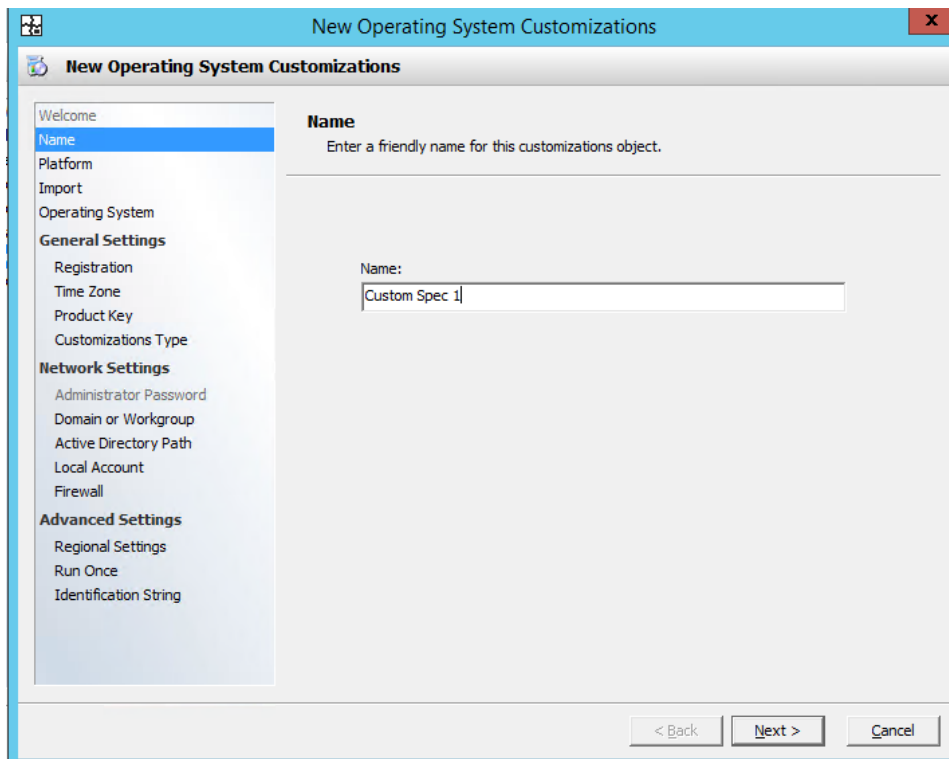
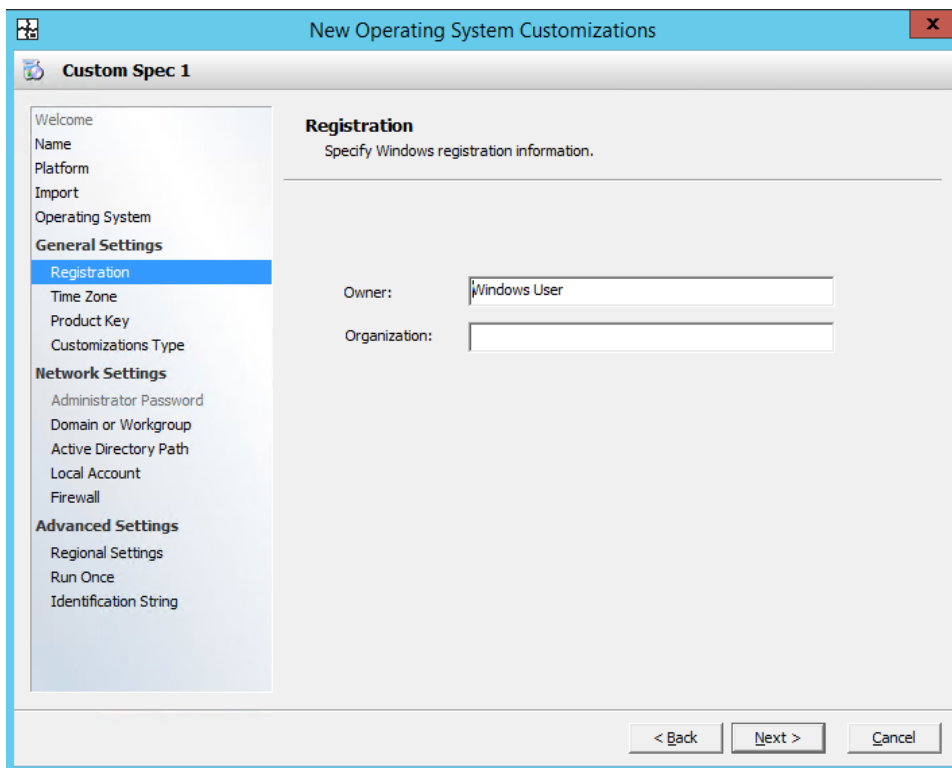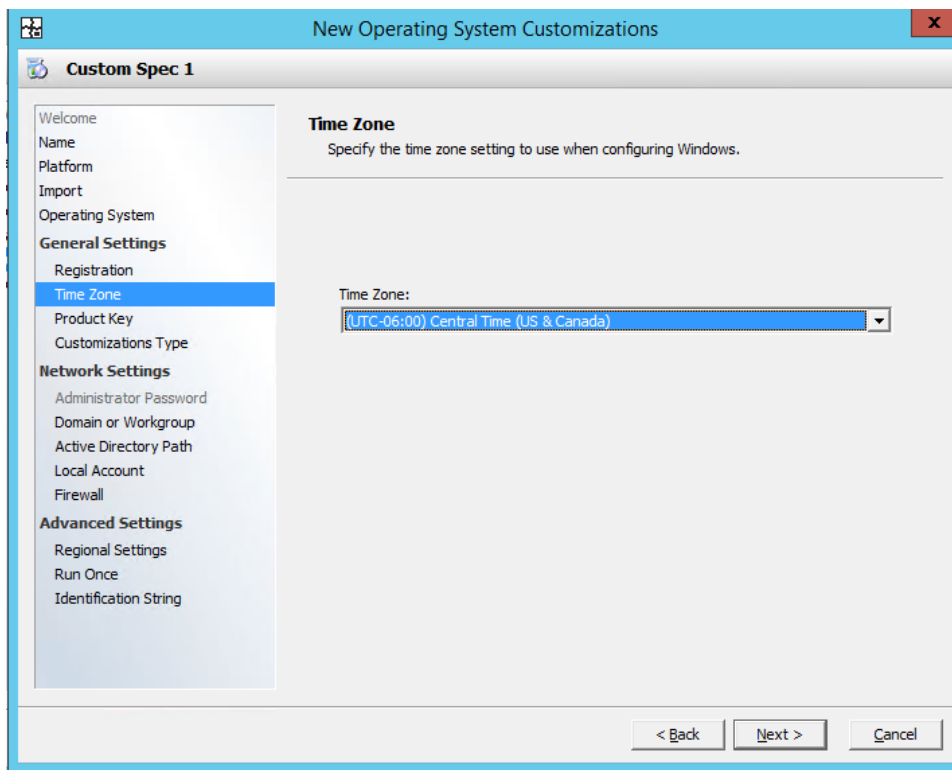23. Select the appropriate operating system and click "Next".

