

USING ISCSI CAKE WITH VMWARE ESX SERVER



Dec., 2008, Youngzsoft

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INTRODUCTION

VMware ESX supports iSCSI SAN to enable IT departments to deploy data center solution using existing storage resources and network devices. iSCSI Cake is a standard iSCSI target which supports a variety of storage resources including disk, partition, VMDK file, and image file. This paper provides instructions of configuring iSCSI Cake and VMware ESX server.

Figure 1 is the system setup which consists of an iSCSI Cake server and an ESX server. A VMDK file is used as source storage in this paper. If a partition is used as storage resource instead, it must be an unformatted partition so that ESX server can recognize and build VMFS on it.

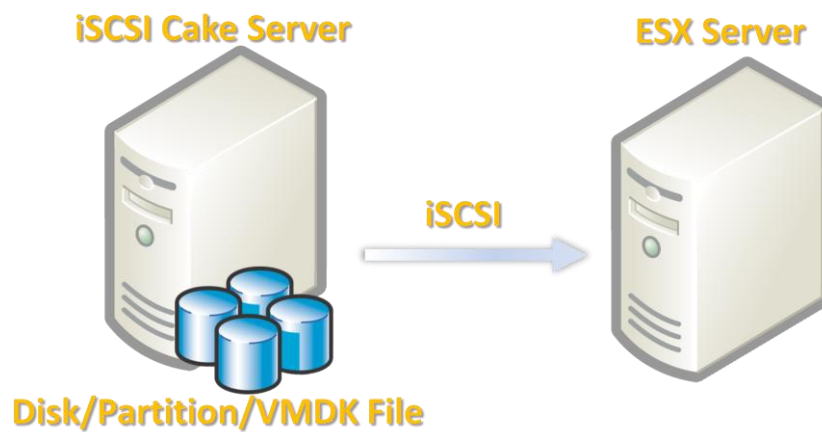
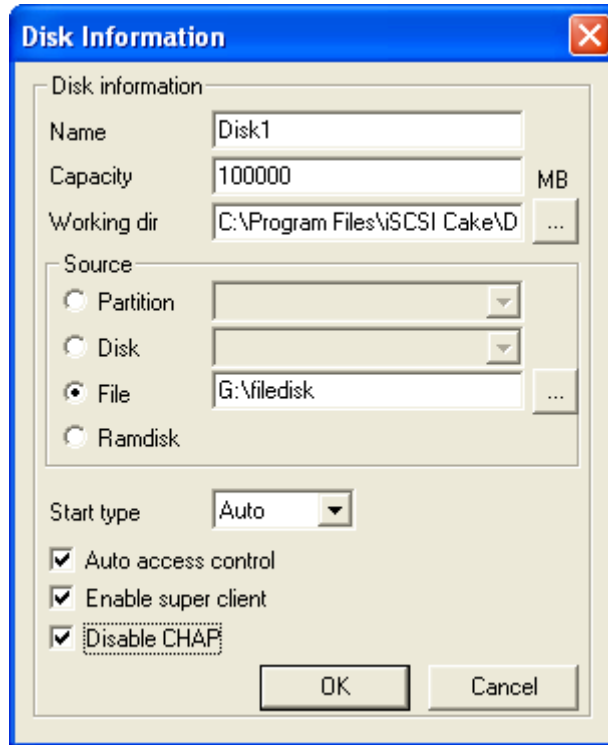


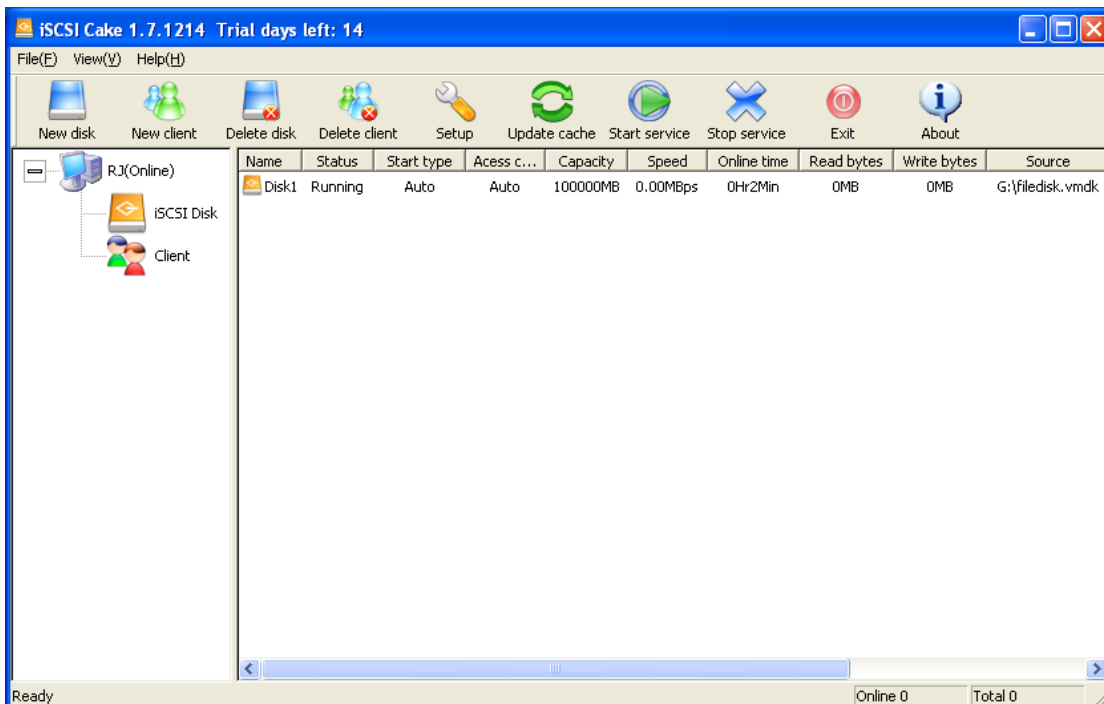
Figure 1. Connect ESX to iSCSI Cake.

SETUP ISCSI CAKE

Download the latest version from <http://www.iscsicake.com>, install it with default settings. Click “New disk” button to add an iSCSI disk. A new VMDK file G:\filedisk will be created with 100G capacity. Check “Enable super client” and “Disable CHAP” to simplify following instructions.



This is the main interface with the new iSCSI disk.



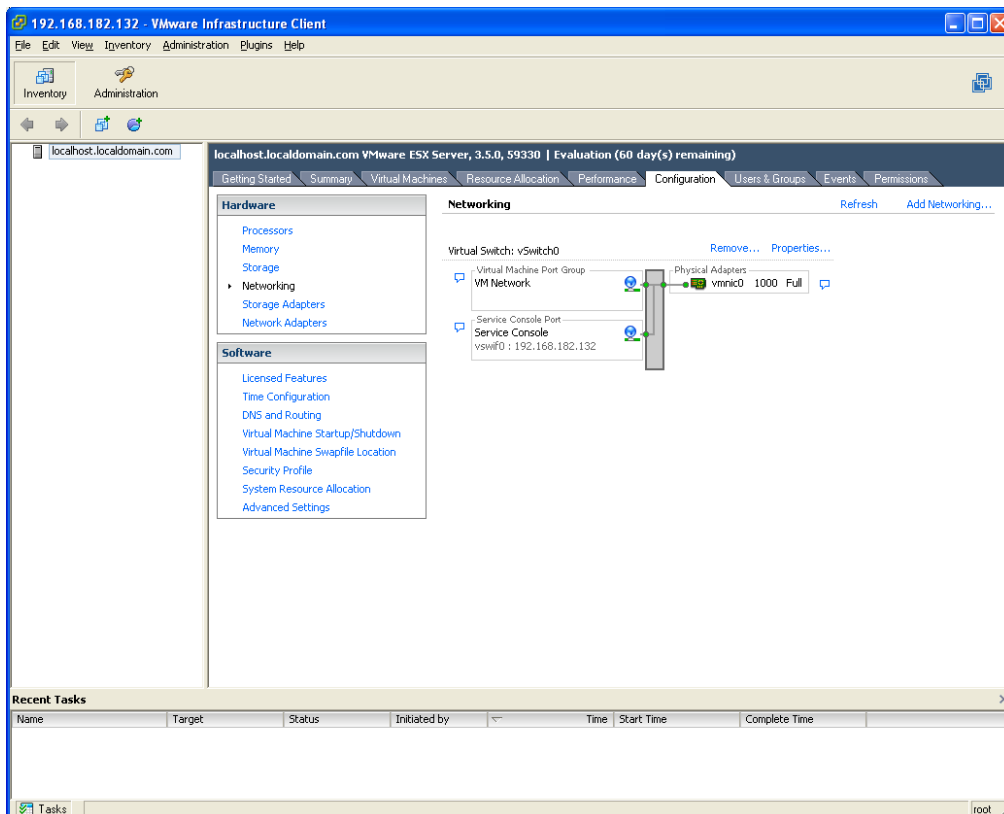
SETUP VMWARE ESX

Install VMware ESX server and open VI (VMware Infrastructure Client).

