UCS Director Baremetal Agent Installation

The purpose to this document is to illustrate the steps to install the UCS Director Baremetal Agent (PXE Server) which can be used to write/use workflows that require a PXE Server such as the 'BMA + UCSM + MDS + NetApp Example' workflow located on the UCS Directors Communities site. This example workflow can be found at the following link: https://communities.cisco.com/docs/DOC-52546

Before you implement the Baremetal Agent, make sure your UCS Director is fully installed, functional and upgraded to 5.3. If this isn't the case, then you should upgrade before implementing the BMA and integrating with UCS Director. You cannot go directly to 5.3 so you must first install BMA 5.2 then upgrade to 5.3.

Useful Documents:

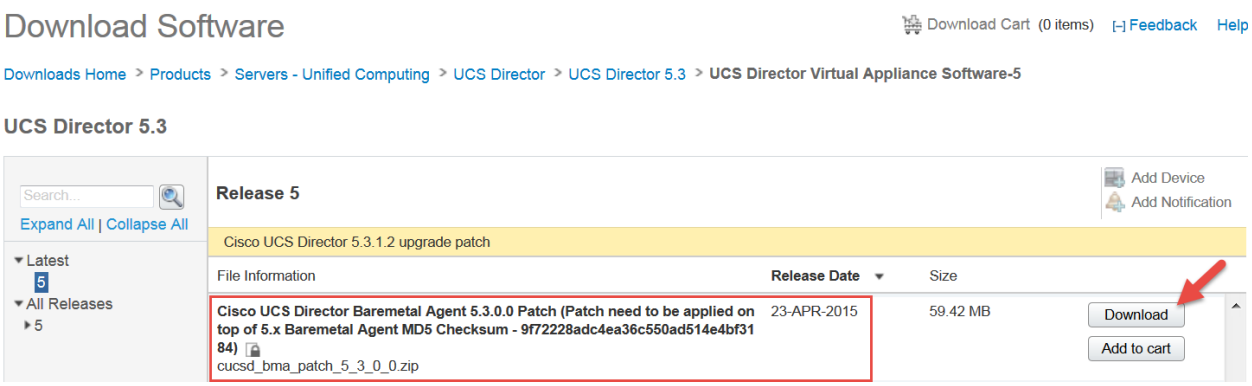
Cisco UCS Director Baremetal Agent Installation and Configuration Guide, Release 5.2

Cisco UCS Director Baremetal Agent Installation and Configuration Guide, Release 5.3

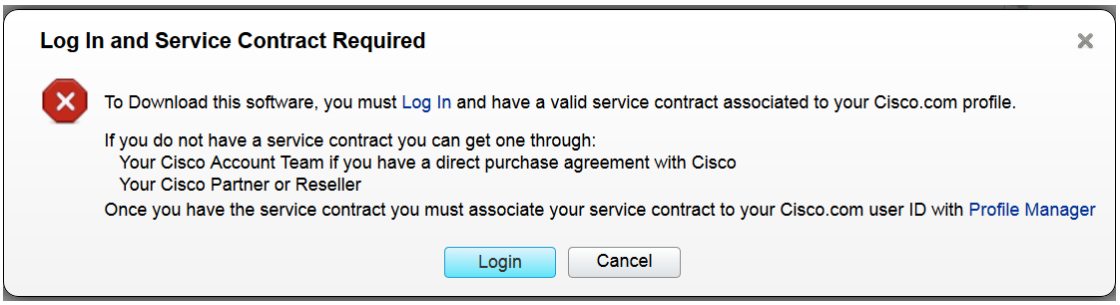
Table of Contents

1. Download Baremetal Agent 5.2 and Patch 5.3.0.0

Go to Cisco.com Downloads and navigate to UCS Director 5.3. Download the Cisco UCS Director Baremetal Agent Patch 5.3.0.0.

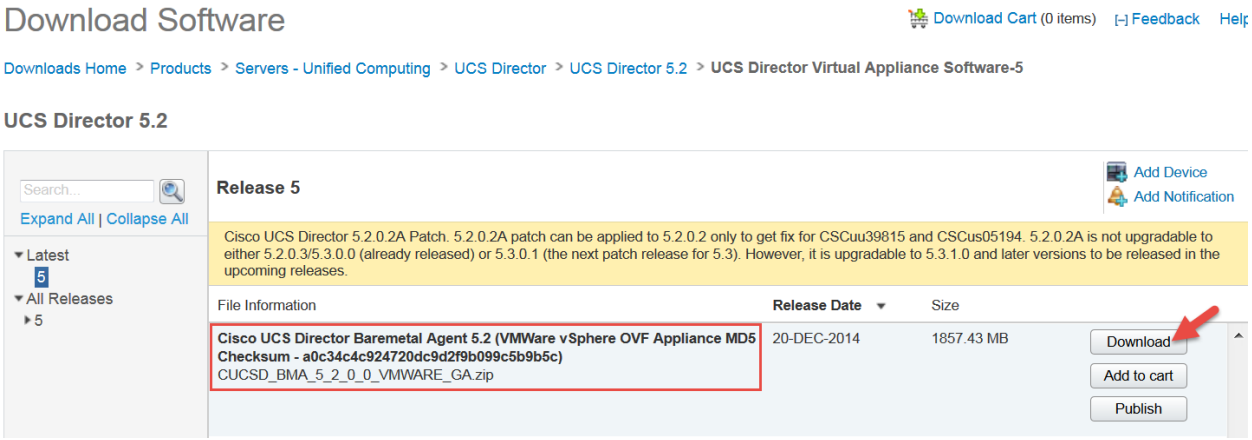


Login using your CCO account.



Accept the license agreement.

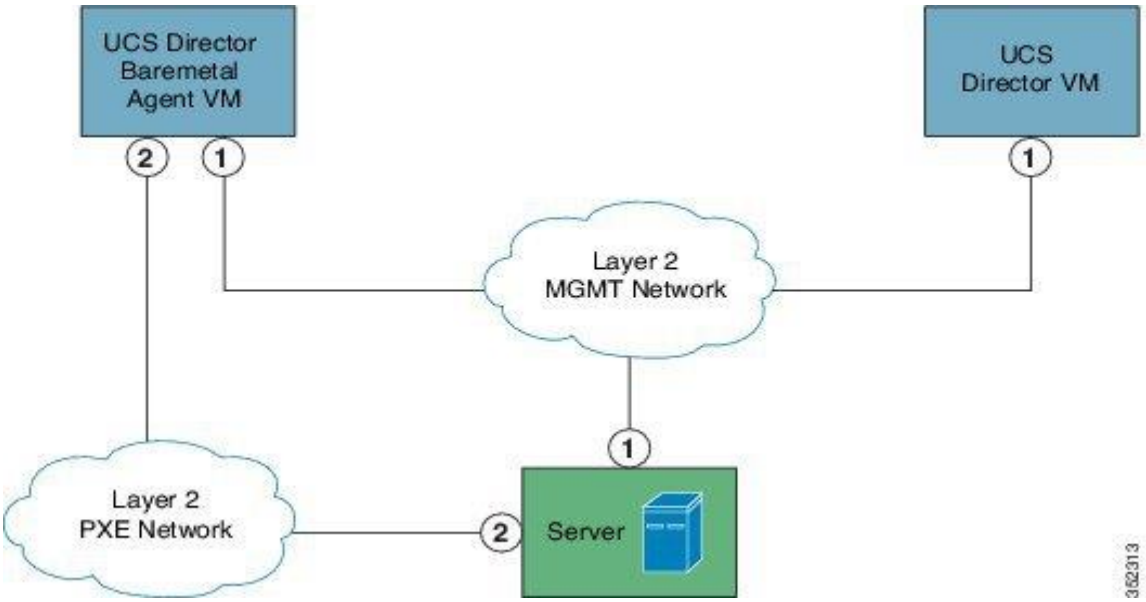
Now, go back to the main UCS Director download page and select UCS Director 5.2. Download the Cisco UCS Director Baremetal Agent 5.2.



Accept the license agreement.

2. PXE/Management Network setup

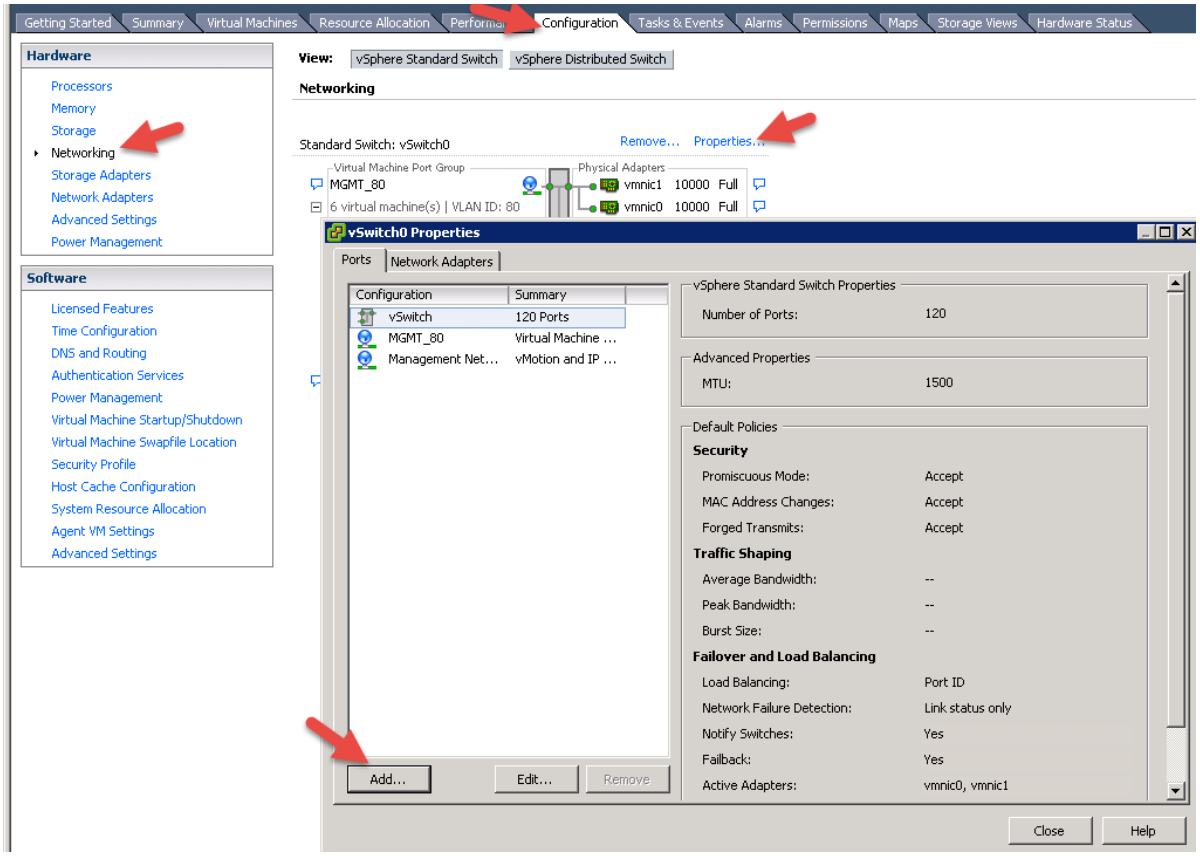
Determine if you want to use a Single or Separate Networks for Management and PXE. I have chosen to use Separate networks for PXE and Management so we need to configure PXE VLAN in vCenter and UCS.



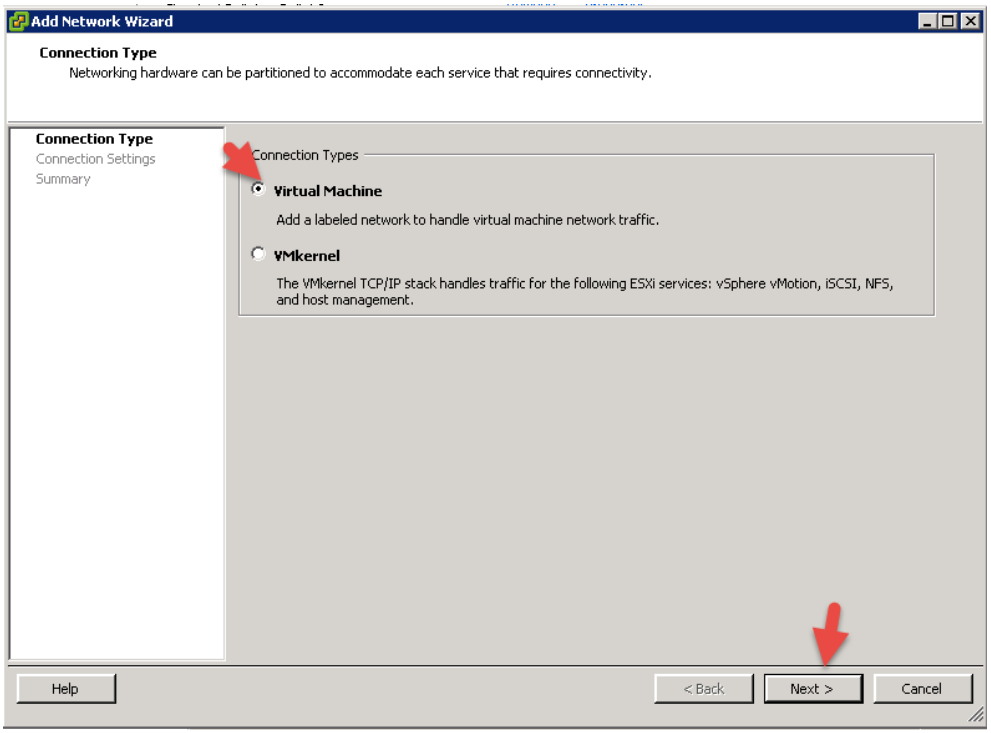
2.1. Create PXE VLAN/Port Group in vCenter

Log into vCenter and create a Port-Group/VLAN for PXE on the host where UCS Director BMA will reside.

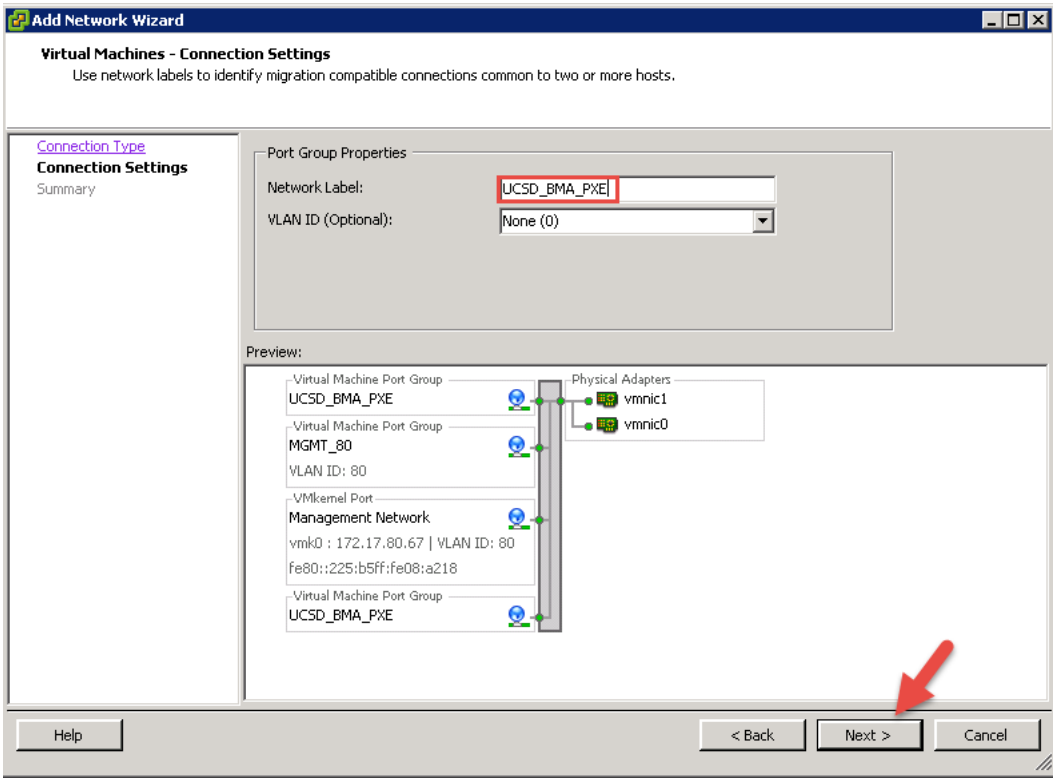
Select the ESXi host then do the following.



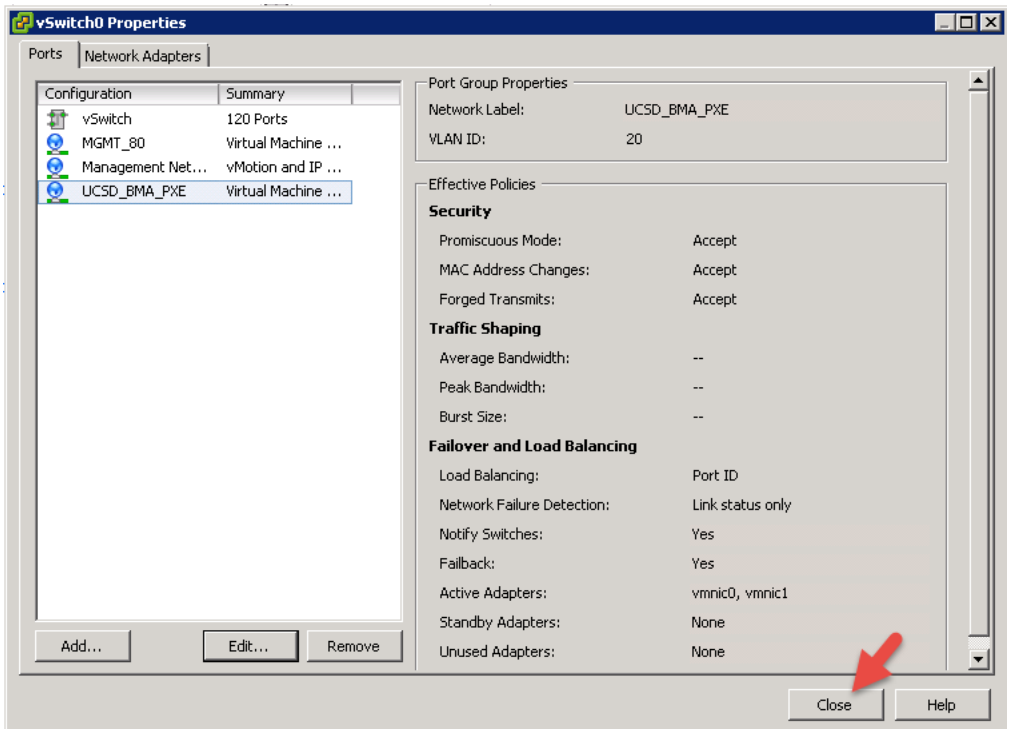
Select Virtual Machine and click Next.



Name the Port Group and leave VLAN default and click Next.



