ClearPath MSP
ClearWatch

SOLUTION BRIEF

from ClearPath MSP

CLEARWATCH SOLUTION BRIEF · MICROSOFT HYPER-V

Microsoft Hyper-V monitoring, VM by VM.

How ClearWatch reads each Hyper-V host through the agent already on it, makes its virtual machines devices, and alerts on old checkpoints and unhealthy replicas.

PUBLISHED NOVEMBER 2026 LENGTH 6 PAGES APPLIES TO HYPER-V ON WINDOWS SERVER

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Hyper-V Manager shows a host. It does not watch one.

Hyper-V Manager and PowerShell answer questions about one host at a time, when somebody connects and asks. A checkpoint taken before an upgrade keeps growing for months, a replica slips into Critical, and a VM with no monitoring agent of its own is invisible to every tool that watches through agents. Meanwhile a patch restart on the host takes every VM on it down.

ClearWatch reads Hyper-V through the ClearWatch agent on the host itself, with no credential to hand over and no port to open. It records each VM's state, CPU, memory and network every minute, and its configuration and checkpoints every fifteen minutes. Each VM can become a device of its own, and every host is drawn on the Hypervisors dashboard with its VMs inside it.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- **Read on the host:** the agent reads Hyper-V locally. Nothing to open, no account to share.
- **Every VM a device:** when you choose, per client or per host, with CPU, memory and network from the host.
- **Checkpoints watched:** how many each VM holds and how old the oldest is, failing at 30 days.
- **Never restarted by patching:** updates install on the host, and the restart is yours to plan.

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WHO THIS IS FOR

MSPs and IT teams running Hyper-V on Windows Server, for one organization or across many clients.

AT A GLANCE

READ BY	VM METRICS	VM INVENTORY	HOST RESTARTS
The host's agent	**Every minute**	**Every 15 minutes**	**Never by patching**
Locally, through Hyper-V's own PowerShell and WMI.	State, CPU, memory demand, network.	Sooner for a new VM. Checkpoints included.	Updates install; you choose the restart.

01 THE CHALLENGE

Hyper-V answers one host at a time, when asked

Hyper-V Manager and PowerShell show a host's virtual machines to whoever connects and looks. Nothing in them keeps watch across every host and every client: a checkpoint left behind grows quietly until it fills a volume, replication health is read VM by VM, and a VM nobody installed an agent on is simply missing from monitoring. The host is a Windows Server like any other, so it gets patched like one, and a scheduled restart takes every VM down with it.

THE QUESTION	HYPER-V MANAGER ALONE	CLEARWATCH
Which VMs run where, for every client?	Connect to each host in turn	**One Hypervisors dashboard**, each host drawn with its VMs
Which VMs hold old checkpoints?	Open each VM's checkpoint tree	A count and the **oldest age** per VM; failing at 30 days
Is every replica healthy?	Replication health, VM by VM	Any replica in **Warning or Critical** raises an alert on the host
What about a VM with no agent?	Not monitored at all	**A device of its own**, with CPU, memory and network from the host
Is the host itself running short?	Performance counters on the host	CPU, memory and every volume, **at a host's levels**
Will patching take every VM down?	The host restarts when updates ask	Updates install; patching **never restarts** a Hyper-V host

A VM's state is Hyper-V's own word, never a reassuring one

ClearWatch translates only what is certain: **Running** is running and **Off** is stopped. Every other state keeps Hyper-V's word, so a VM whose storage has gone (RunningCritical) is never shown as simply running. Memory is read as what each VM **demands**, not what it was assigned, so a VM on static memory does not read 100% full for ever.

02 HOW CLEARWATCH CONNECTS

From the agent already on the host

A Hyper-V host runs Windows Server, so it runs the ClearWatch agent like any other server. The agent reads Hyper-V on the machine itself: no credential to hand over, no port to open, and nothing changed in Hyper-V.

YOUR NETWORK
Hyper-V host
Windows Server with the Hyper-V role, recognized from the role's own service.