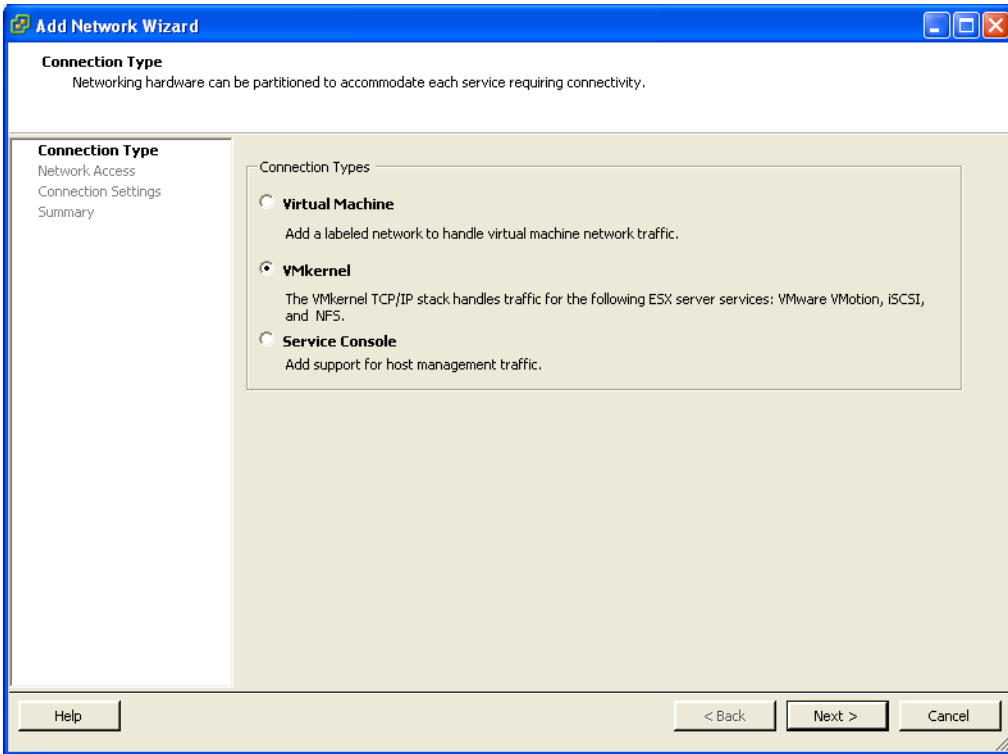


ADD NETWORKING

Goto Configuration tab and choose Networking and here is the original settings.

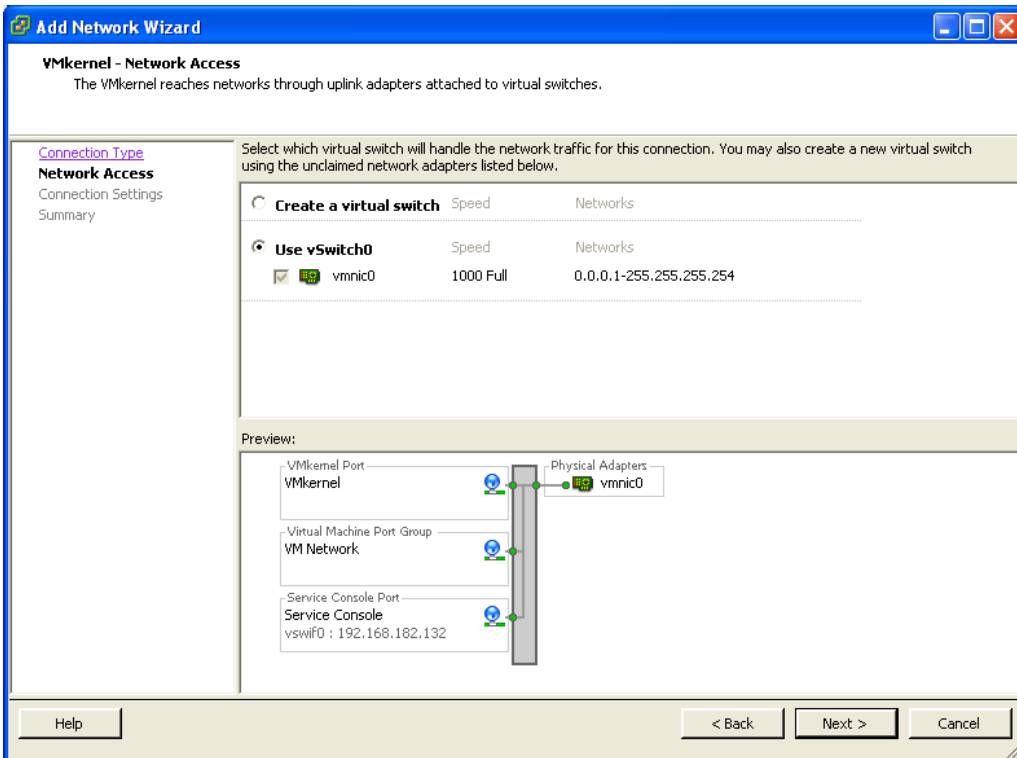


Click “Add Networking” to add an iSCSI kernel portal.

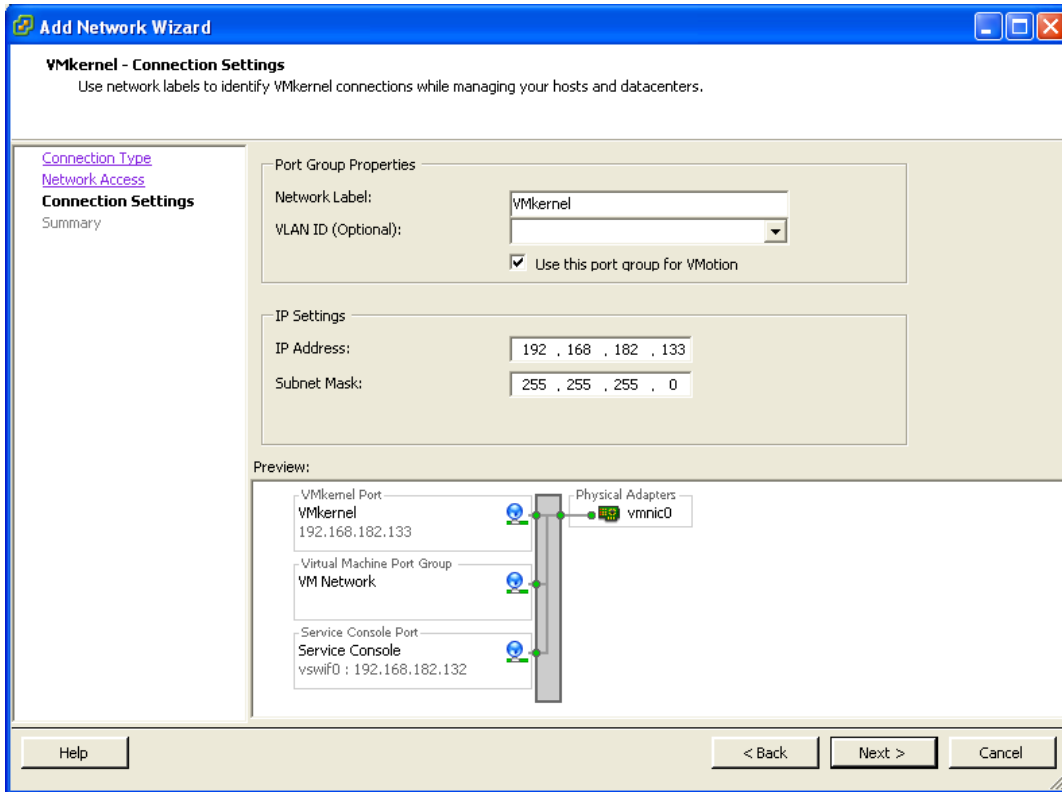


Choose “VMkernel” and next.