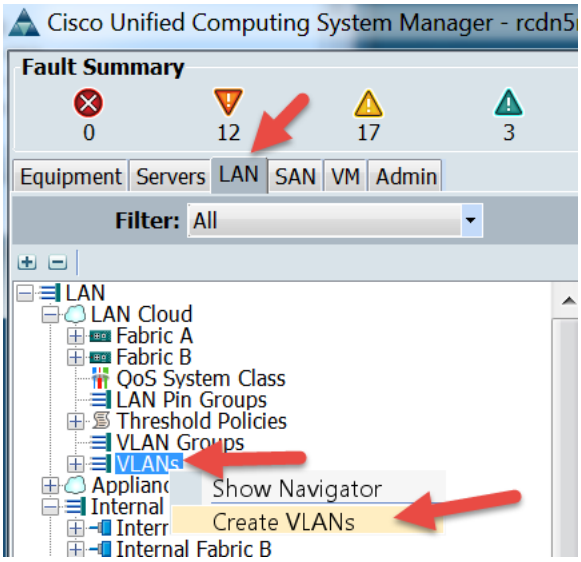
Finally Click Close.



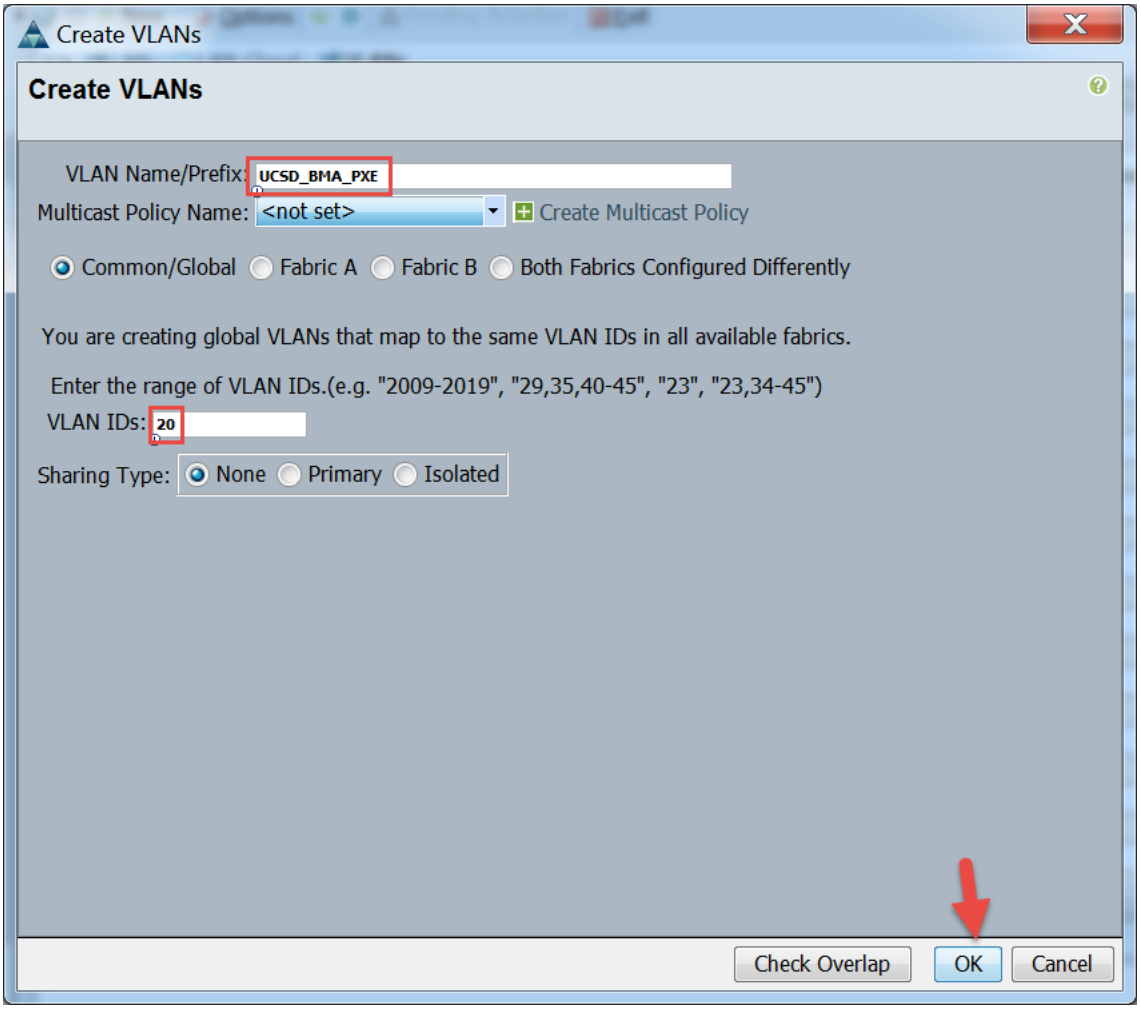
2.2. Create PXE VLAN in UCS Manager

Log into UCS Manager and Create the PXE VLAN.

Navigate as shown below and select Create VLAN.



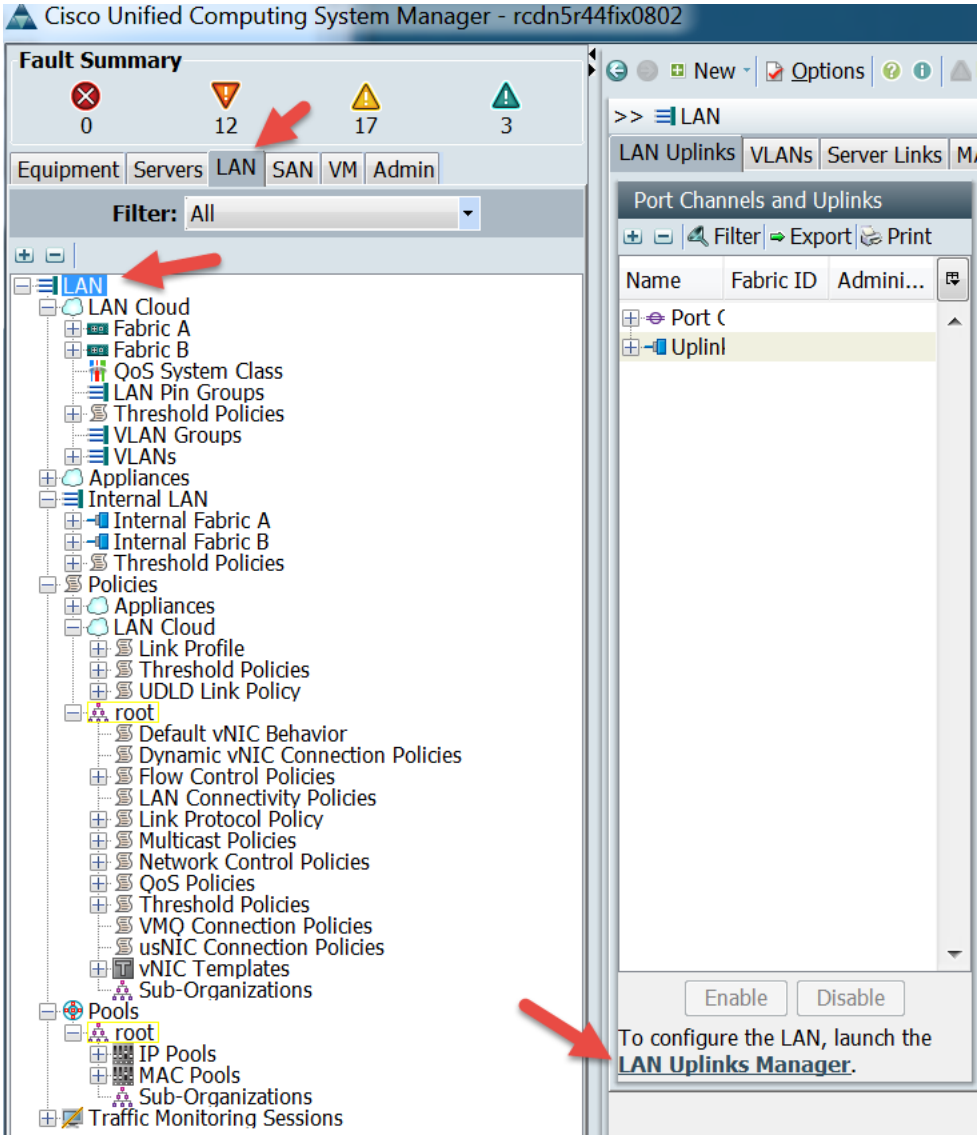
Define the VLAN as follows.



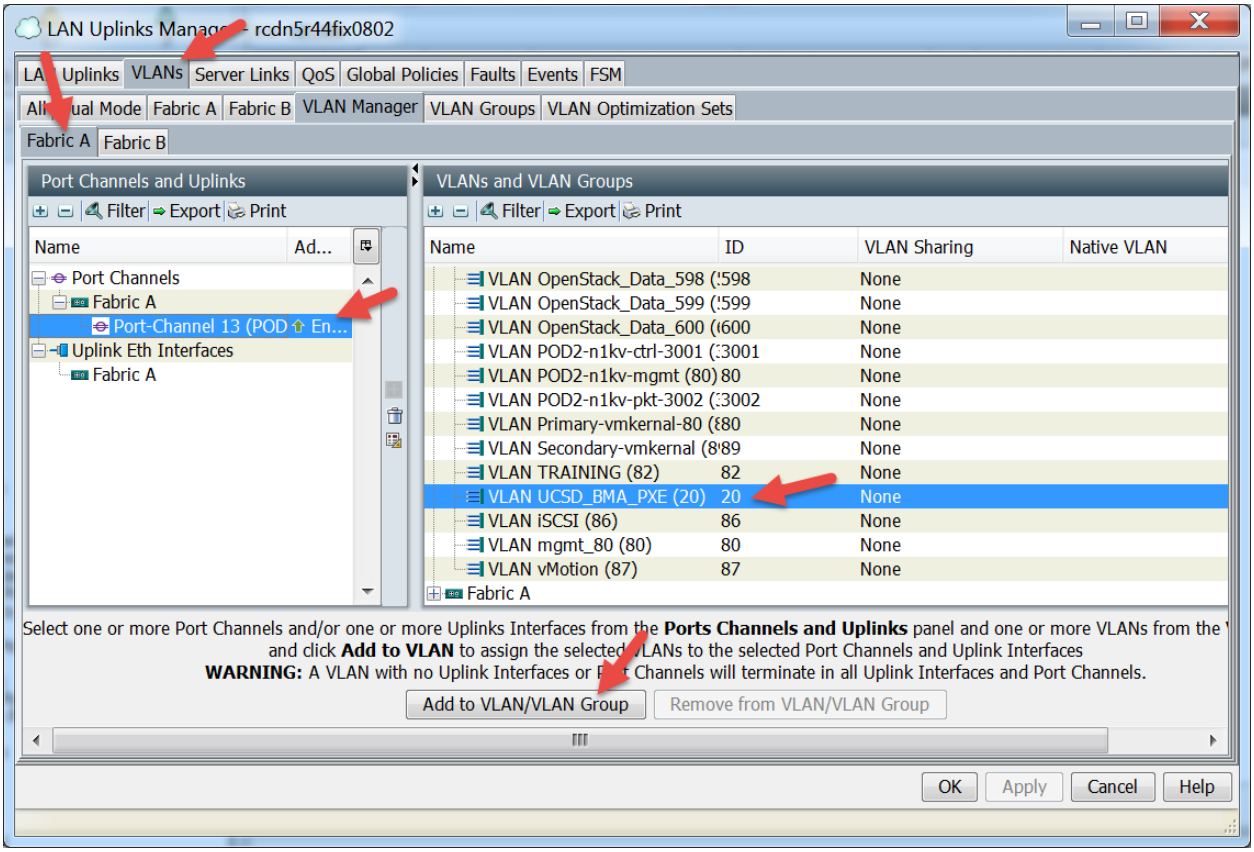
2.3. Disjoint Layer-2 configuration PXE VLAN UCS Manager

If you have Disjoint Layer 2 connectivity, ensure the PXE VLAN is only allowed on the correct uplinks.

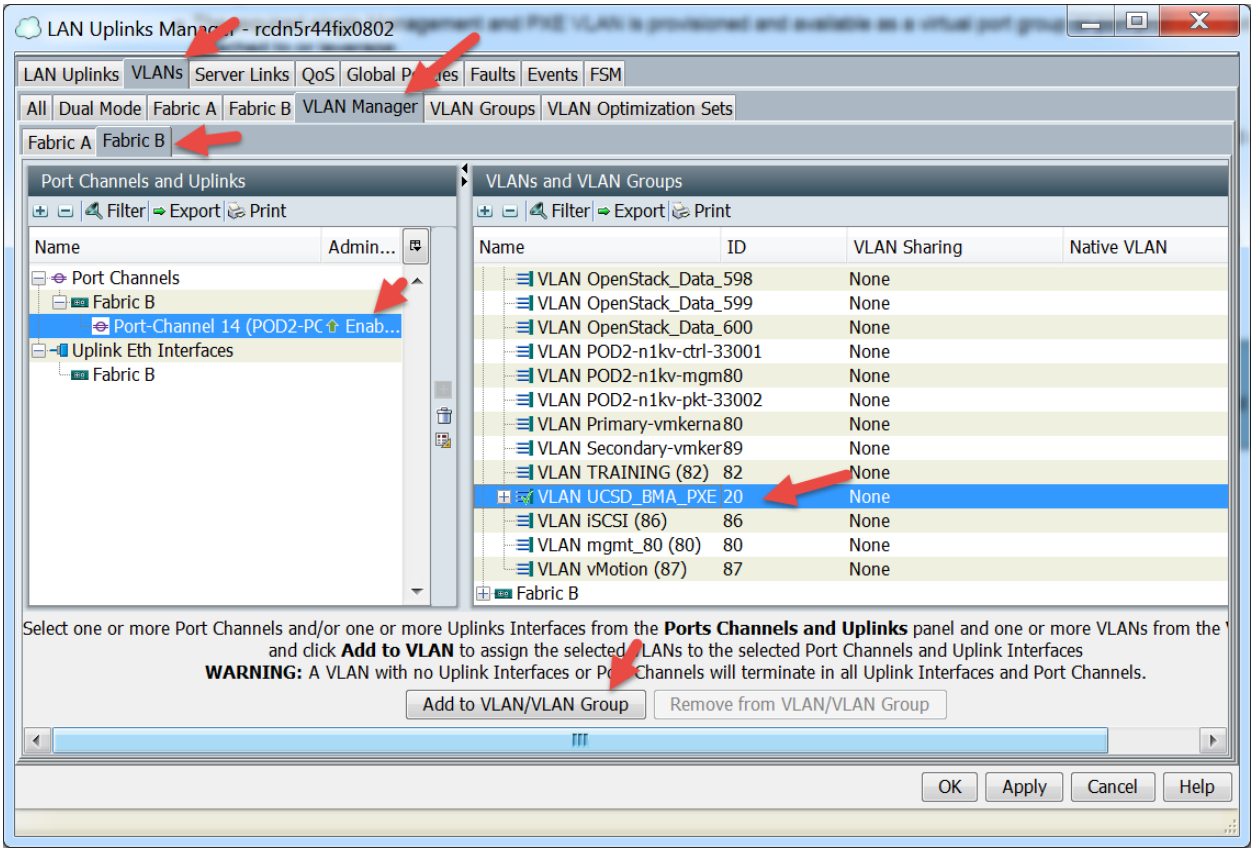
Launch 'LAN Uplinks Manager'



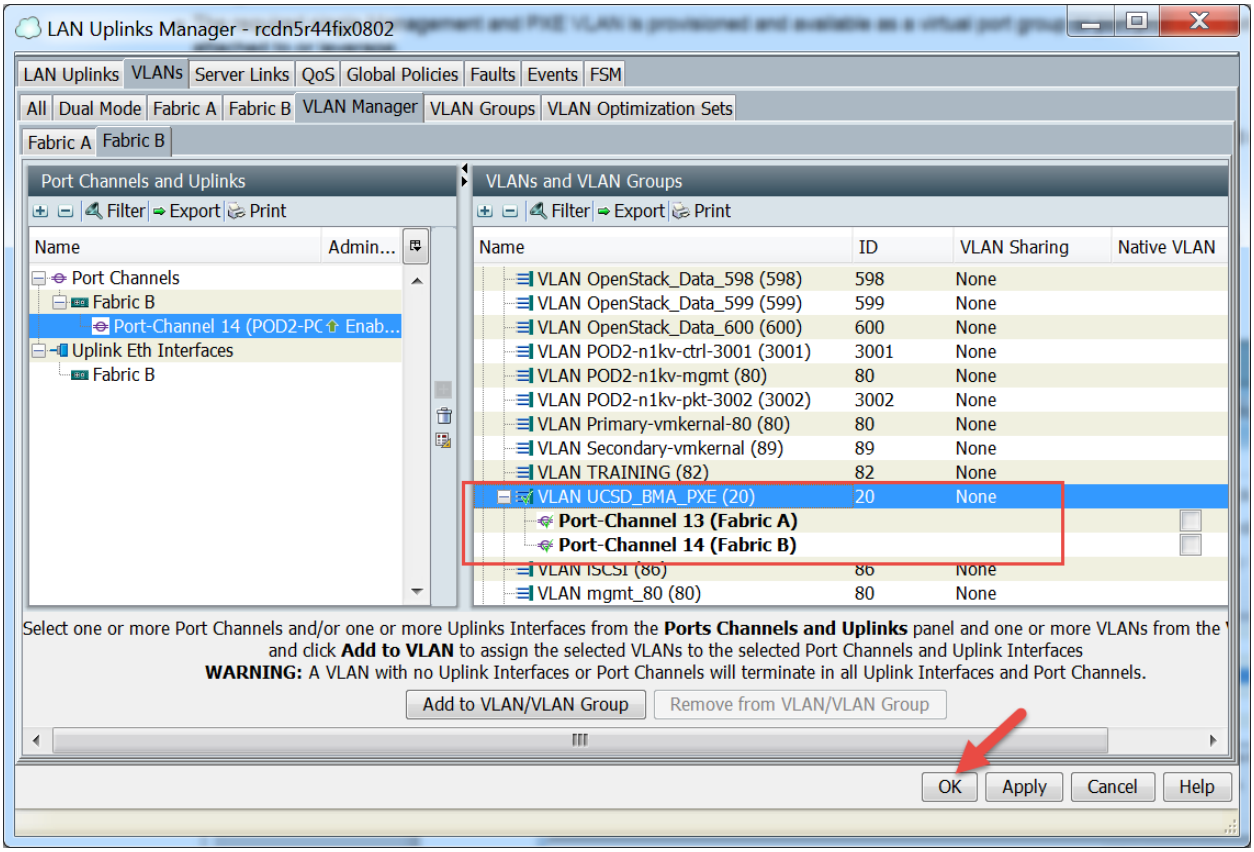
Add PXE VLAN to Fabric A Uplink Port-Channel.



Add PXE VLAN to Fabric B Uplink Port-Channel.