24. Click "Next".

25. Select the appropriate operating system and bit level then click "Next".
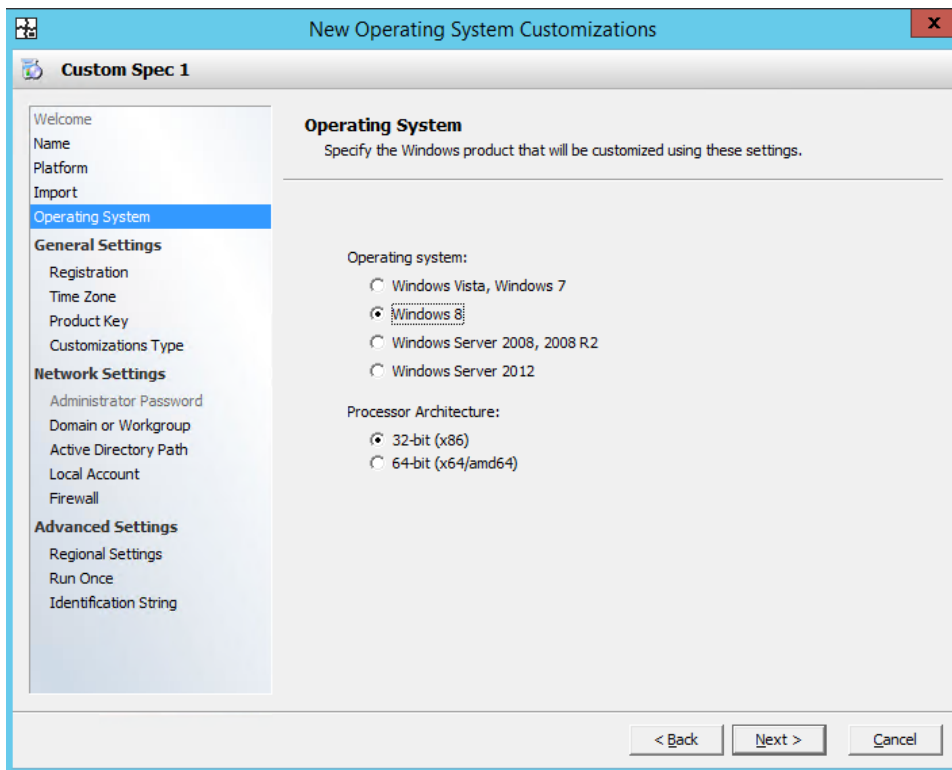
26. Provide registration information then click "Next".

27. Select your time zone then click "Next".

28. Provide product key or text file then click "Next".
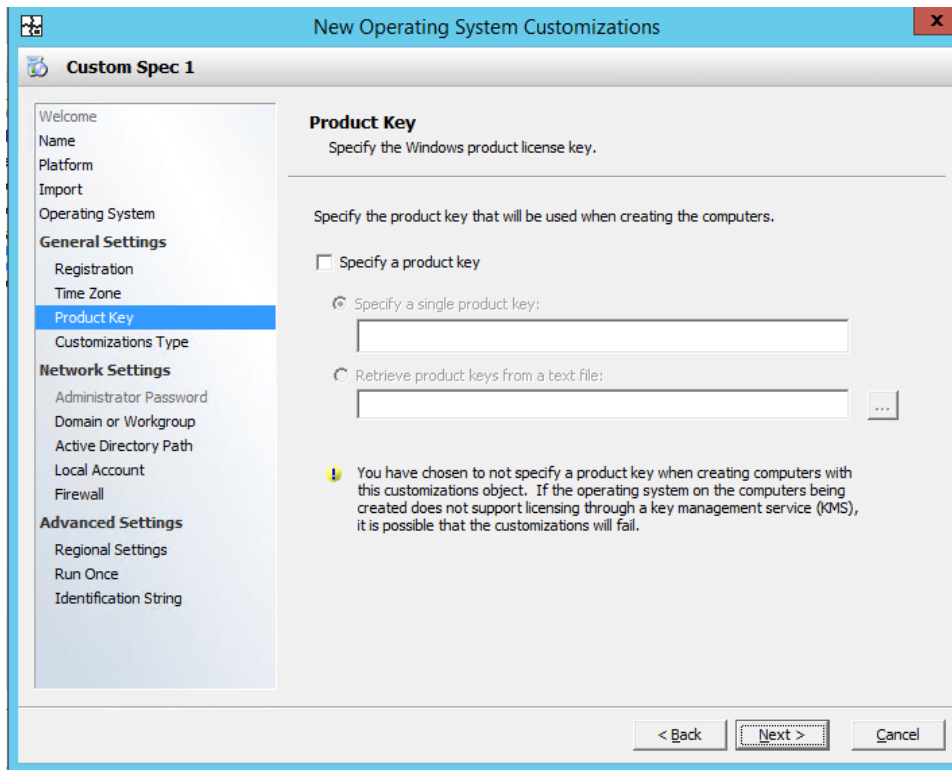
29. Select customization type "Instant" then click "Next".
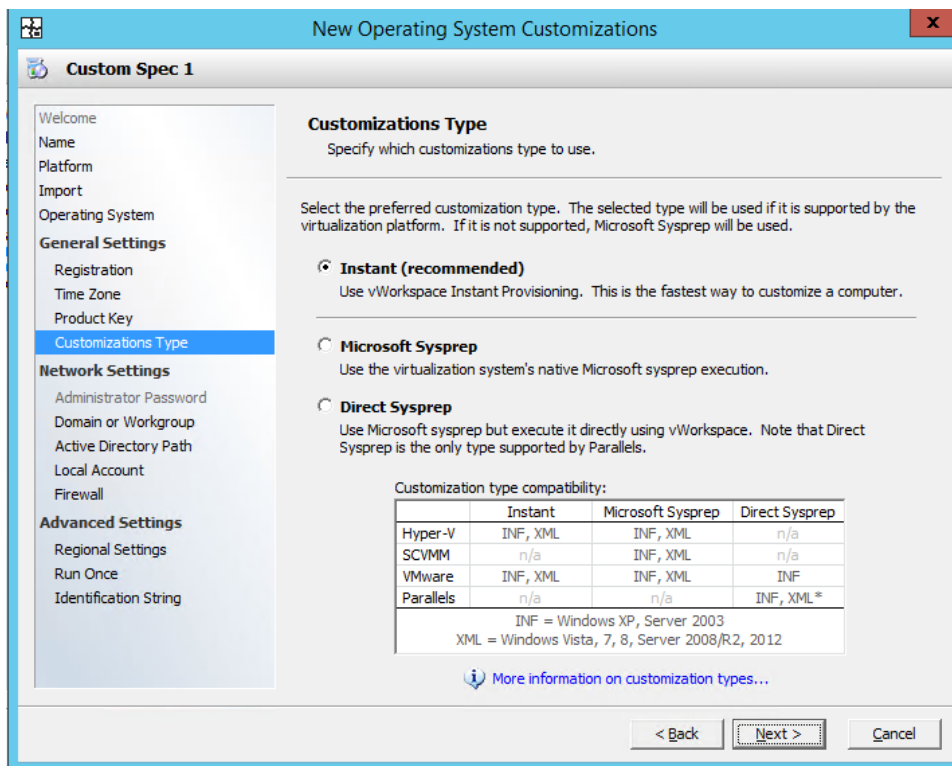
30. Enter the domain name and provide domain admin credentials then click "Next".