→

ON THE HOST
ClearWatch agent
Reads every VM each minute, and its configuration and checkpoints every 15 minutes.

→

CLEARWATCH
Hypervisors dashboard
Files each VM under the host's client, runs the checks, raises the alerts.

A ClearBridge is needed only to add a host that has no agent yet: it signs in over WinRM once and installs the agent.

02 HOW CLEARWATCH CONNECTS, CONTINUED

Add the host, or let it be recognized

A host that already runs the agent needs nothing. ClearWatch recognizes Hyper-V from the role's own service, on Windows Server editions only, so a laptop with Hyper-V switched on for Docker Desktop or WSL2 stays a workstation. A host can also be marked by hand.

A host without the agent is added from Hypervisors with **Add hypervisor**. Pick Hyper-V 1, give its address and the ClearBridge on its network 2, and a local or domain administrator 3. The ClearBridge signs in over WinRM on port 5985 and installs the agent, and a panel follows the host until it reports its VMs 4.

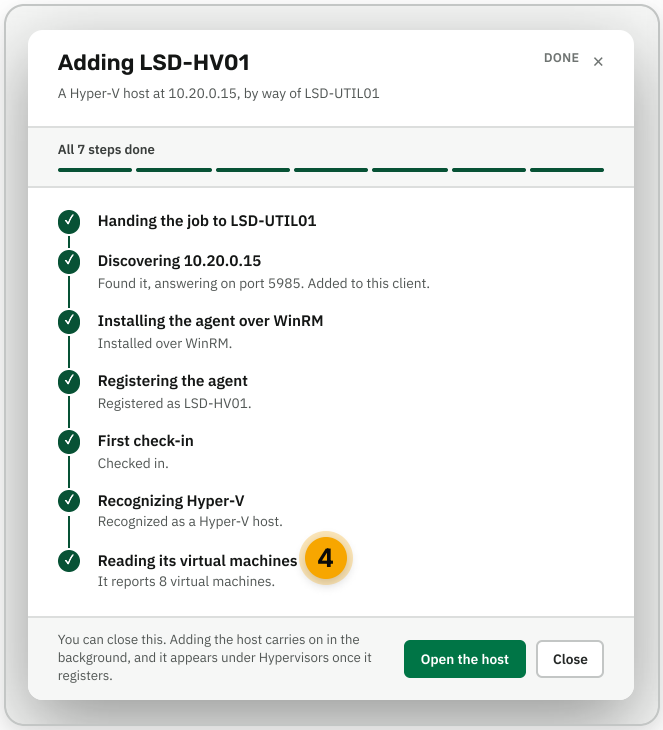


FIGURE 2 Adding a host, followed live from discovery to its first list of VMs.