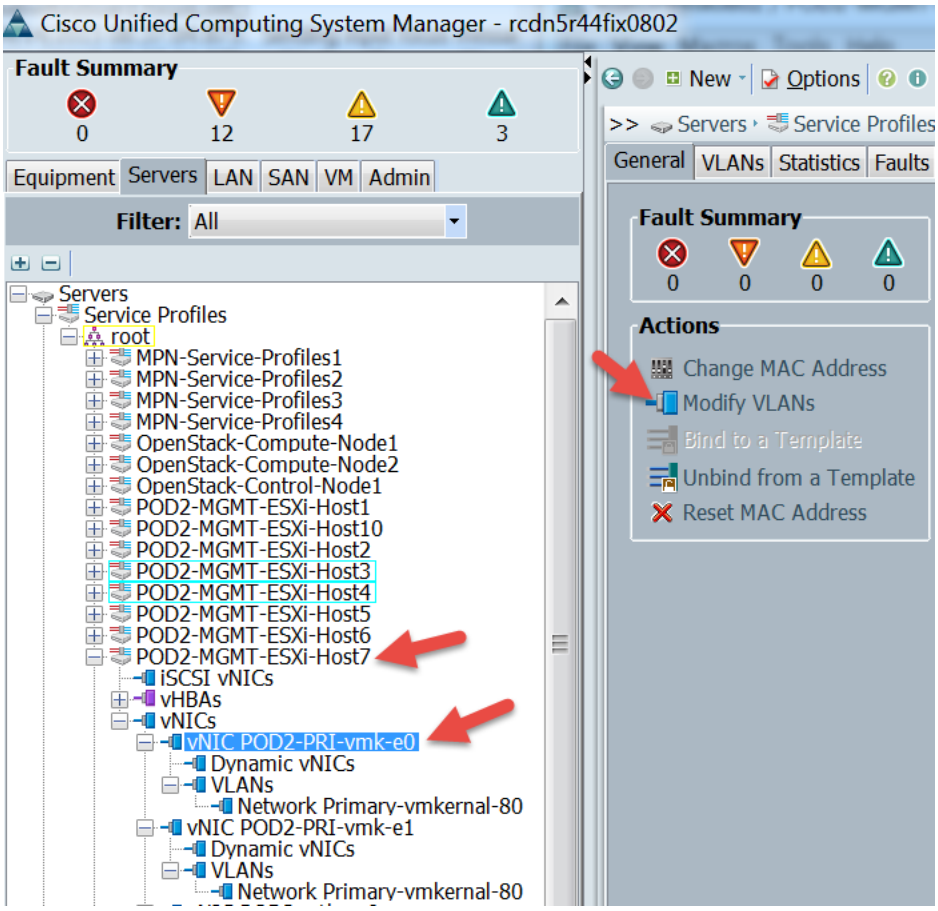


Finally Click OK to apply configuration.

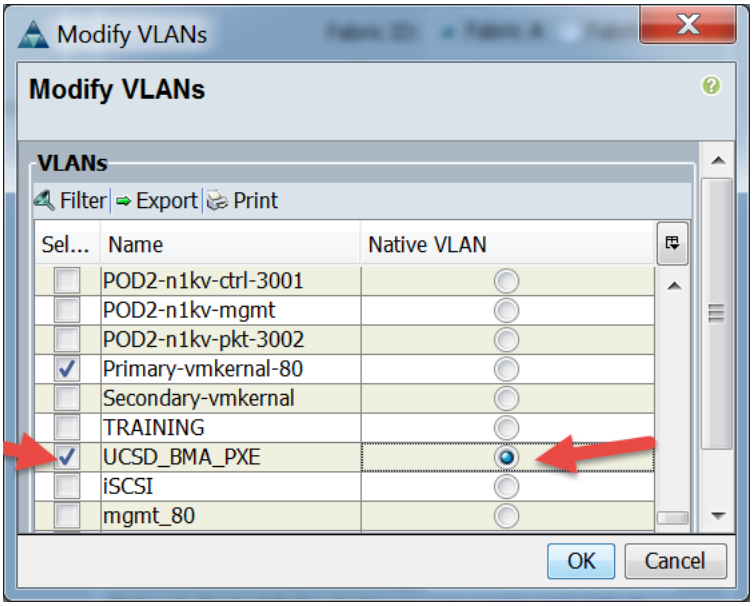


2.4. Add PXE VLAN to Fabric A and Fabric B vNICs

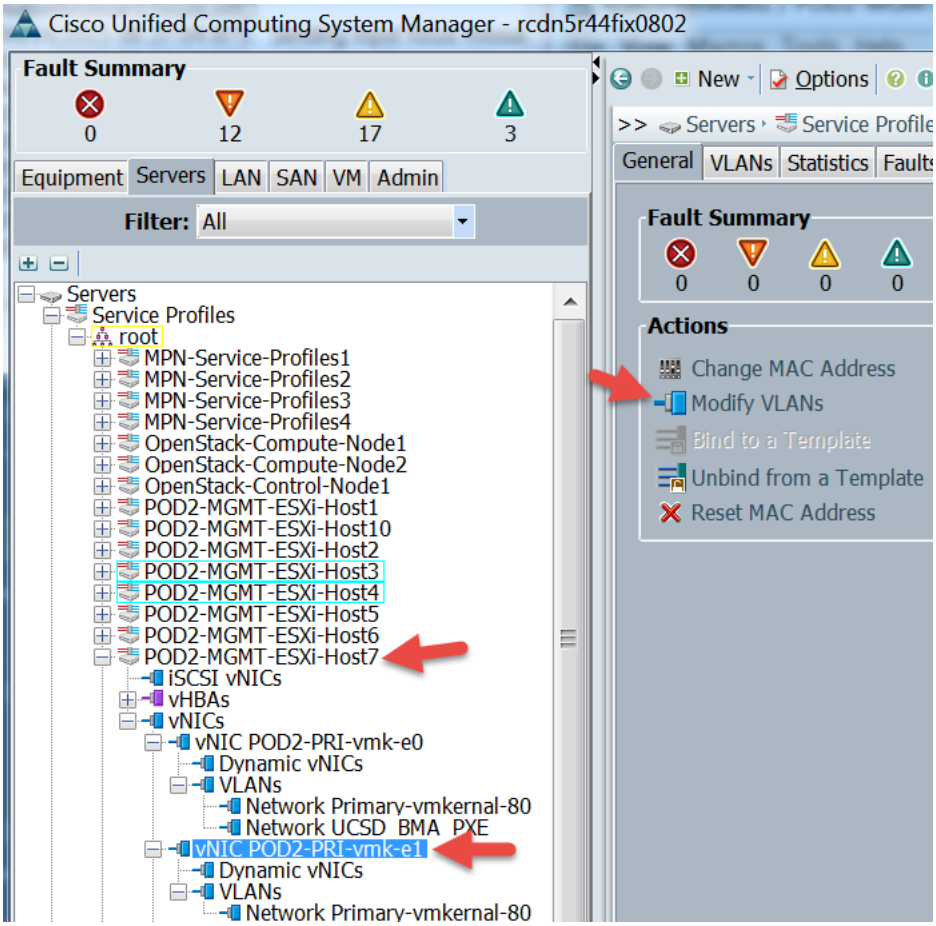
Add the PXE VLAN to the Fabric A VNIC and select Native for this VLAN. This needs to be completed for the Service Profiles that host the BMA Agent. Select Modify VLANs.



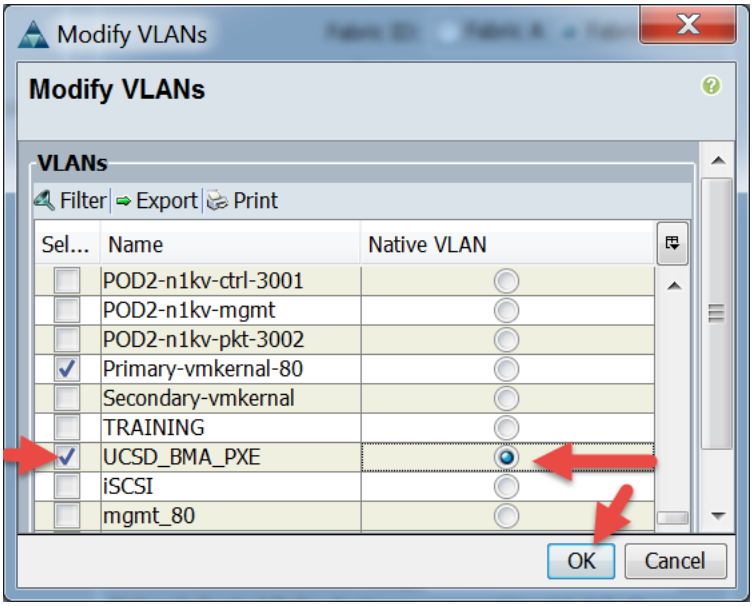
Select the PXE VLAN and Select Native and click OK.



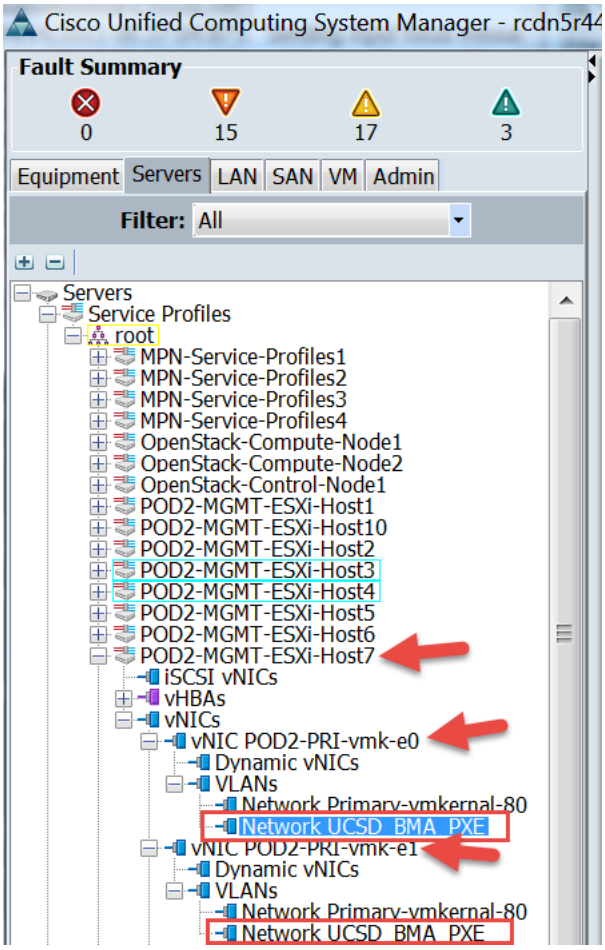
Now complete this for Fabric B.



Select the PXE VLAN and Select Native VLAN then Click OK.



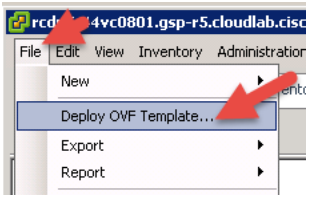
Verify the PXE VLAN is configured on the service profile.



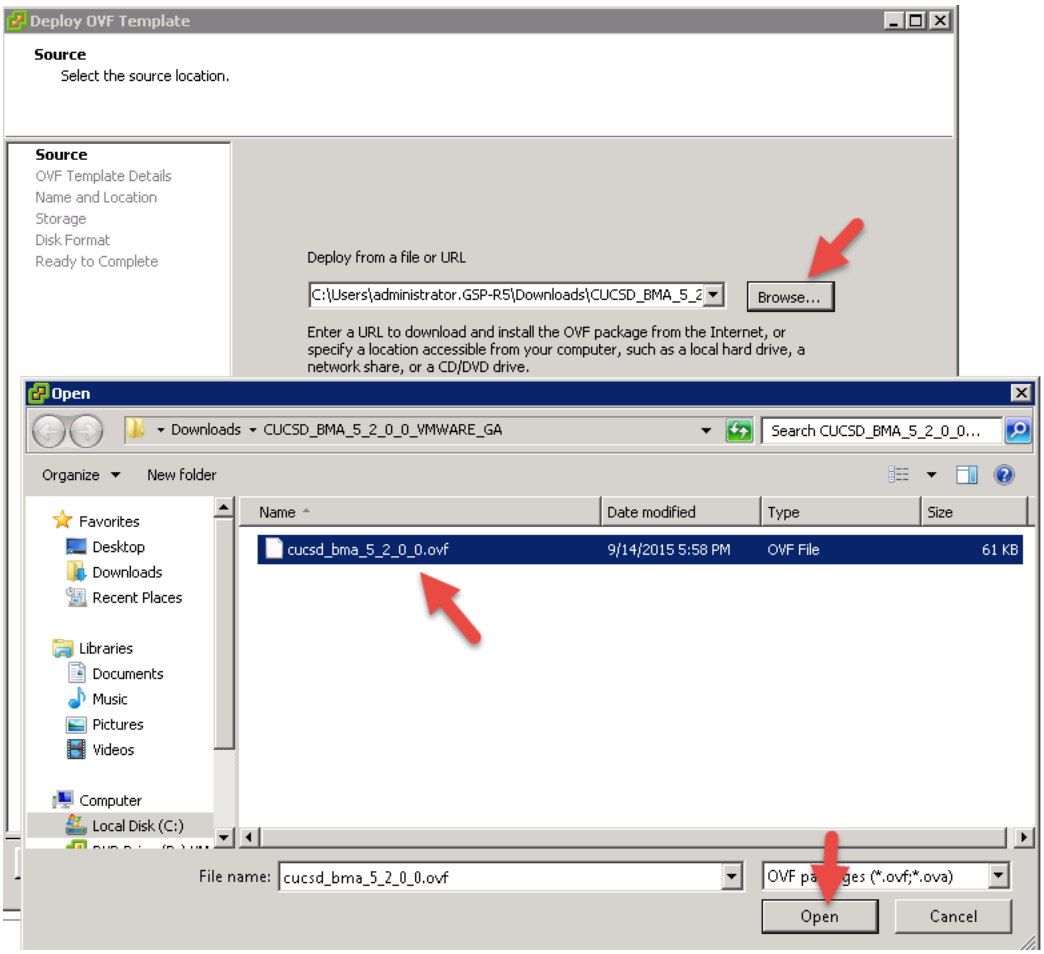
3. Deploy UCS Director BMA 5.2 OVF Template

Unzip the BMA 5.2 file that was downloaded from Cisco.com.

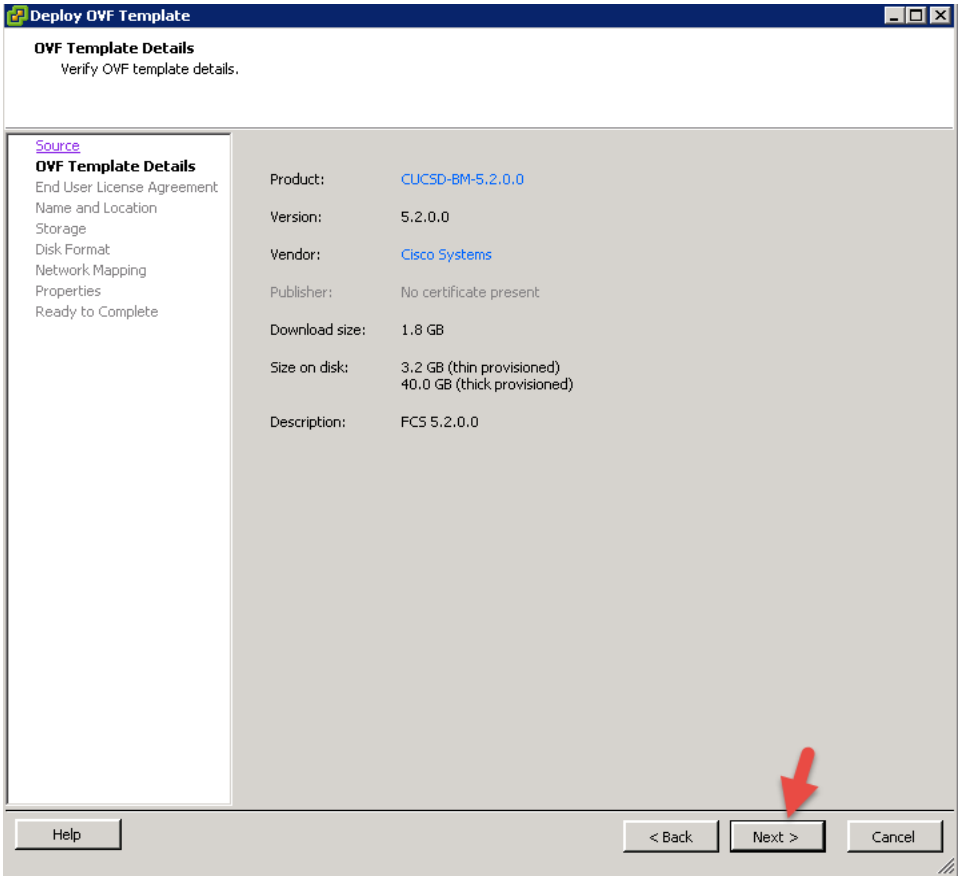
Log into vCenter and Select File -> Deploy OVF Template.



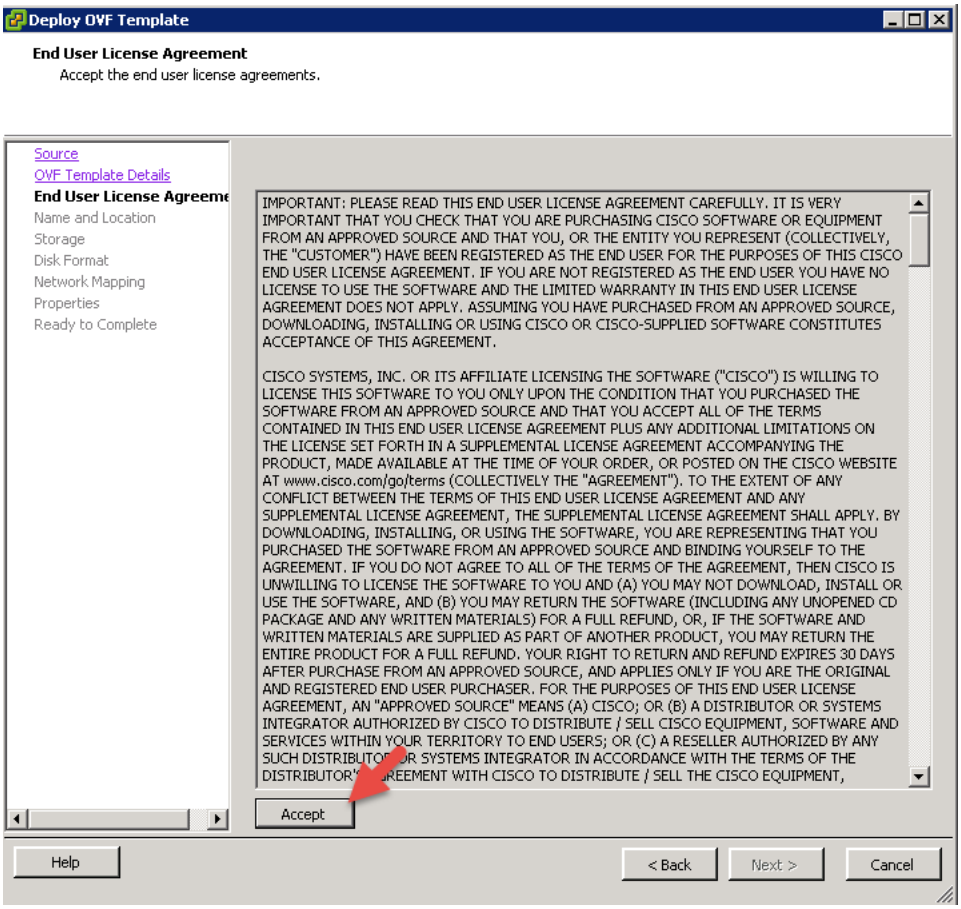
Browse for the BMA 5.2 OVF file, select it and Click Open. Click Next.