31. Enter the Organizational Unit Path then click "Next".

32. Enter the local admin credentials then click "Next".

33. Configure the firewall then click "Next".

34. Select your regional settings then click "Next".
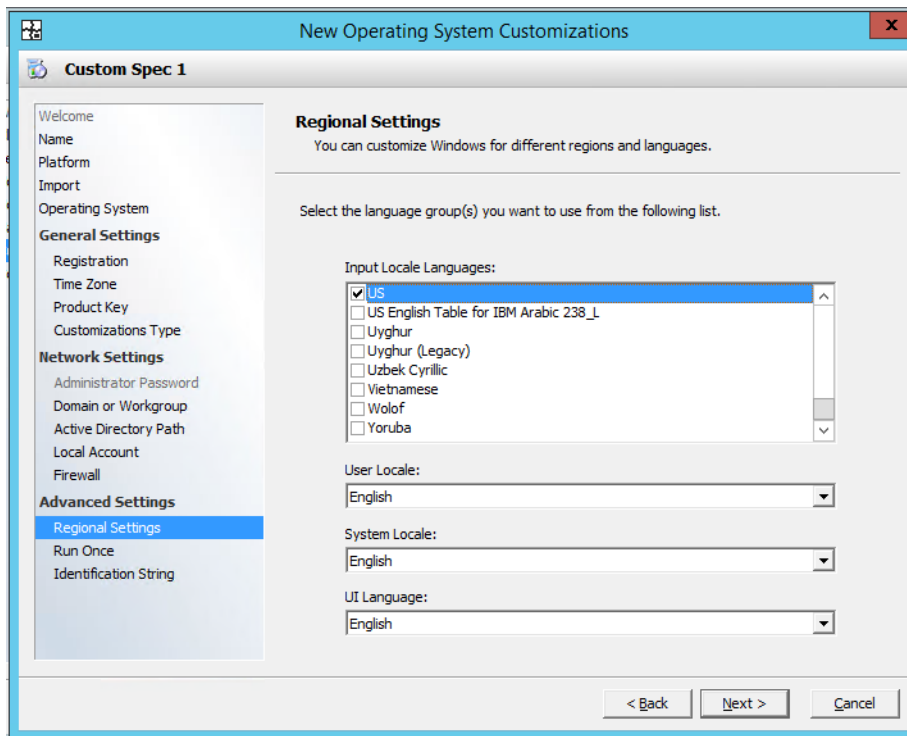
