# vRealize Operations Load Balancing

vRealize Operations 8.6



You can find the most up-to-date technical documentation on the VMware website at:

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Introduction

This document describes the configuration of the load balancing modules of F5 Networks BIG-IP software (F5), Citrix NetScaler, HAProxy and NSX load balancers for vRealize Operations.

This document is not an installation guide, but a load-balancing configuration guide that supplements the vRealize Operations installation and configuration documentation available in the vRealize Operations Documentation Center.

This information is for the following products and versions.

Product	Version	Documentation
vRealize Operations	7.x, 8.x	https://docs.vmware.com/en/ vRealize-Operations/index.html
F5 BIG-IPLTM	11.5, 11.6, 12.1, 13.0, 14.x, 15.x, 16.x	https://support.f5.com/csp/knowledge-center/software/BIG-IP?module=BIG-IP%20LTM
F5 BIG-IP GTM**	15.x, 16.x	https://support.f5.com/csp/knowledge-center/software/BIG-IP?module=BIG-IP%20GTM
Citrix NetScaler	10.5*, 11.0*, 11.x, 12.x, 13.x	https://www.citrix.com/products/ netscaler-adc/
NSX-V	6.1.3, 6.2.x, 6.3.x, 6.4.x	https://pubs.vmware.com/NSX-6/index.jsp#Welcome/welcome.html
NSX-T	2.2.x, 2.3.x, 2.4.x, 2.5.x, 3.x.x	https://docs.vmware.com/en/ VMware-NSX-T/index.html
NSX Advanced Load Balancer	21.1.x	https://docs.vmware.com/en/ VMware-NSX-Advanced-Load- Balancer/index.html
HA Proxy	v1.5.x, 1.8.x	http://www.haproxy.org/
RHEL	v7.x, v8.x	https://access.redhat.com/ documentation/
Keepalived	v1.3.x	http://www.keepalived.org/

<sup>\*</sup> Citrix NetScaler VPX versions prior to 11.0 65.35 have a bug which prevents them from using TLS 1.1/1.2. For more information, please refer to the NetScaler section of this document.

\*\* F5 BIG-IP GTM is supported only for use with vRealize Operations Continuous Availability feature and could not be considered as a replacement for BIG-IP LTM

This chapter includes the following topics:

- Load Balancing Concepts
- vRealize Operations Overview

# **Load Balancing Concepts**

Loadbalancers distribute connections among servers in high availability (HA) deployments.

Following are the advantages of using a load balancer in front of the vRealize Operations cluster:

- Utilizing a load balancer ensures that the deployed cluster is properly balanced for performance of UI traffic.
- Allows all nodes in the cluster to equally participate in the handling of UI sessions and traffic.
- Provides high availability if any admin or data node fails, by directing UI traffic only to serving nodes in the cluster.
- Provides simpler access for the users. Instead of accessing each node individually the user only needs one URL to access the entire cluster and not be concerned with which node is available.

The system administrator backs up the loadbalancers on a regular basis at the same time as other components.

Follow your site policy for backing up loadbalancers, keeping in mind the preservation of network topology and vRealize Operations backup planning.

# Selecting a Load Balancer

There are no specific requirements for selecting a load balancer platform for vRealize Operations. Majority of Load Balancers available today support complex web servers and SSL.

Load balancer can be used in front of a vRealize Operations cluster if certain parameters and configuration variables are followed. HAProxy was chosen for this example due to its ease of deployment, open source availability, stability, capability handling SSL sessions, and performance. Following are some of the parameters that should be considered for configuring other brands of load balancers:

- You must use TCP Mode. HTTP mode is not supported.
- It is not recommended to use round-robin balancing mode
- Cookie persistence does not work
- SSL pass-through is used, SSL termination is not supported
- IP Hash type balancing is recommended to ensure that the same client IP address always reaches the same node, if the node is available

Health checks should be performed with public API provided by vRealize Operations.

# How to Handle SSL UI Certificates with a Load Balancer

In all the default installations of vRealize Operations nodes a default self-signed VMware certificate is included. You can implement your own SSL certificate from an internal Certificate Authority or external Certificate Authority.

For more information on the certificate installation procedures, see Requirements for Custom vRealize Manager SSL Certificates.

In addition to these configuration variables it is important to understand how SSL certificates are distributed in a cluster. If you upload a certificate to a node in the cluster, for example: the master node, the certificate will then be pushed to all nodes in the cluster. To handle UI sessions by all the nodes in the cluster you must upload an SSL certificate that contains all the DNS names (optional: IP addresses and DNS names) in the **Subject Alternative Name** field of the uploaded certificate. The common name should be the Load Balancer DNS name. The subject alternative names are used to support access to the admin UI page.

When the certificate is uploaded trough admin UI page it is pushed to all the nodes in the cluster. Currently, when you use a load balancer with vRealize Operations, the only supported method is SSL pass-through, which means the SSL certificate cannot be terminated on the load balancer.

To change SSL certificate on a cluster deployment:

### Procedure

- 1 Log in to the master node by using the following link: https://<ipaddress>/admin.
- 2 On the top right side, click the certificate button to change the certificate.
- 3 Click on Install New Certificate
- 4 Click on Browse button and choose PEM certificate file.
- **5** After certificate verification click Install.

## Results

When you view the certificate on the node that you are accessing, you will see all nodes in the cluster listed in the certificate SAN.

# vRealize Operations Overview

The vRealize Operations clusters consist of a master node, an optional replica node for high availability, optional data nodes, and optional remote collector nodes.

You can access and interact with the product by using the product UI available on the master and data nodes. The remote collector nodes do not contain a product UI and are used for data collection only. The product UI is powered by a Tomcat instance that resides across each node but is not load balanced out of the box. You can scale up vRealize Operations environment by adding nodes when the environment grows larger.

vRealize Operations supports high availability by enabling a replica node for the vRealize Operations master node. A high availability replica node can take over the functions that a master node provides. When a problem occurs with the master node, fail-over to the replica node is automatic and requires only 2 to 3 minutes of vRealize Operations downtime. Data stored on the master node is always backed up on the replica node. In addition, with high availability enabled, the cluster can survive the loss of a data node without losing any data.

Node Role	Functions
Master Node	It is the initial, required node in the cluster. All other nodes are managed by the master node. It contains the product UI.
	In a single-node installation, the master node performs data collection and analysis as it is the only node where vRealize Operations adapters are installed.
Data Node	In larger deployments, only data nodes have adapters installed to perform collection and analysis. It contains the product UI.
Replica Node	To enable high availability, the cluster requires that you convert a data node in to a replica of the master node. It does not contain product UI.

# vRealize Operations Architecture

Information about vRealize Operations maximum supported nodes

Information about vRealize Operations maximum supported nodes in analytics cluster as well as other information related to High Availability can be found in the sizing guideline document.

Remote collectors are not considered part of the analytics clusters as they do not participate in any type of data calculations or processing.

# **Note** The load balancer cannot decrypt the traffic

Following is a basic architecture overview of a vRealize Operations 8-node cluster with high availability enabled.

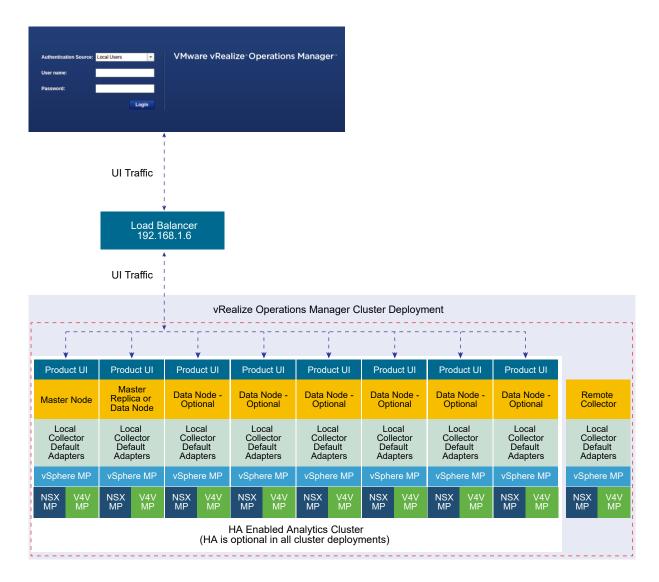


Figure 1. vRealize Operations 8-Nodes Cluster with High Availability

# HAProxy Installation and Configuration

2

HAProxy offers high availability, load balancing, and proxying for TCP and HTTP-based applications. Both multi-arm and one-arm configurations are tested and supported.

# **Prerequisites**

Following are the prerequisites to ensure a functional load balancer configuration and deployment.

- OS: Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL) v7.x or v8.x
- CPU: 2 vCPU
- Memory: 4GB
- Disk space: 50GB
- HAProxy 1.5.x for RHEL 7.x or v1.8.x for RHEL 8.x
- Fully functioning DNS with both forward and reverse lookups
- All nodes in the vRealize Operations cluster operating correctly
- HAProxy deployed in same datacenter and preferably on the same cluster as vRealize Operations
- HAProxy not deployed on the same ESX hosts as vRealize Operations cluster to ensure availability
- Minimum 2-node deployment of vRealize Operations cluster
- Deployment does not require high availability to be enabled, but it is recommended that you enable high availability
- One master node and at least one data node is required for using a load balancer beneficially

This chapter includes the following topics:

- Install Single-Node HAProxy
- Configure Logging for HAProxy
- Configure HAProxy
- Advanced Configuration: HAProxy with Keepalived

# Install Single-Node HAProxy

HAProxy installation guide.

HAProxy installation is supported and tested on Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL) 7.x or 8.x and can be obtained from the official Red Hat repository. You can install HAProxy on RHEL 7.x or 8.x by using yum package manager. To configure HAProxy as a load-balancer for vRealize Operations please follow the steps below:

### Procedure

1 Perform a package update on system to ensure all packages are up-to-date:

```
yum update
```

2 Install HAProxy:

```
yum -y install haproxy
```

3 Copy original HAProxy configuration to backup file:

```
cp /etc/haproxy/haproxy.cfg /etc/haproxy/haproxy.cfg.bak
```

- **4** Configure HAProxy configuration. To configure analytics balancer, see Configure HAProxy Analytics.
- 5 Allow firewall traffic through for the ports needed for HAProxy to function:

```
firewall-cmd --permanent --zone=public --add-port=80/tcp
firewall-cmd --permanent --zone=public --add-port=9090/tcp
firewall-cmd --permanent --zone=public --add-port=443/tcp
```

6 Reload the firewall configuration:

```
systemctl reload firewalld
```

7 Enable HAProxy to connect to any interface:

```
setsebool -P haproxy_connect_any 1
```

8 Enable HAProxy service:

```
systemctl enable haproxy
```

### Results

# **Configure Logging for HAProxy**

An administrator might want to configure logging of the HAProxy service to aid in monitoring and troubleshooting an environment.

The HAProxy logger allows for the use rsyslog internally on the Linux installation to log to a local file. You can also utilize vRealize Log Insight integration to send this log to a vRealize Log Insight deployment by utilizing the new Log Insight Linux agent to greatly simplify the configuration and logging of Linux platforms. To configure basic applications logging using rsyslog locally on the server perform the following steps.

### Procedure

1 Configure the rsyslog configuration file to accept UDP syslog reception:

```
vi /etc/rsyslog.conf
```

2 Uncomment the following lines:

```
# Provides UDP syslog reception
$ModLoad imudp
$UDPServerAddress 127.0.0.1
$UDPServerRun 514
```

3 Save the file:

```
wq!
```

4 Create the HAProxy logging configuration file for specific application parameters

```
vi /etc/rsyslog.d/haproxy.conf
```

5 Add the following line:

```
if ($programname == 'haproxy') then -/var/log/haproxy.log
```

6 Save the file:

```
wq!
```

7 Create HAProxy Log file and set proper permissions:

```
touch /var/log/haproxy.log
chmod 755 /var/log/haproxy.log
```

8 Restart the rsyslog service:

```
Service rsyslog restart
```

### Results

# **Configure HAProxy**

The HAProxy configuration has been tested against an 8-node vRealize Operations cluster.

Clusters with fewer nodes up to a maximum of 16 analytics nodes are also supported and require the same configuration. Every time the cluster is expanded, and a new node is deployed you must edit the HAProxy configuration and add the IP address of the new node. After editing the configuration file, the HAProxy service should always be restarted so the configuration is reloaded. We recommended to set HAProxy global max. connections parameter (2000) and node max. connections parameter (140) which covers most of the cases. However, we strongly suggested to check the sizing of your environment and adjust those settings based on vROps load.

# Configure HAProxy for vRealize Operations Analytics

HAProxy for vRealize Operations analytics confuguration guide

You can configure the HAProxy for vRealize Operations analytics as follows:

```
# Configuration file to balance both web and epops
#global parameters global
   log
          127.0.0.1 local2
   chroot
              /var/lib/haproxy
   pidfile
              /var/run/haproxy.pid
   maxconn
              2000
             haproxy
              haproxy
   group
   daemon
   stats socket /var/lib/haproxy/stats
   ssl-server-verify none
#default parameters unless otherwise specified defaults
   log global
   mode http
   option httplog
   option tcplog
   option dontlognull
   timeout connect 5000ms
   timeout client 50000ms
   timeout server 50000ms
#listener settings for stats webpage can be optional but highly recommended listen stats
:9090
   balance
   mode http
   stats enable
   stats auth admin:admin
   stats uri /
   stats realm Haproxy\ Statistics
#automatic redirect for http to https connections
frontend vrops_unsecured_redirect *:80
      redirect location https://<insert fqdn address here>
#front settings in this case we bind to all addresses on system or specify an interface
   frontend vrops frontend secure
      bind <web dedicated ip>:443
      mode tcp
      option tcplog
      default backend vrops_backend_secure
#backend configuration of receiving servers containing tcp-checks health checks and hashing
#needed for a proper configuration and page sessions
```

```
#adjust the server parameters to your environment
   backend vrops backend secure
      mode tcp
      option tcplog
   balance source
   hash-type consistent
   option tcp-check
   tcp-check connect port 443 ssl
   tcp-check send GET\ /suite-api/api/deployment/node/status?
services=api\&services=adminui\&services=ui\ \ HTTP/1.0\r\n\r\n
## For older versions of vROPS from 6.6.1 to 7.5 please use the following "tcp-check"
# tcp-check send GET\ /suite-api/api/deployment/node/status\ HTTP/1.0\r\n\r\n
tcp-check expect rstring ONLINE
server node1 <Insert node1 ip address here>:443 check inter 15s check-ssl maxconn 140 fall 3
server node2 <Insert node2 ip address here>:443 check inter 15s check-ssl maxconn 140 fall 3
server node3 <Insert node3 ip address here>:443 check inter 15s check-ssl maxconn 140 fall 3
server node4 <Insert node4 ip address here>:443 check inter 15s check-ssl maxconn 140 fall 3
```

**Note** Please make sure to use proper tcp-check call in above instruction. Starting from vROps 8.0 status API enhanced to track separate services status. Old "tcp-check" call provided above in comments.