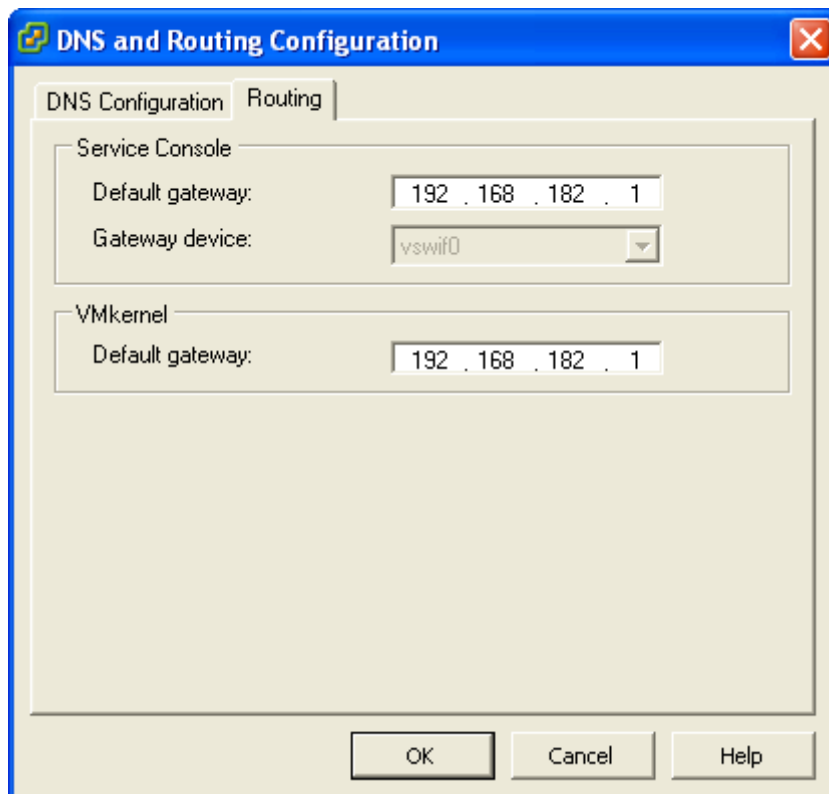
Choose “Use vSwitch0” which is an existing virtual network switch.



Enter IP address 192.168.182.133 and Subnet Mask 255.255.255.0.

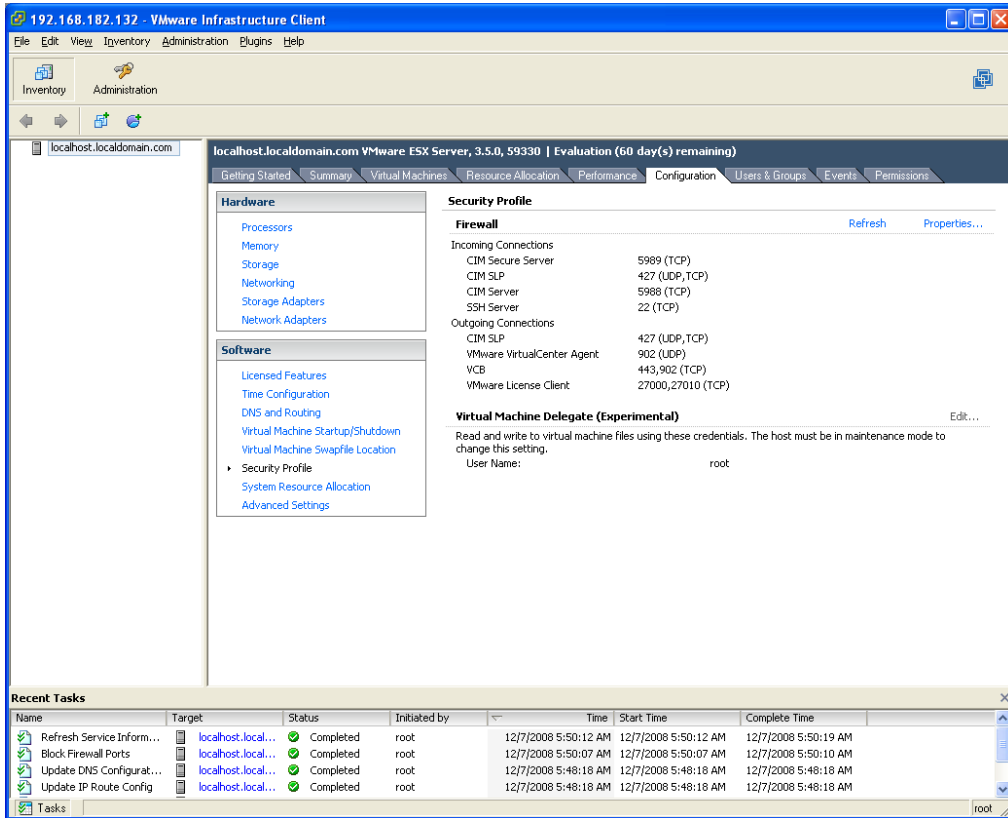


A default gateway must be setup for this new network portal.

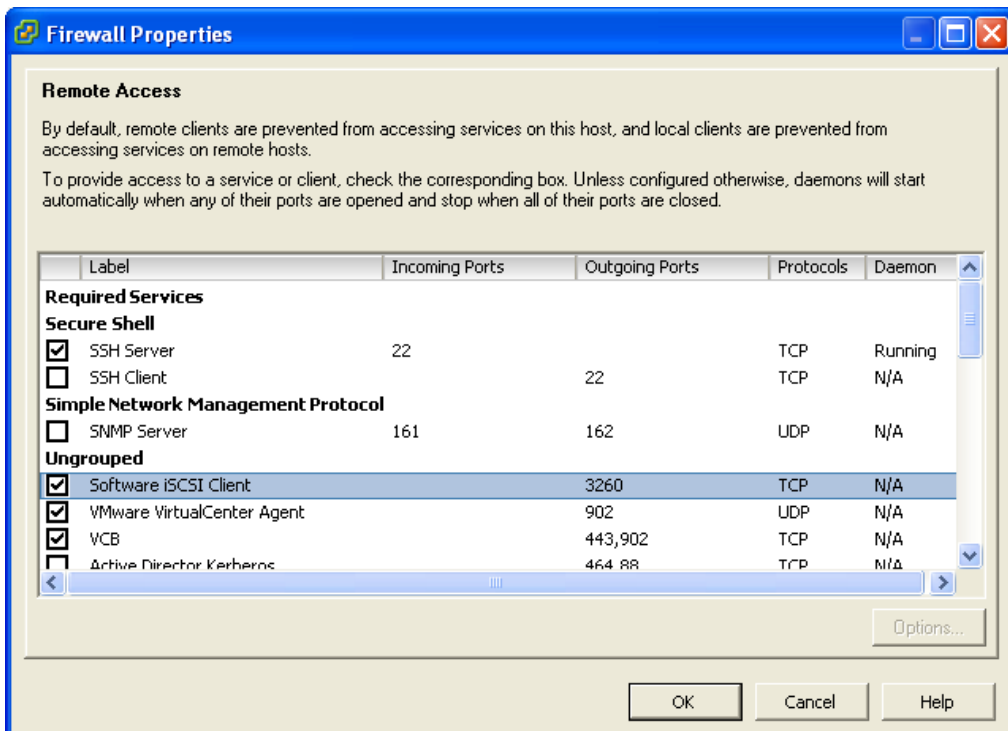


CHANGE SECURITY PROFILE

Click "Security Profile" and here are the original settings.