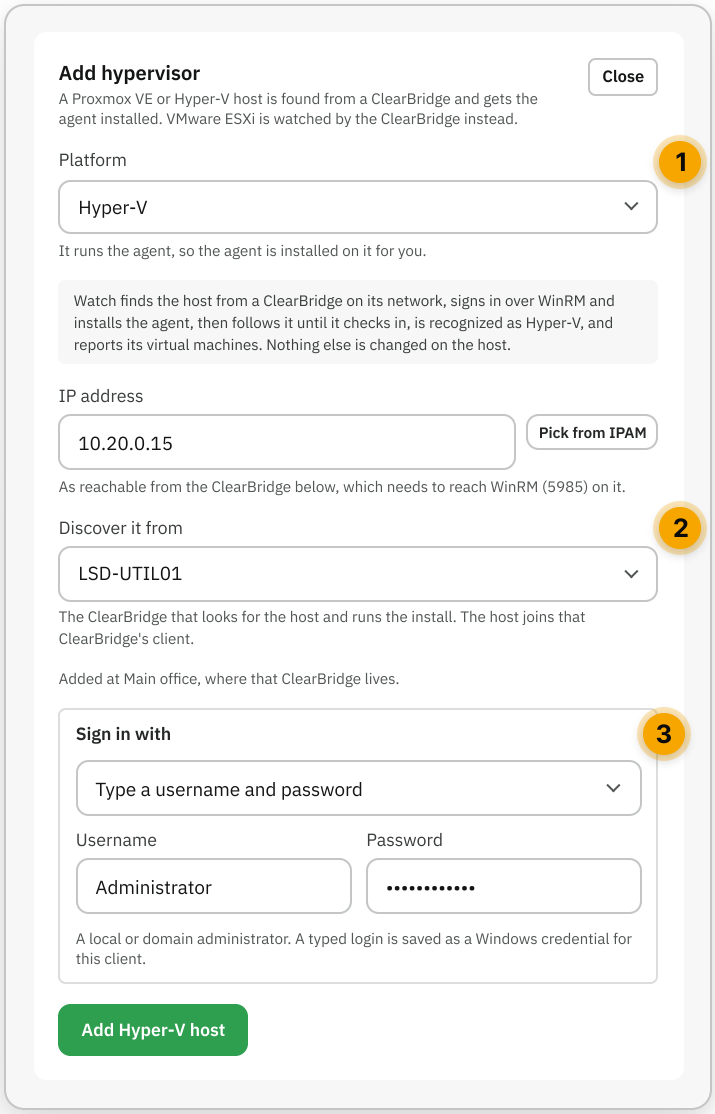


FIGURE 1 Add hypervisor with Hyper-V picked, rebuilt from the ClearWatch console with demo data.

WHAT THE HOST SENDS	WHAT IT HOLDS
Every minute	Each VM's state, CPU, memory (demand against memory assigned), uptime, and the bytes through its virtual network adapters and disks.
Every 15 minutes	Each VM's name, state, vCPUs, startup memory, automatic start action, BIOS GUID, MAC and IP addresses, the guest OS from Key-Value Pair Exchange, and its newest 50 checkpoints. A new VM is reported sooner.

The agent reads with Hyper-V's own PowerShell module and WMI classes, as its own service on the host. Addresses and the guest OS come from **Hyper-V integration services** in each VM, so nothing is installed in a VM to read them, and nothing in Hyper-V is changed: no VM, checkpoint or replication setting.

03 HOSTS ON THE DASHBOARD

Each host drawn with the VMs it runs

The Hypervisors dashboard draws every host as it is built: the platform on top, the host with its meters and one chip per VM, and the storage the host reports underneath. An MSP sees every client's hosts on one page, worst first.