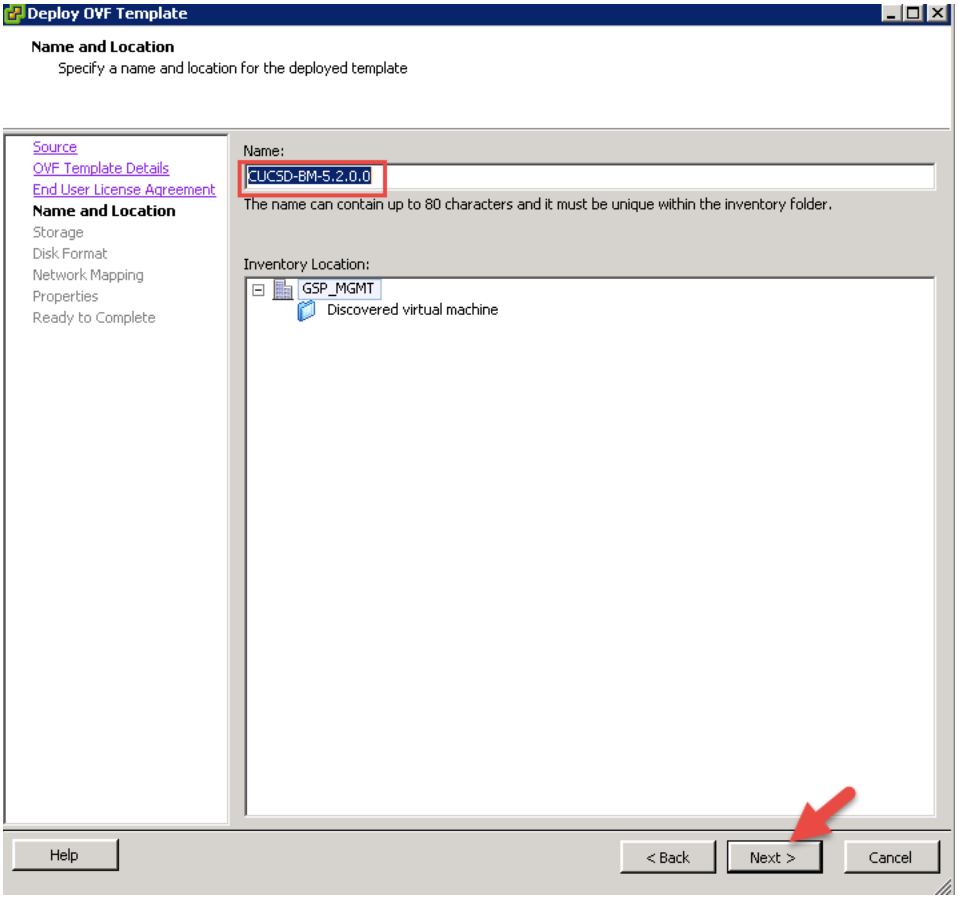
Click Next.



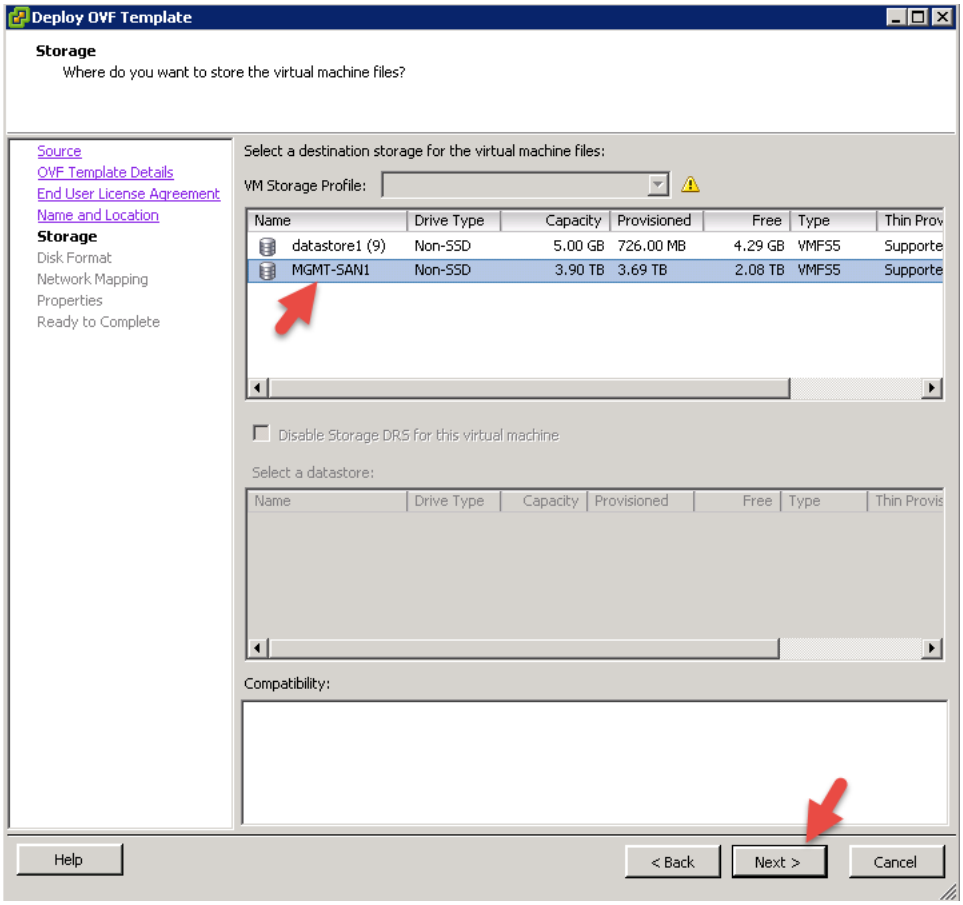
Accept the license agreement and Click Next.



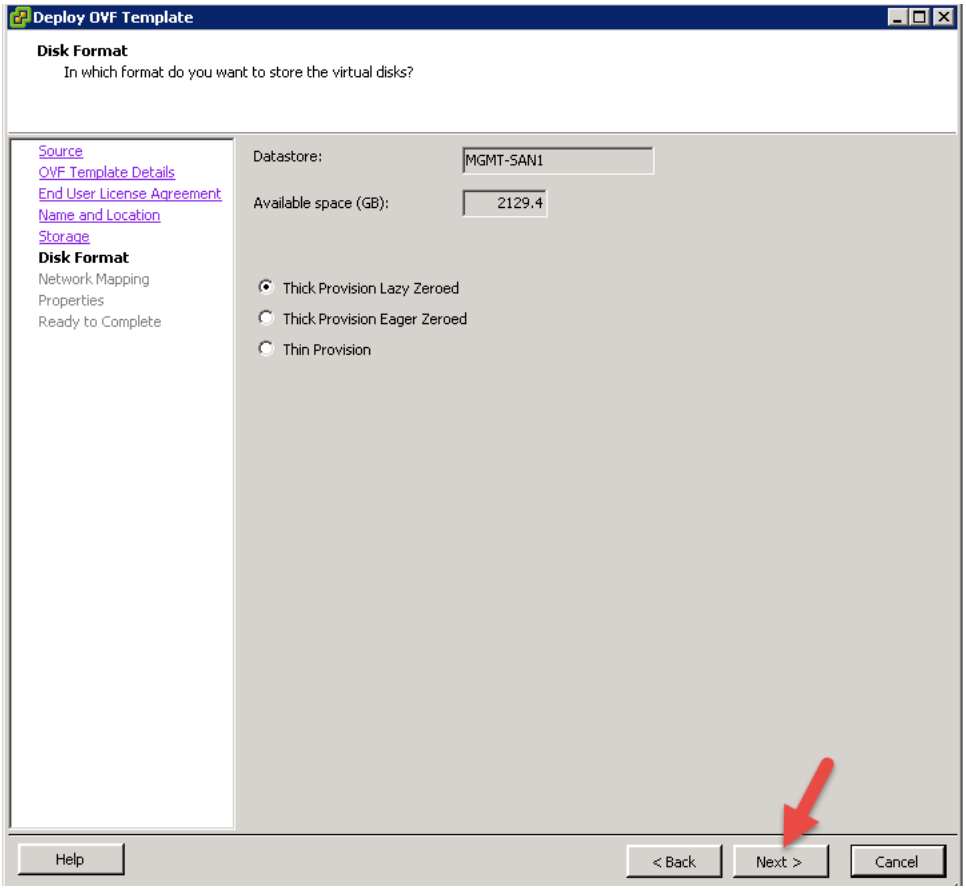
Name the BMA VM and Click Next.



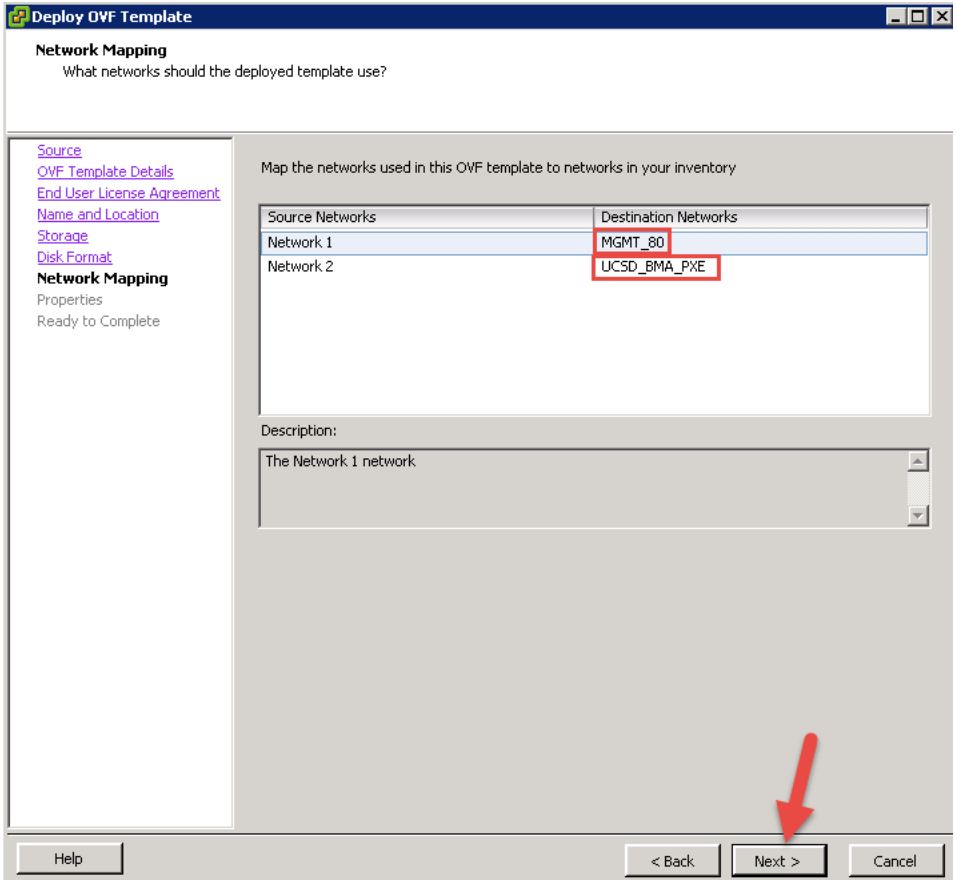
Select the Storage location to install the VM and click Next.



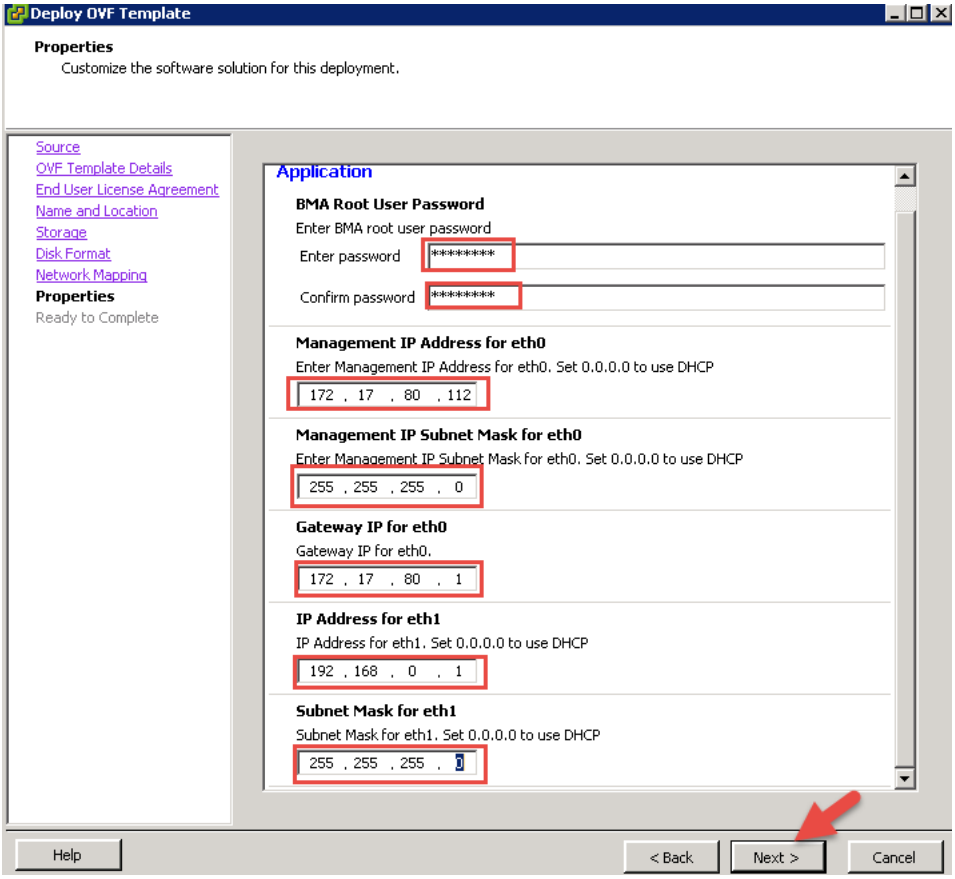
Leave default and Click Next. Recommended to keep 'Thick Provision Lazy Zeroed'.



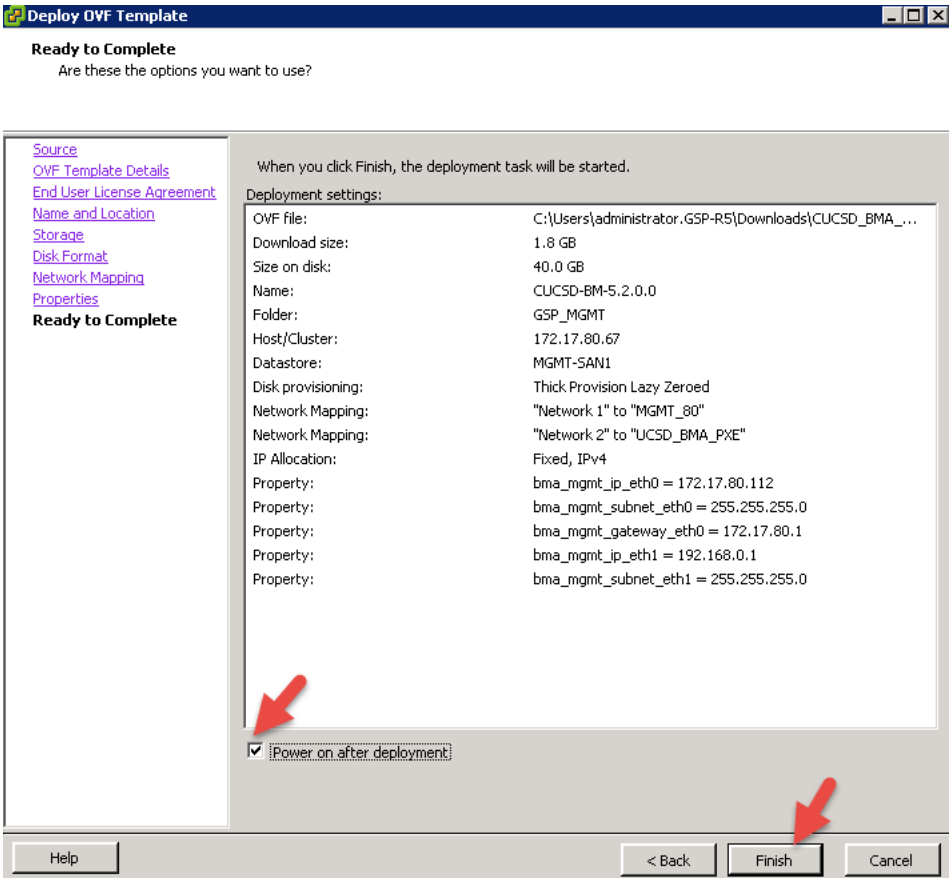
Select your management Network for Network 1 and the PXE Network for Network 2.



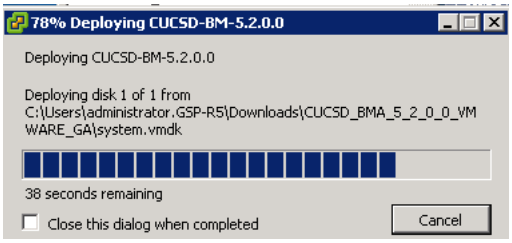
Configure a password and IP Addresses, Masks and Gateway as shown below then Click Next.



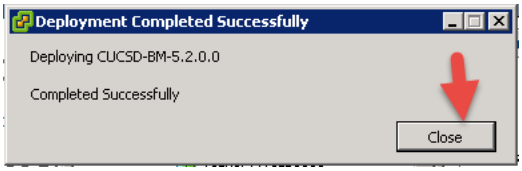
Review the settings and check the 'Power on after deployment' box and click Finish.