35. Specify any Run Once commands then click "Next".
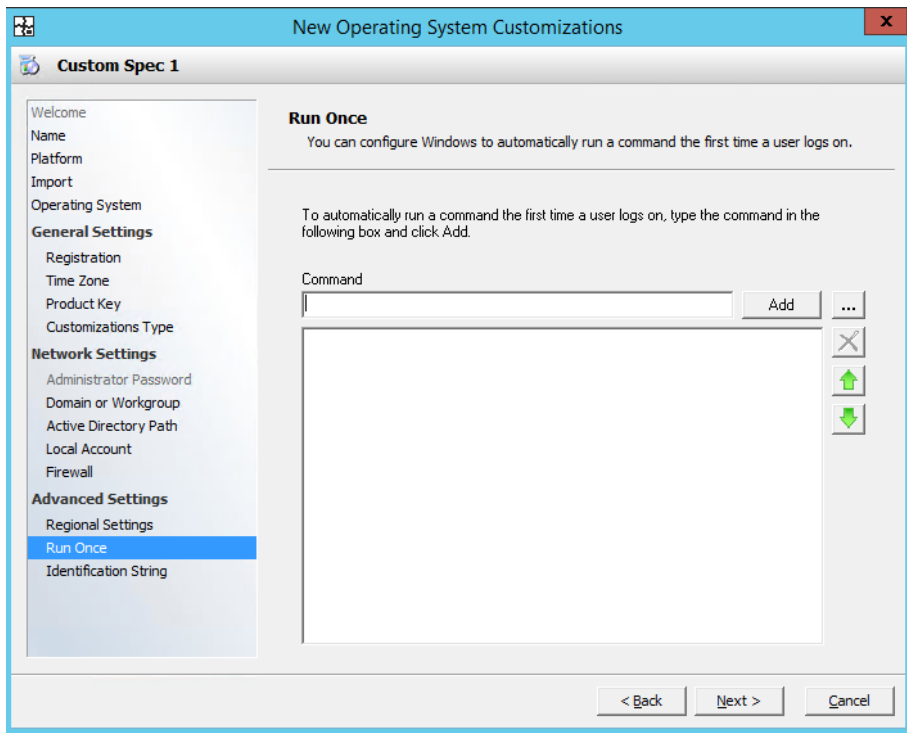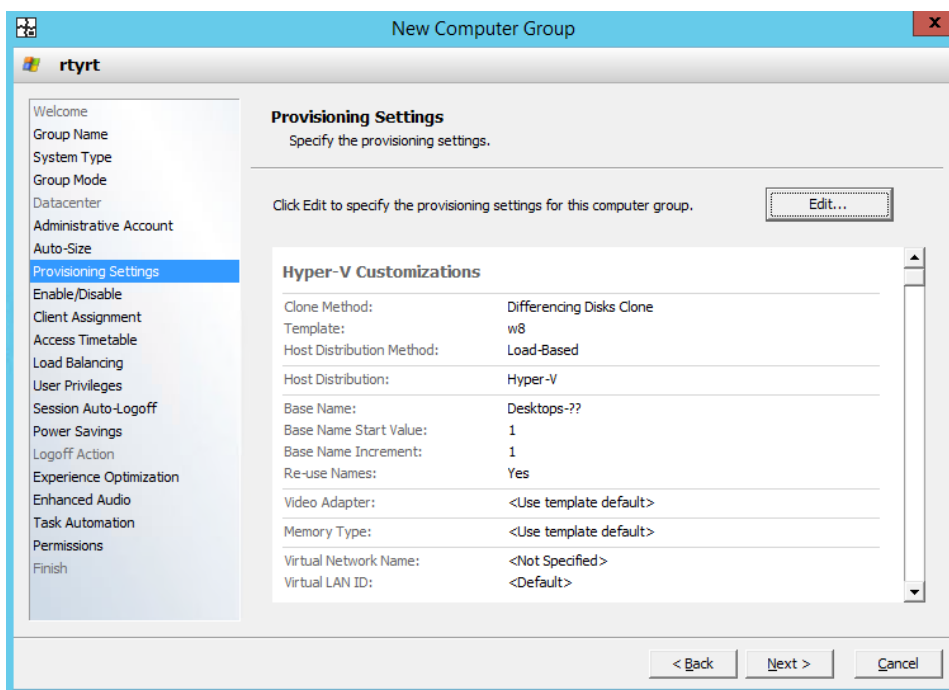
36. Specify the identification string then click "Finish".
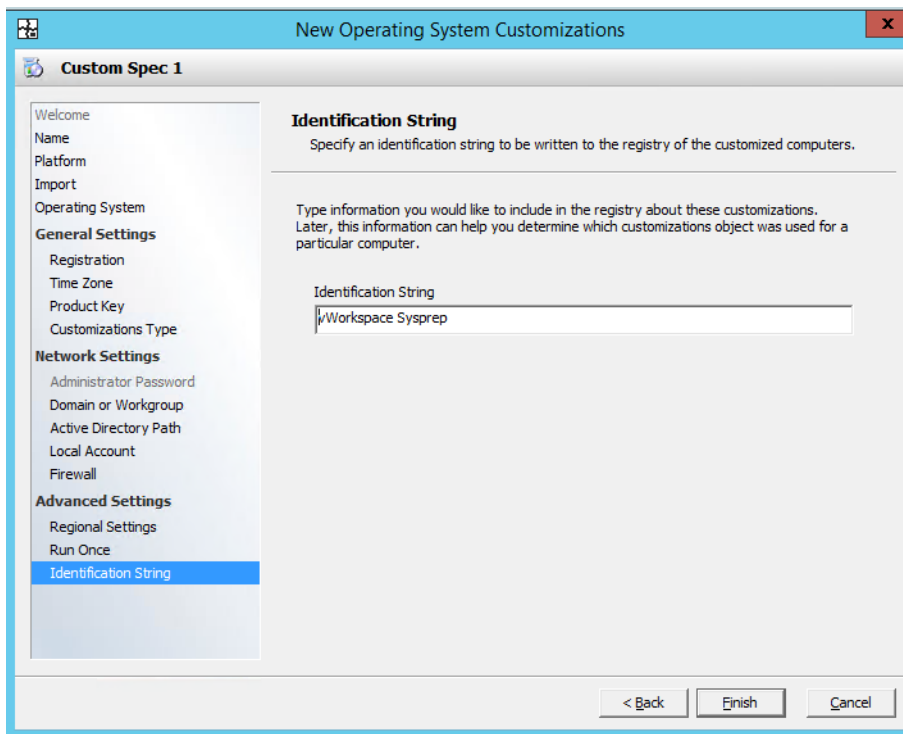
