SUMMARY

This script will export virtual machines known to a given VMWare ESX 3 host into a specified target directory from where they can be picked up by any backup software.

Virtual machines selection will be performed in two phases:

1. 1. select VMs based on a search criteria (see vcbSnap -r option)
2. 2. filter VMs using a list of good VMs (session VMs list)

After the selection, the virtual machines are checked against some condition (i.e. no snapshots already exists) and then backup will be performed using *vcbMounter* utility.

Summary log and detailed logs for every virtual machines will be written and optionally emailed by SMTP.

To use this utility you need a configuration file that sets the needed session environment (session configuration file). See the *jabs.conf.dist* file for a detailed list of configuration parameters and their meaning.

Because of JABS use the *vcbMounter* utility, you need to set-up VCB environment too, editing the file

/etc/vmware/backuptools.conf

USAGE

- jabs -s <session_file> [-u <username>][-p <password>][-h <url>]
- [-r <destination>][-a <select>]
- [-L <verbosity>]
- [-d <debug_flag>] [-t <test_flag>]
-

- <session_file> the file containing session configuration

- <username> username to connect to the host (default: USERNAME)

- <password> password to connect to the host(default: PASSWORD)
- <url> <hostname>[:<port>](default: VCHOST)
- <destination> backup destination (see vcbMounter -r option)
- <select> search specifier to identify VMs groups (default: all powered on VMs) (see vcbVmName -s option)
- <verbosity> verbosity used by vcbMounter command [0-6] (default: 3)
- <debug_flag> Must be set to '1' if you want to enable debug mode (default: 0)
- <test_flag> Must be set to '1' if you want to enable test mode (default: 0)

All parameters, except the <session_file>, are defined into the <session_file> too, which is the only required parameter.

Some default values (USERNAME, PASSWORD and VCHOST) are defined in the VCB environment (see /etc/vmware/backuptools.conf).

If multiple values will be found for a parameter, the rule is:

- - Command line parameters override session file values
- - Session file paramaters override default values

EXAMPLE

This is the way I use JABS on my production environment.

I use a mounted readonly file system in which the script and the session files are stored. This is the */etc/fstab* row

- srv-nas:/nethdd/vmware /backup/nas nfs intr,ro 0 0

The *jabs.tar.gz* is extracted direcly in the */backup/nas* path. Then I have one or more files in */etc/cron.d*
(depending on how the host is used) to schedule the backup jobs.This is the cron file for the production environment.

```
#
# BACKUP SESSION FOR PRODUCTION ENVIRONMENT
# This file exists only on production hosts
#
#
#
```

```
# Application server will be backed up every 14 days starting at 20:15
10 20 14 * * root /usr/local/bin/jabs -s /backup/nas/scripts/jabs/sessions/jabs.prodas >
/dev/null
10 20 28 * * root /usr/local/bin/jabs -s /backup/nas/scripts/jabs/sessions/jabs.prodas >
/dev/null
#
#
#
# Database server will be backed up every saturday starting at 15:30
30 15 * * 6 root /usr/local/bin/jabs -s /backup/nas/scripts/jabs/sessions/jabs.proddb > /dev/null
#
```

The */usr/local/bin/jabs* is a symbolic link (ln -s) to */backup/nas/scripts/jabs/jabs*. This way I can enable/disable backup on a single host by mounting/dismounting the */backup/nas* file system.

My destination backup directory (the SESSION_DESTINATION_ROOT defined in the session file) is a NFS datastore mounted through Virtual Center on every ESX hosts.