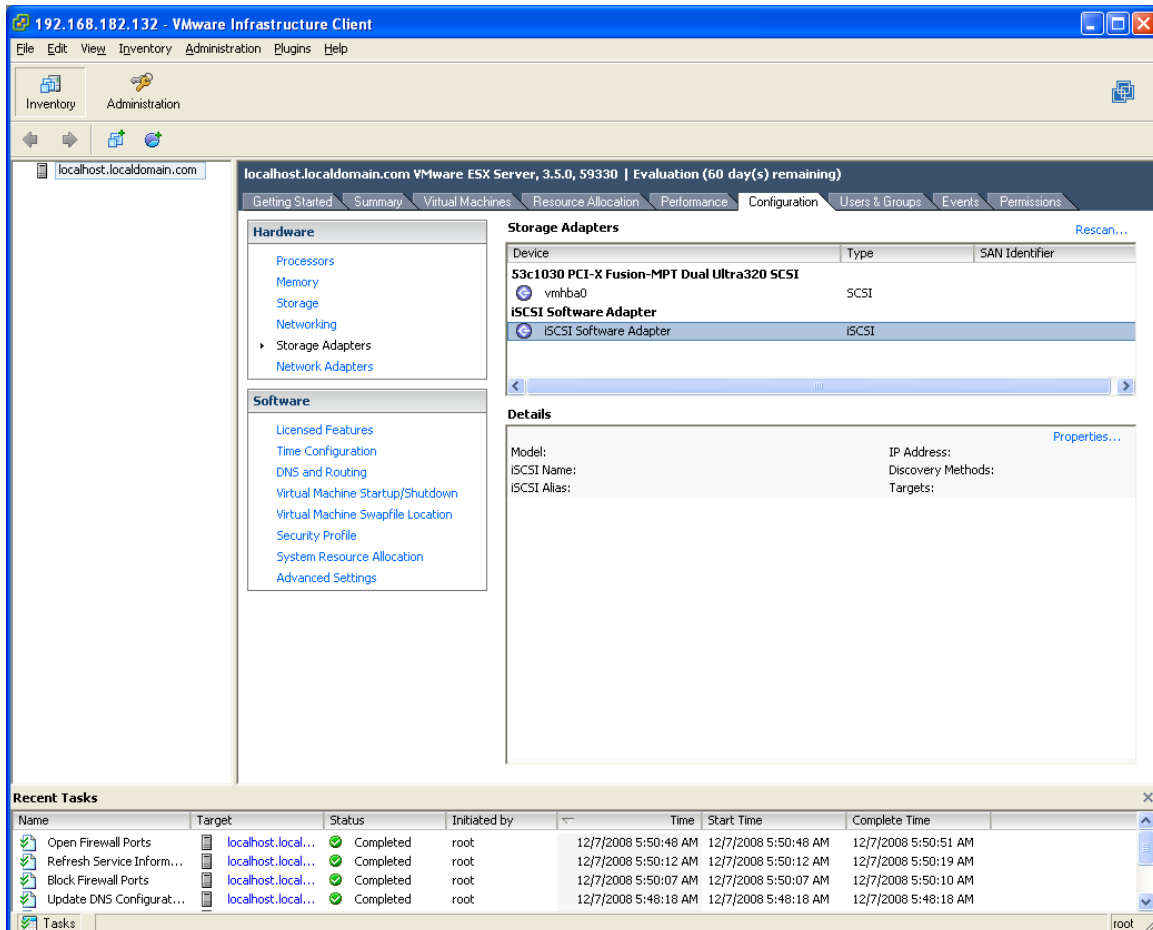


Click "Properties" to open port for iSCSI software.

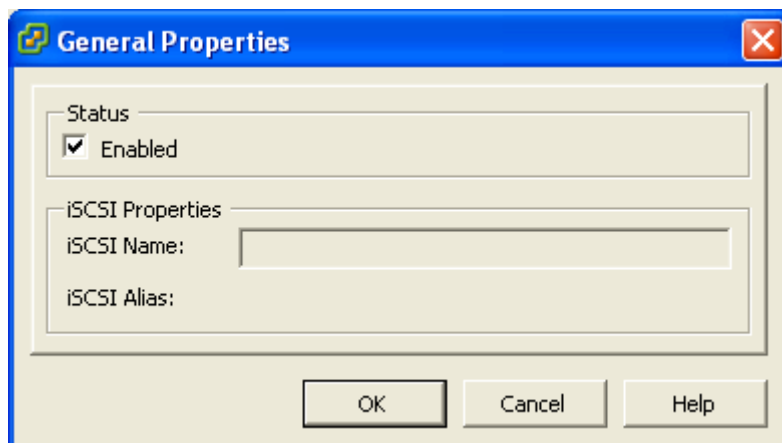
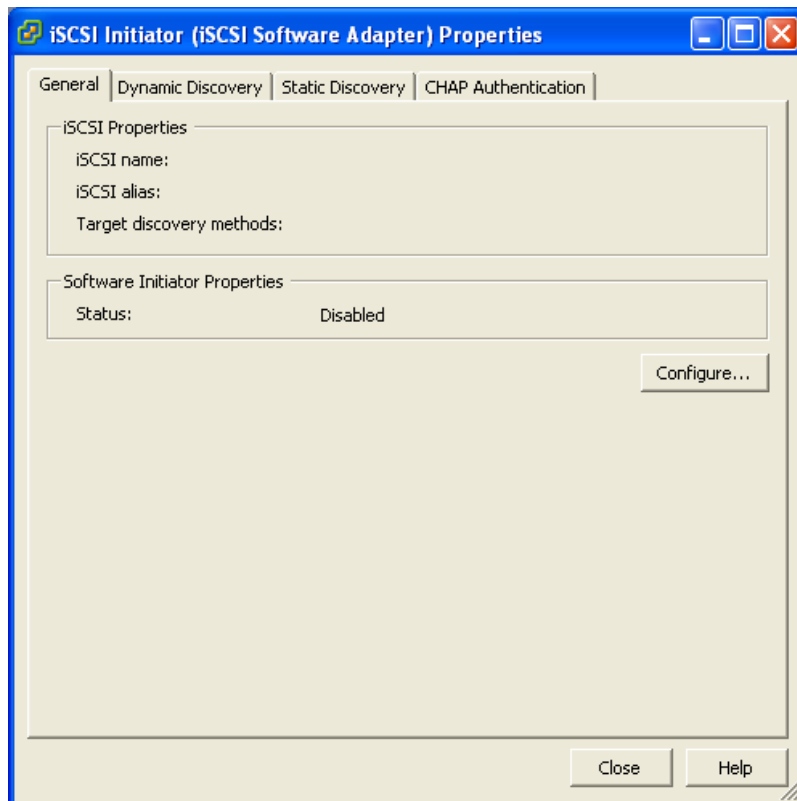


ADD STORAGE ADAPTER

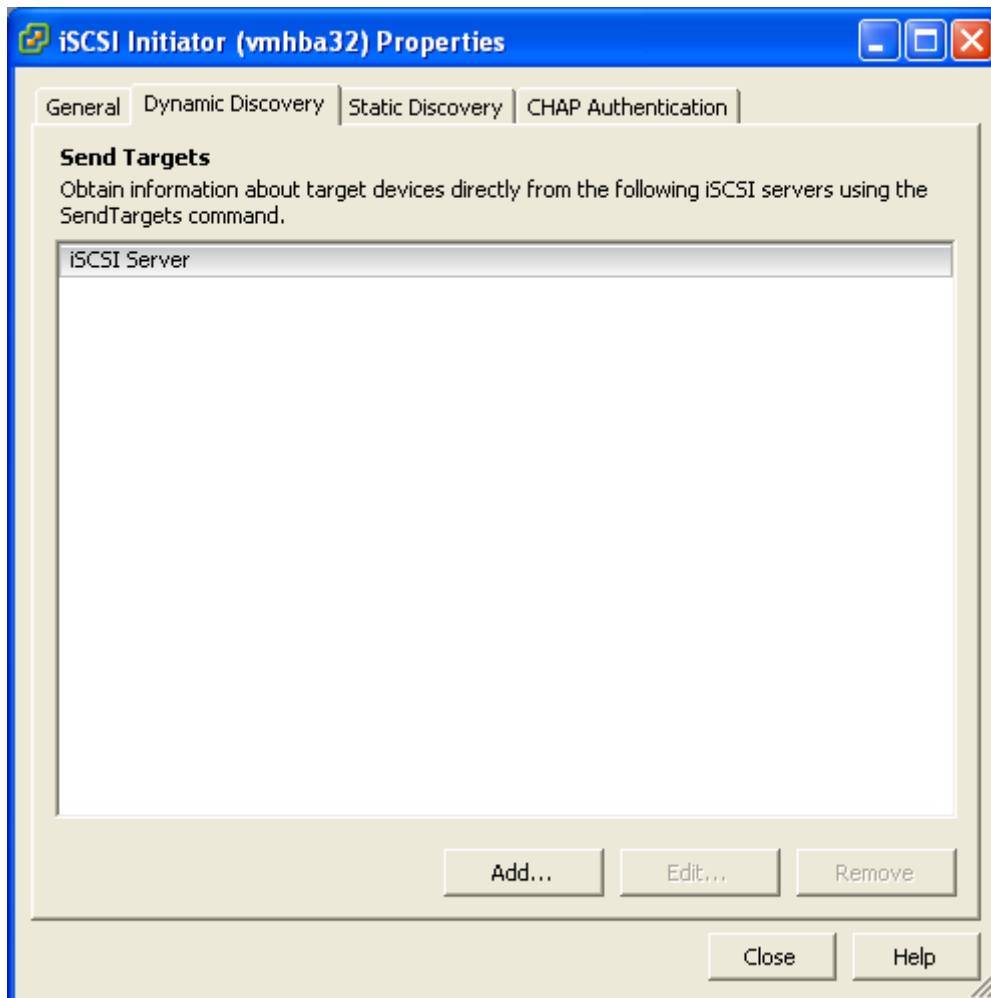
Go to Storage Adapters and select “iSCSI Software Adapter”. Open “Properties” to check if iSCSI is enabled.