37. Verify that the customization has been created and click "Next".
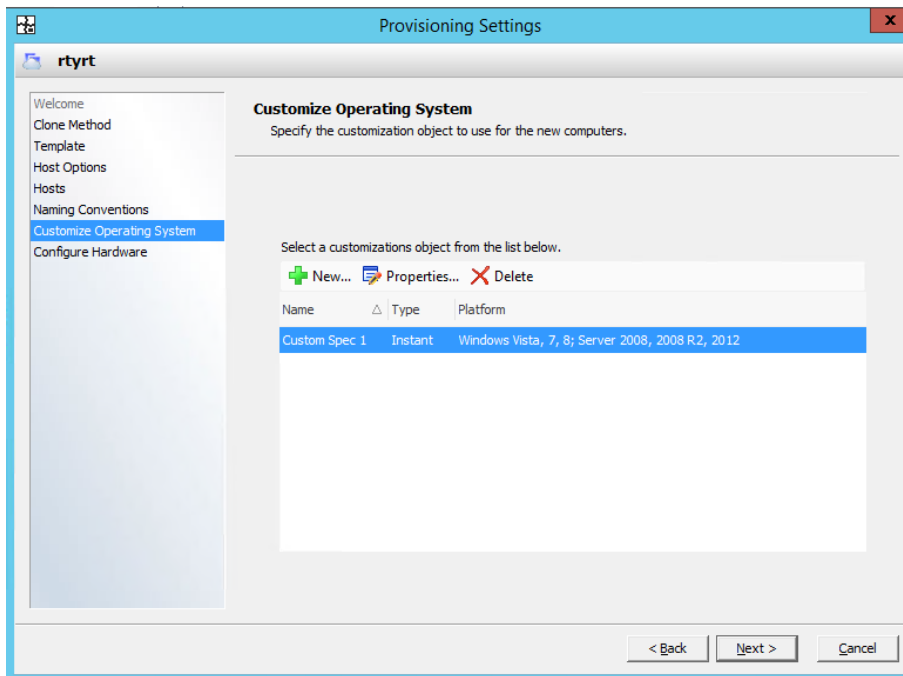
38. Select the "High Availability" tab and select the "High Availability" check box then click "Finish".
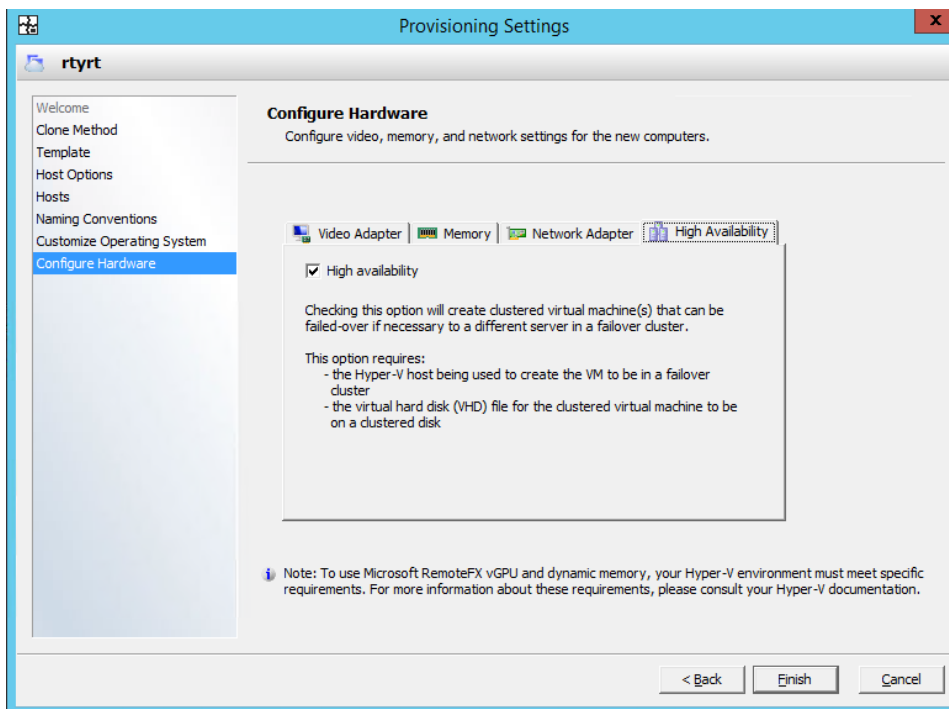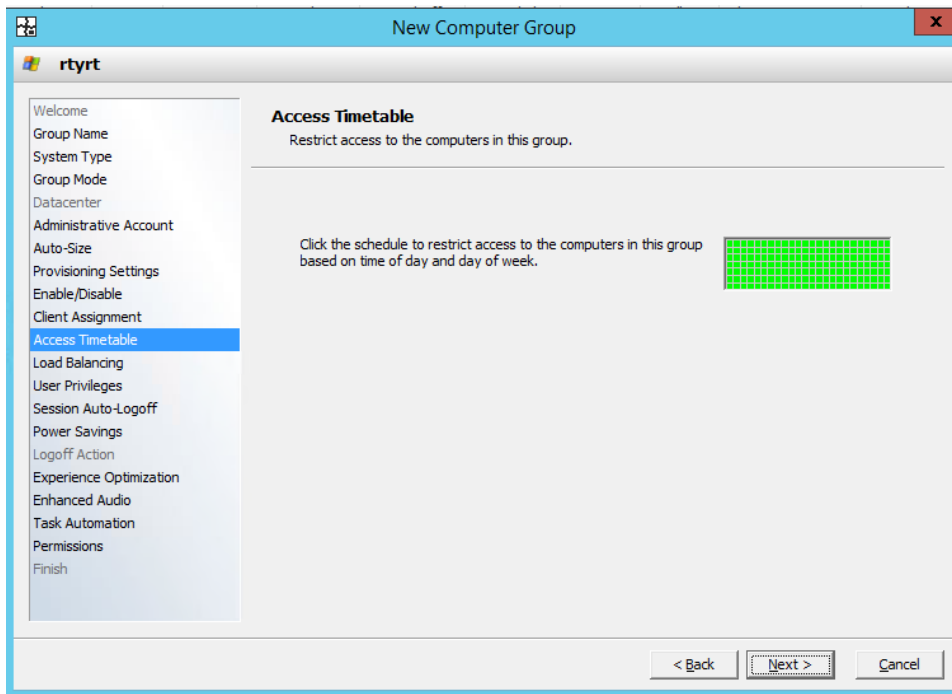