# Verify HAProxy Configuration

**HA** Configuration verification

## Procedure

- 1 When the configuration is completed, connect to http://haproxy\_ip\_address:9090 by using the username and password used to configure HAProxy. In the above example, username: admin and password: admin.
- 2 Verify that all the nodes rows are shown in green.

# Advanced Configuration: HAProxy with Keepalived

In some circumstances and deployments, dual highly available HAProxy is required. In a singlenode deployment HAProxy becomes the single point of failure in the deployment and adds potential reliability concerns.

Also, if the HAProxy needs patches, updates, or other maintenance, the HAProxy becomes a single point of downtime. To remediate this concern, deployment of two HAProxys and Keepalived is used to ensure one node is always available. The configuration of the HAProxy can be exactly same across nodes, simply adjusting for local node IP addresses. In most cases the first deployed HAProxy virtual machine can simply be cloned and used as the secondary node.

Failover of a failed HAProxy node by using Keepalived has been tested to occur in less than 5 seconds depending on the network variables. The failover period was rarely noticed by the user or effecting the UI session, during the limited testing. Keepalived uses Linux Virtual Router Redundancy Protocol (VRRP) and multicast advertisements from the master node. If the master node stops sending advertisements the backup proceeds to send a gratuitous ARP to the network and taking ownership of the VIP address and owns the hardware address that master previously owned. The master and the backup monitor each other with multicast events at a rate of once per second.

VIP 192.168.9.100 client 192.168.9.15 hostname2 hostname1 192.168.9.10 192.168.9.20 SYN ACK ACK TOP DUP ACK ACK Command: HELO hostname TCP DUD ACK ornmand, HELO postnamy Response: 250 Hostname2 ACK TOP DUP ACK Communa QUIT Command: QUIT Response: 221 2.0.0 Sys ACK TCP Dup ACK FIN. ACK FIN, ACK

Figure 2-1. HAProxy with Keepalived

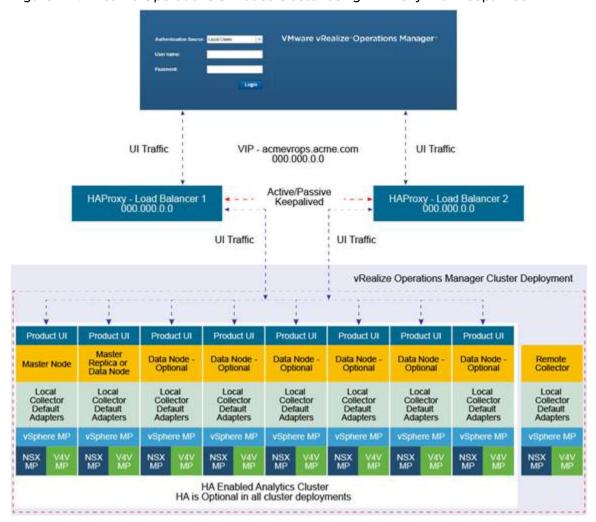


Figure 2-2. vRealize Operations 8-Nodes Cluster using HAProxy with Keepalived

# Configure HAProxy with Keepalived

HAProxy with Keepalived configuration guide

- 1 Clone the HAProxy VM or install a new VM with the same configuration as the first deployed HAProxy.
- 2 Change Hostname and IP Address
- 3 Create VIP and point to main DNS record for vRealize Operations cluster. For example: acmevrops6.acme.com / 192.168.1.5)
  - You will now have 2x HAProxy load balancers running. For example: LB1/192.168.1.6 and LB2/192.168.1.7.
- 4 Verify HAProxy configuration is located on both the load balancers. You should be able to access either one and access vRealize Operations cluster successfully.

When both the HAProxies are confirmed working and contain identical configurations, you should configure the Keepalived to ensure that you have availability between the two load balancers.

5 SSH to LB1 which we will consider is the MASTER election.

```
yum install keepalived
```

6 You should configure the kernel to use a VIP to bind to vi /etc/sysctl.conf. Add the following line to the file

```
net.ipv4.ip_nonlocal_bind=1
```

7 For the kernel to pick up the new changes without rebooting, run the following command:

```
sysctl -p
```

8 Delete the file:

```
/etc/keepalived/keepalived.conf
```

9 Create a new file:

```
/etc/keepalived/keepalived.conf
```

10 In the new keepalived.conf file add the following

```
Master Node
global defs {
 router id haproxy2 # The hostname of this host.
vrrp script haproxy {
 script "killall -0 haproxy"
 interval 2
 weight 2
vrrp instance 50 {
 virtual router id 50
  advert int 1
 priority 50
  state MASTER
 interface eth0
  virtual ipaddress {
    Virtual IPaddress dev eth0 # The virtual IP address that will be shared between
MASTER and BACKUP
  track script {
     haproxy
  }
}
```

11 Verify that above the Router\_ID is the HOSTNAME of the local load balancer that you are setting up.

- 12 Verify that you have set up the correct network device, check if you are using eth0.
- 13 Verify that above the Virtual\_IPaddress is the VIP address, and not the local IP address of the LB1 node.
- 14 Set the priority in increments of 50. In this example, the node has the highest priority, so it is set to 100. Verify that the node is set as the master node.
- 15 Save the configuration file and restart the services.
- 16 You must enable the Keepalived service:

```
systemctl enable keepalived
```

17 Run the commands:

```
service keepalived restart
service haproxy restart
```

18 To display if the node has the active load balancer IP, run:

```
ip a | grep eth0
```

- 19 If the system you are on displays the primary IP address of the load balancer, then this is the active system processing traffic. Verify that only one system displays the primary IP address of the load balancer.
- 20 If the address is present on both the machines, the configuration is incorrect, and both the machines might not be able to communicate with each other.
- 21 To configure the second LB2 Keepalived service perform the same steps as above and configure Keepalived service on LB2.
- 22 In the new keepalived.conf file add the following for the slave node:

```
global defs {
  router id haproxy4 # The hostname of this host!
vrrp_script haproxy {
 script "killall -0 haproxy"
 interval 2
  weight 2
vrrp instance 50 {
  virtual_router_id 50
  advert int 1
 priority 50
 state BACKUP
  interface eth0
  virtual ipaddress {
    Virtual IPaddress dev eth0 # The virtual IP address that will be shared betwee MASTER
and BACKUP.
}
```

```
track_script {
   haproxy
}
```

- 23 Verify that the Router\_ID is the HOSTNAME of the local load balancer that you are setting up.
- 24 Verify that above the Virtual\_IPaddress is the VIP address and not the local IP address of the LB1 node.
- 25 Set the priority in increments of 50. In this example, the node has the highest priority, so it is set to 100. Verify that the node is set as the backup.
- 26 Save the configuration file and restart the services.
- 27 You must enable the Keepalived service:

```
systemctl enable keepalived
```

28 Run the commands:

```
service keepalived restart
```

29 To display if the node has the active load balancer IP, run:

```
ip a | grep eth0
```

30 If the system you are on displays the primary IP address of the load balancer, then this is the active system processing traffic

# F5 BIG-IP LTM Installation & Configuration

3

The F5 BIG-IP Local Traffic Manager load balancer configuration is similar to the HAProxy configuration.

The LTM uses SSL pass-through in the same manner as with the HAProxy configuration. The LTM configuration has been tested in both one-arm and multi-arm topologies.

# **Prerequisites**

The following are the prerequisites for a functional LTM configuration in front of a vRealize Operations cluster:

- This document assumes that an LTM device is already deployed in the environment and is configured with network connectivity to the deployed environment where the load balancer instance would be used and run from.
- The LTM can be either physical or virtual and can be deployed in one-arm or multi-arm topologies
- The Local Traffic Module (LTM) must be configured and licensed as Nominal, Minimum, or Dedicated. You can configure LTM on System > Resource Provisioning page.
- A vRealize Operations cluster has been deployed in the environment and is fully functional and all nodes in the cluster are accepting UI traffic. This cluster might have high availability enabled but it is not a requirement.
- An additional VIP/Virtual Server IP address for vRealize Operations analytics.

This chapter includes the following topics:

- Configure Custom Persistence Profile
- Configure Health Monitors
- Configure Server Pools
- Configure Virtual Servers
- Verify Component and Pool Status

# **Configure Custom Persistence Profile**

There are multiple possible profiles provided out of box in most LTM deployments and creating a custom persistence profile using source addresses affinity.

You must create a customer persistence profile by using the following steps:

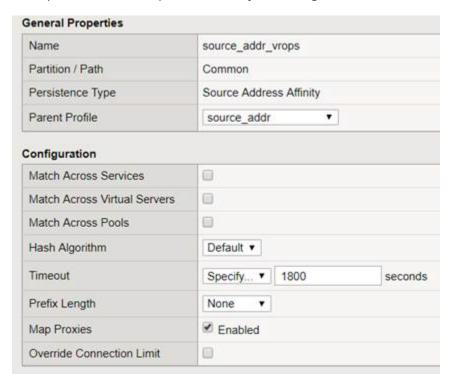
### Procedure

- 1 Log in to the LTM and select Local Traffic > Profiles > Persistence.
- 2 Click Create.
- 3 Enter the name source\_addr\_vrops and select Source Address Affinity from the drop-down menu.
- 4 Enable Custom mode.
- 5 Set the **Timeout** to **1800 seconds (30 minutes)**.
- 6 Click Finished.

### Results

**Note** The timeout of the vRealize Operations user sessions, configured through the Global Settings page is 30 minutes is, consistent with vRealize Operations configuration. If the timeout value is updated for vRealize Operations, it should be updated for LTM too.

Example for vRealize Operations analytics configuration:



# **Configure Health Monitors**

Health monitors are required to ensure the LTM has the proper endpoints on the vRealize Operations node to test to make sure the node is available and functioning for clients to access the node.

In this case, create a few Health Monitors to ensure all URLs are checked properly for availability.

### Procedure

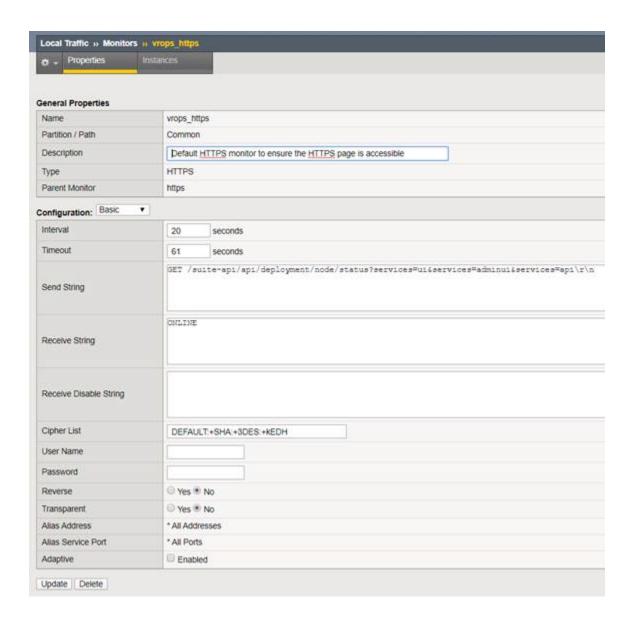
- 1 Log in to the LTM and from the main menu select **Local Traffic > Monitors**.
- 2 Click **Create** and provide the required information as shown in the following tables. Leave the default when nothing is specified.

### Results

vRealize Operations Analytics configuration:

Name	type	interval	timeout	send string	Receive string	Description
vrops_https	https	20	61	GET /suite-api/api/deployment/node/status? services=api&services=adminui&services=ui\r\n Note: For older versions of vROPS from 6.6.1 to 7.5 please use the following URL call, as starting from vROps 8.0 status API enhanced to track separate services status. GET /suite-api/api/deployment/node/status \r\n	ONLINE	Default HTTPS monitor to ensure the HTTPS page is accessible

Example for vRealize Operations analytics configuration:



# **Configure Server Pools**

Server Pools are used to contain the pools of members or nodes that will be receiving traffic.

You will only need to create a single pool for a vRealize Operations cluster with all nodes participating in the UI traffic as members. In most cases, you will add each node in the cluster except for the remote collectors.

## Procedure

- 1 Log in to the LTM load balancer and select Local Traffic > Pools.
- 2 Click Create and provide the required information. Leave the default when nothing is specified.
- 3 Enter each pool member as a **New Node** and add it to the **New Members**.
- 4 Repeat steps 1, 2, and 3 for each row of information in the following table.

5 On the **Members** page, select the **Load Balancing Method** as the **Least Connections (node)** and **Priority Group Activation** as **Disabled**.

### Results

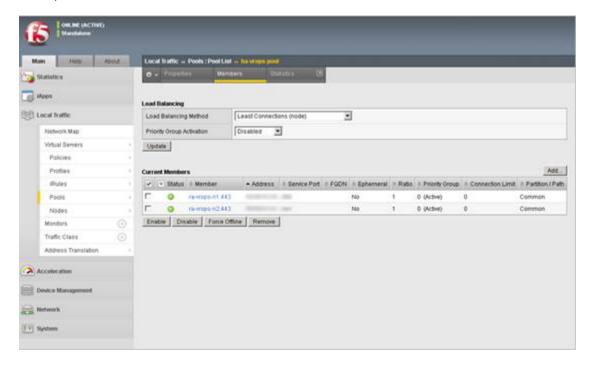
vRealize Operations Analytics configuration:

Name	Description	Health Monitors	Load Balancing Method	Node Name
ha-vrops-prod	vRealize Operations Pool	vrops_https	Least Connections	<pre>vrops_node1:<ipaddress> vrops_node2:<ipaddress> vrops_node3:<ipaddress></ipaddress></ipaddress></ipaddress></pre>

Note Ensure that you are using the correct service port: 443 for SSL.

### Example

### Example:



# **Configure Virtual Servers**

Virtual servers contain the virtual IP address (VIP) for the pools of nodes that will be accessed.

In this case, there are two separate VIP's created with the same IP address. One virtual server will be for insecure traffic which will leverage a custom iRule to ensure the traffic gets redirected properly to the HTTPS session. The second virtual server will be used for secure traffic to ensure traffic will be sent directly to the secure HTTPS web page normally.

# Procedure

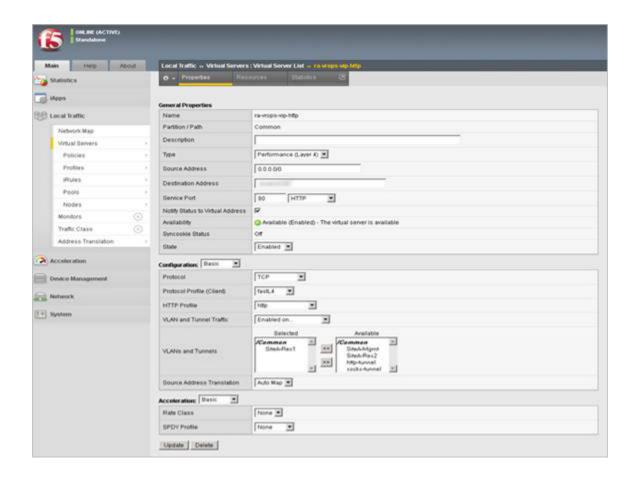
- 1 Log in to the LTM load balancer and select Local Traffic > Virtual Servers.
- 2 Click **Create** and provide the required information. Leave the default when nothing is specified.
- 3 When all the settings are configured, click **Update** to create the first virtual server.
- 4 Repeat the steps to configure the second virtual server by using the settings in the table below.