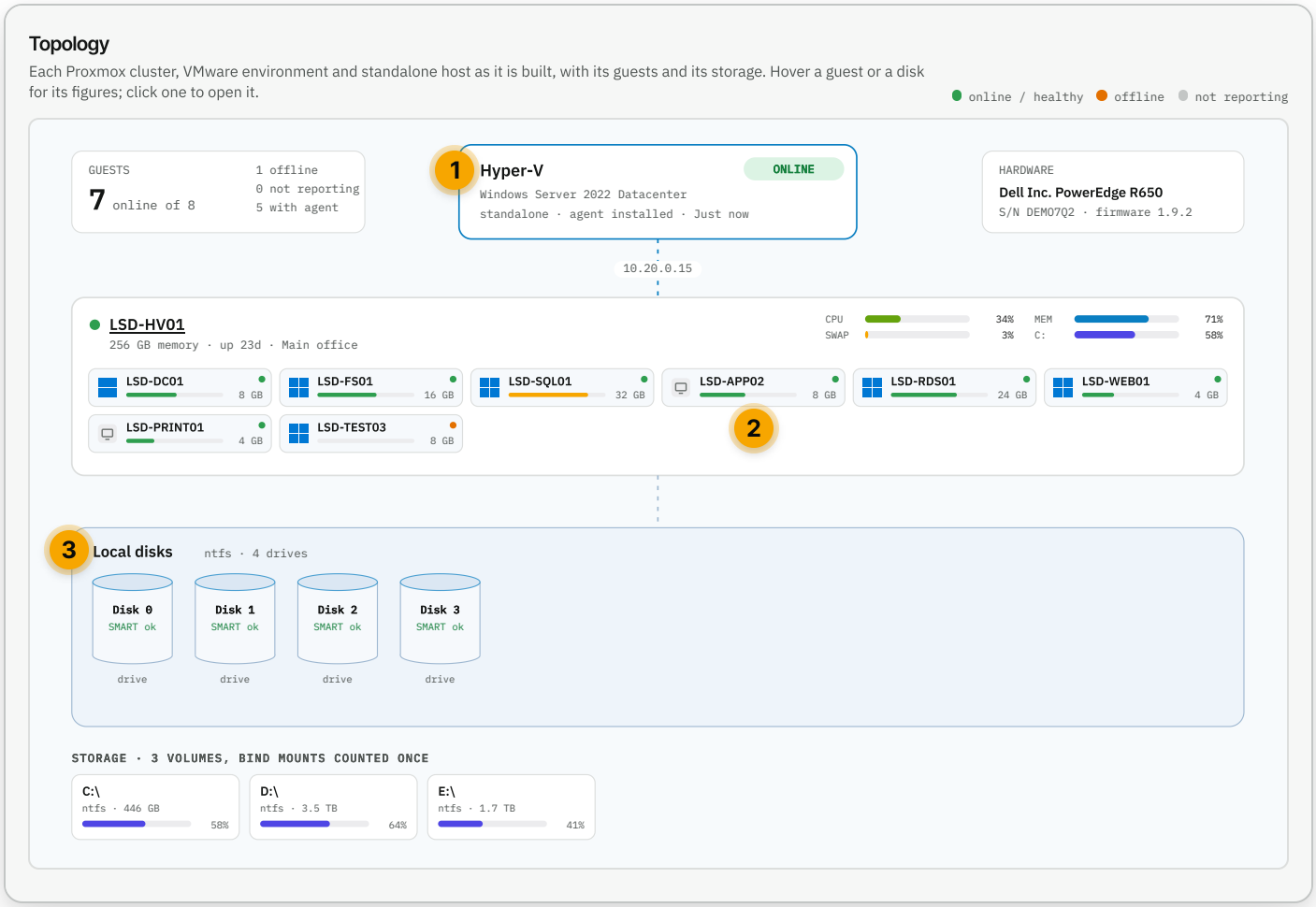


FIGURE 3 A standalone Hyper-V host on the Hypervisors dashboard, rebuilt with demo data; the console draws the VMs' own OS logos.

The host sits where a cluster would, named **Hyper-V** with its Windows Server edition and an online pill 1. The guest totals beside it count VMs online, offline and with the agent.

Every VM is a chip with its memory bar, its size and a status dot 2. A VM with no agent of its own is drawn the same way, from what the host reports, and opens to its own page.

The storage panel shows what the host itself reports 3: drives and their health, then each volume with its fill. Nothing is inferred from the platform.

Under Servers too

A Windows Server running Hyper-V is listed under Hypervisors and also on the Servers list and dashboard, so every Windows Server you manage is in one place for patching, roles and OS lifecycle. A saved filter of "Type is server" still matches servers only, so no template or policy widens on its own.

Patching installs, and never restarts the host

A patch run installs the host's updates with its restart turned off, and every restart control in patching is drawn disabled with the reason: *"a reboot here takes every VM on it down too, so it is done by hand in a maintenance window."* The device's Patches tab reads **Reboot: never (hypervisor host)**.

04 EVERY VM AS A DEVICE

Each VM, with what Hyper-V knows about it

A VM is listed beside every other machine, typed as a server or workstation, rather than buried in its host's page. With no agent inside it, its CPU, memory and network charts and everything below come from the host.