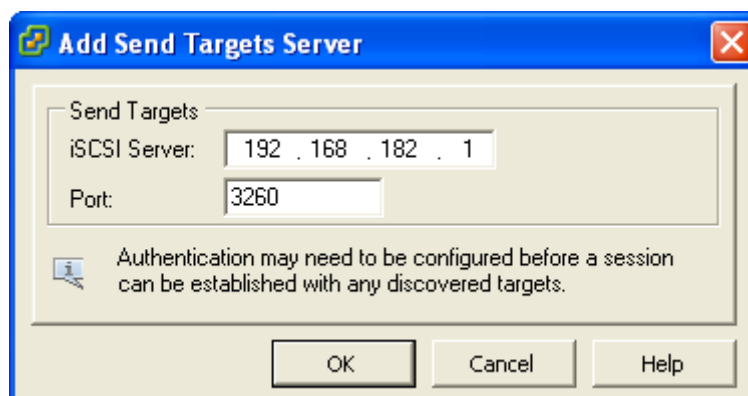
Click "Configure" button to enable iSCSI Initiator.



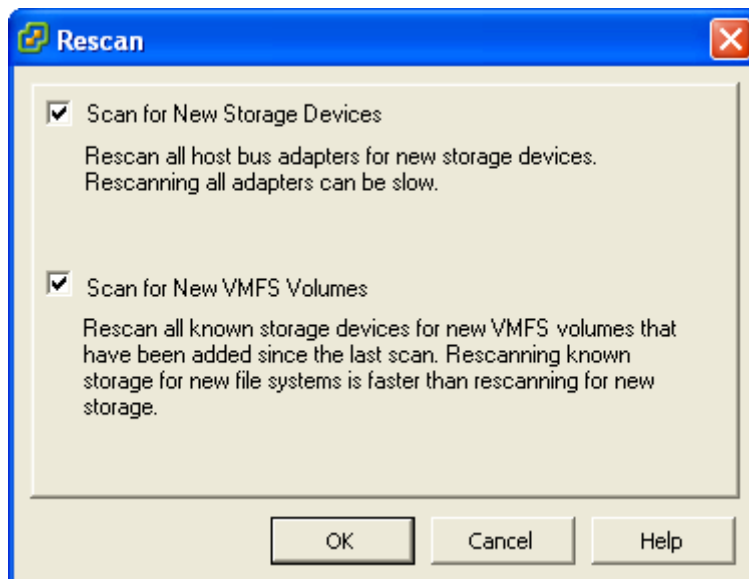
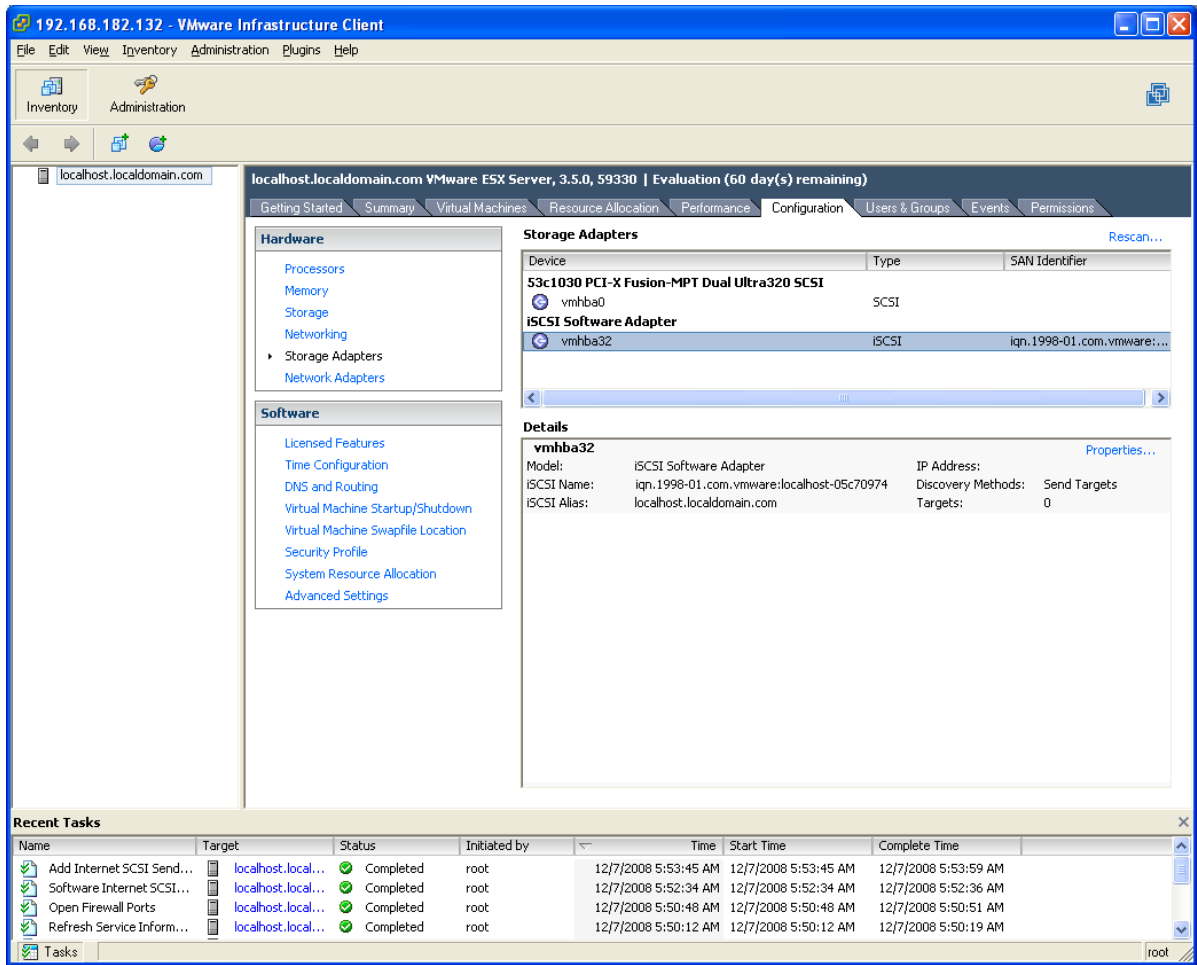
Return to iSCSI Initiator property panel and select “Dynamic Discovery” tab. Click “Add” button to add an iSCSI target.