# Results

Name	Туре	Destination Address	Service Port	HTTP Profile	Service Address Translation	Default Pool	Default Persistence Profile	iRules
ra- vrops- vip- http	Standard	<ipaddress></ipaddress>	80	HTTP	Auto Map	None	None	_sys_https_redirect
ra- vrops- vip	Performance (Layer 4)	<ipaddress></ipaddress>	443	None	Auto Map	ha- vrops- prod	source_addr_vrops	None
epops- vip	Performance (Layer 4)	<ipaddress></ipaddress>	443	None	Auto Map	ha- epops- prod	source_addr_vrops	None

# Example

Example:



# Verify Component and Pool Status

After completing configuration for health monitors, server pools, and virtual servers, verify the status of the configured environment and filter to the specific deployment that was just configured to get an overall view of the nodes, pools, and virtual servers.

Verification steps:

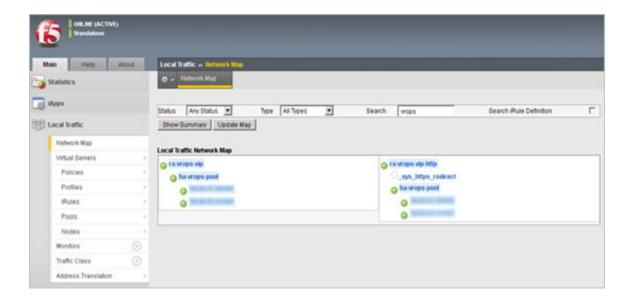
### Procedure

- 1 To check the network map for an overall view of the server pools, select LTM > Network Map.
- 2 Filter the **Network Map** by using the search box to enter the name of the virtual server name used in the configuration.
- 3 Each status indicator represents the status of the node, the pool, and virtual server or assigned VIP.

### Example

### Example:

In the following example, you can see both the ra-vrops-vip and the ra-vrops-vip-http VIP are functioning normally. When one of the nodes fail, the indicator will turn red and the indicator for the pool turns yellow to represent a failure in the pool.



# F5 BIG-IP GTM Installation & Configuration

4

The F5 BIG-IP **G**lobal **T**raffic **M**anager DNS based load balancer is designed to be used together with F5's **L**ocal **T**raffic **M**anager for delivering globally distributed applications.

vRealize Operations supports the use of GTM only with the Continuous Availability feature enabled and only for cross datacenter load-balancing between different Fault Domains.

This chapter includes the following topics:

- Terminology
- Architecture
- Prerequisites
- Configure Health Monitors
- Configure GSLB Pools
- Configure Wide-IP

# **Terminology**

F5 Load Balancer terminology

GTM - Global Traffic Manager - DNS based load-balancer, used for cross-DC traffic routing

LTM – Local Traffic Manager – TCP/UDP based load-balancer, typically used in a single DC for multi-server load balancing

CA – Continuous Availability – A vRealize Operations feature which enables you to stretch a cluster across two DCs

FD – Fault Domain - A group of vRealize Operations nodes residing in a single DC. CA supports up to 2 DCs or 2 FDs

# **Architecture**

Typical deployment for vRealize Operations in CA mode includes 2, 4, 6, or 8 nodes based on the appropriate sizing requirements.

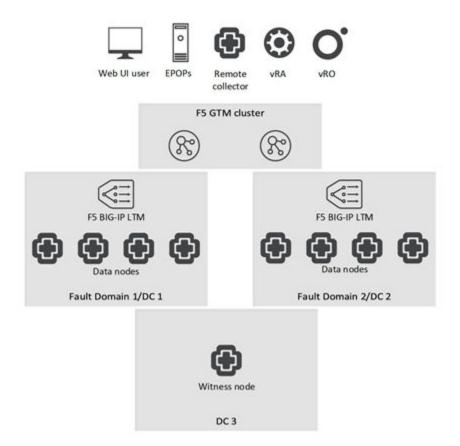
Those nodes should be deployed equally into two independent datacenters. One additional witness node should be deployed in a third independent datacenter. Each datacenter is then grouped in a Fault Domain e.g. FD #1 and FD #2. To distribute the traffic between nodes in a Fault Domain, we also need to configure a LTM appliance for each FD (two in total) by following the instructions in this guide.

Since a GTM device primarily handles dynamic DNS record updates, we need to plan the DNS naming before the deployment of the Fault Domains. We also need to ensure all of the DNS records are included into the vRealize Operations SSL certificate – at this point, the installer will not include the address of the LTM VIPs or GTM Wide-IPs; therefore, it will be required to issue and sign (either with external trusted CA or internal one) a new certificate.

In the example below, there are 4 data nodes per Fault Domain, 2 LTM VIPs and 1 GTM Wide-IP. The idea behind this structure is to allow access to the GTM Wide-IP which is globally distributed hence it will point to either FD #1 or FD #2 depending or the current availability (you can also choose to use latency based traffic redirection so a user will be sent to the closest available FD) or access a given FD directly by its LTM VIP for debugging purposes or as a last resort fail-safe.

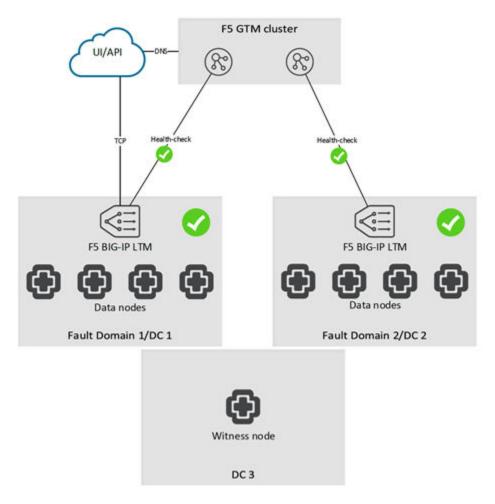
Name	Туре	ADDRESS
vrops-node1.dc1.example.com	А	IP
vrops-node2.dc1.example.com	А	IP
vrops-node3.dc1.example.com	А	IP
vrops-node4.dc1.example.com	А	IP
vrops-node5.dc2.example.com	А	IP
vrops-node6.dc2.example.com	А	IP
vrops-node7.dc2.example.com	А	IP
vrops-node8.dc2.example.com	А	IP
vrops-fd1.dc1.example.com	А	LTM VIP
vrops-fd2.dc2.example.com	А	LTM VIP
vrops.example.com	Wide-IP/A	To be configured later in this chapter

The architecture should look similar to the diagram below:



After deploying nodes in each FD and configuring the respective LTM load-balancers, we can proceed with the configuration of the GTM nodes. The GTM cluster itself can be deployed in any architecture supported by F5. For our testing, we have used a GTM + LTM combined virtual appliances deployed in each datacenter. We have also clustered only the GTM module since there is no need for clustering on the LTM level. Having separate GTM and LTM appliances or physical systems is supported.

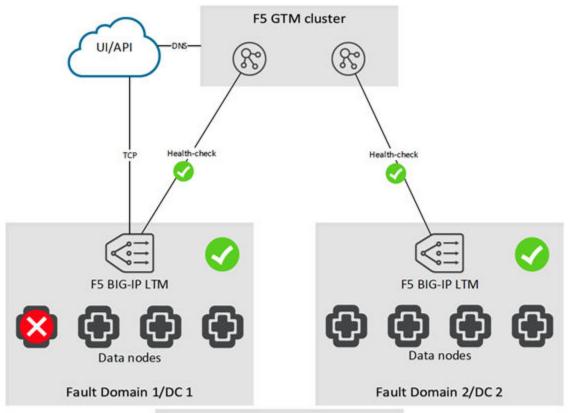
A fully configured and deployed solution during normal operation:



Having the LTMs monitoring each individual vRealize Operations nodes and the GTMs monitoring the accessibility of the entire Fault Domain, ensures the maximum possible fault protection with the least possible overhead.

- In case there is only a single node failure in a Fault Domain, the local LTM will prevent any traffic hitting the affected node while the entire Fault Domain will continue to remain functional
- In case we experience an outage in the entire datacenter, the GTMs will re-route the traffic to a healthy datacenter
- Failover and recovery are automatic in both scenarios

Figure 4-1. Failover scenario #1 – single node failure





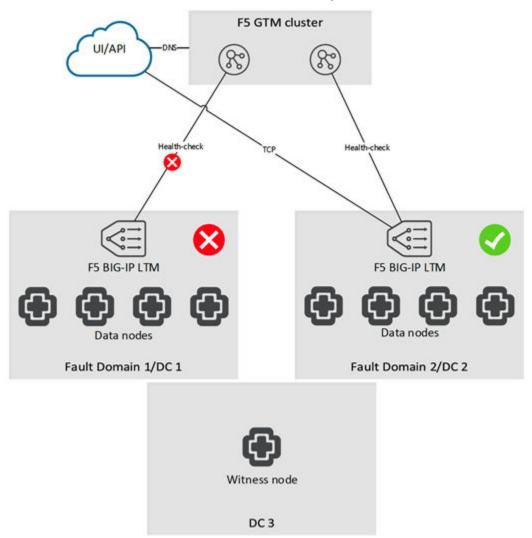


Figure 4-2. Failover scenario #2 – full datacenter outage

# **Prerequisites**

The following are the prerequisites for a functional GTM configuration managing a vRealize Operations CA enabled cluster

- GTM appliances have to be more than 1 and hosted in more than 1 independent datacenter
- GTM appliances can be deployed in any datacenter globally as long as they are in the same cluster
- LTM appliances have to be in the same datacenter as the respective Fault Domain which they serve
- GTM and LTM appliances have to be paired and trust must be established between them. This is required so the GTM appliances can retrieve the health-check status from the LTM appliances by utilizing the big3d agent.
- GTM and LTM solutions can be either virtual machines or physical systems

- GTM and LTM solutions can be on the same systems or deployed separately
- This document assumes that the LTM and GTM devices are already deployed in the environment and network connectivity is configured. Generic configuration of LTM and GTM devices is not covered in this document, please review the F5's official documentation on how to configure Prober Pools, DNS Listeners and Zones, and how to pair the devices and group them into Datacenters
- vRealize Operations must be deployed and the Continuous Availability feature needs to be enabled
- Configure static DNS records for all vRealize Operations nodes and Fault Domains

### Example:

Name	Туре	ADDRESS
vrops-node1.dc1.example.com	А	IP
vrops-node2.dc1.example.com	А	IP
vrops-node3.dc1.example.com	А	IP
vrops-node4.dc1.example.com	А	IP
vrops-node5.dc2.example.com	А	IP
vrops-node6.dc2.example.com	А	IP
vrops-node7.dc2.example.com	А	IP
vrops-node8.dc2.example.com	А	IP
vrops-fd1.dc1.example.com	А	LTM VIP
vrops-fd2.dc2.example.com	А	LTM VIP
vrops.example.com	Wide-IP/A	To be configured later in this chapter

Issue and sign an SSL certificate containing all related DNS records

# **Configure Health Monitors**

GTM health monitors are used to determine the current status of an LTM Virtual IP and redirect the traffic accordingly.

In case of Fault Domain failure our monitors will notice that and send the traffic to the remaining Fault Domain. More about health monitors.

### Procedure

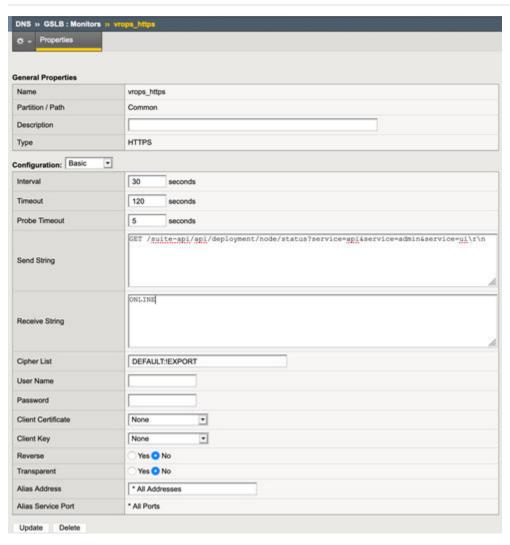
1 Log in to the GTM web UI and select DNS > GSLB > Monitors.

- 2 Click **Create** and provide the required information. Leave the default when nothing is specified.
- 3 Repeat steps 1 and 2 for each row of information in the table below.

### Results

vRealize Operations Analytics configuration:

Name	Туре	Interval	Timeout	p. Timeout	Send String	Receive String
vrops_https	HTTPS	30 sec.	120 sec.	5 sec.	GET /suite-api/api/deployment/node/status? service=api&service=admin&service=ui\r\n	ONLINE



# **Configure GSLB Pools**

Global Server Load Balancing (GSLB) pools are an GTM objects that group collection of LTM Virtual IPs in order to provide load-balancing and global availability between them

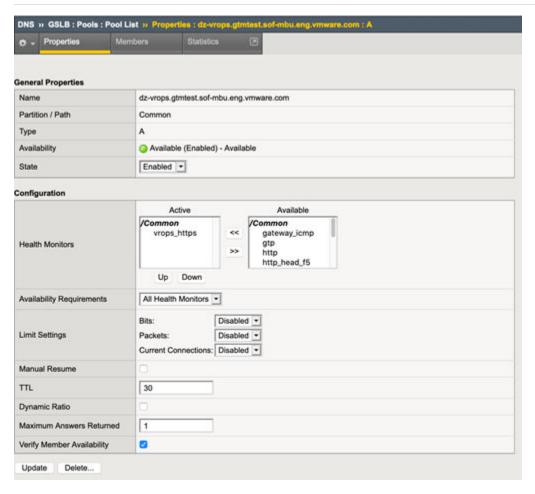
In our architecture it works together with the GTM health monitors and the big3d agents in order to establish the best available datacenter to send user traffic to. More about GSLB Pools.

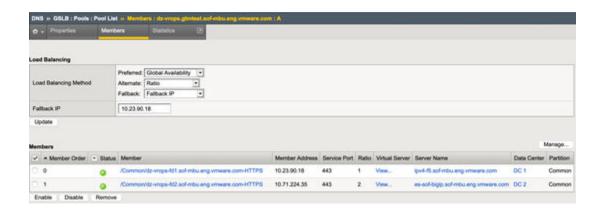
### Procedure

- 1 Log in to the GTM web UI and select **DNS > GSLB > Pools**.
- 2 Click **Create** and provide the required information. Leave the default when nothing is specified.
- 3 Repeat steps 1 and 2 for each row of information in the table below.