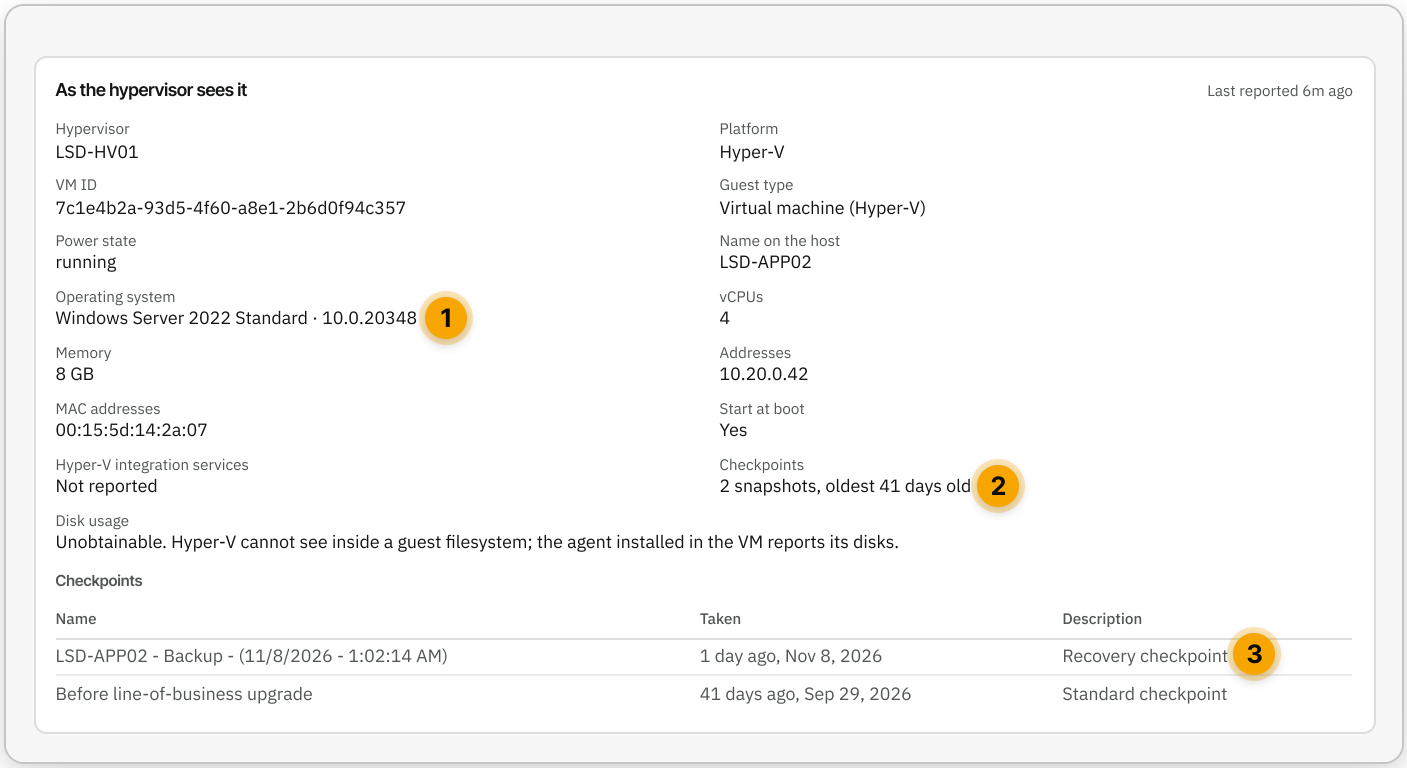


FIGURE 4 "As the hypervisor sees it" on a VM's Overview, for a VM with no agent of its own.

The guest OS comes from Hyper-V's Key-Value Pair Exchange 1, and it types the VM as a server or workstation until an agent inside says otherwise. Checkpoints are counted and aged 2, and one with no notes is described by its type 3, because a recovery checkpoint a backup product left behind is exactly the one that needs a name.

Importing is **off unless you choose it**: in the Client policy, or on one host 4. Each imported VM uses a license, and a VM you delete stays deleted until you import it again.