39. Verify the provisioning settings then click "Next".

40. Select "Enabled" then click "Next".
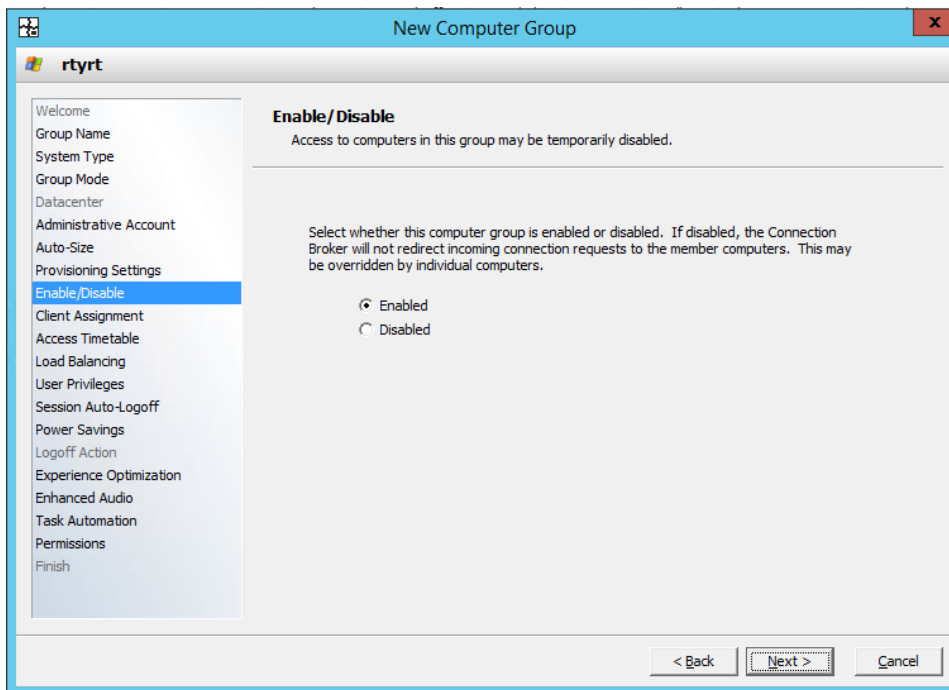
41. Select "User" then click "Next".
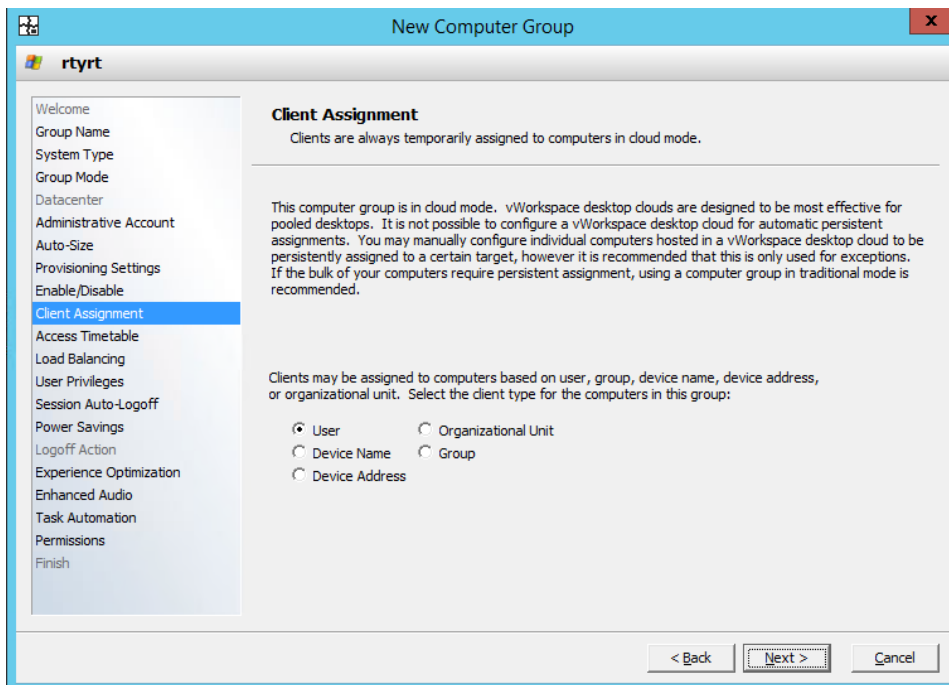
42. Configure the schedule then click "Next".