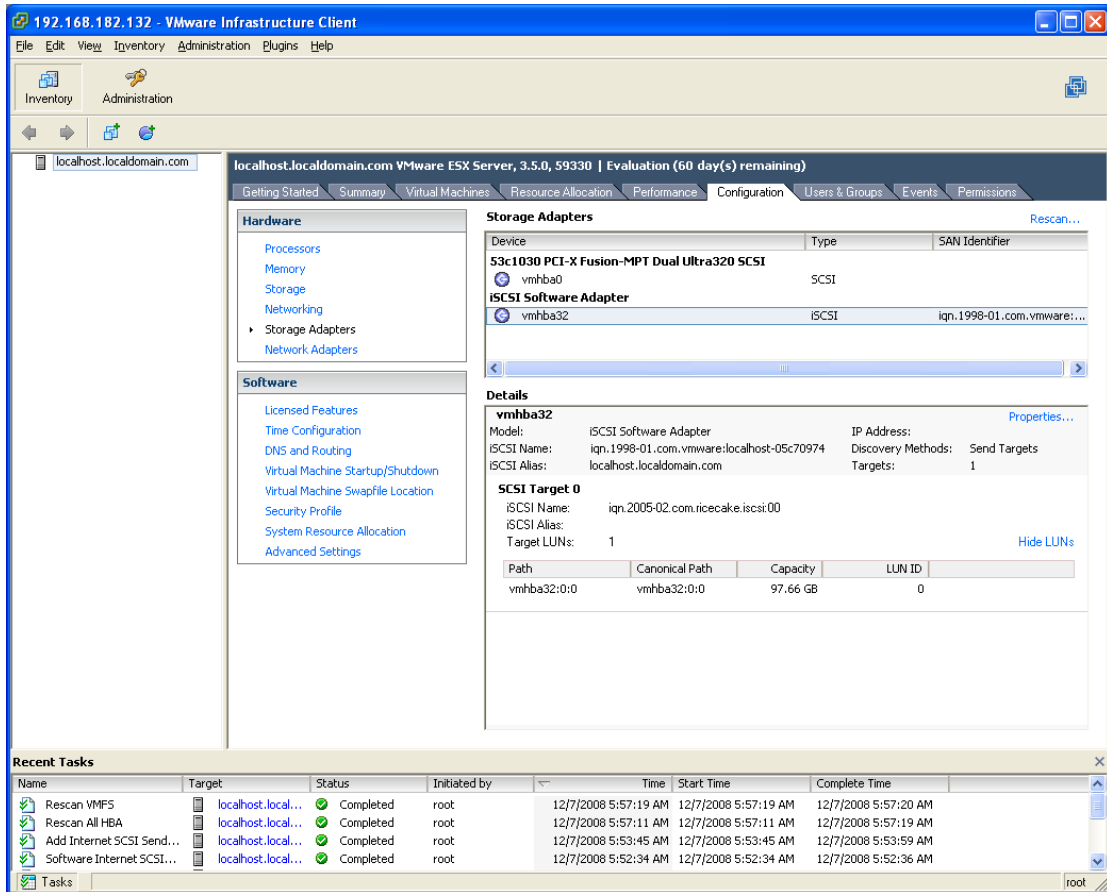
Enter the IP address of iSCSI Cake server, default iSCSI port is 3260.



Close property panel and return to main interface. Click “Rescan” to search for iSCSI storage.

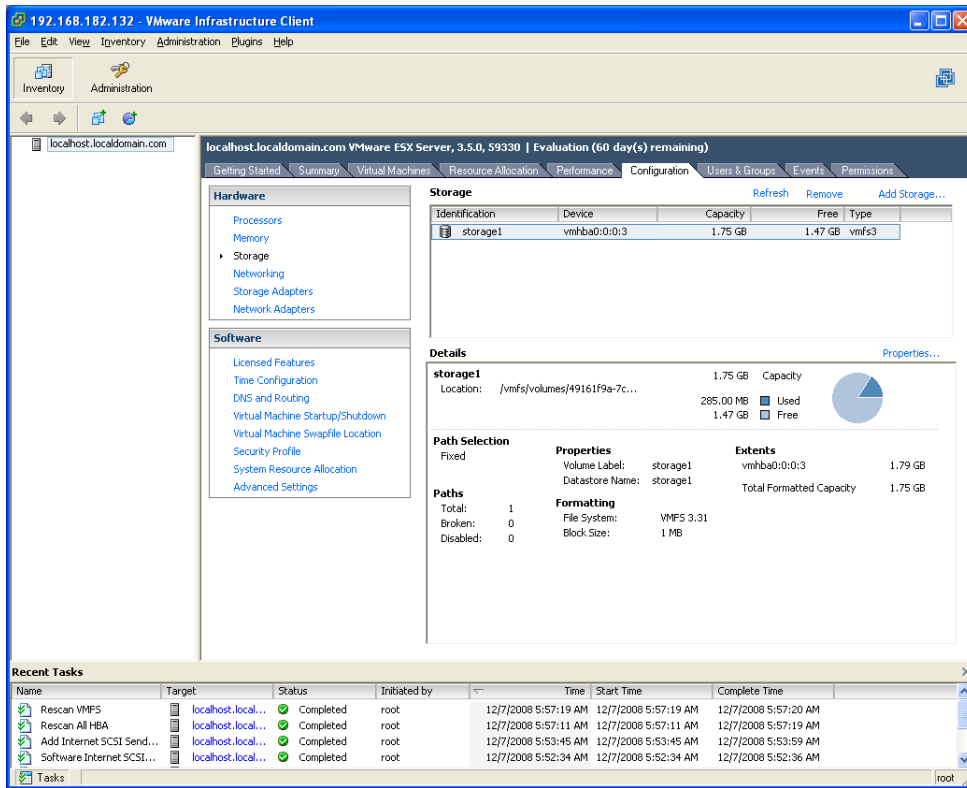


The LUN information of iSCSI Cake target is listed in main interface now.