### Results

Name	Type	Health Monitors	TTL	Maximum answers returned	Load Balancing Method	Members
vrops_pool	Α	vrops_https	30 sec.	1	Preferred: Global Availability Alternate: Ration Fallback: Fallback IP Fallback IP: The IP address of your master node	Select the Virtual IPs which resides on each linked LTM and set their desired ratio





### Configure Wide-IP

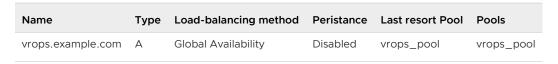
A wide IP maps a fully-qualified domain name (FQDN) to one or more pools of virtual servers that host the content of a domain.

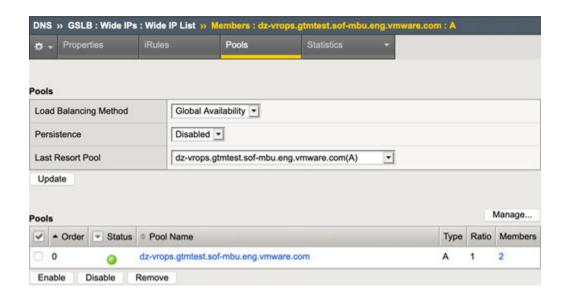
When an LDNS issues a DNS name resolution for a wide IP, the configuration of the wide IP indicates which pools of virtual servers are eligible to respond to the request, and which load balancing methods BIG-IP GTM uses to select the pool. More about Wide IPs.

#### Procedure

- 1 Log in to the GTM web UI and select DNS > GSLB > Wide IPs.
- 2 Click Create and provide the required information. Leave the default when nothing is specified.
- 3 Repeat steps 1 and 2 for each row of information in the table below.

#### Results





# Citrix NetScaler Installation & Configuration

5

Citrix NetScaler configuration guide

Before starting with this configuration make sure that the Netscaler device is deployed in the environment and has access to the vRealize Operations components.

- You can use either virtual or physical Netscaler in single or clustered configuration.
- Enable the Load Balancer (LB) and SSL modules. You can do so from the NetScaler > System
   Settings > Configure Basic Features page.
- In case you experience SSL timeout issues with the virtual edition of NetScaler please update the appliance to version 11.0 65.35 or disable TLS 1.1/1.2 as per articlehttp://support.citrix.com/ article/CTX205578.

This is a known NetScaler bug – reference ID: 600155.

- You can use either multi-arm or one-arm configuration. Our tests were done in multi-arm configuration.
- VPX versions of Netscaler doesn't support certificates larger than 2048bits on the back-end servers.

If you are planning to use VPX you will need to change the vRealize Operations certificate.

Configure a certificate for use with vRealize Operations Manager

FAQ: Key Sizes/Certificates Supported by NetScaler

This chapter includes the following topics:

- Configure Health Monitors
- Configure Service Groups
- Configure Virtual Servers
- Configure Persistence Group

### **Configure Health Monitors**

NetScaler health monitors are used to determine the current status of an Virtual IP and redirect the traffic accordingly.

### Procedure

- 1 Log in to the Netscaler load balancer and select NetScaler > Traffic Management > Load Balancing > Monitors.
- 2 Click **Add** and provide the required information. Leave the default when nothing is specified.
- 3 Repeat steps 1 and 2 for each row of information in the table below.

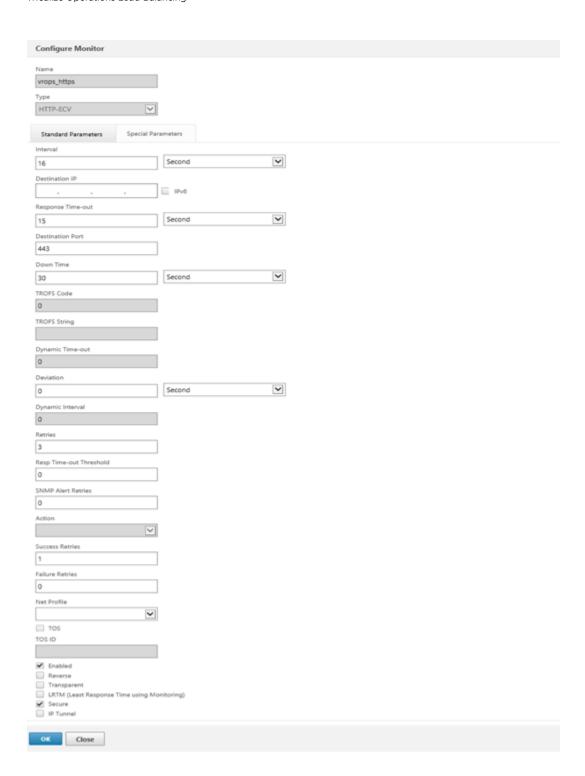
### Results

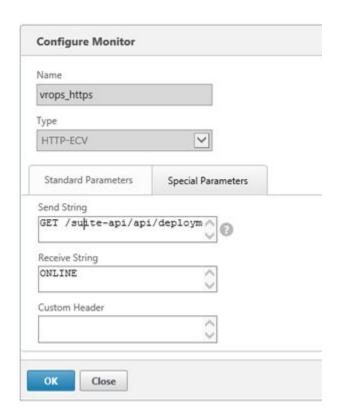
vRealize Operations Analytics configuration:

					Send	Receive	DEST.	
Name	Туре	Interval	Timeout	RETRIES	String	String	PORT	secure
vrops_htt p	HTTP	16 sec.	15 sec.	3	GET /	(200 204  301)	80	no
vrops_htt ps	HTTP-EVC	16 sec.	15 sec.	3	GET / suite-api/api/ deployme nt/node/ status? services=a pi&services=ui	ONLINE	443	yes

### Example

Example:





### **Configure Service Groups**

Server Groups are used to contain the pools of members or nodes that will be receiving traffic.

#### Procedure

- 1 Log in to the Netscaler load balancer and select NetScaler > Traffic Management > Load Balancing > Service Groups.
- 2 Click **Add** and provide the required information. Leave the default when nothing is specified.
- 3 Enter each pool member as a **Member** and add it to the **New Members** type **Server Based**.
- 4 Repeat steps 1, 2, and 3 for each row of information in the table below.

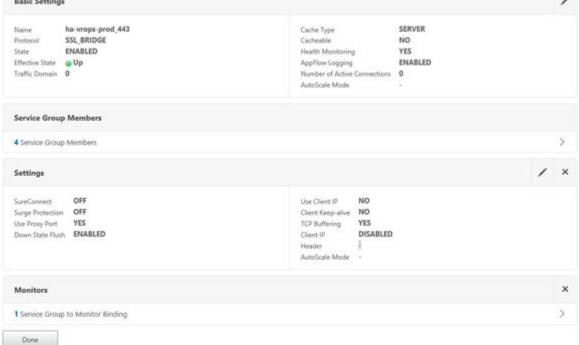
### Results

Name	Health Monitors	Protocol	SG MEMBERS	address	Port
ha-vrops- prod_80	vrops_http	НТТР	vrops_node1 vrops_node2 vrops_node3	vrops_node1: <ip address&gt; vrops_node2:<ip address&gt; vrops_node3:<ip address&gt;</ip </ip </ip 	80
ha-vrops- prod_443	vrops_https	SSL Bridge	vrops_node1 vrops_node2 vrops_node3	vrops_node1: <ip address&gt; vrops_node2:<ip address&gt; vrops_node3:<ip address&gt;</ip </ip </ip 	443

### Example:



Load Balancing Service Group



# **Configure Virtual Servers**

Virtual servers contain the virtual IP address (VIP) for the pools of nodes that will be accessed.

#### Procedure

1 Log in to the Netscaler load balancer and select NetScaler > Traffic Management > Load Balancing > Virtual Servers.

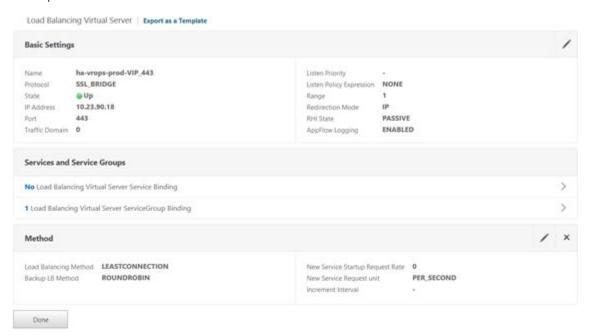
- 2 Click Add and provide the required information. Leave the default when nothing is specified.
- 3 Repeat steps 1 and 2 for each entry in the table below.

#### Results

Name	Protocol	Destination address	port	LOAD BALANCING METHOD	SERVICE GROUP BINDING
ha-vrops-prod- VIP_80	HTTP	10.23.90.18	80	Leastection	ha-vrops- prod_80
ha-vrops-prod- VIP_443	SSL Bridge	10.23.90.18	443	Leastconnection	ha-vrops- prod_443

#### Example

### Example:



### **Configure Persistence Group**

Persistence profile using source addresses affinity.

### Prerequisites

You must create a customer persistence profile by using the following steps:

### Procedure

- 1 Log in to the Netscaler and select NetScaler > Traffic Management > Load Balancing > Persistency Groups.
- 2 Click Add and provide the required information. Leave the default when nothing is specified.

Repeat steps 1 and 2 for each entry in the table below.

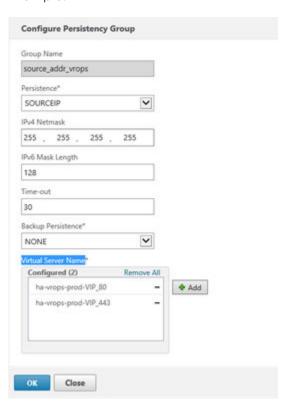
### Results

groupName	Persistence	timeout	Virtual Server Name
source_addr_vrops	SOURCEIP	30 min.	ha-vrops-prod-VIP_80 ha-vrops-prod-VIP_443
source_addr_epops	SOURCEIP	30 min.	ha-vrops-epops-VIP_443

**Note** The timeout of the vRealize Operations user sessions, configured through the Global Settings page is 30 minutes is, consistent with vRealize Operations configuration. If the timeout value is updated for vRealize Operations, it should be updated for Netscaler too.

### Example

### Example:



# **NSX-V** Installation & Configuration

The NSX-V virtual networking solution includes the capability of deploying an Edge gateway as a load balancer.

Currently, the NSX-V load balancer has basic load balancing functionality and it should not be considered a full-fledged load balancer with advanced configuration like F5 LTM.

**Note** Use NSX-V version 6.1.3 and higher for all deployments as many issues with the load balancers have been resolved in this release.

### **Prerequisites**

The following are the prerequisites for a functional NSX-V load balancer in front of a vRealize Operations Manager cluster:

- This document assumes that NSX-V deployment is already deployed in the environment and is fully functional.
- The NSX-V deployment is of version 6.1.3 or higher.
- NSX-V Edge is deployed and has access to the network on which vRealize Operations Manager cluster is deployed.
- Edge can be enabled for high availability, however it is not a requirement
- Currently, there are 2 types of modes the load balancer can be used: Accelerated and Non-Accelerated. Difference between Acceleration enabled/disabled is the LB will passthrough TCP connection (enabled) or terminate the TCP connection (disabled), and then send once the TCP connection is done, it will do open a TCP connection to the pool member.

This chapter includes the following topics:

- Install and Configure Edge for Load Balancing
- Configure Application Profiles
- Add Service Monitoring
- Add Pools
- Add Virtual Servers
- Configure Auto Redirect from HTTP to HTTPS
- Verify Component and Pool Status

### Install and Configure Edge for Load Balancing

Enable Load Balancing service

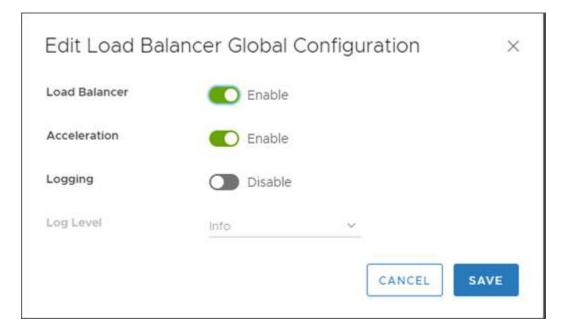
You can specify global load balancer configuration parameters and configure the NSX-V Edge for load balancing by enabling the load balancer service.

### Procedure

- 1 Log in to the vSphere Web Client.
- 2 Click Networking & Security and then click NSX Edges.
- 3 Double-click an NSX-V Edge.
- 4 Click Manage and then click the Load Balancer tab.
- 5 Click Edit and select Enable Load Balancer and Enable Acceleration
- 6 Click **OK** to save changes and enable the service on the Edge.

#### Example

Example from NSX-V 6.4.x:



## **Configure Application Profiles**

You must create an application profile to define the behavior of a particular type of network traffic.

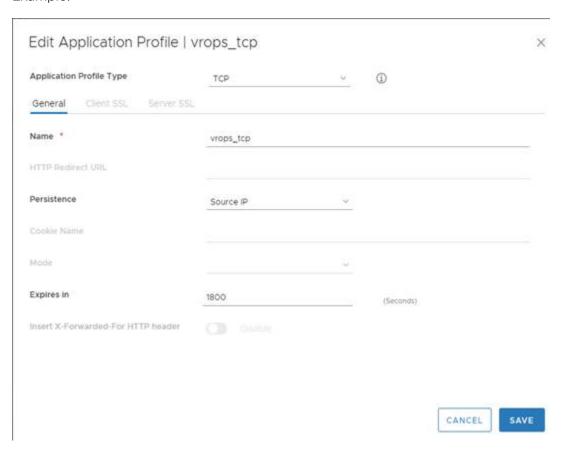
After configuring a profile, you should associate the profile with a virtual server. The virtual server then processes traffic according to the values specified in the profile. Using profiles enhances your control over managing network traffic and makes traffic-management tasks easier and more efficient.

### Procedure

- 1 Log in to the vSphere Web Client.
- 2 Click Networking & Security and then click NSX Edges.
- 3 Double-click an NSX Edge.
- 4 Click Manage and then click the Load Balancer tab.
- 5 In the left navigation panel, click **Application Profiles**.
- 6 Click the Add ( + ADD ) icon.
- **7** Enter a name for the profile and select the traffic type for which you are creating the profile. For example: vrops\_https.
- 8 Select the Type: TCP
- 9 Select Persistence as Source IP.
- 10 Enter 1800 for Expires in (seconds).
- 11 Select Ignore for Client Authentication.
- 12 Click OK to save the Profile

#### Example

### Example:



### Add Service Monitoring

Health monitors are required to ensure the NSX-V has the proper endpoints on the vRealize Operations node to test to make sure the node is available and functioning for clients to access the node

Configuring service monitoring is similar to creating health checks on other platforms. In NSX-V 6.1, there is a limitation on how many health checks can be performed against a single node. Currently, you can only have a single health check run against a node to ensure availability.