43. Click "Next".
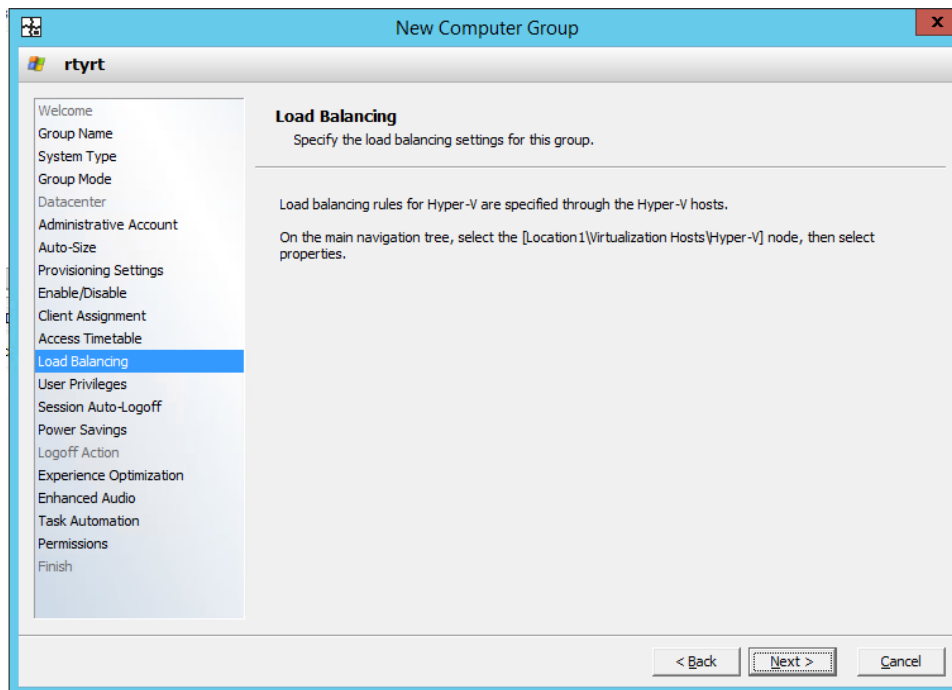
44. Select "None" then click "Next".
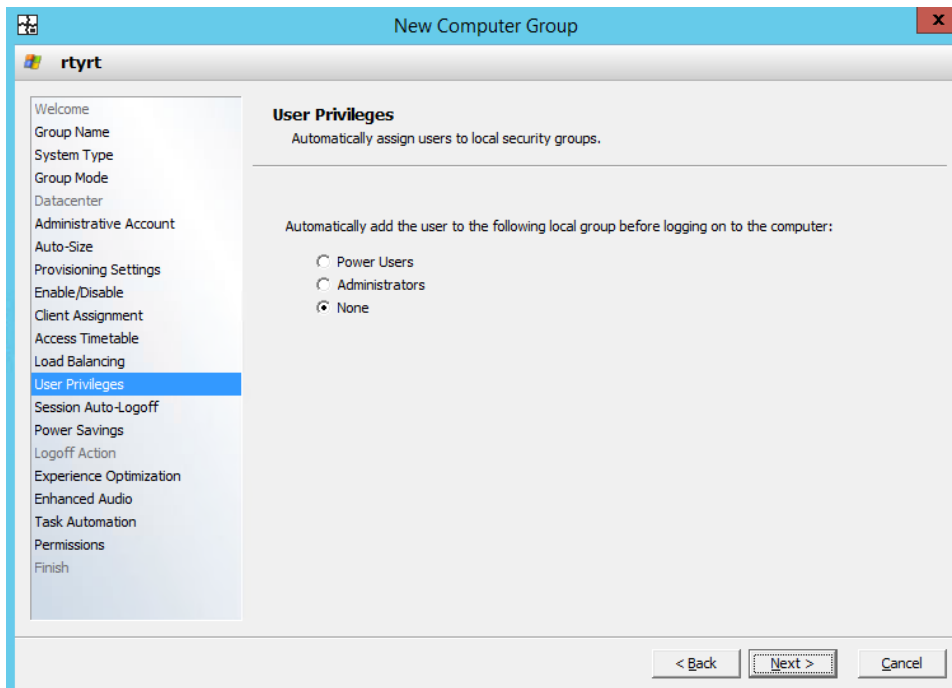
45. Select any optional session logoff scripts then click "Next".
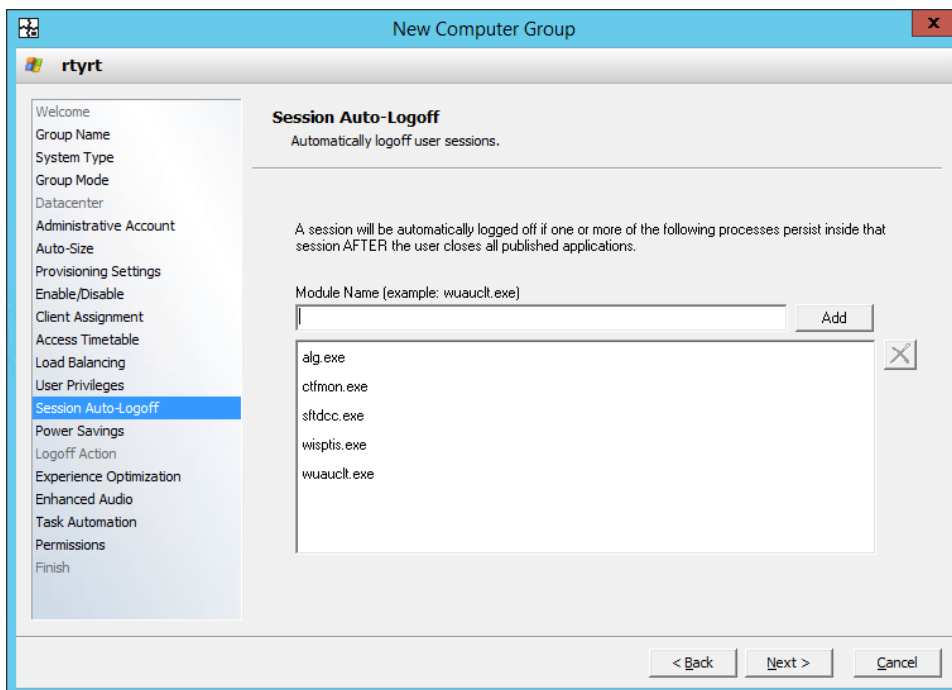
46. Configure the optional Power Savings settings then click "Next".

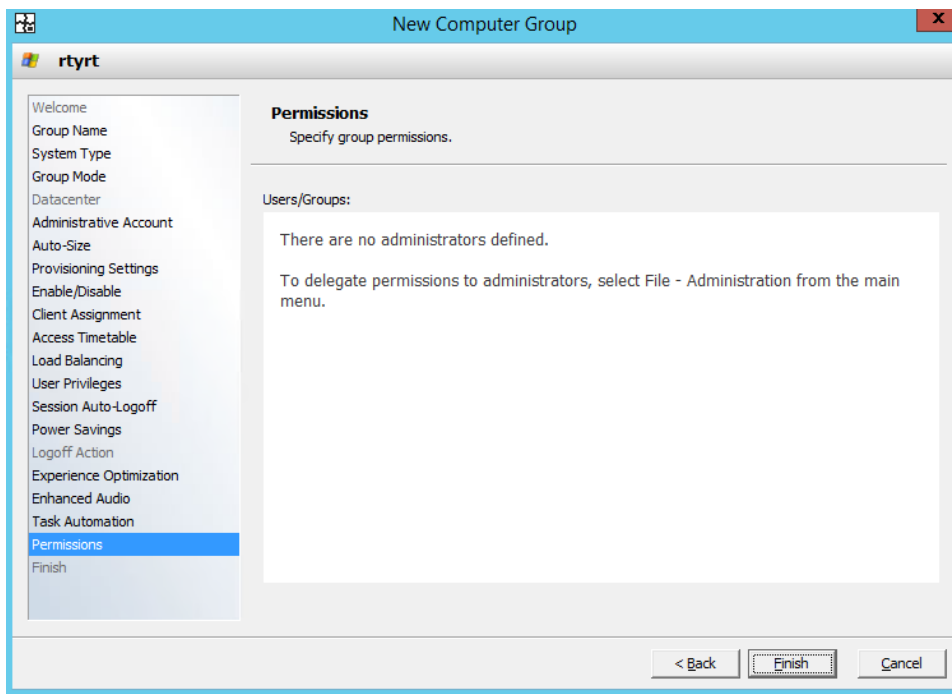47. Configure the optional Experience Optimization settings then click "Next".