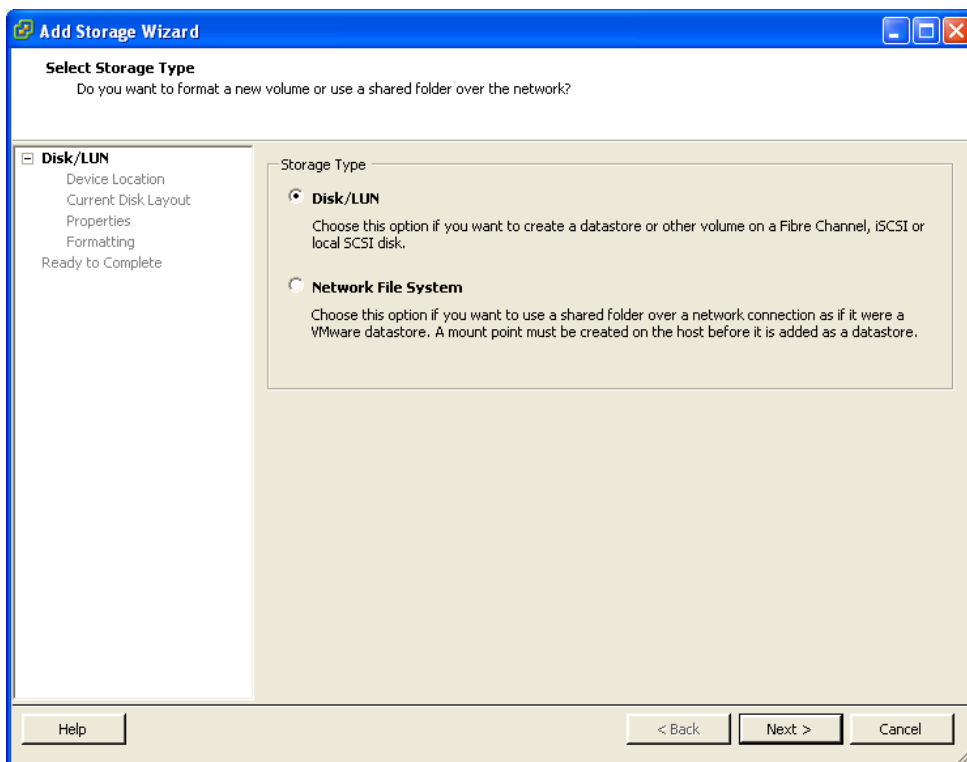


ADD STORAGE

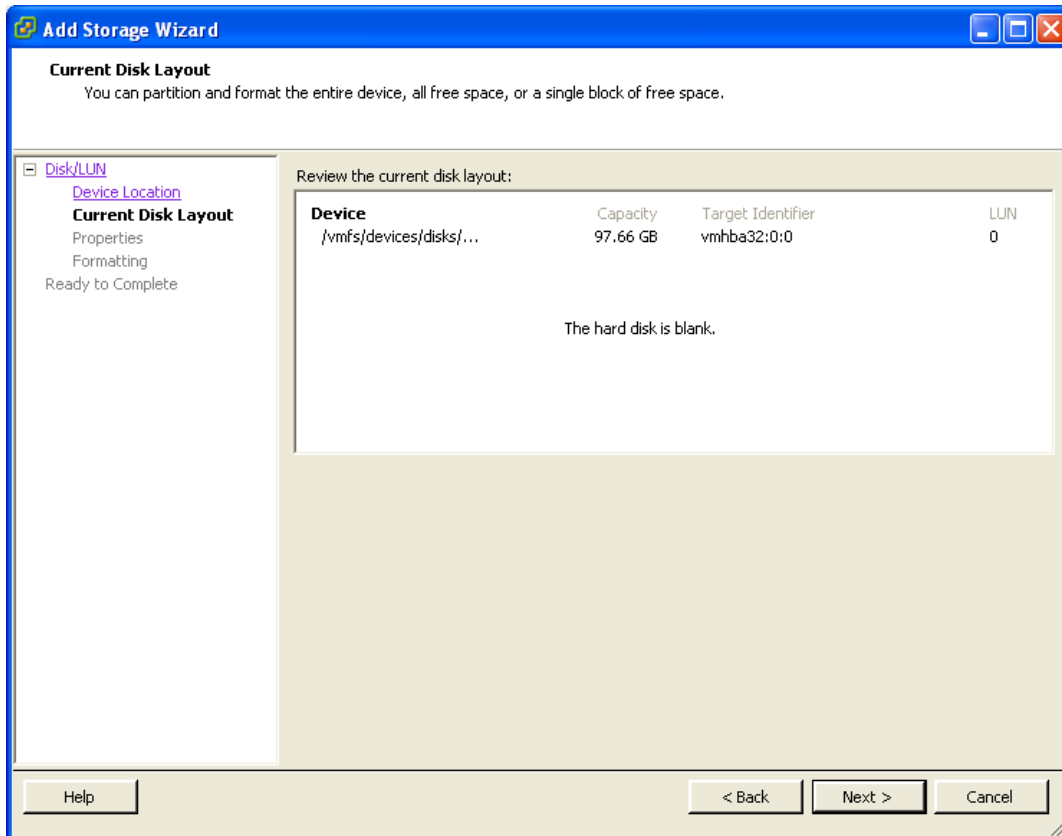
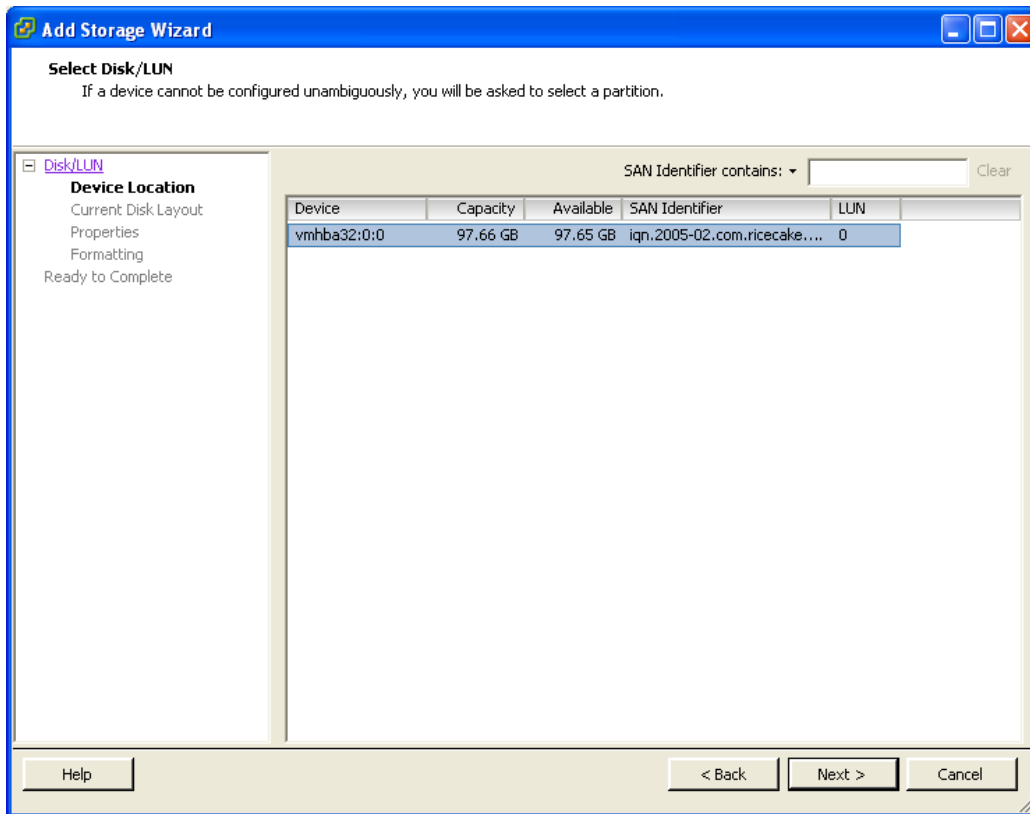
Select "Storage" from Hardware list and existing storage is shown.



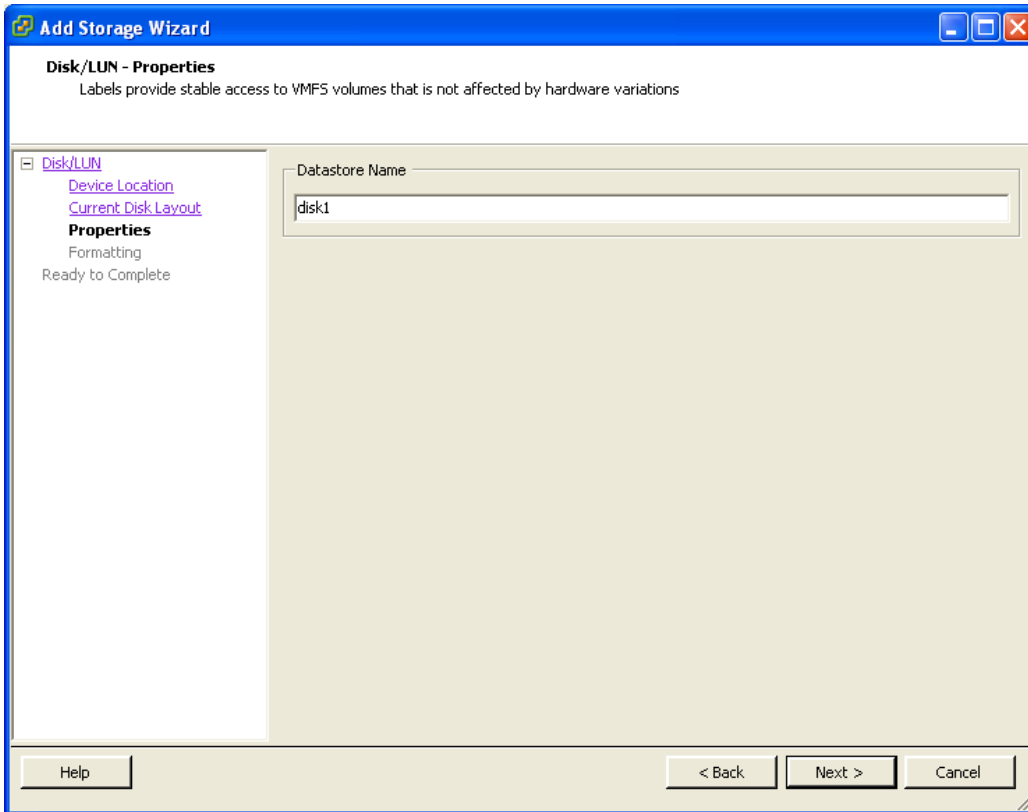
Select "Disk/LUN" and next.