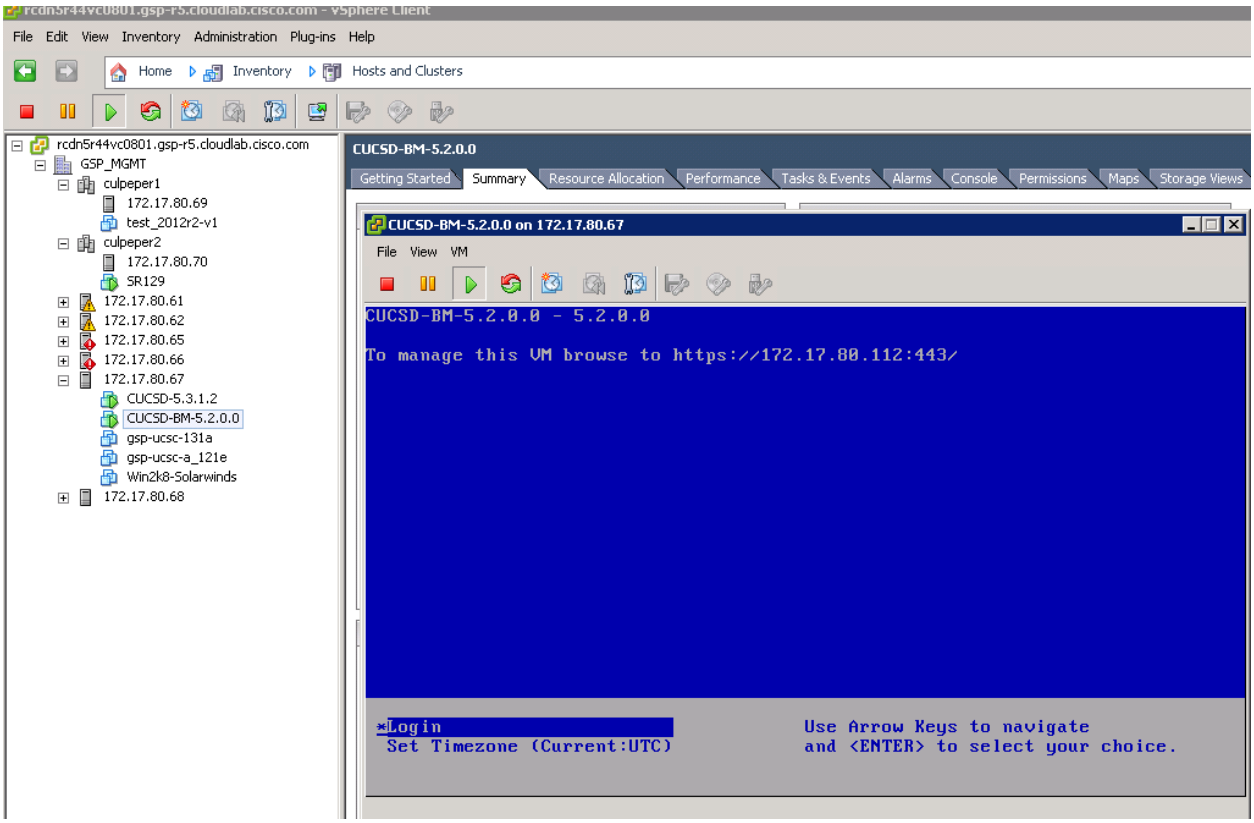
Monitor the BMA VM Deployment.



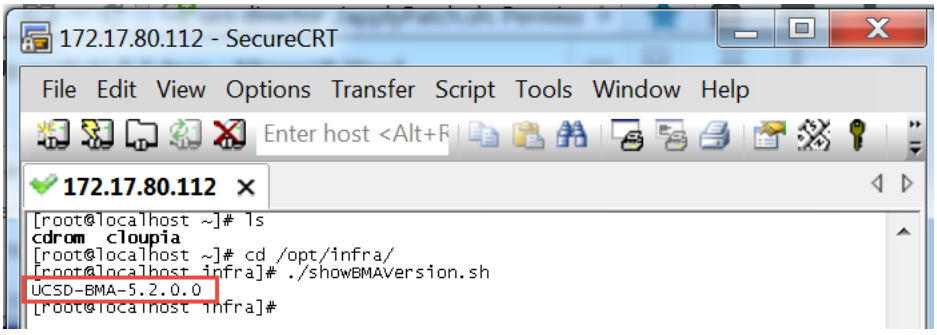
Upon completion, click Close.



Open the Console of the BMA VM and wait until you get the following screen to determine the VM is complete and has booted all the way up.



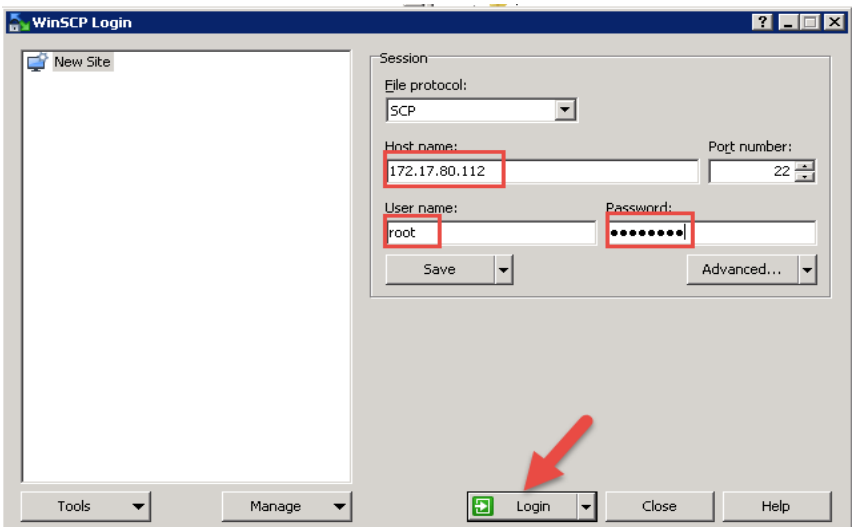
Verify connectivity by using SSH to access the BMA VM. Run the following commands to see the current version.



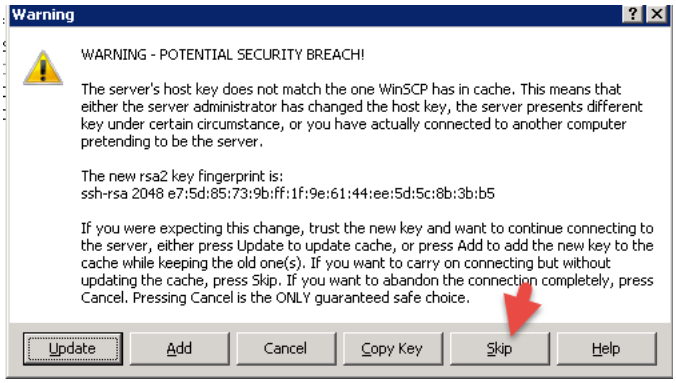
4. Upgrade UCS Director BMA from 5.2 to 5.3

I recommend unzipping the 5.3 patch file on your local machine before uploading it to the BMA Server. You can use WinSCP or FileZilla to transfer the files to the BMA Server.

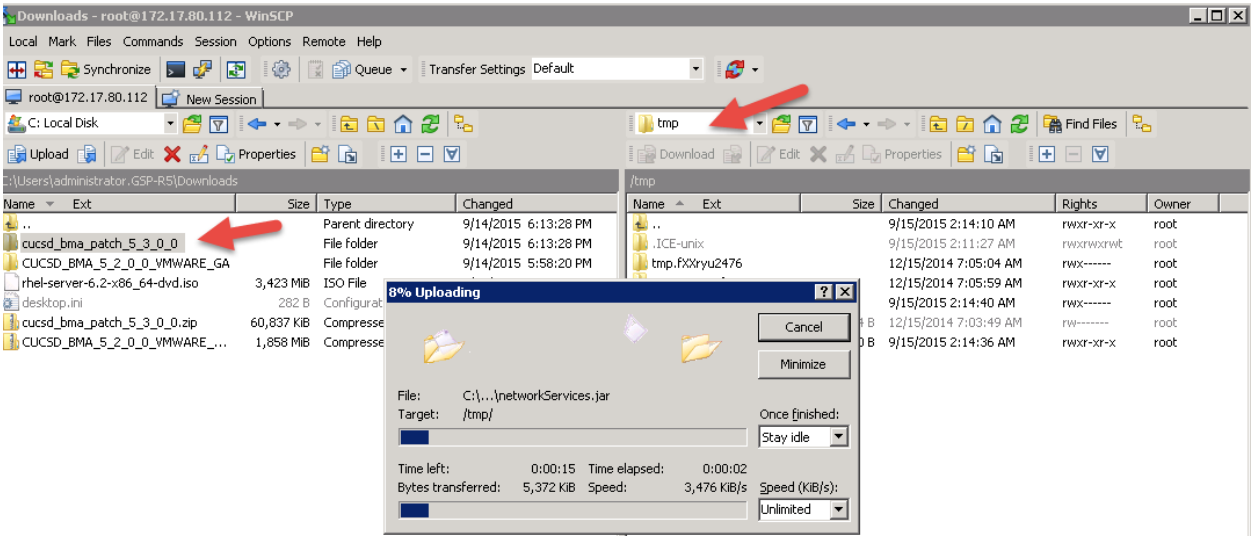
Using WinSCP, Enter the IP of the BMA Server and the username and password and click Login.



If prompted by this security alert, I selected skip.



Browse to the location where the patch is located on the left and navigate to the tmp folder on the right then drag the patch folder to the right to transfer the files to the BMA Server.



Once the files have been uploaded, log into the BMA appliance via SSH and change directory to tmp folder (or the folder you uploaded to). Run the command to apply the patch. Note: You will probably get permissions denied when trying to patch and you will have to chmod it to give yourself permissions to run the patch upgrade.

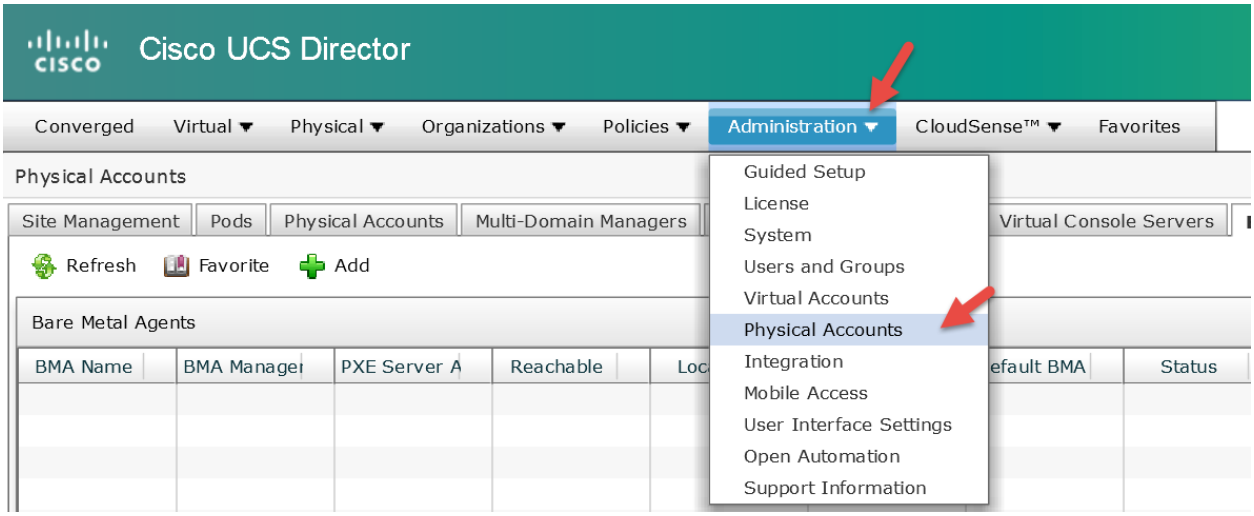
```
[root@localhost /]# cd tmp/
 [root@localhost tmp]# ls
cucsd_bma_patch_5_3_0_0  tmp.fXXryu2476  vmware-root
sfcbLocalSocket          vmware-config0
[root@localhost tmp]#
[root@localhost tmp]# cd cucsd_bma_patch_5_3_0_0/
 [root@localhost cucsd_bma_patch_5_3_0_0]# ls
ucsd_bma_patch_5_3_0_0
[root@localhost cucsd_bma_patch_5_3_0_0]# cd ucsd_bma_patch_5_3_0_0/
[root@localhost tmp]#
[root@localhost ucsd_bma_patch_5_3_0_0]# ls
ESXi5.5-VSAN  applyPatch.sh  isoExtractor.sh  networkServices.jar  storcliExtractor.sh  ucsd-bma-prod-info.json
[root@localhost ucsd_bma_patch_5_3_0_0]#
 [root@localhost ucsd_bma_patch_5_3_0_0]# ./applyPatch.sh
-bash: ./applyPatch.sh: Permission denied
[root@localhost ucsd_bma_patch_5_3_0_0]#
 [root@localhost ucsd_bma_patch_5_3_0_0]# ls -al
total 60920
drwxr-xr-x 3 root root     4096 Sep 15 02:27 .
drwxr-xr-x 3 root root     4096 Sep 15 02:27 ..
drwxr-xr-x 2 root root     4096 Sep 15 02:27 ESXi5.5-VSAN
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root     1414 Sep 14 23:13 applyPatch.sh
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root     6844 Sep 14 23:13 isoExtractor.sh
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 62281019 Sep 14 23:13 networkServices.jar
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root     1096 Sep 14 23:13 storcliExtractor.sh
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root      348 Sep 14 23:13 ucsd-bma-prod-info.json
[root@localhost ucsd_bma_patch_5_3_0_0]#
 [root@localhost ucsd_bma_patch_5_3_0_0]# chmod 777 applyPatch.sh
[root@localhost ucsd_bma_patch_5_3_0_0]#
 [root@localhost ucsd_bma_patch_5_3_0_0]# ./applyPatch.sh
Current BMA version is UCSD-BMA-5.2.0.0
Taking file backup before upgrade
Taking Backup of Templates
Taking Backup of isoExtractor script
Copying NetworkServices jar.....
Copying ESXi5.5-VSAN templates....
Copying latest isoExtractor script....
Copying storcliExtractor.sh script....
Copying Latest Version details.....
Applied the patch successfully
[root@localhost ucsd_bma_patch_5_3_0_0]#
```

Navigate to /opt/infra and run the showBMAVersion scipt to verify you are not on the new version.

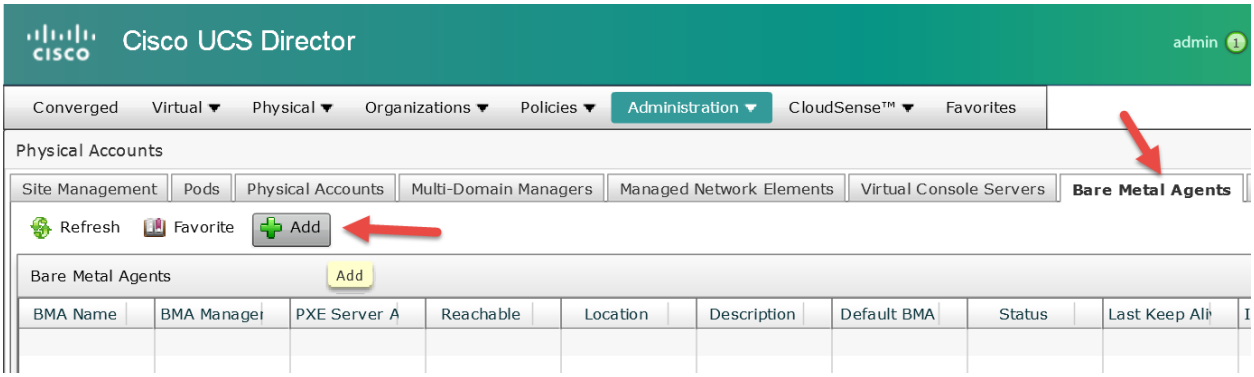
[root@localhost ucsd_bma_patch_5_3_0_0]# **cd /opt/infra/**
[root@localhost infra]# ls
addBMAAccount.sh configureInterface.sh networkServices startInfraAll.sh
broker controller run.sh.template statusInfra.sh
configure.sh infraenv.sh service.properties.template stopInfraAll.sh
configureBmaID.sh isoExtractor.sh showBMAVersion.sh ucsd-bma-prod-info.json
[root@localhost infra]# **./showBMAVersion.sh**
UCSD-BMA-5.3.0.0
[root@localhost infra]#

5. Integrate UCS Director with Baremetal Agent Server

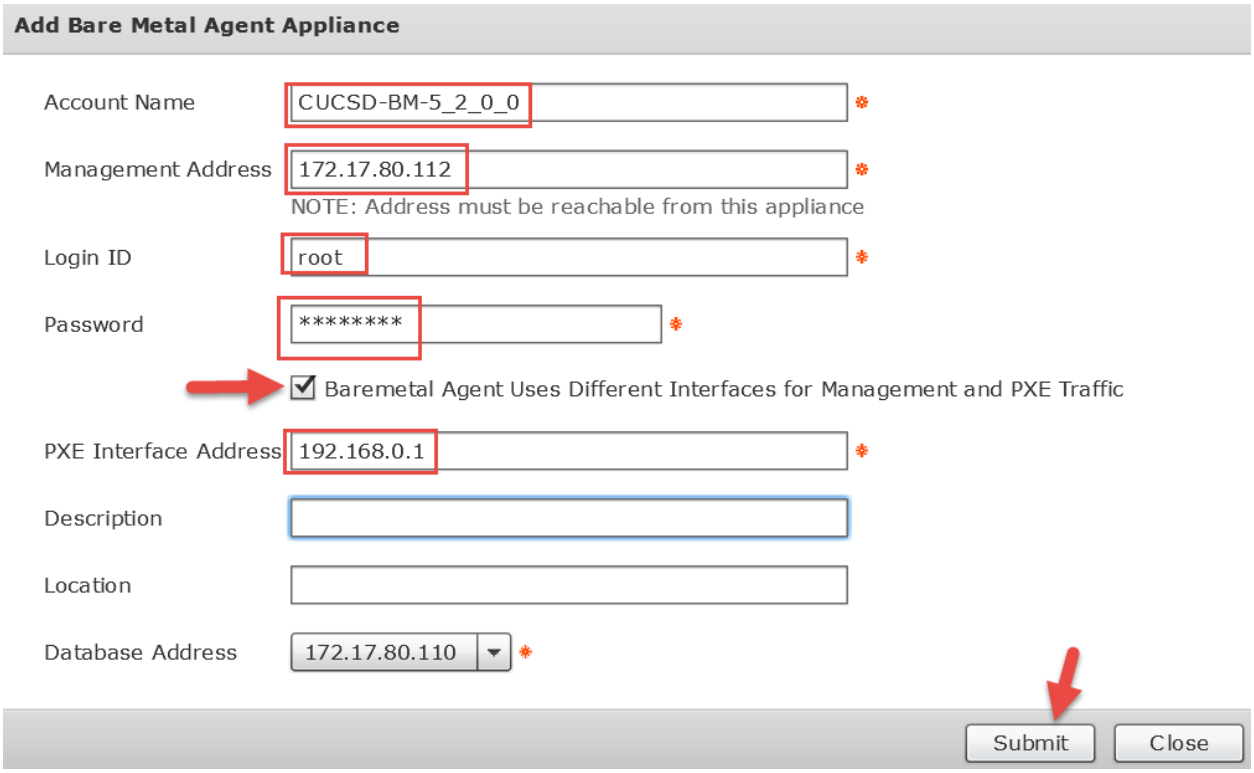
Log into UCS Director and navigate to Physical Accounts.



Select Baremetal Agents and Click Add.