When you associate a service monitor with a pool, the pool members are monitored according to the service monitor parameters. To configure a Service Monitor, perform the following steps.

#### Procedure

- 1 Log in to the vSphere Web Client
- 2 Click Networking & Security and then click NSX Edges.
- 3 Double-click an NSX Edge.
- 4 Click Manage and then click the Load Balancer tab.
- 5 In the left navigation panel, click **Service Monitoring**.
- 6 Click the Add ( + ADD ) icon.
- 7 Enter a name for the service monitor. For example: vROps\_Monitor
- 8 Enter an Interval at which a server is to be pinged.
- 9 Enter a Timeout in seconds, maximum time within which a response from the server must be received.
- 10 Enter the number of times the server must be pinged before it is declared down.
- 11 Select the **Method** in which you want to send the health check request to the server. For example: GET.
- 12 Insert the health check URL as shown in the following table.
- 13 Enter the **Receive** data string needed for a successful health check response. For example: ONLINE.
- 14 Click **OK** to save the new Service Monitor.

### Results

Name	Interval	Timeout	Retries	Туре	Method	URL	Receive:
vROps_Mon itor	5	16	3	HTTPS	GET	/suite-api/api/ deployment /node/ status? services=api &services=a dminui&serv ices=ui	ONLINE (upper case)

### Example

Example:



### **Add Pools**

You can add a server pool to manage and share backend servers, flexibly and efficiently.

A pool manages load balancer distribution methods and has a service monitor attached to it for health check parameters.

### Procedure

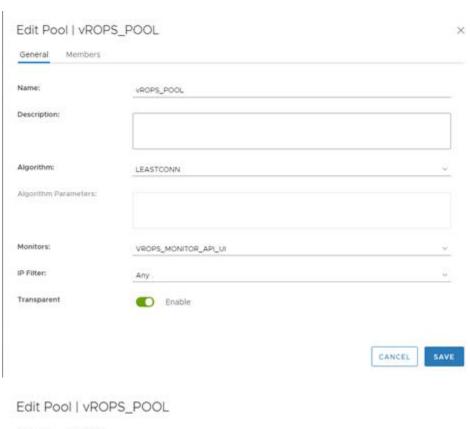
- 1 Log in to the vSphere Web Client.
- 2 Click Networking & Security and then click NSX Edges.
- 3 Double-click an NSX Edge.
- 4 Click Manage and then click the Load Balancer tab.
- 5 In the left navigation panel, click **Pools**.
- 6 Click the Add ( $^{+ ADD}$ ) to add Pool
- 7 Enter a name for the load balancer pool. For example: vROps\_Pool. (Optional) Enter a description.
- 8 Select an **Algorithm** from the drop-down list. For example: **LEASTCONN**.

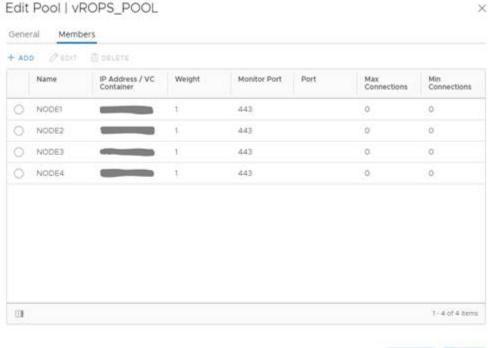
- 9 Select the **Monitors** from the drop-down list. For example: vROps\_Monitor.
- **10 Transparent**can be Enabled for 2-arm setup and should be disabled for 1-arm setup. (1-arm when Virtual Server IP and vROPS IP addresses are from same subnet, 2-arm from different)
- 11 At the top navigation panel menu click **Members**.
- 12 Click the Add (  $^{+}$  ADD ) icon to add your member servers and the required information:
  - a Name
  - b IP Addressc.
  - c Weight: 1d.
  - d Monitor Port: 443e.
  - e Port: 443f.
  - f Max Connections: Og.
  - g Min Connections: 0

Pool Name	Algorith m	Monitors	Member Name	IP Address /vCenter Containe r	Weight	Port	Monitor Port	Max Conns	Min Conns
vROps_ Pool	LEASTC ONN	vROps_ Monitor	vROps_ Node1	x.x.x.x	1	443	443	0	0

### Example

Example:





### **Add Virtual Servers**

Virtual servers contain the virtual IP address (VIP) for the pools of nodes that will be accessed You can add an NSX Edge internal or uplink interface as a virtual server.

VMware, Inc. 54

CANCEL

#### Procedure

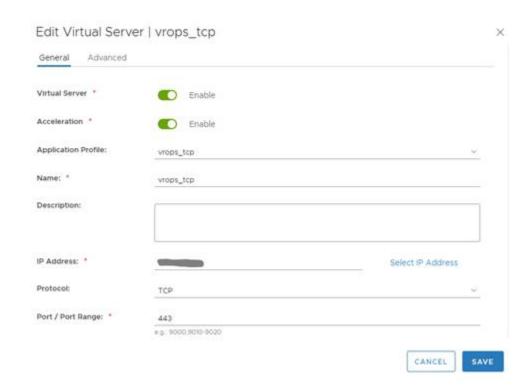
- 1 Log in to the vSphere Web Client.
- 2 Click Networking & Security and then click NSX Edges.
- 3 Double-click an NSX Edge.
- 4 Click Manage and then click the Load Balancer tab.
- 5 In the left navigation panel, click **Virtual Servers**.
- 6 Click the Add ( + ADD ) icon.
- 7 Enter a name for the virtual server. For example: vROps\_Virtual\_Server
- 8 Select Enable Virtual Server and Enable Acceleration.
- 9 Select the Application Profile name from the drop-down list. For example: Exp: vrops\_https
- 10 Enter a Name for the virtual server.
- 11 (Optional) Enter a description.
- 12 Enter the IP Address to be used for the VIP.
- 13 From the drop-down list for **Protocol**, select **TCP**.
- 14 Enter the Port value as 443.
- 15 From the drop-down list for **Default Pool**, select the default pool that you have configured. For example: vROps\_Pool
- 16 For Connection Limit and Connection Rate Limit, leave the default as 0.

### Results

**Note** If you are using separate load balancers for vRealize Operations and EPOps, the above steps need to be repeated for EPOps virtual server. Use different names for EPOps profile and respective pool. For example: epops\_http and EPOPS\_Pool.

### Example

Example:



### Configure Auto Redirect from HTTP to HTTPS

When using the NSX-V load balancer in front of the vRealize Operations cluster you may want the URL to automatically redirect to the HTTPS login page.

If you do not configure this the user will need to insert the https field in front of the URL/IP Address. Similar setting is also required in a HAProxy configuration to ensure the redirect works properly. You must configure application profiles and virtual servers for HTTPS redirect.

Note Ensure that you are using the HTTPS URLs in a correct manner.

### Configure Application Profile for HTTPS Redirect

When using the NSX-V load balancer in front of the vRealize Operations cluster you may want the URL to automatically redirect to the HTTPS login page. If you do not configure this the user will need to insert the https field in front of the URL/IP Address

You must configure application profiles and virtual servers for HTTPS redirect.

NOTE: Ensure that you are using the HTTPS URLs in a correct manner.

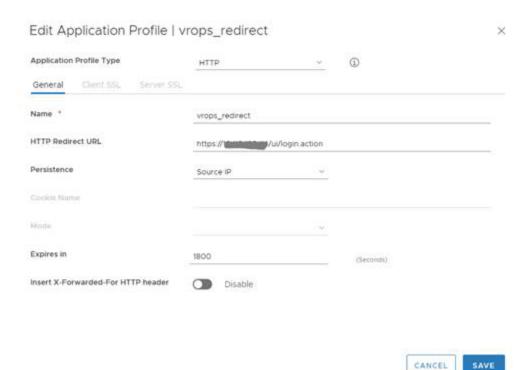
#### Procedure

- 1 Log in to the vSphere Web Client.
- 2 Click Networking & Security and then click NSX Edges.
- 3 Double-click an NSX Edge.

- 4 Click Manage and then click the Load Balancer tab.
- 5 In the left navigation panel, click **Application Profiles**.
- 6 Click the Add (  $^{+}$  ADD ) icon.
- 7 Enter a name for the Application Profile. For example: vROps\_Redirect
- 8 From the drop-down list for **Type**, select **HTTP**.
- 9 For HTTP Redirect URL, enter https://<ip\_address\_of\_vip>/ui/login.action.
- 10 From the drop-down list for Persistence, select Source IP.
- 11 Enter 1800 for Expires in (seconds).
- 12 Click OK to save.

#### Example

### Example:



### Configure the Virtual Server for HTTPS Redirect

Virtual server fort HTTPS redirect

You can configure the virtual server for HTTPS redirect.

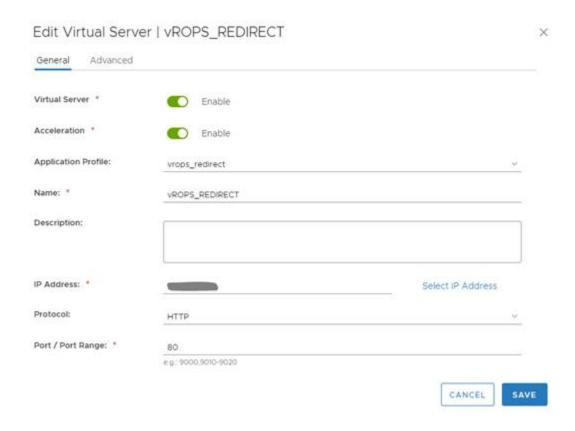
#### Procedure

- 1 Log in to the vSphere Web Client.
- 2 Click Networking & Security and then click NSX Edges.

- 3 Double-click an NSX Edge.
- 4 Click Manage and then click the Load Balancer tab.
- 5 In the left navigation panel, click **Virtual Servers**.
- 6 Click the Add ( + ADD ) icon.
- 7 Select Enable Virtual Server.
- 8 Select an **Application Profile** from the drop-down list that you have created. For example: vrops\_redirect
- **9** Enter a **Name** for the virtual server.
- 10 (Optional) Enter a Description.
- 11 Enter IP Address for the VIP.
- 12 From the drop-down list for **Protocol**, select **HTTP**.
- 13 Enter the Port value as 80.
- 14 From the drop-down list for **Default Pool**, select **None**. For NSX-V versions 6.2.7 and 6.3.0, create an empty pool and assign it as the default pool.
- 15 For Connection Limit and Connection Rate Limit, leave the default as 0.

### Example

Example:



### Verify Component and Pool Status

After completing configuration for health monitors, server pools, and virtual servers, verify the status of the configured environment and filter to the specific deployment that was just configured to get an overall view of the nodes, pools, and virtual servers.

You can verify the status of the components running on the load balancer and you can check the status of the pools from inside the UI of the vSphere Web Client.

#### Procedure

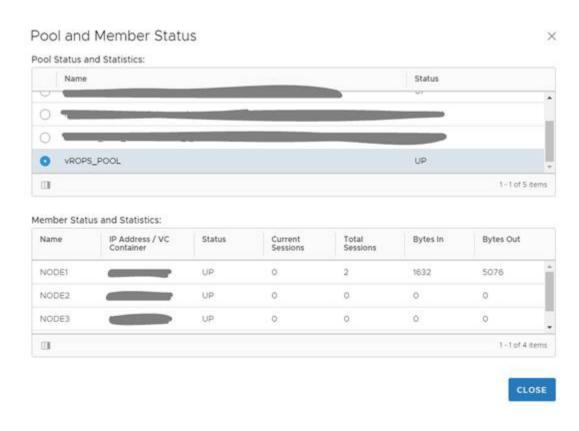
- 1 Log in to the vSphere Web Client.
- 2 Click Networking & Security and then click NSX Edges.
- 3 Double-click an NSX Edge.
- 4 Click Manage and then click the Load Balancer tab.
- 5 In the left navigation panel, click **Pools**.
- 6 Click Show Pool Status ( SHOW STATUS ). A Pool and Member Status pop-up window appears.
- 7 Select a pool ID. For example: vROps\_Pool.

### Results

The member ID and status of the selected pool are displayed. The status can be **UP** or **DOWN**.

### Example

### Example:



# **NSX-T Installation & Configuration**

7

The NSX-T virtual networking solution includes the capability of deploying an Edge gateway as a load-balancer.

It offers high availability and load balancing for TCP and HTTP-based applications.

**Note** Please use NSX-T version 2.2 or higher if you like to handle SSL Certificates within the load-balancer.

### **Prerequisites**

The following are the prerequisites for a functional NSX-T load balancer in front of a vRealize Operations cluster:

- This document assumes that NSX-T is already deployed in the environment and is fully functional
- The NSX-T deployment is version 2.2 or higher
- NSX-T Edge has access to the network on which the vRealize Operations cluster is deployed
- NSX-T Tier-1 edge for load balancing is configured
- A vRealize Operations cluster has been deployed in the environment and is fully functional with all nodes in the cluster accepting traffic. The cluster might have high availability enabled, but it is not a requirement
- 1 Virtual Server IP address for vRealize Operations analytics

This chapter includes the following topics:

- For NSX-T Version 2.2 and 2.3
- For NSX-T Version 2.4, 2.5.X and 3.X.X

### For NSX-T Version 2.2 and 2.3

The following section contains detailed information on the configuration guide for NSX-T version 2.2, 2.3

### **Configure Application Profiles**

Application profile must be created to define the behavior of a particular type of network traffic.

After the configuration of an application profile, the same should be associated with a virtual server. The virtual server then processes traffic according to the options specified in the application profile.

### Prerequisites

For NSX-T, two application profiles need to be created to:

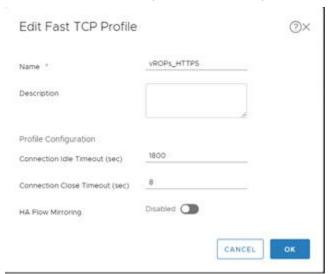
- Redirect HTTP to HTTPS
- Handle HTTPS traffic

#### Procedure

- 1 To configure the Application Profile for HTTP requests, log in to the NSX-T UI.
- 2 Go to Load Balancing -> Virtual Servers -> Application Profiles
- 3 Click the Add ( ) icon and choose HTTP Profile.
- 4 Choose a name for the profile and enter parameters (please refer to the example below)



- To configure the Application Profile for HTTPS requests, go to **Load Balancing -> > Virtual**Servers > Application Profiles
- 6 Click the Add ( ) icon) and choose Fast TCP Profile.
- 7 Choose a name for the profile and enter parameters (please refer to the example below)

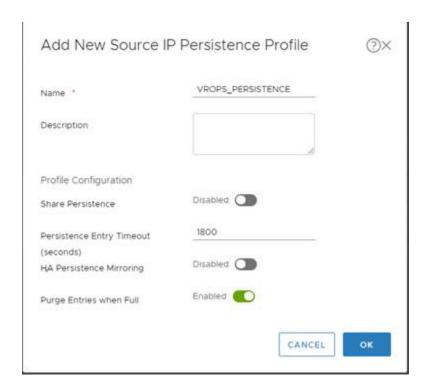


### Configure Persistence Profile

This section provides the procedure to configuring persistence profile using source addresses affinity.