MATCHED BY, IN ORDER	WHY
VM ID on this host	Hyper-V's GUID for the VM; stable across renames
BIOS GUID	An agent installed later reports it too, so it lands on the same device
MAC address	The fallback; a tie links nothing

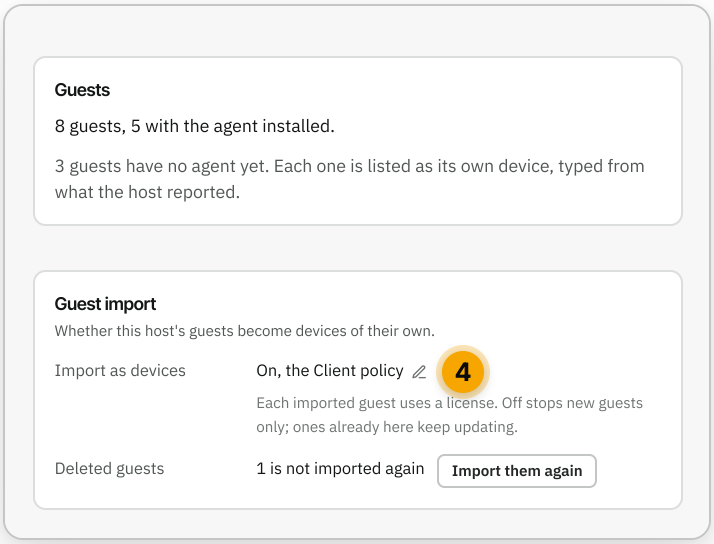


FIGURE 5 The host's Guests card, and Guest import on its Settings tab.

05 CHECKS AND ALERTS

What raises an alert, out of the box

The **Hyper-V host** template puts Hyper-V replication and Hypervisor resources on every host it finds by its role; like every built-in template, it is switched on with one click when you choose. Every level is a default you can change, for everyone or for one device.

CHECK	MONITOR	WARNING	FAILED
Hyper-V replicas unhealthy	Hyper-V replication	None	1 VM whose Replica health is Warning or Critical, read every 30 minutes
Processor usage (%)	Hypervisor resources	90%	95%, five readings in a row
Memory usage (%)	Hypervisor resources	95%	98%, five readings in a row
Disk free space (%)	Hypervisor resources	15%	10%, on every volume
Snapshots held	VM snapshots	1	3
Oldest snapshot (days)	VM snapshots	7 days	30 days

The VM snapshots checks read Hyper-V checkpoints exactly as they read any other snapshot, on each VM, when the host reports. Its built-in template targets Proxmox guests, so for Hyper-V attach the monitor to the filter **Facts via hypervisor is Hyper-V**.

The device list offers the same facts as columns: which host a VM is a guest of, and its checkpoints with the oldest age 1 .

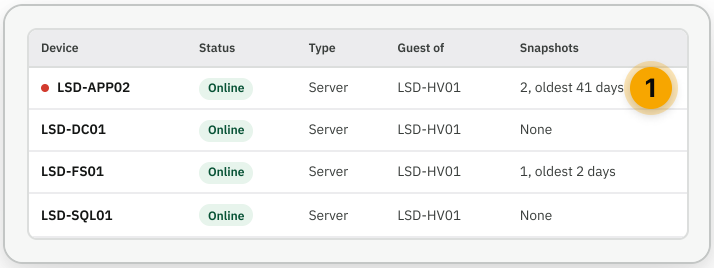


FIGURE 6 Guests in the device list, with the Guest of and Snapshots columns chosen.

06 GOOD TO KNOW

Requirements

- Windows Server with the Hyper-V role, running a current ClearWatch agent.
- Hyper-V's PowerShell module installed on the host.
- To add a host from the console: a ClearBridge that reaches it on WinRM (5985), and a local or domain administrator.
- Guest import switched on for the client or the host, and a license for each VM imported.

Limits

- The agent is not installed into a VM through its host. Use Discover to install over the network, or run the installer inside the VM.
- Failover clusters, Cluster Shared Volumes and Storage Spaces Direct are not read; each node is shown as its own host.
- The host cannot see inside a VM's disks. Disk usage comes from an agent inside the VM.

See every Hyper-V host and VM on one console.

Start a free trial, or ask us to walk your Hyper-V hosts through it with you.

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