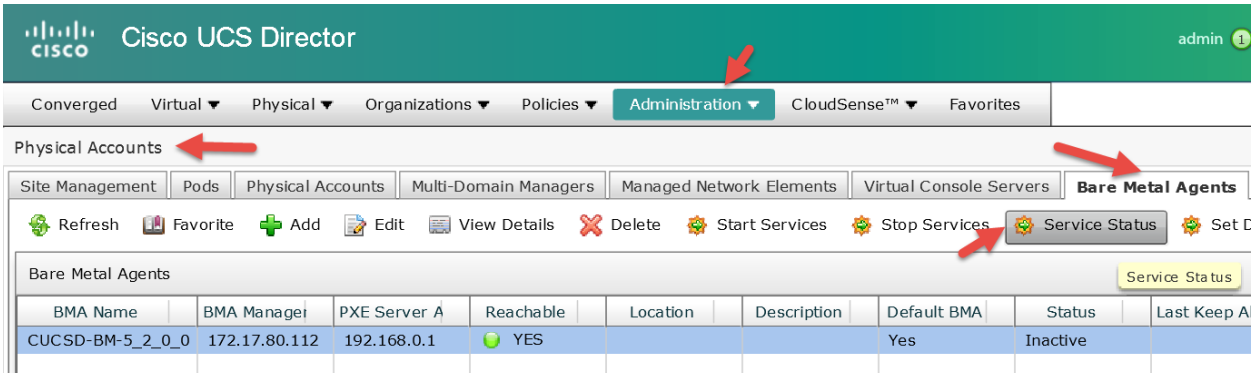
Enter the name of your Baremetal appliance as the account name, select the checkbox for 'Baremetal Agent uses Different interfaces for management and PXE Traffic' and this will provide separate address boxes for the two IPs. Enter all other pertinent info as shown below and click Submit.



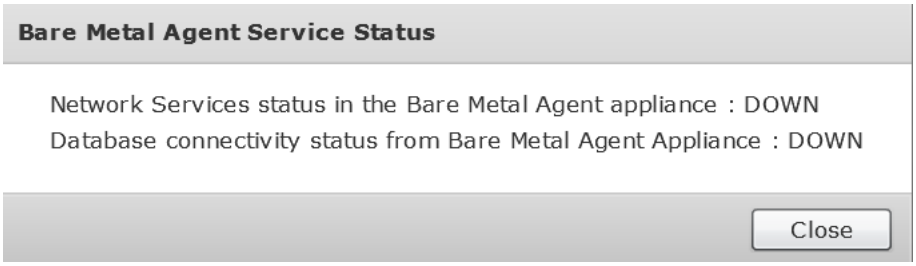
You'll get a pop-up to say Request saved successfully. Click ok. Next you'll see that the Baremetal agent has been registered and ensure it is reachable from UCS Director.

6. Configure DHCP on the BMA

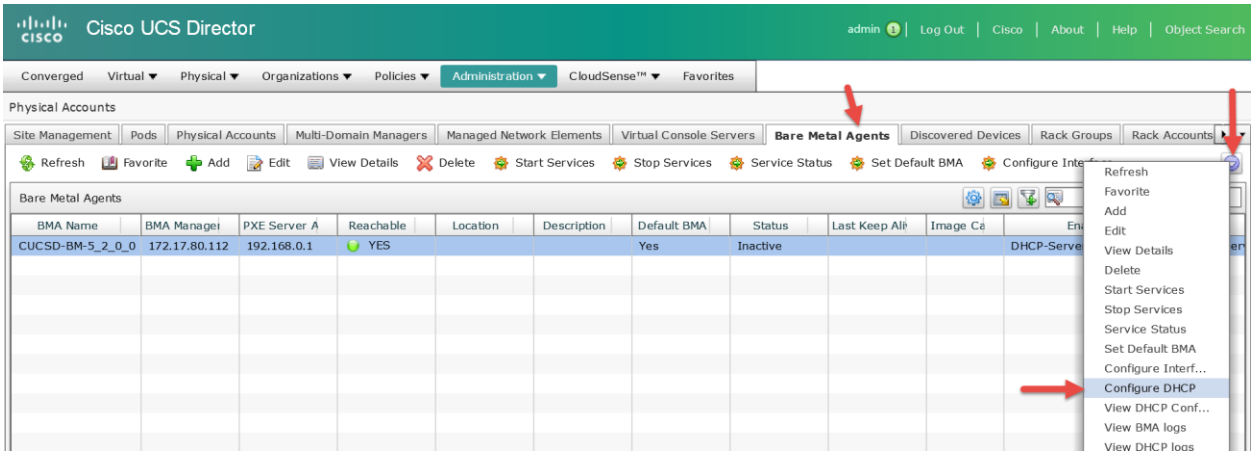
From the Baremetal Agents tab in UCS Director, verify the Services are stopped by checking the Service Status.



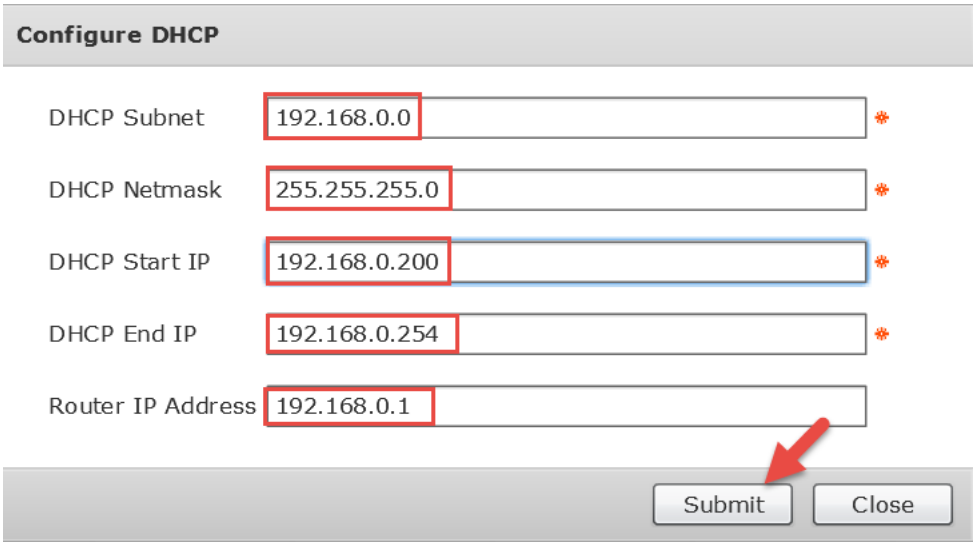
Services should show Down as follows.



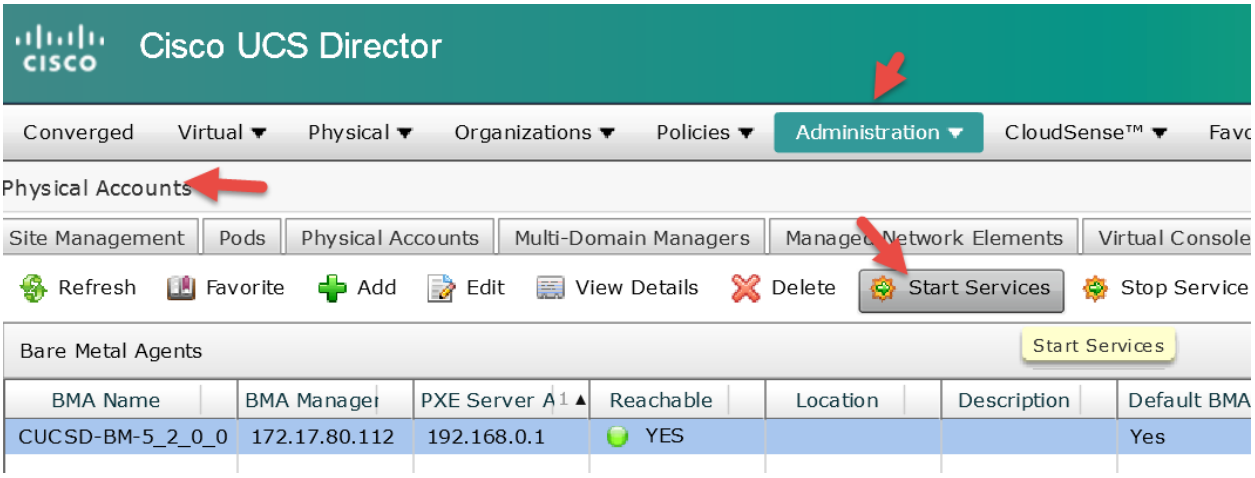
Select Configure DHCP. You may have to click the little down arrow to the right to see the Configure DHCP option.



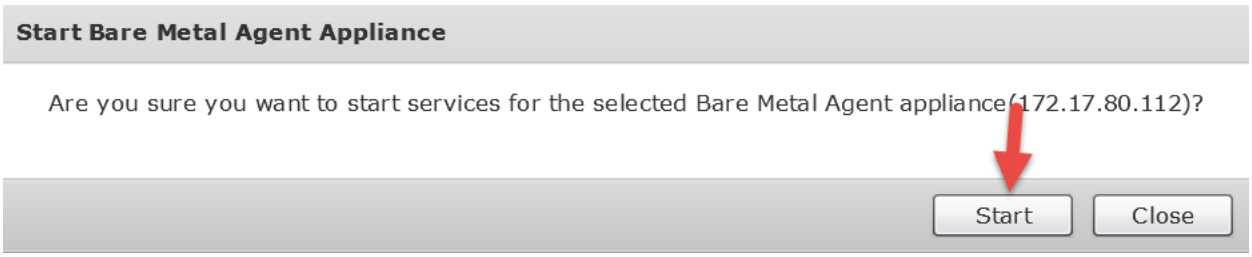
Configure the DHCP IP Addresses and click Submit.



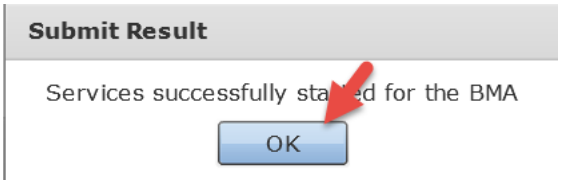
Click Start Services.



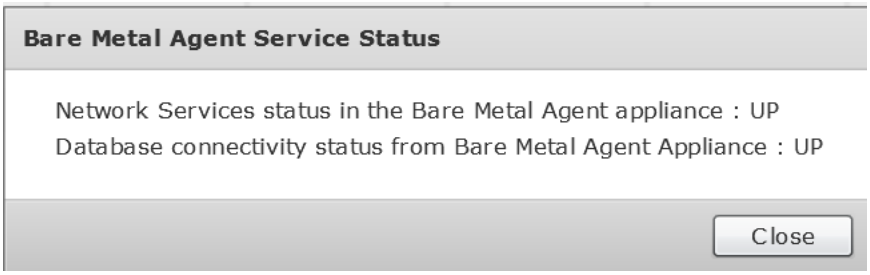
Click Start.



Click OK.



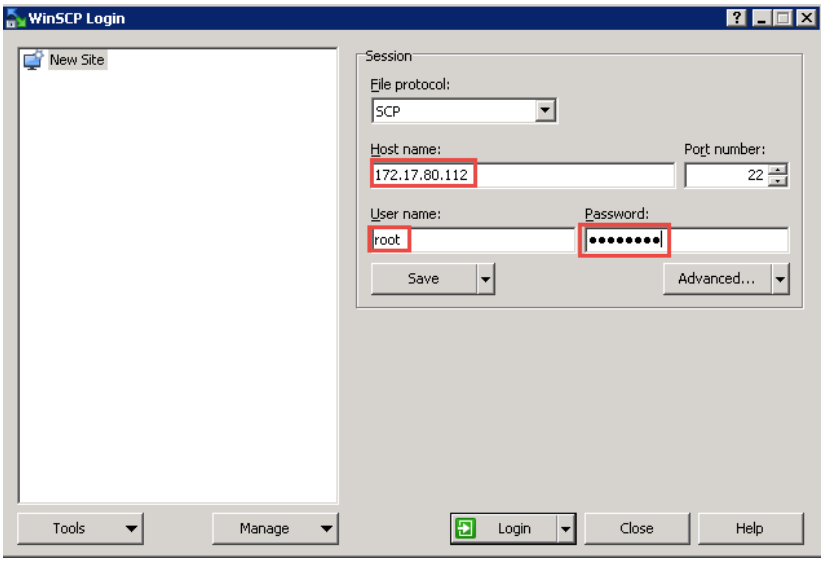
Check the Service Status again.



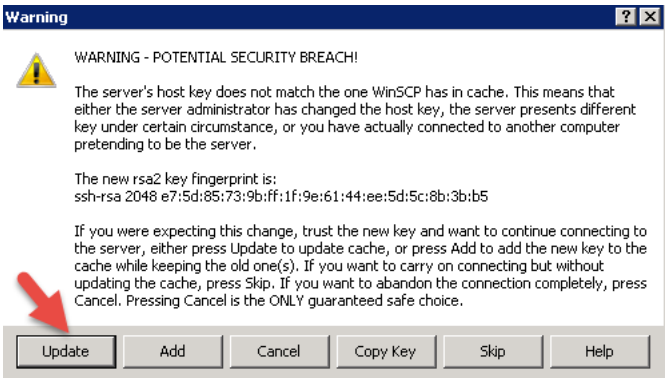
7. Upload Images

Here we will upload ISO images to the BMA appliance to be used for PXEboot deployments. You will need copies of the ISOs you plan on putting on the BMA appliance. You can upload the ISO images using WinSCP.

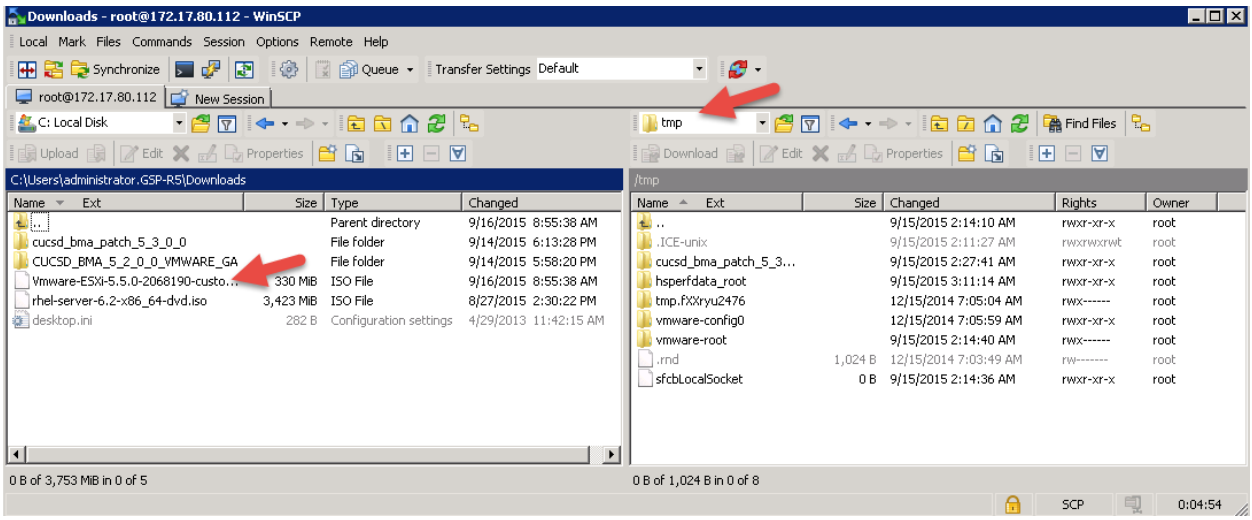
Connect to BMA Server using WinSCP.



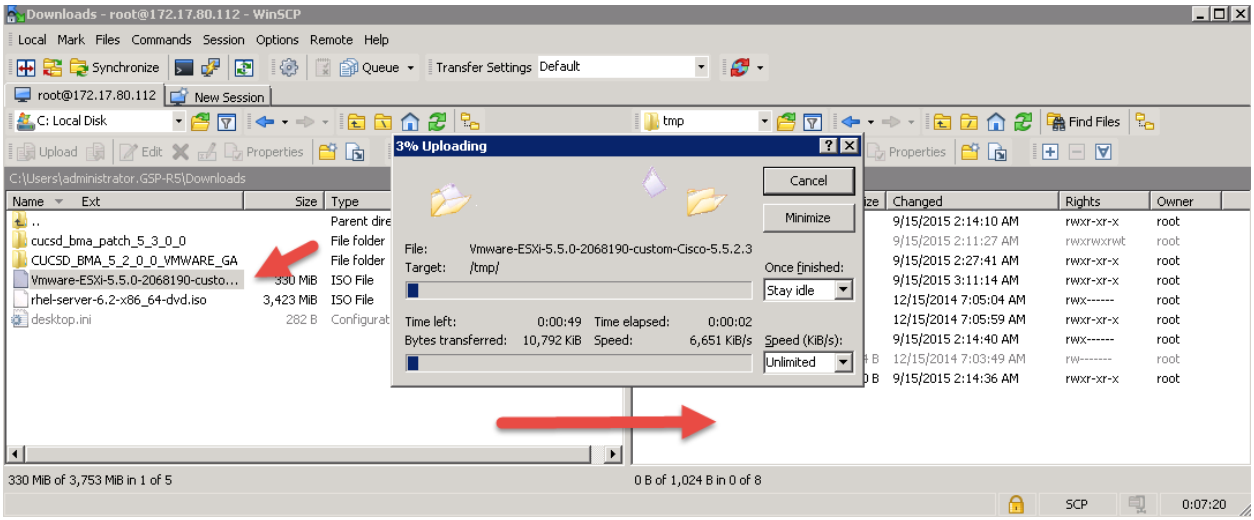
Select Update or Skip for this security worning.



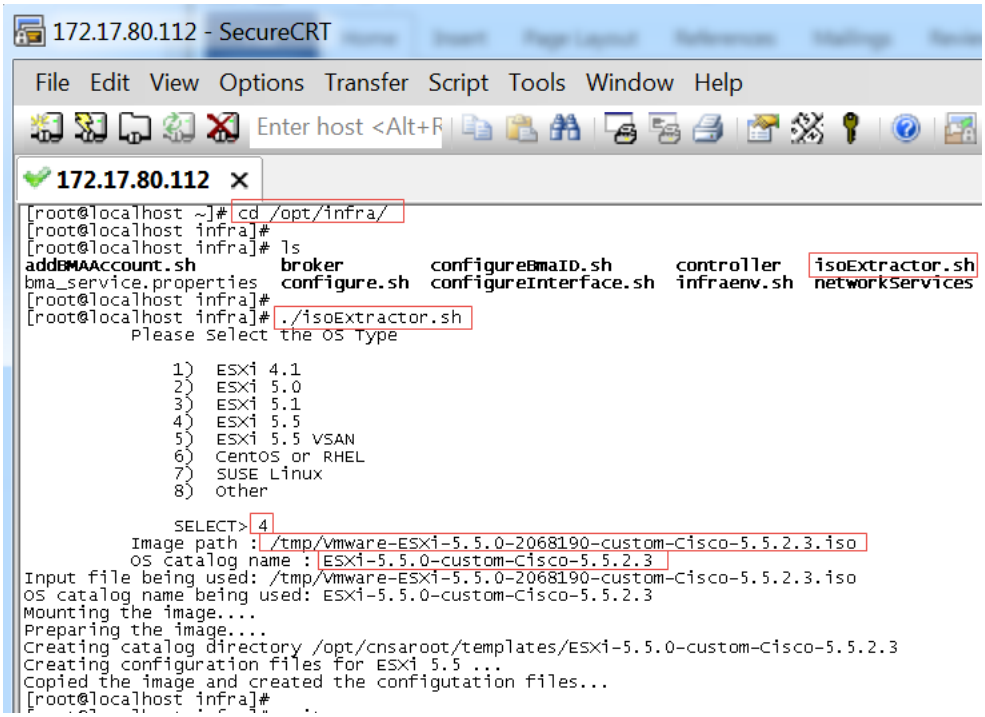
On the left browse to your ISO and on the right, browse to the tmp folder as this is where we will place the ISO file. In this example, we are using the Custom Cisco ESXi 5.5 Update 2 image.