### Procedure

- 1 Go to Load Balancing > Virtual ServersPersistent Profiles
- 2 Click the Add ( ) icon and select Source IP Persistence
- 3 Choose a name for the profile and enter parameters (please refer to the example below)



### Add Active Health Monitor

Configuring active health monitoring is similar to creating health checks on other load-balancers.

When you associate an active health monitor with a pool, the pool members are monitored according to the active health monitor parameters. To configure an Active Health Monitor, perform the following steps:

#### Procedure

- 1 Go to Load Balancing > Server Pools > Active Health Monitors
- 2 Click the Add ( ) icon.
- 3 Choose a name for the active health monitor and enter Monitor Properties (please refer to the example below)

**Note** LbHttpsMonitor is pre-configured monitor for HTTPS protocol and it can be used for this Active Health Monitor

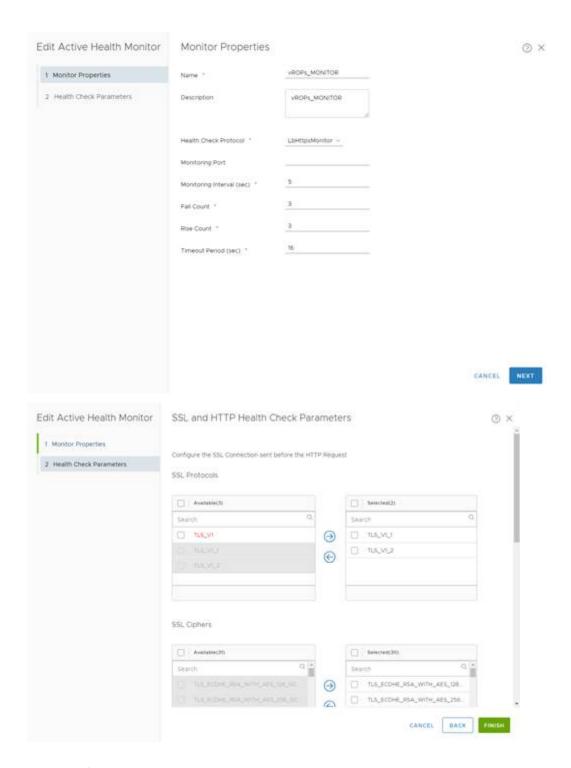
4 Configure Health check parameters withthe following values:

```
    Request Method
        GET
    Request URL
        /suite-api/api/deployment/node/status?services=api&services=adminui&services=ui
    Request Version
        HTTP_VERSION_1_1
    Response Status Codes
        200, 204, 301
```

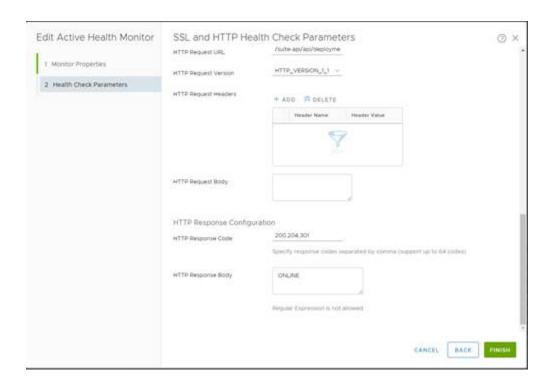
```
5. Response Body
        ONLINE (upper case)
   Ciphers
        TLS ECDHE RSA WITH AES 128 GCM SHA256,
        TLS ECDHE RSA WITH AES 256 GCM SHA384, TLS ECDHE RSA WITH AES 256 CBC SHA,
        TLS ECDHE ECDSA WITH AES 256 CBC SHA, TLS ECDH ECDSA WITH AES 256 CBC SHA,
        TLS ECDH RSA WITH AES 256 CBC SHA, TLS RSA WITH AES 256 CBC SHA,
        TLS RSA WITH AES 128 CBC SHA, TLS ECDHE RSA WITH AES 128 CBC SHA,
        TLS ECDHE RSA WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA256,
        TLS ECDHE RSA WITH AES 256 CBC SHA384, TLS RSA WITH AES 128 CBC SHA256,
        TLS RSA WITH AES 128 GCM SHA256, TLS RSA WITH AES 256 CBC SHA256,
        TLS RSA WITH AES 256 GCM SHA384, TLS ECDHE ECDSA WITH AES 128 CBC SHA,
        TLS ECDHE ECDSA WITH AES 128 CBC SHA256,
        TLS ECDHE ECDSA WITH AES 128 GCM SHA256,
        TLS ECDHE ECDSA WITH AES 256 CBC SHA384,
        TLS ECDHE ECDSA WITH AES 256 GCM SHA384,
        TLS ECDH ECDSA WITH AES 128 CBC SHA,
        TLS ECDH ECDSA WITH AES 128 CBC SHA256,
        TLS ECDH ECDSA WITH AES 128 GCM SHA256,
        TLS ECDH ECDSA WITH AES 256 CBC SHA384,
        TLS ECDH ECDSA WITH AES 256 GCM SHA384, TLS ECDH RSA WITH AES 128 CBC SHA,
        TLS ECDH RSA WITH AES 128 CBC SHA256, TLS ECDH RSA WITH AES 128 GCM SHA256,
        TLS ECDH RSA WITH AES 256 CBC SHA384, TLS ECDH RSA WITH AES 256 GCM SHA384
        Note: Ciphers selection can be vary based on security requirements.
7.
    Protocols
       TLS V1 1, TLS V1 2
8.
   Server Auth
       IGNORE
9.
    Certificate Chain Depth
```

Name	Interval	Timeout	Retries	Туре	Method	URL	Receive
VROPS_MO NITOR	5	16	3	HTTPS	GET	suite- api/api/ deployment /node/ status? services=ap i&services= adminui&se rvices=ui Note For older versions of vROPS from 6.6.1 to 7.5 please use the following URL call, as starting from vROps 8.0 status API enhanced to track separate services status: /suite- api/api/ deployment /node/ status \r\n	ONLINE (upper case)

Here is an example of how the configuration should look like:



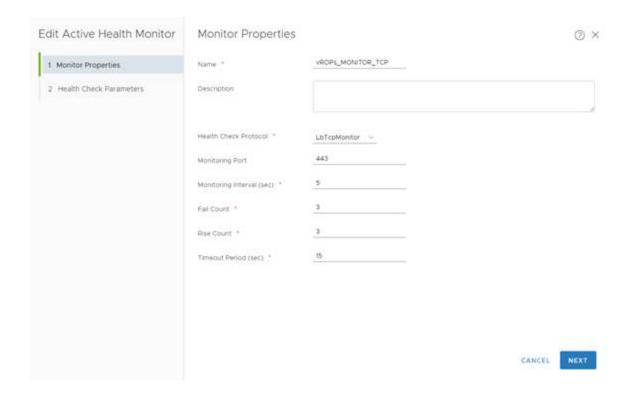
Example for vROPS\_Monitor



**Note** There is an issue with active health monitor in version 2.3.0.1. For this version Active Health Monitor should be configured by the following way in order to avoid unexpected Virtual Servers down (Upgrade to NSX-T Version 2.4 is the permanent recommendation)

- 5 Click the Add ( ) icon.
- 6 Choose a name for the active health monitor and enter **Monitor Properties** (please refer to the example below)
  - Health Check Protocol
     LbTcpMonitor
     Monitoring Port
     443

**Note** LbTcpMonitor is pre-configured monitor for TCP protocol and it can be used for this Active Health Monitor



### **Configure Server Pools**

NSX-T Server Pools are used to contain the nodes that are receiving traffic.

Steps to Configure a Server Pool:

### Prerequisites

You will need to create a single pool per vRealize Operations cluster with all the data nodes participating in the cluster as members. Remote collectors should not be added into this pool.

#### Procedure

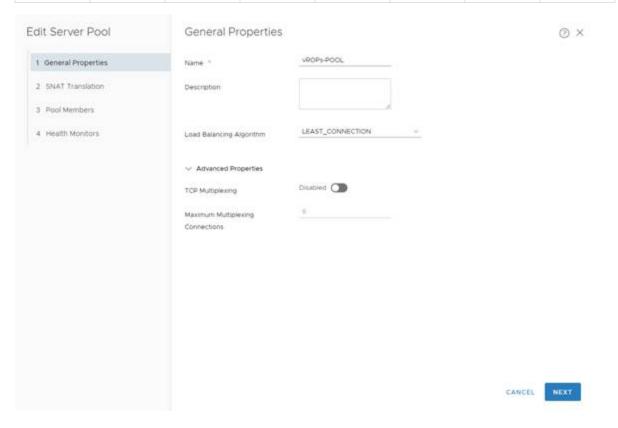
- 1 Go to Load Balancing > Server Pools > Server Pools
- 2 Click the Add ( ) icon.
- 3 Choose a Name for the pool. For example: vROPs-POOL.
- 4 Set Load Balancing Algorithm as LEAST\_CONNECTION
- 5 Configure SNAT Translation as Auto Map
- 6 Add the pool members (vRealize Operations data nodes IP addresses and Port) as following:
  - a Name
  - b IP Address
  - c Weight: 1

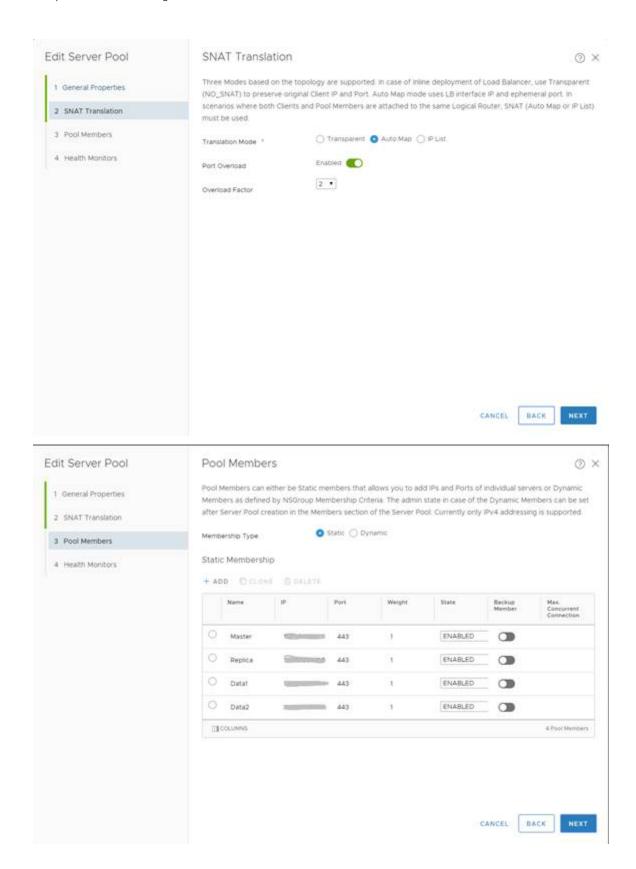
d Port: 443

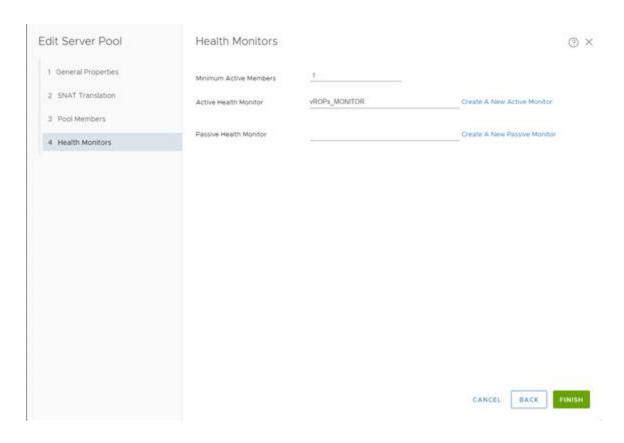
e State: ENABLED

7 Attach an Active Health Monitor to the pool (please refer to the example below)

Pool Name	Algorithm	Monitors	Member Name	IP Address	Weight	Port	State
vROPS- POOL	LEASTCON N	vROPS_M ONITOR	vROPS_NO DE1	x.x.x.x	1	443	ENABLED







### **Configure Virtual Servers**

NSX-T Virtual Servers contain the Virtual IP address (VIP) for the pools of nodes that will be accessed.

Steps to configure the Virtual Servers for HTTP requests:

### Prerequisites

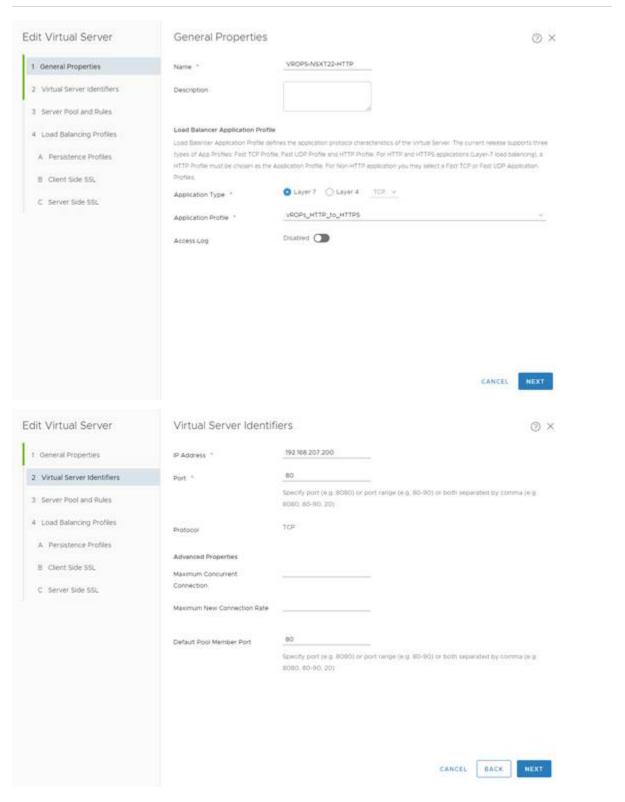
In this case, there are two separate VIPs created with the same IP address. One virtual server is used for redirecting insecure HTTP (port 80) traffic to a secure-channel connection – HTTPS (port 443). The second virtual server is used for handling and forwarding secure-channel traffic (HTTPS) to the backend systems.