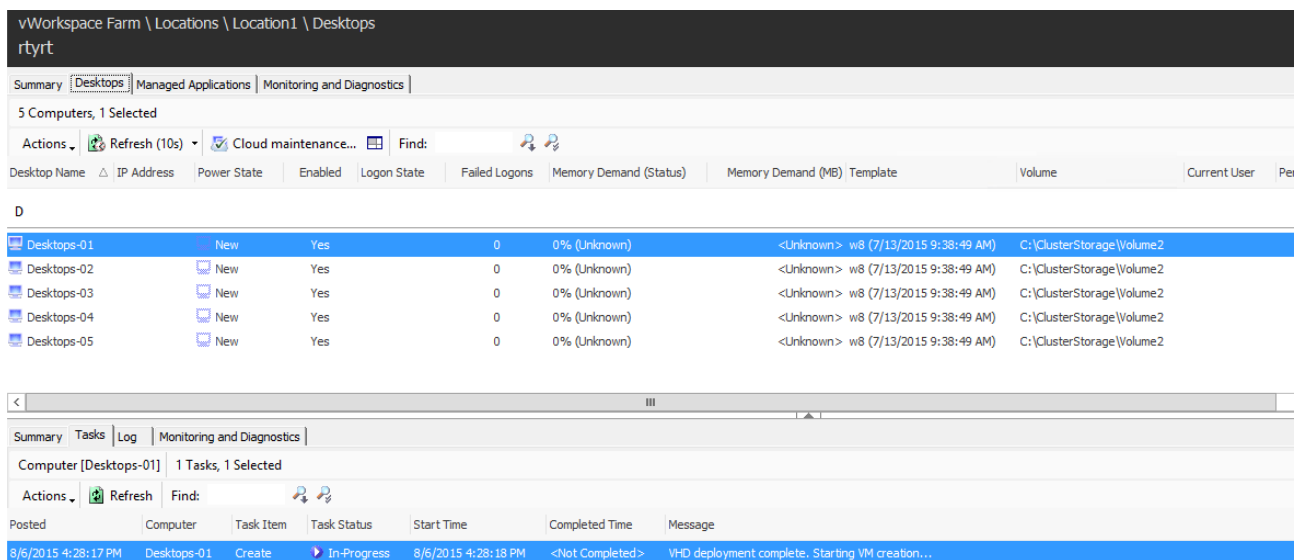48. Enable or disable Enhanced Audio then click "Next".
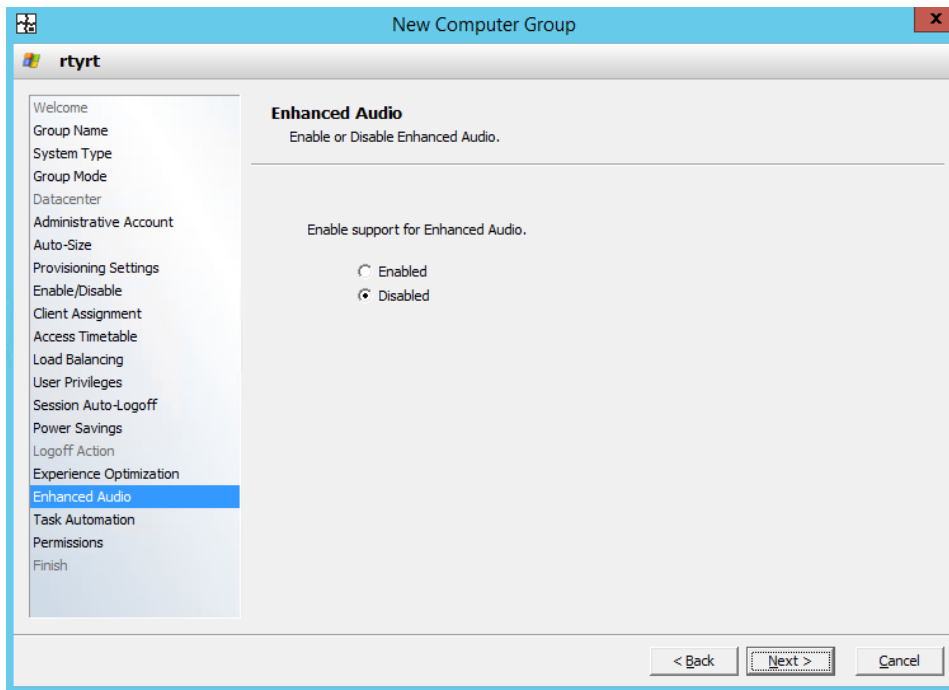
49. Define any automated tasks then click "Next".
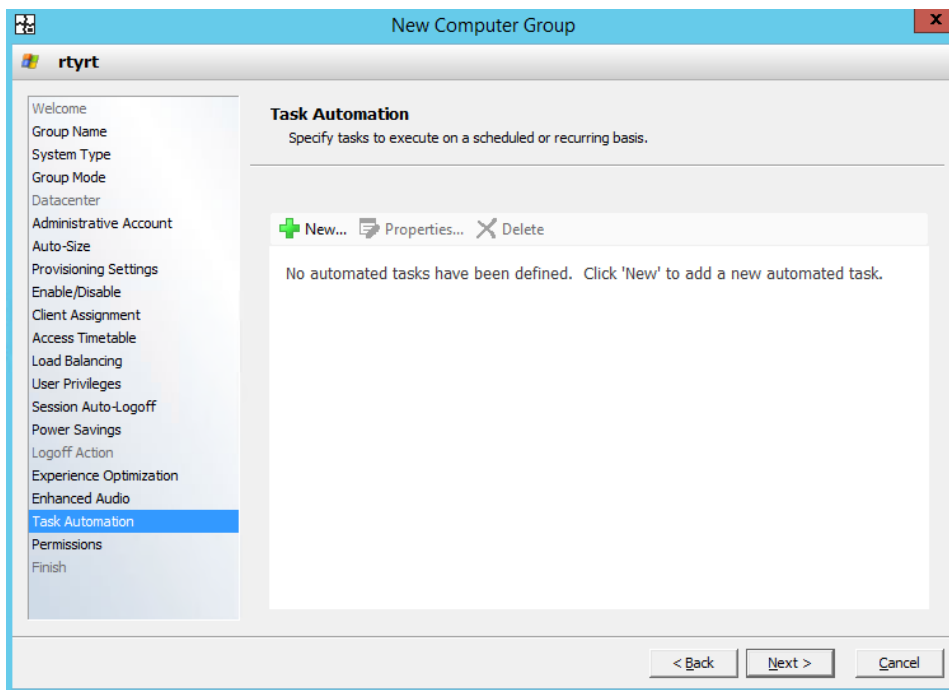
50. Click "Finish".

51. Verify that the VMs are being created in the vWorkspace Management Console.

All virtual machines are now online and configured for high availability.