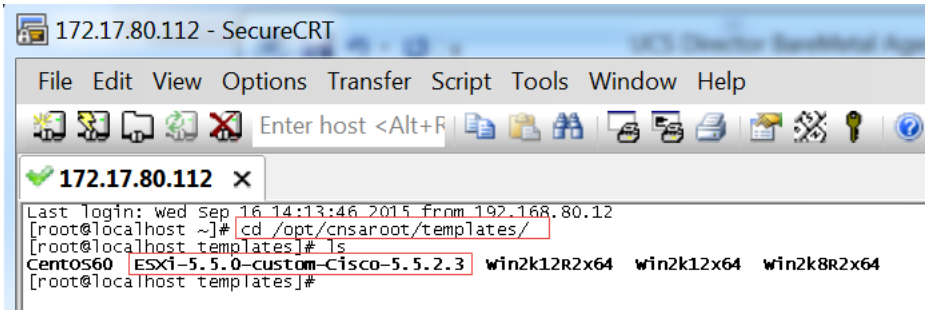
Select the ISO on the left and drag it to the tmp directory on the right.



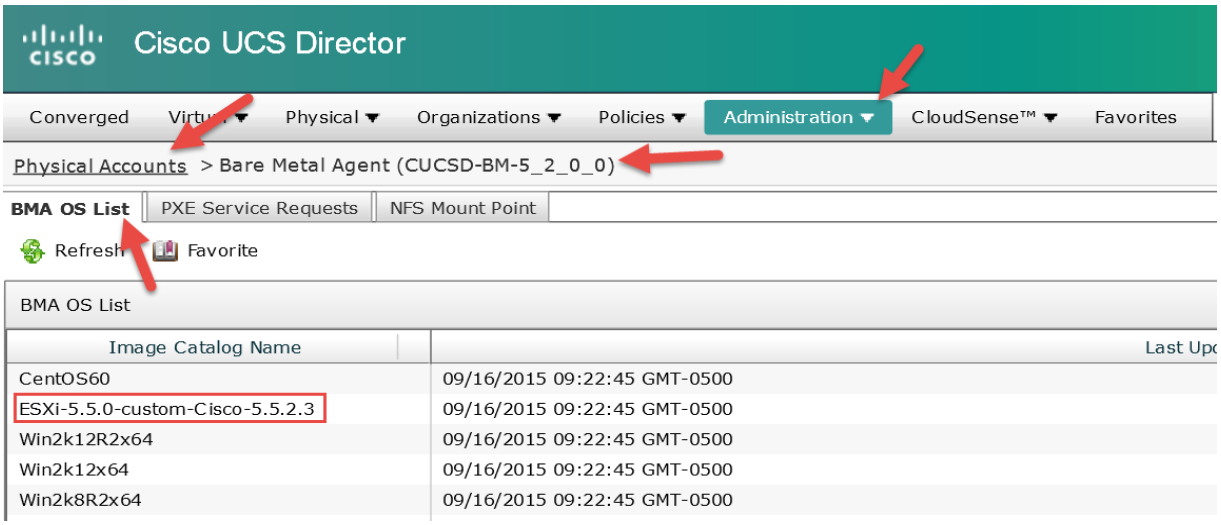
Once the images have been uploaded, SSH to the BMA appliance and cd to /opt/infra directory and run the isoExtractor.sh script. This will extract the ISO to the local machine. If you have multiple ISOs uploaded, you can extract them all before continuing. You will need to enter the image location and catalog name for the extracted files.



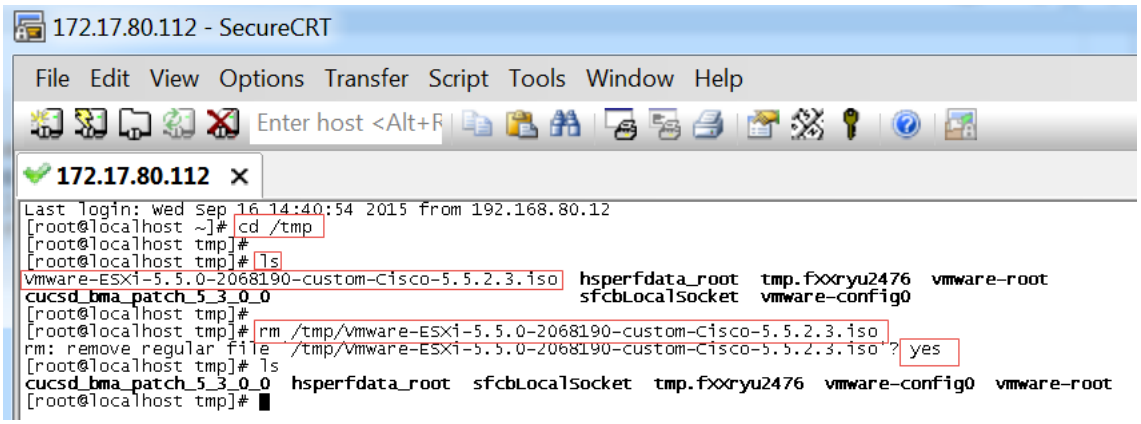
Verify the image is available in the catalog location.



Verify the image shows up in UCS Director. Administrator -> Physical Accounts -> Bare Metal Agents -> CUSCD-BM-5_2_0_0.



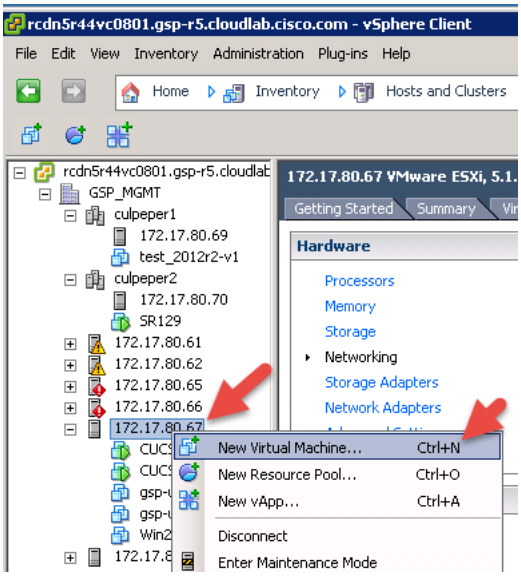
Clean up the BMA by removing the ISO that we put in tmp directory.



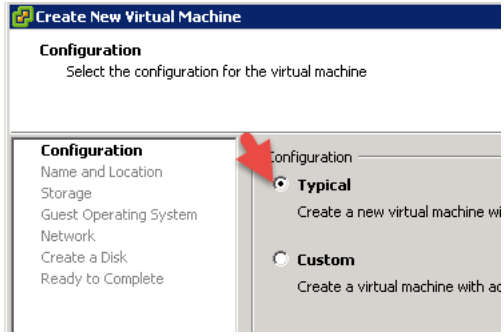
8. Basic functionality BMA Test/Validation

Before moving on to build a complete workflow to provision a Baremetal server, it is highly recommended to test functionality of the BMA using a basic VM. This will confirm that your network is configured correctly, DHCP is functioning correctly and the UCS Director is integrated with BMA. **Note**: DHCP for BMA was previously configured so we don't need to complete that step.

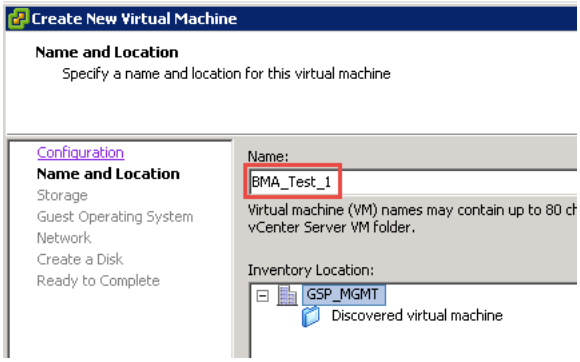
Create Generic VM. Select New Virtual Machine.



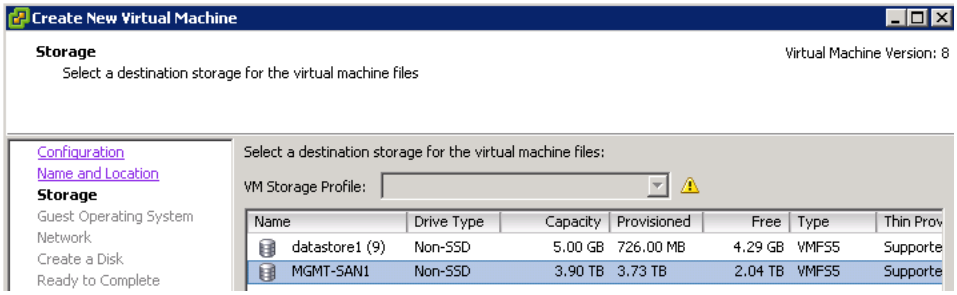
Leave default set to Typical and click Next.



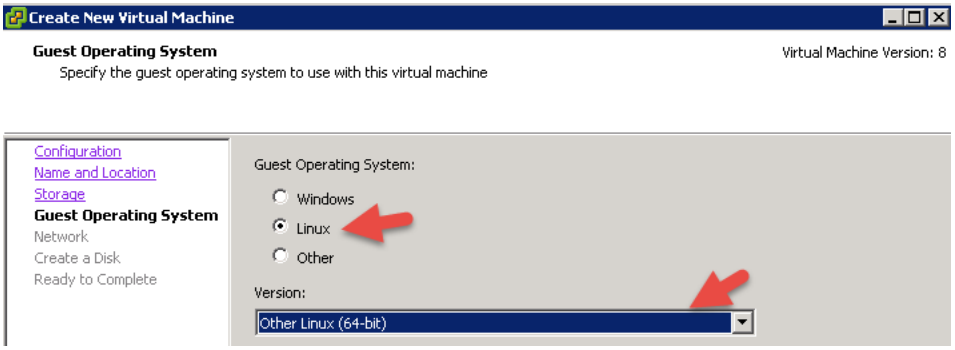
Define any name for the VM and click Next.



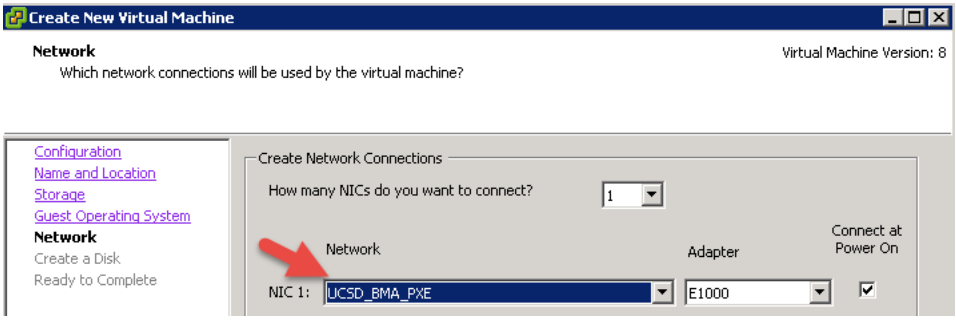
Select the location to install your VM.



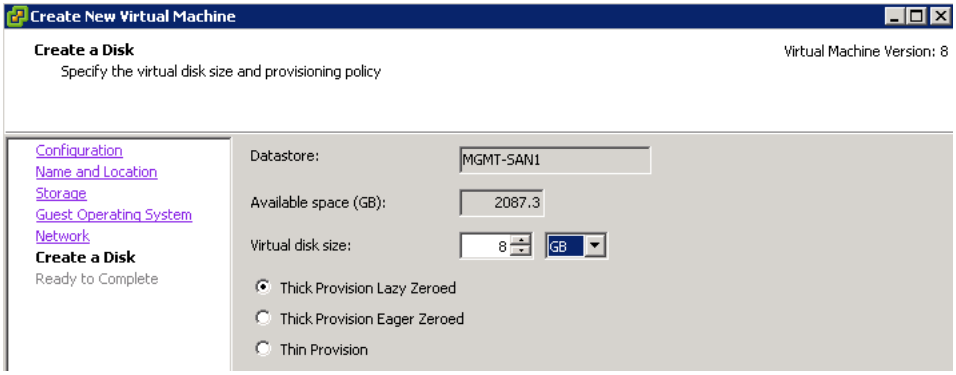
These parameters really don't matter for this test so you can leave it default or select something else like I have done here and click Next.



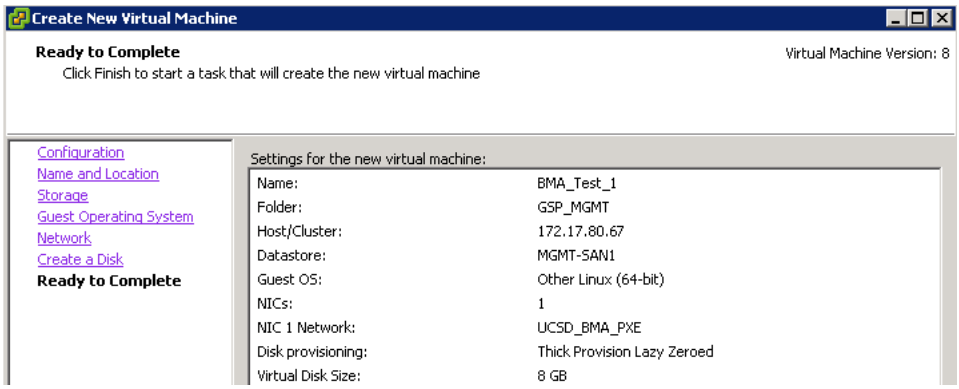
Select the PXE network we defined earlier. **Note**: This VM should be deployed on an ESXi host that has the PXE Port-Group.



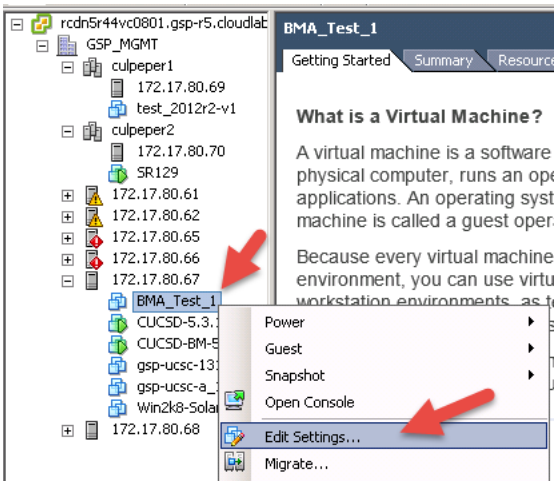
These parameters aren't important for this test so you can leave default and click Next.



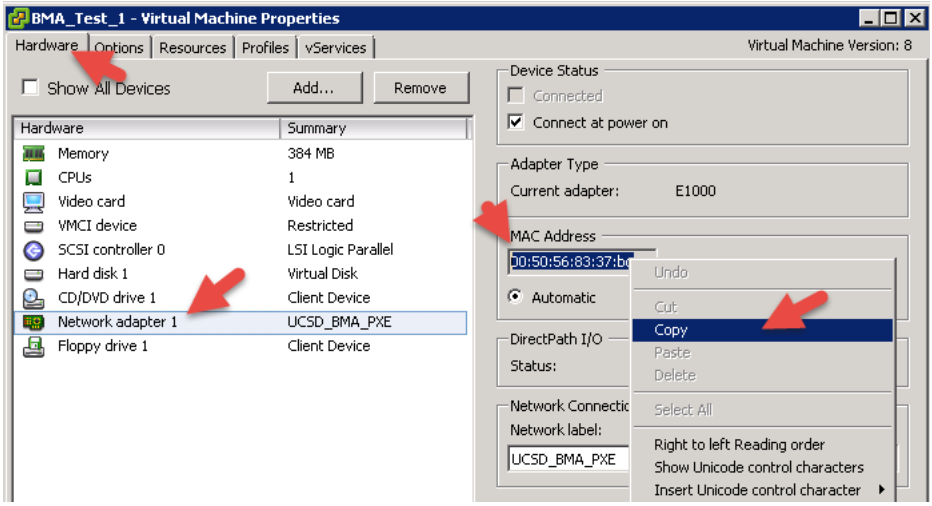
Verify settings and click Finish.



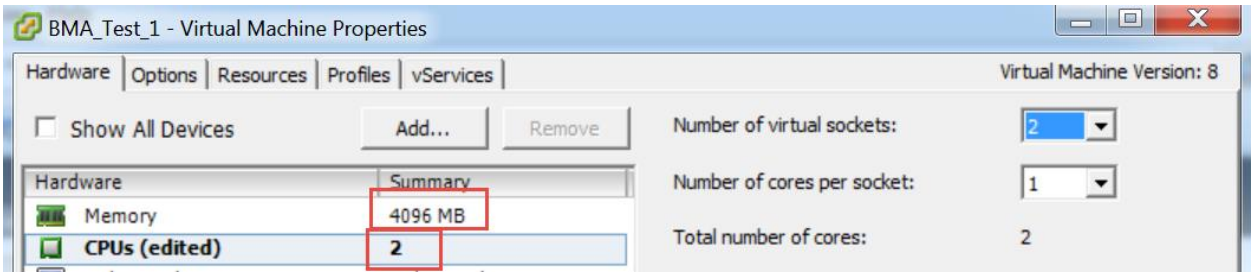
We need to find the MAC address for the VM to setup the PXE for the VM on BMA. To do so, select Edit Settings for the VM.



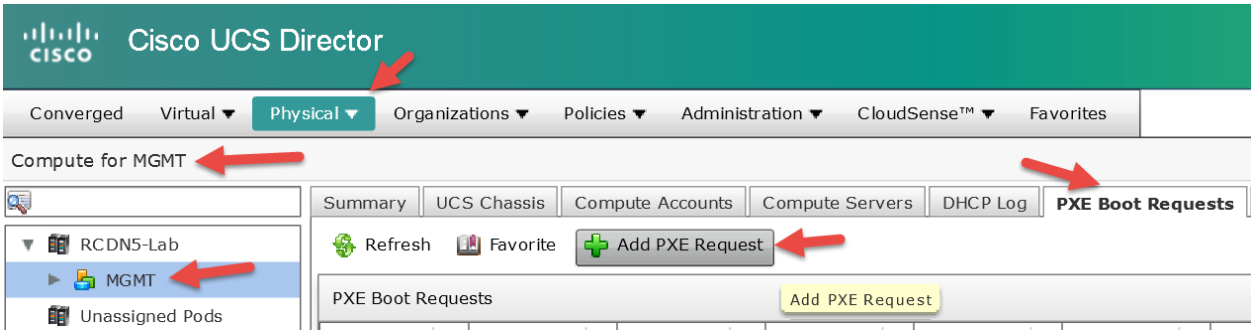
Copy the MAC Address.