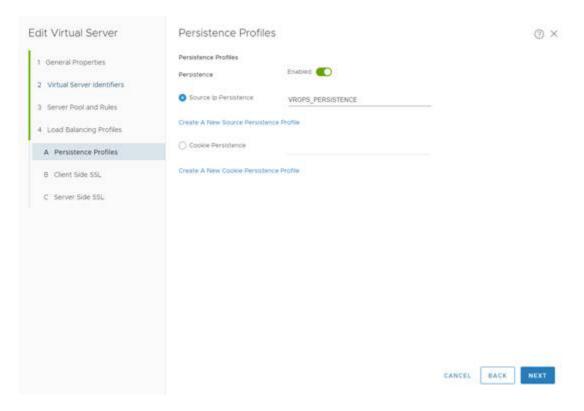
### Procedure

- 1 Go to Load Balancing > Virtual Servers > Virtual Servers
- 2 Click the Add ( ) icon.
- 3 Choose a name for Virtual Server
- 4 Configure Application Type as Layer 7
- 5 Assign appropriate **Application Profile** (please refer to the example below)
- 6 Assign VIP (Virtual IP) and port 80 to handle HTTP requests

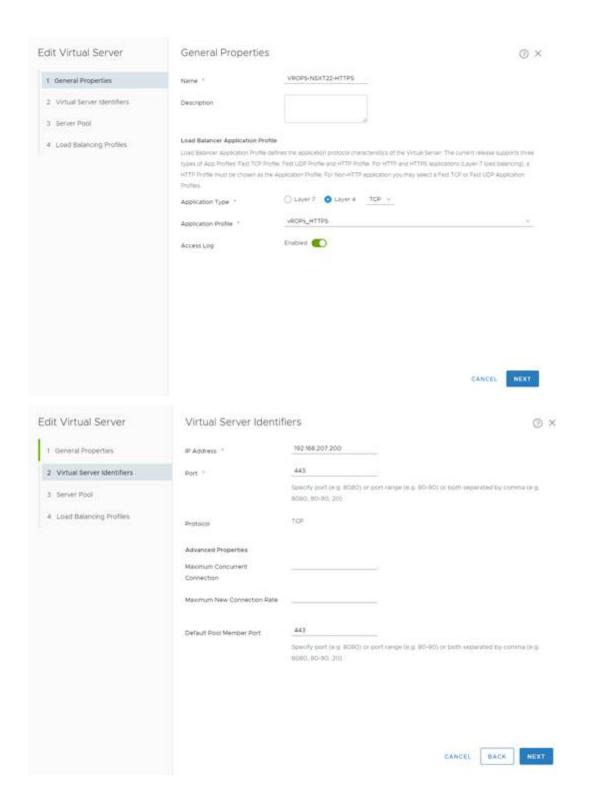
- 7 Add Default Pool Member Port 80
- 8 Assign appropriate **Persistent Profile** (please refer to the example below)

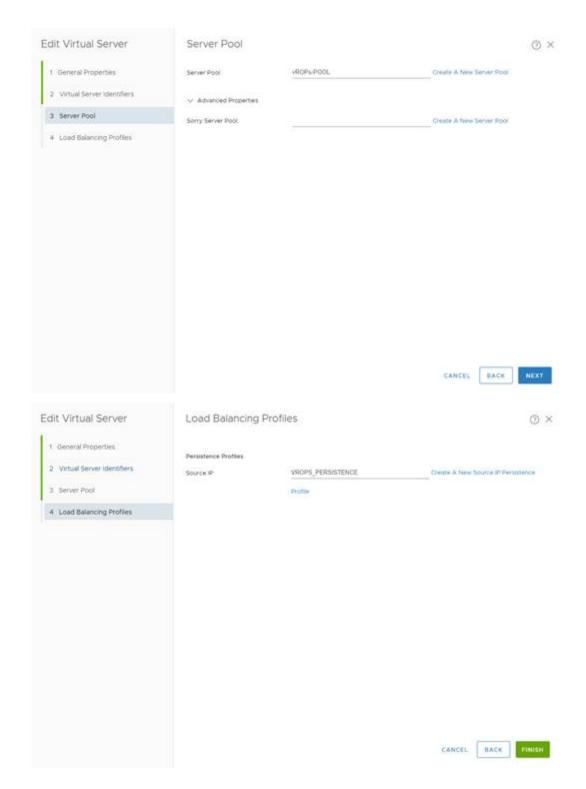
## Note There is no need to configure any Server Pool for this Virtual Server





- 9 To configure the Virtual Servers for HTTPS requests, go to Load Balancing > Virtual Servers > Virtual Servers
- 10 Click the Add ( ) icon
- 11 Choose a name for the Virtual Server
- 12 Configure Application Type as Layer 4
- 13 Assign appropriate **Application Profile** (please refer to the example below)
- 14 Assign a VIP (Virtual IP) and port 443 to handle HTTPS requests
- 15 Add Default Member Port 443.
- **16** Assign appropriate **Server Pool** (please refer to the example below)
- 17 Assign appropriate Load Balancing Profile (please refer to the example below)





## Configure Load Balancer

This section provides the procedure to configure Load Balancer.

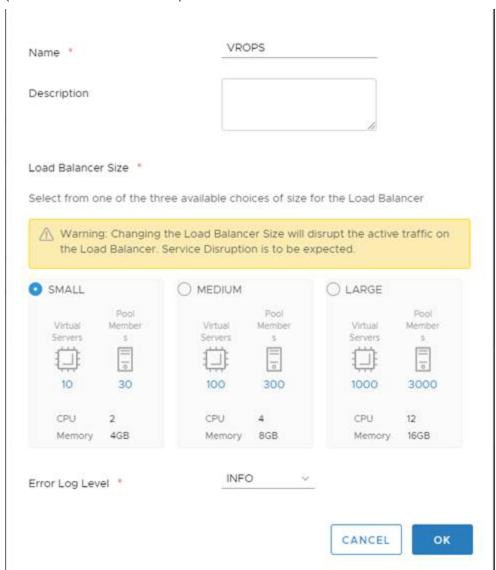
## Prerequisites

Specify a load-balancer configuration parameter

Configure the NSX-T appliance for load balancing by creating the respective service.

#### Procedure

- 1 Go to Load Balancing > Load Balancers
- 2 Click the Add ( ) icon.
- 3 Choose a name, select appropriate sizing (depends on vROPS cluster size) and error log level and press OK.
- 4 Attach the previously created during installation and configuration "Tier 1 Logical Router" to the newly created Load Balancer (OverviewAttachment > EDIT)
- 5 Attach the previously created Virtual Servers for HTTP and HTTPS to the Load Balancer (Virtual Servers > ATTACH)





## Attach to a Logical Router

×

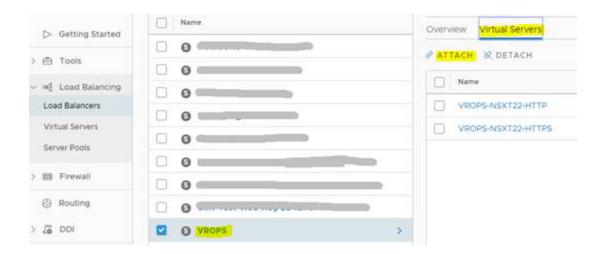
Select the Router to which the Load Balancer VROPS-NSXT22 is to be attached. Only Tier-1 Routers in 'Active Standby' are currently supported. Note: The Load Balancer can only be Enabled if it had a Virtual Server associated with it.

Tier-1 Logical Router \*

DONT-DELETE-VROPS-Tier-1-Router

CANCEL

OK



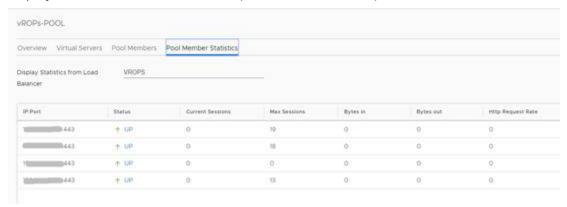
## Verify Components, Pool and Virtual Server Status

After completion of configuration, status of components running on the load balance can be verified.

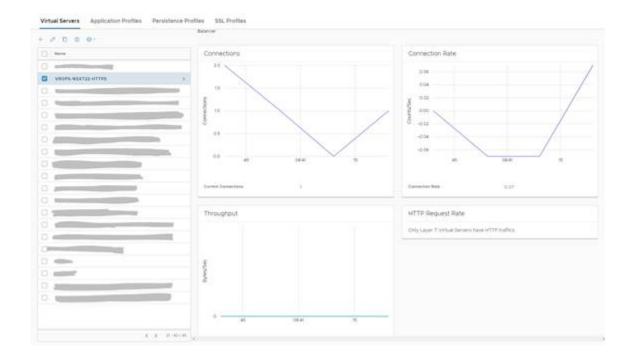
To get an overall view of the nodes, pools and virtual servers need to use steps described below:

#### Procedure

- 1 Go to Load Balancing > Server Pools > Server Pools
- 2 Select the pool that you want to verify. For example: vROPS-POOL
- 3 Click on **Pool Member Statistics.** The member IP:Port and status of the selected pool are displayed. The status should be UP. (can be UP or DOWN)



- 4 Go to Load Balancing > Virtual Servers > Virtual Servers
- 5 Select the virtual server that you want to verify. For example: VROPS-NSXT22-HTTPS
- 6 Click on **Statistics**Connections, Connection Rate and Throughput should be displayed. If configuration is mentioned metrics should display status graphs.



## For NSX-T Version 2.4, 2.5.X and 3.X.X

The following section contains detailed information on the configuration guide for NSX-T version 2.4, 2.5.X and 3.X.X

## Configure Load Balancer

When configuring you must specify a load-balancer configuration parameter

#### Prerequisites

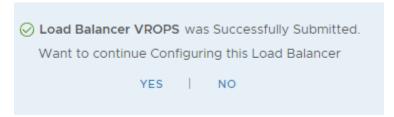
You need to configure the NSX-T appliance for load balancing by creating the respective service.

#### Procedure

- 1 Go to Networking→Load Balancing → Load Balancers
- 2 Click the Add ( ADD LOAD BALANCER ) icon.
- 3 Choose a name, select appropriate sizing (depends on vROPS cluster size), error log level, previously created during installation and configuration "Tier 1 Logical Router" and press **OK**



4 For the following dialog select **NO** 



## **Configure Application Profiles**

This section provides the procedure to configure Application Profiles

After the configuration of an application profile, the same should be associated with a virtual server. The virtual server then processes traffic according to the options specified in the application profile.

### Prerequisites

Application profile must be created to define the behavior of a particular type of network traffic.

For NSX-T, two application profiles need to be created to:

- Redirect HTTP to HTTPS
- Handle HTTPS traffic

#### Procedure

- 1 To configure the Application Profile for HTTP requests, go to Networking > Load balancing > Profiles
- 2 Select Profile Type APPLICATION ~
- 3 Click the Add ( ADD APPLICATION PROFILE ) and choose HTTP Profile
- 4 Choose a name for the profile and enter parameters (please refer to the example below)
- 5 To configure the Application Profile for HTTPS requests, go to Networking > Load balancing > Profiles

- 6 Select profile type APPLICATION ~
- 7 Click the Add ( ADD APPLICATION PROFILE ) icon and choose Fast TCP Profile.
- 8 Choose a name for the profile and enter parameters (please refer to the example below)



## **Configure Persistence Profile**

This section provide procedure to configure persistence profile using source addresses affinity

#### Procedure

- 1 Go to Networking > Load balancing > Profiles
- 2 Select profile type. PERSISTENCE >
- 3 Click the Add ( ADD PERSISTENCE PROFILE ) icon and select Source IP
- 4 Choose a name for the profile and enter parameters (please refer to the example below)



## Add Active Health Monitor

Configuring active health monitoring is similar to creating health checks on other load-balancers.

When you associate an active health monitor with a pool, the pool members are monitored according to the active health monitor parameters. To configure an **Active Health Monitor**, perform the following steps:

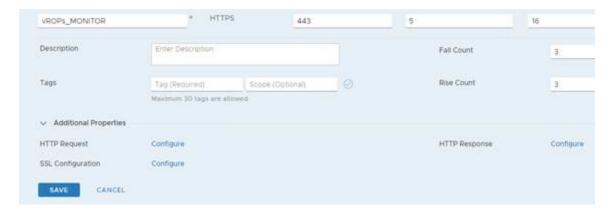
#### Procedure

- 1 Go to Networking > Load balancing > Monitors
- 2 Select monitor type. ACTIVE >
- 3 Click the Add ( ADD ACTIVE MONITOR ) icon and select HTTPS
- 4 Choose a name for the active monitor and enter **Monitor Properties** (please refer to the example below).
- **5** Configure Health check parameters withthe following values:

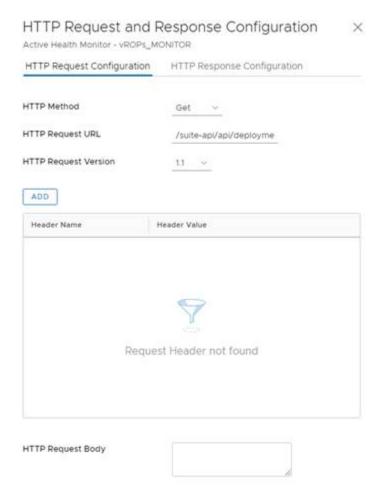
```
3. HTTP Method
    GET
4. HTTP Request URL
    /suite-api/api/deployment/node/status?services=api&services=adminui&services=ui (or /
epops-webapp/health-check for EPOPS)
5. HTTP Request Version
    1.1
6. HTTP Response Code
    200, 204, 301
7. HTTP Response Body
    ONLINE (upper case)
```

Name	Interval	Timeout	Retries	Туре	Method	URL	Receieve
vROPs_MO NITOR	5	16	3	HTTP	GET	/suite-api/api/deployment /node/ status? services=ap i&services= adminui&se rvices=ui	ONLINE (upper case)

Here is an example of how the configuration should look like:



## Example for vROPS\_Monitor





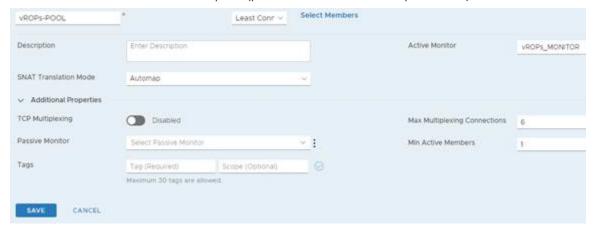
## **Configure Server Pools**

NSX-T Server Pools are used to contain the nodes that are receiving traffic.

You will need to create a single pool per vRealize Operations cluster with all the data nodes participating in the cluster as members. Remote collectors should not be added into this pool.