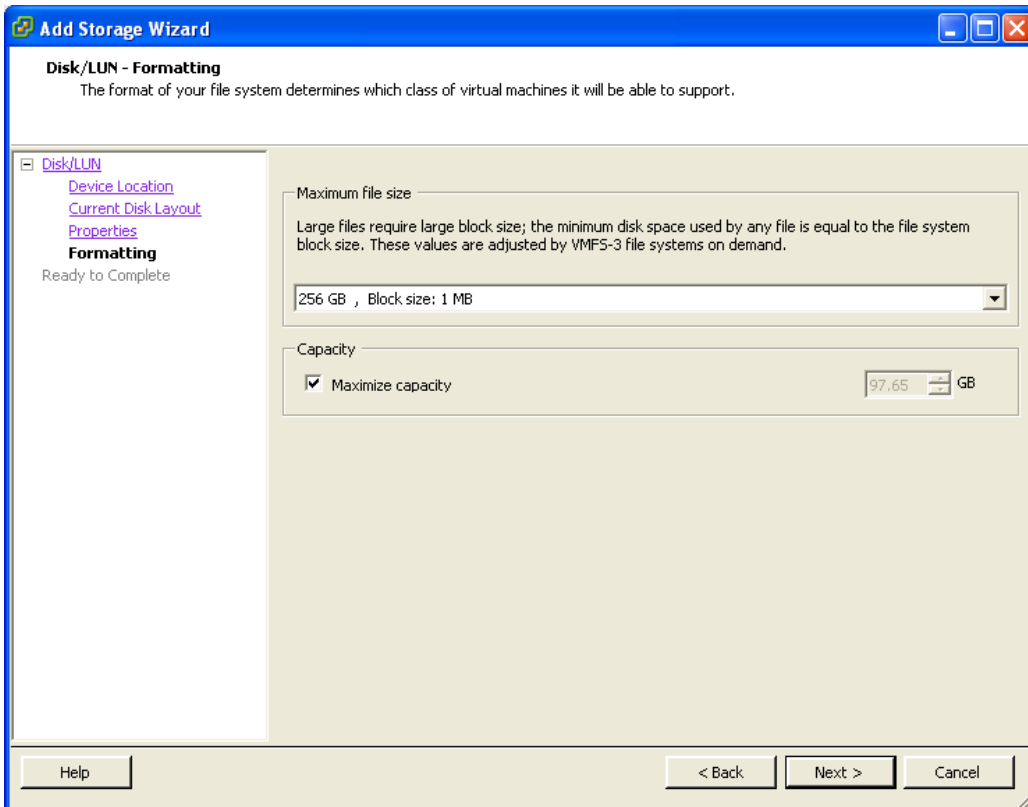
Select one from available LUNs and next.



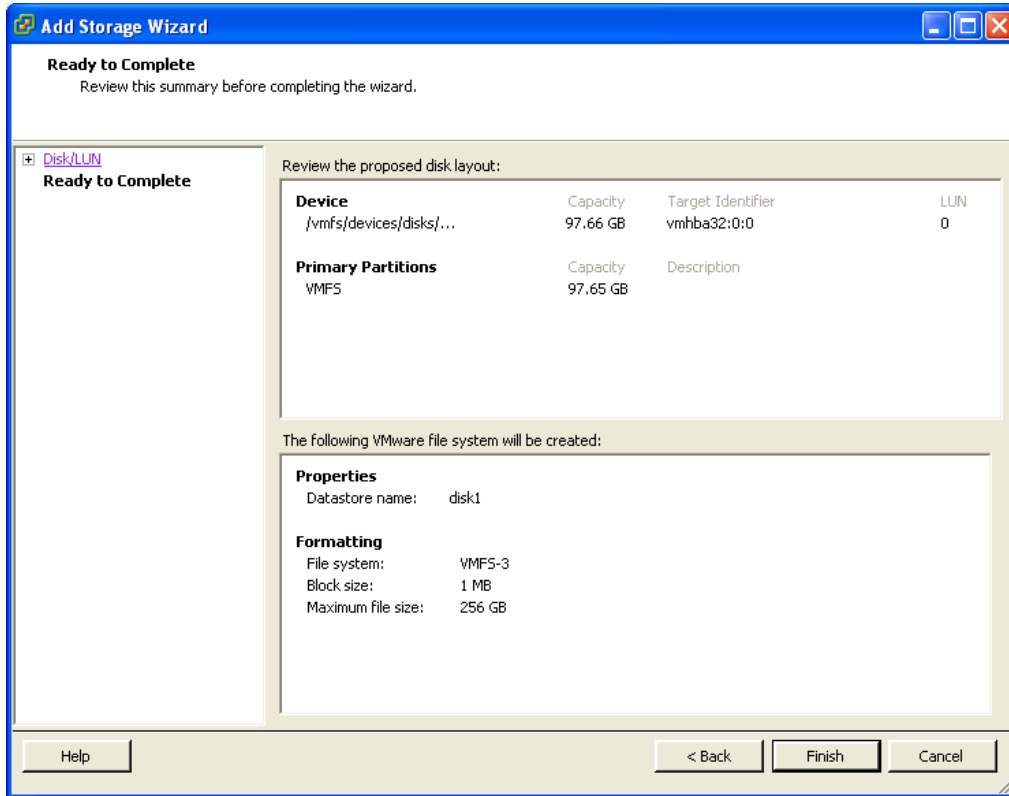
Give a name "disk1" to the new storage.



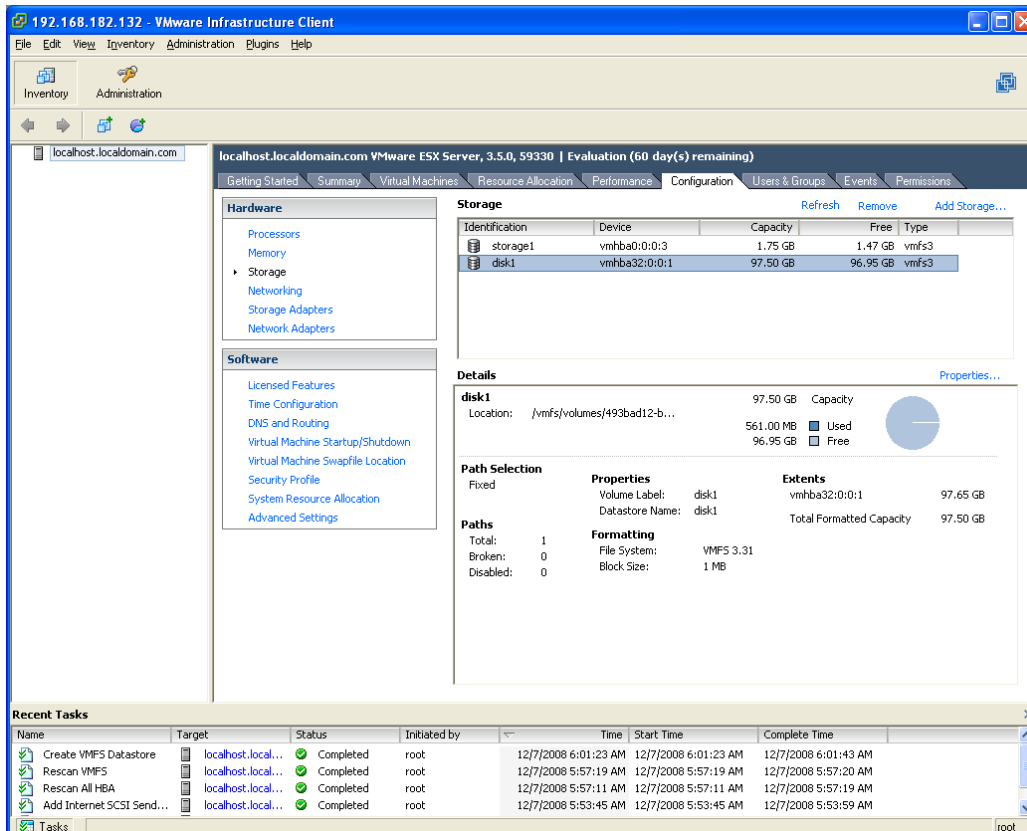
Accept default setting and next.



Double check before finish.



After a short while, storage is successfully added.



CONTACT

iSCSI Cake(CCDisk)

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Product Page: <http://www.iscsicake.com/>

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