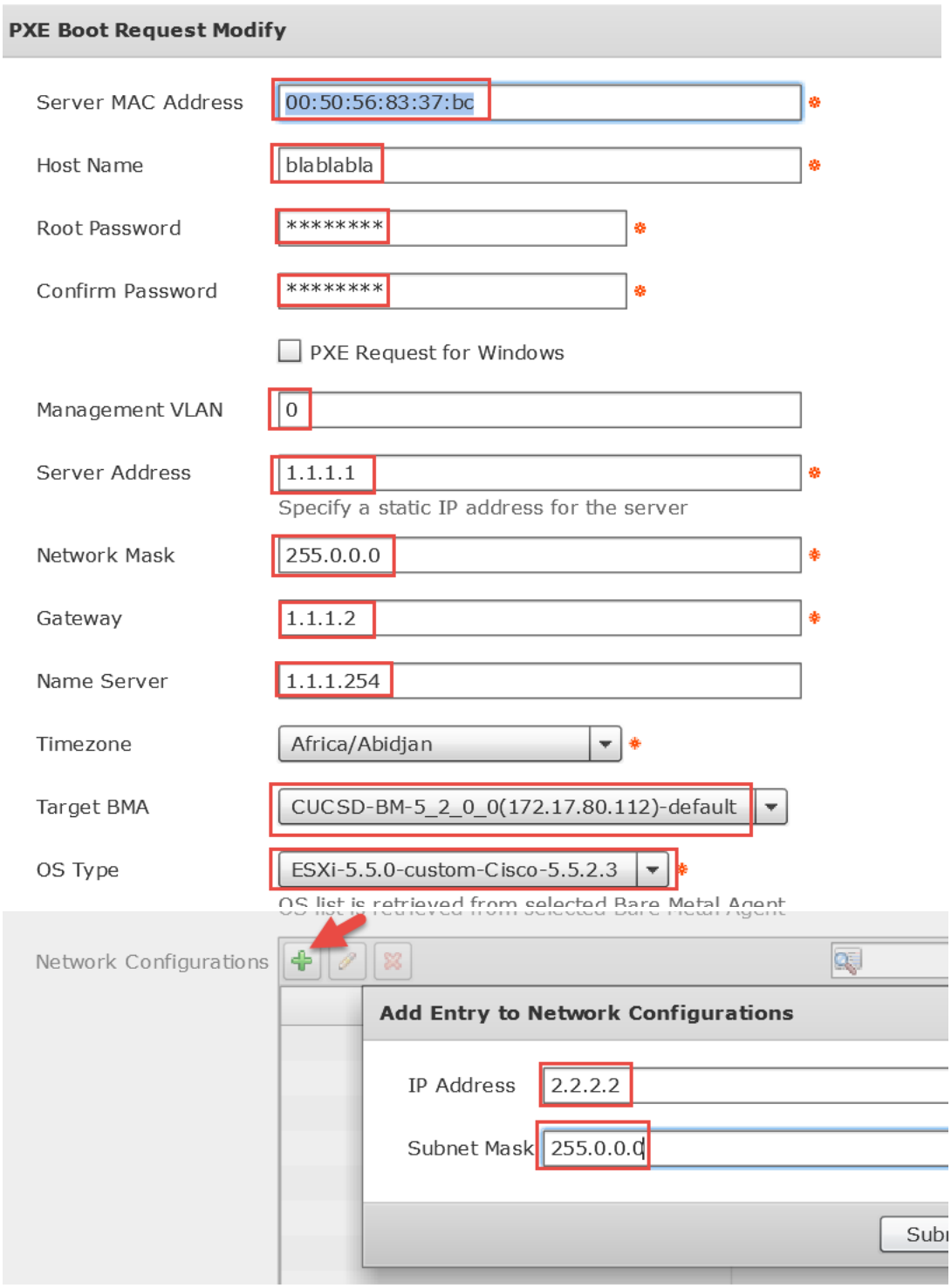
Optional: If you want to see ESXi finish the install at the end of this test, you will need to set a password that meets VMwares password complexity policy, add a Second CPU and add more memory than the default 384MB. The password that we are referring to here is in the PXE Boot Request in UCS Director.



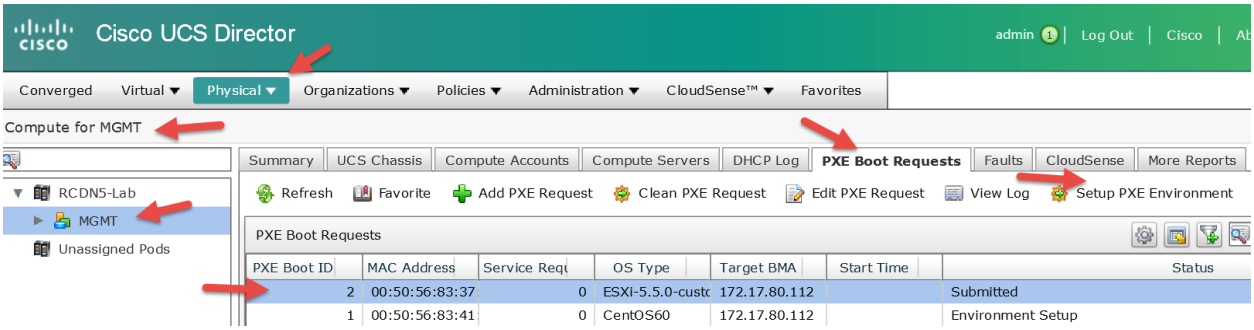
Now that the VM has been created and the MAC address has been copied, we need to log into UCS Director and go to Physical -> Compute -> Select your Compute -> PXE Boot Request -> Add PXE Request.



Fill in the PXE Boot Request as follows. **Note**: The most important data here is the Server MAC Address of the VM, and the OS Type. All other fields aren't important and can be filled in with bogus information. Click Submit on the IP field and then Submit again when done.

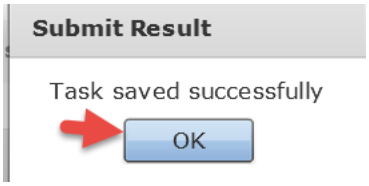


Setup PXE Environment.

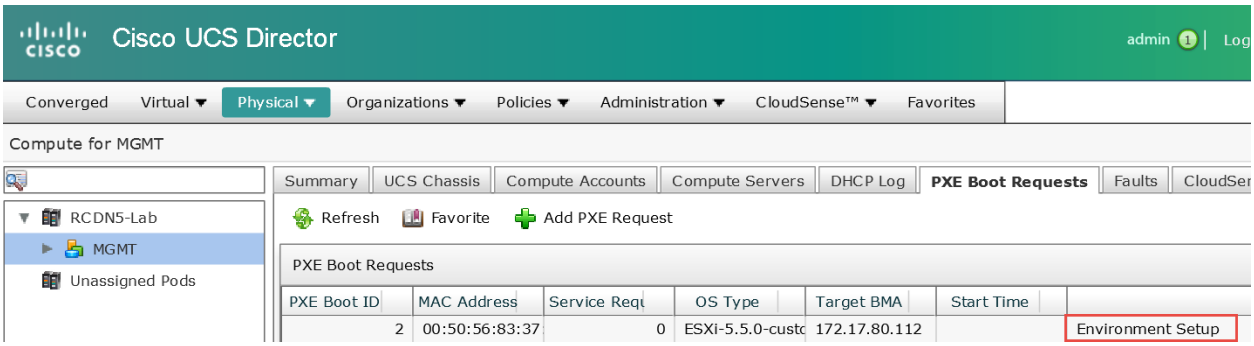


Select Submit to confirm the PXE Environment Setup.

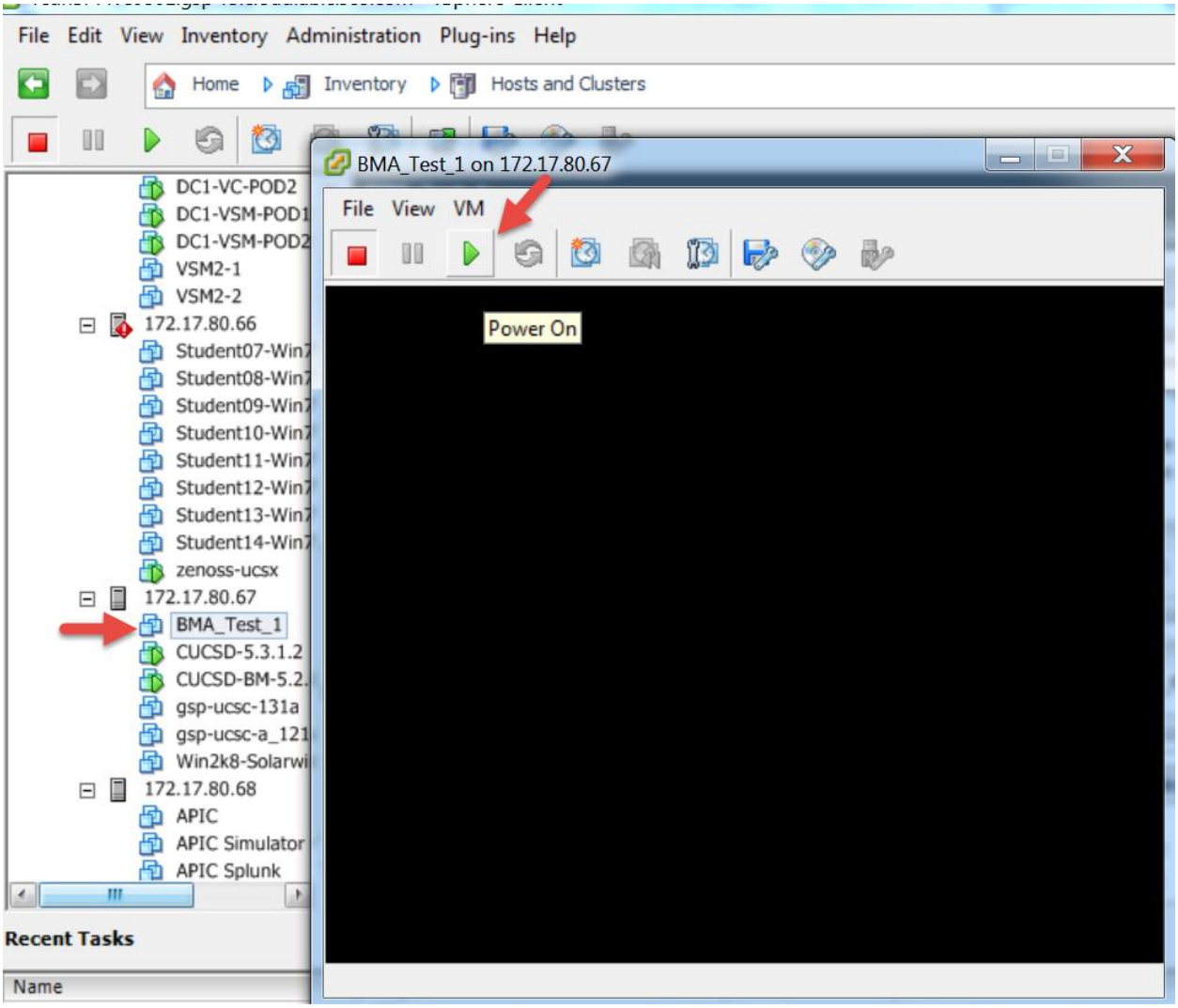
Click OK.



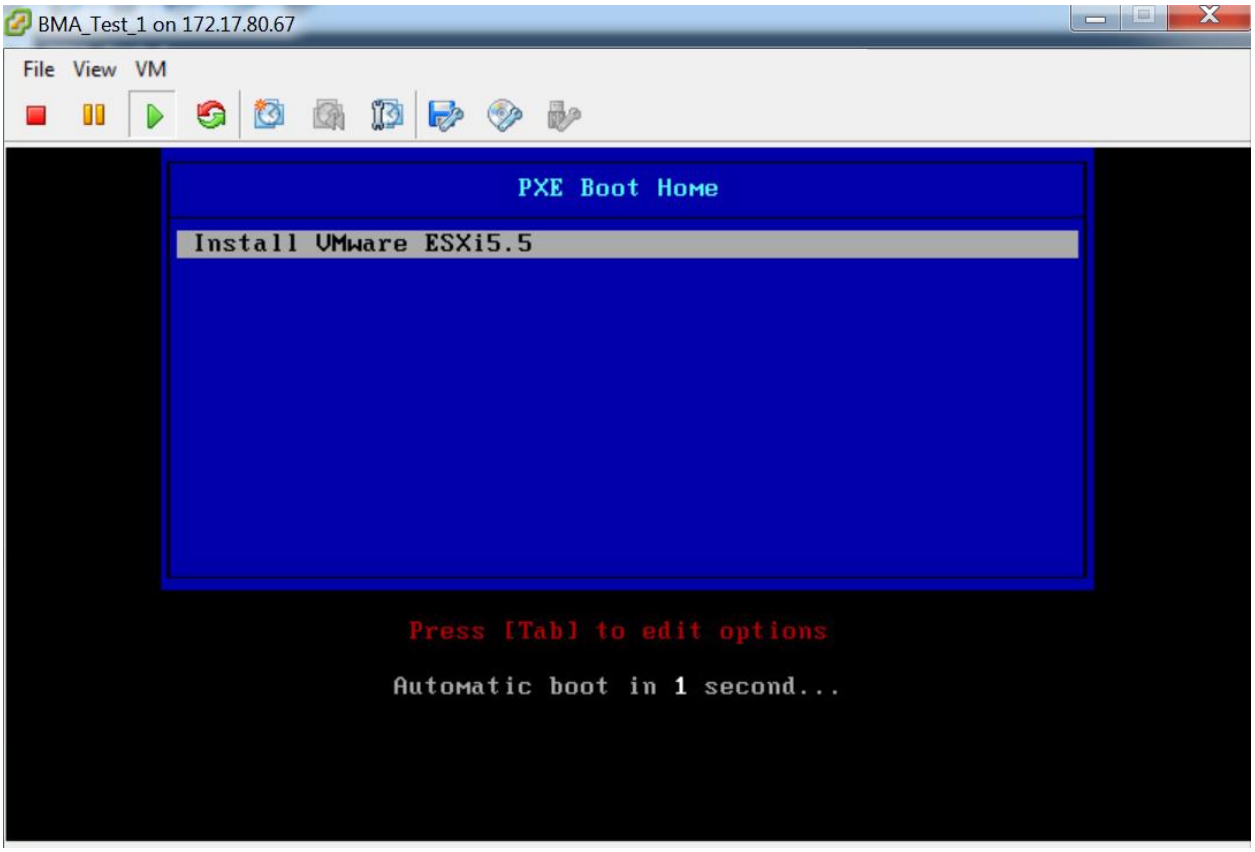
Verify Status changes to Environment Setup.

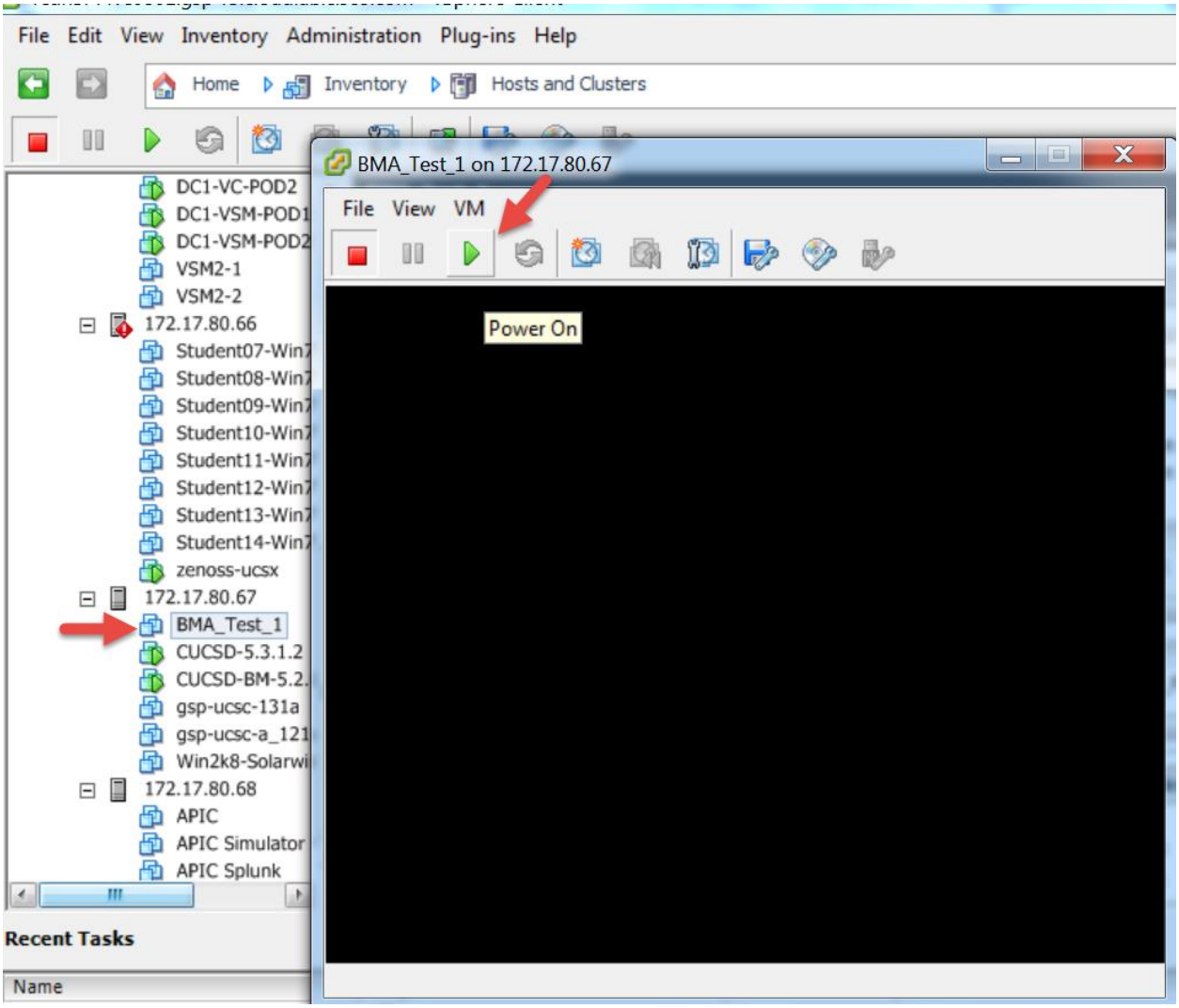


Now go back to vCenter and Open the Console of the BMA test VM and Click Power ON.



Watch the Console to see if the VM Boots from the ISO. As you can see below the VM is booting from ESXi 5.5 ISO. This verifies everything is working as expected. We are done with the testing. We don't need to verify full install of VMware ESXi 5.5 as all we care about is it is booting from PXE Server. You can now power off the VM and delete it. You can also clean up UCS Director by deleting the PXE Boot Request for this MAC Address.




File Edit View Inventory Administration Plug-ins Help
Home
Inventory
Hosts and Clusters
DC1-VC-POD2
DC1-VSM-POD1
DC1-VSM-POD2
VSM2-1
VSM2-2
172.17.80.66
Student07-Win7
Student08-Win7
Student09-Win7
Student10-Win7
Student11-Win7
Student12-Win7
Student13-Win7
Student14-Win7
zenoss-ucsx
172.17.80.67
BMA_Test_1
CUCSD-5.3.1.2
CUCSD-BM-5.2.
gsp-ucsc-131a
gsp-ucsc-a_121
Win2k8-Solarwi
172.17.80.68
APIC
APIC Simulator
APIC Splunk
Recent Tasks
Name
BMA_Test_1 on 172.17.80.67
File View VM
Power On