#### Procedure

- 1 To configure a Server Pool, go to **Networking > Load Balancing > Server Pools**
- 2 Click the Add ( ADD SERVER POOL ) icon.
- 3 Choose a Name for the pool. For example: vROPs-POOL
- 4 Set Algorithm as LEAST CONNECTION
- 5 Configure SNAT TranslationMode as Automap
- 6 Attach an **Active Monitor** to the pool (please refer to the example below)



7 Add the pool members via

(vRealize Operations data nodes IP addresses and Port)

Select Members

a Name

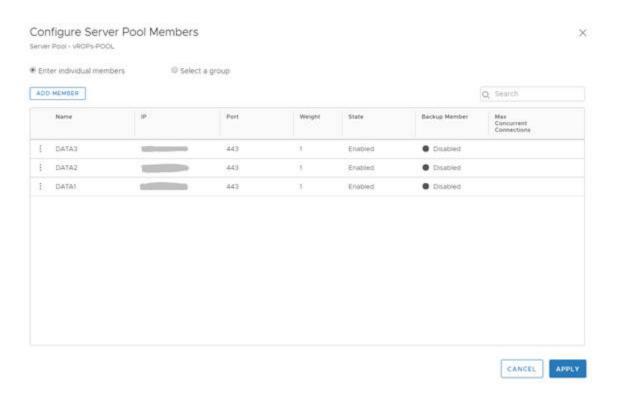
b IP Address

c Weight: 1

d Port: 443

e State: ENABLED

Pool Name	Algorithm	Monitors	Member Name	IP Address	Weight	Port	STATE
vROPS- POOL	LEASTCON N	vROPS_M ONITOR	vROPS_NO DE1	x.x.x.x	1	43	ENABLED



## **Configure Virtual Servers**

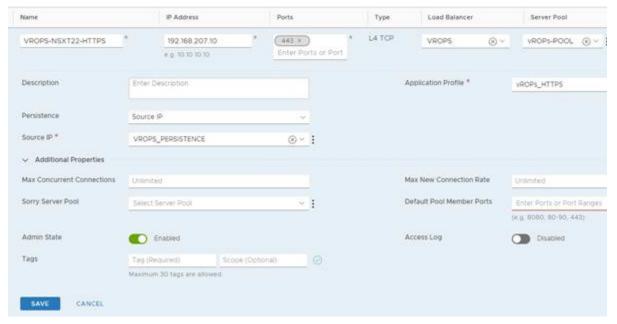
NSX-T Virtual Servers contain the Virtual IP address (VIP) for the pools of nodes that will be accessed.

In this case, there are two separate VIPs created with the same IP address. One virtual server is used for redirecting insecure HTTP (port 80) traffic to a secure-channel connection – HTTPS (port 443). The second virtual server is used for handling and forwarding secure-channel traffic (HTTPS) to the backend systems.

#### Procedure

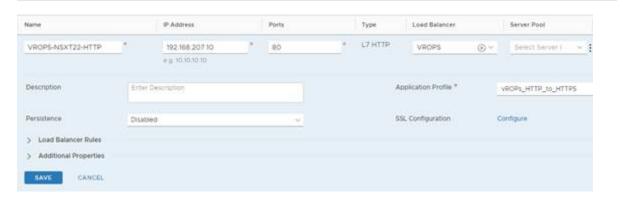
- 1 To configure the Virtual Servers for HTTPS requests, go to Networking > Load Balancing > Virtual Servers
- 2 Click the Add ( ADD VIRTUAL SERVER ) icon and select L4 TCP

- 3 Choose a name for the Virtual Server.
- 4 Assign appropriate **Application Profile** (please refer to the example below)
- 5 Assign appropriate **Load Balancer** (please refer to the example below)
- 6 Assign appropriate **Server Pool** (please refer to the example below)
- 7 Select **Persistence** as **Source IP** (please refer to the example below)
- 8 Assign appropriate **Source IP** profile (please refer to the example below)
- 9 Assign a VIP (Virtual IP) and port 443 to handle HTTPS requests



- 10 To configure the Virtual Servers for HTTP requests, go to Networking > Load Balancing > Virtual Servers
- 11 Click the Add ( ADD VIRTUAL SERVER ) icon and select L7 HTTP
- **12** Assign appropriate **Application Profile** (please refer to the example below)
- 13 Assign VIP (Virtual IP) and port 80 to handle HTTP requests

#### **Note** There is no need to configure any Server Pool for this Virtual Server



vRealize Operations Load Balancing

# NSX Advanced Load Balancer Configuration

VMware NSX Advanced Load Balancer (formerly known as Avi Networks). The NSX Advanced Load Balancer makes it easy to apply load balancing, web application firewall, and container ingress to any application in any datacenter and cloud.

## **Prerequisites**

The following are the prerequisites to ensure a functional NSX Advanced Load Balancer configuration and deployment in front of a vRealize Operations Manager cluster:

- Controller is deployed
- Service Engine is deployed
- Service Engine interface configured in the same network as the vRealize Operations Manager instances
- One reserved Virtual Server IP address for vRealize Operations Manager analytics

This chapter includes the following topics:

- Add Active Health Monitor
- Configure Server Pools
- Configure Virtual IP (VIP)
- Configure Virtual Service

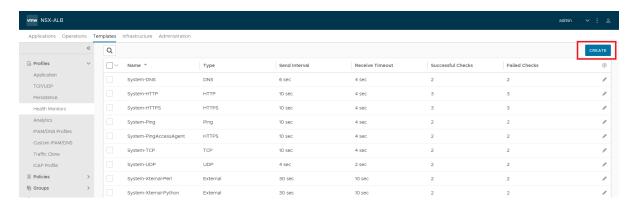
## Add Active Health Monitor

Health monitors validate whether servers are working correctly and can accommodate additional workloads before load balancing a client to a particular server.

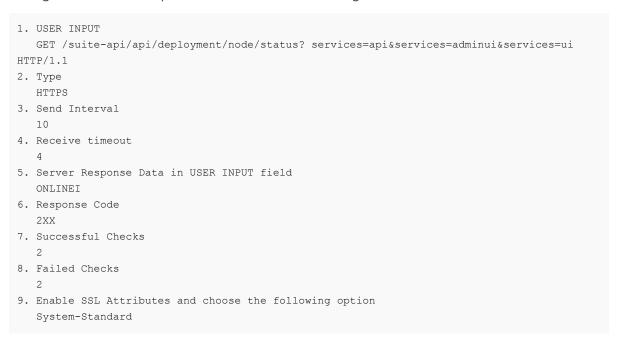
When you associate an active health monitor with a pool, the pool members are monitored according to the active health monitor parameters. To configure an **Active Health Monitor**, perform the following steps:

#### Procedure

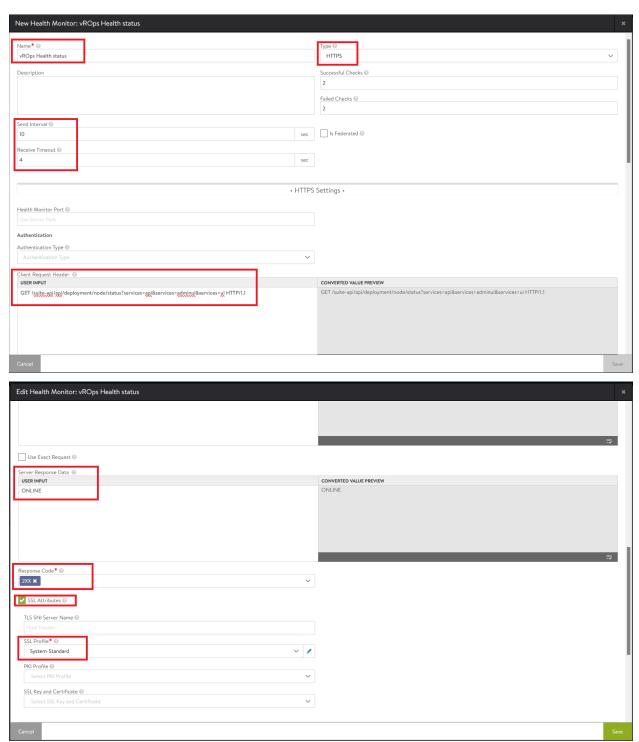
- 1 Navigate to Templates > Profiles > Health Monitors
- 2 Click on Create button



- 3 Choose a Name for the Active Health Monitor
- 4 Configure Health check parameters within the following values and click Save



## Example: Here is an example of how the configuration should look like:



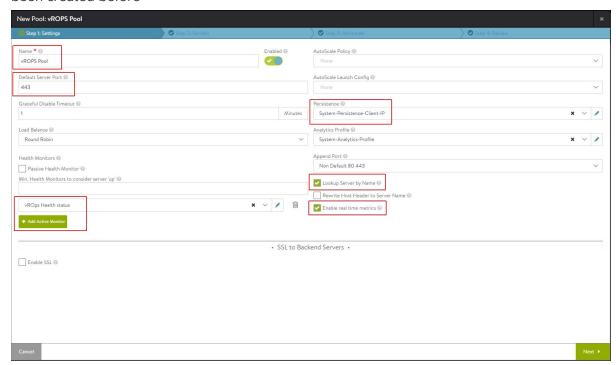
## **Configure Server Pools**

NSX-T Server Pools are used to contain the nodes that are receiving traffic. Also server pools are used to manage load balancer distribution methods and has a service monitor attached to it for health check parameters.

You will need to create a single pool per vRealize Operations cluster with all the data nodes participating in the cluster as members. Remote collectors should not be added into this pool.

#### Procedure

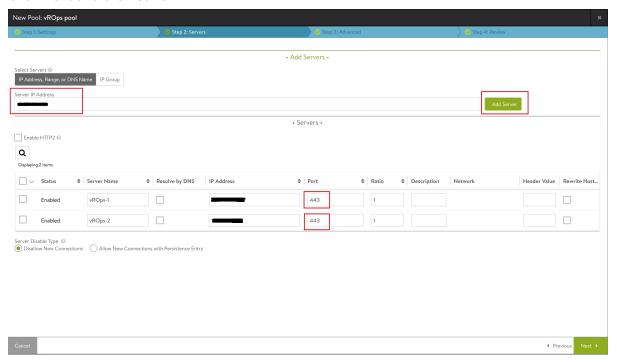
- 1 To configure Server Pool, navigate to Applications > Pools
- 2 Click on CREATE POOL
- 3 Choose a Name for the Pool
- 4 Change **Default Server Port** to 443
- 5 Change Load Balance type to Round Robin
- 6 Change Persistence to System-Persistence-Client-IP
- 7 Under Health Monitors click on **Add Active Monitor** and add the health monitor which has been created before



Note (Optional) Enable Lookup Server by Name and Enable real time metrics

- 8 Click Next
- 9 In Server IP Address enter the vROPS Data Node IP Address and click **Add Server** (repeat for all the Data nodes)

- 10 Change the Port number for the servers to 443
- 11 Click Next
- 12 Leave all the default values in Options tab
- 13 Click Next and then Save



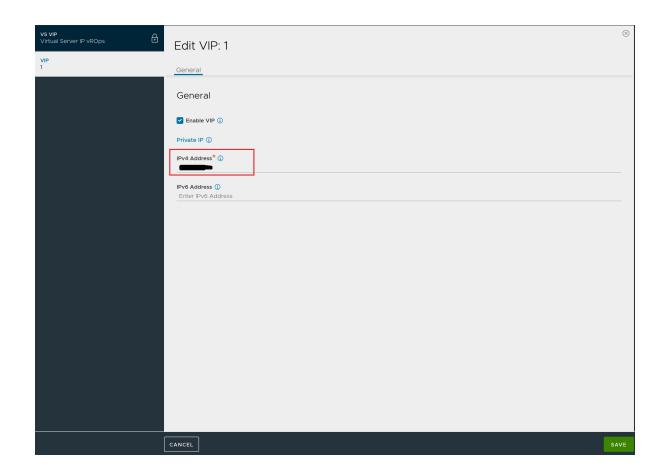
## Configure Virtual IP (VIP)

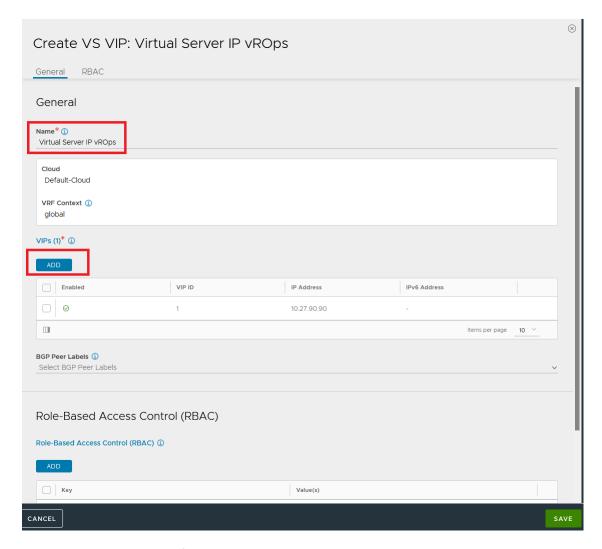
Communication to vROPS exclusively done via Virtual IP address that redirects traffic to the Server Pools.

To create a Virtual IP perform the following steps:

#### Procedure

- 1 Navigate to Applications > VS VIPs
- 2 Choose a Name for the VIP
- 3 Click Add





- 4 Type the IPv4 Address for the Virtual Server
- 5 Click Save

## **Configure Virtual Service**

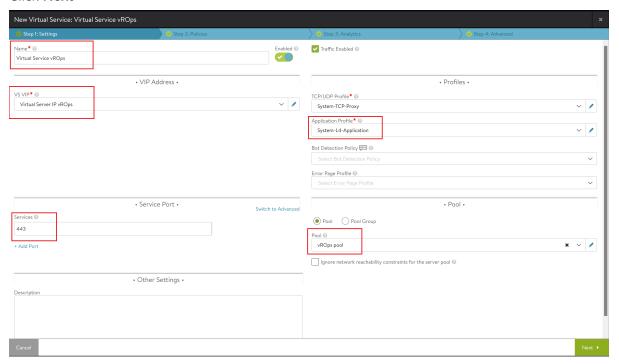
Virtual service is the core of the NSX Advanced Load Balancer functionality. A virtual service advertises an IP address and ports to the outside and listens for the client traffic.

For configuring Virtual Service follow these steps:

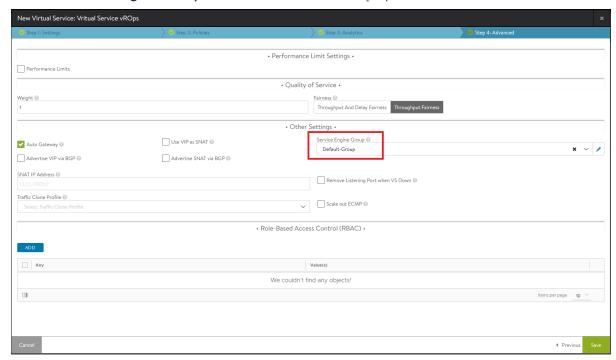
#### Procedure

- 1 Navigate to Applications > Virtual Services
- 2 Click on Create Virtual Service > Advanced option
- 3 Choose a Name for the Virtual Service
- 4 Select VS VIP from the list
- 5 Choose 443 for the **Services** port

- 6 Select System-L4-Application from the Application Profile
- **7** Select the previously created Pool
- 8 Click Next



- 9 Navigate to **Advanced** tab
- 10 For the Service Engine Group choose the Default-Group option



11 Save changes

## Results

After successfully configuring the Virtual Service it will appear in the dashboard.

