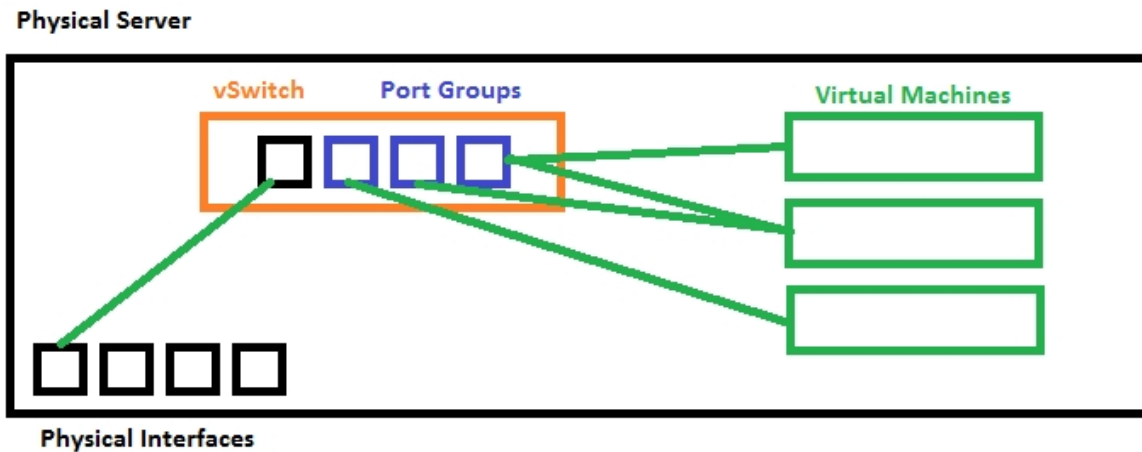


Create vSwitch

Jul 2017

What is a vSwitch in VMWare

Remember, a vSwitch is a software switch that you add virtual ports to, those virtual ports are used by your Virtual Machines. A vSwitch is associated with a physical port on your server. A vSwitch allows several Virtual Machines to share (if required) a single physical interface.



Create vSwitch

Log in to ESXi web gui.

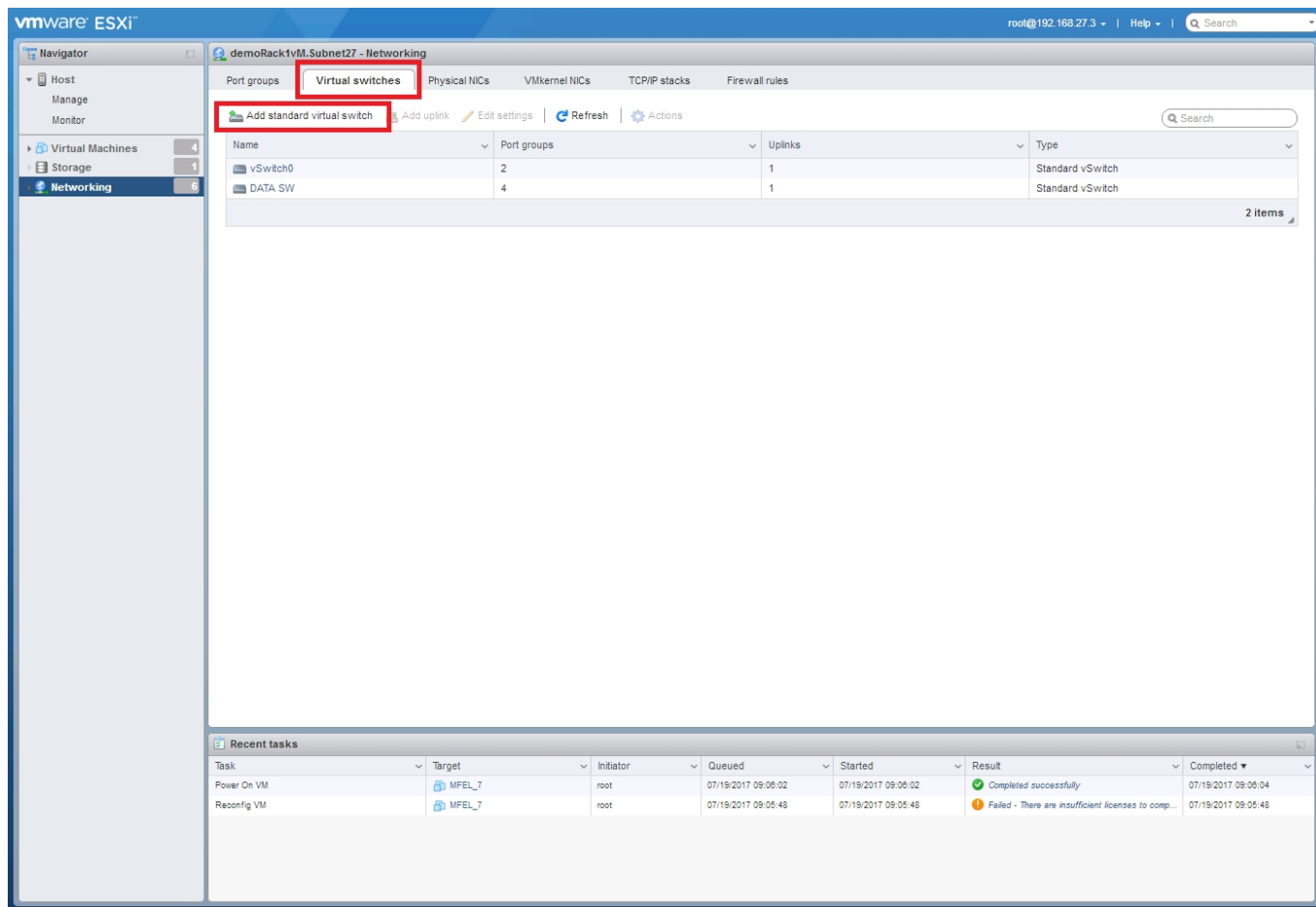
The screenshot shows the VMware ESXi interface for configuring Physical Network Interface Cards (NICs). The left-hand pane has the 'Networking' link selected. The main pane is titled 'demoRack1vM.Subnet27 - Networking' and has tabs for 'Port groups', 'Virtual switches', 'Physical NICs' (which is selected), 'VMkernel NICs', 'TCP/IP stacks', and 'Firewall rules'. Below the tabs are buttons for 'Edit settings', 'Refresh', and 'Actions'. A table lists 12 physical NICs. The NICs are named vmnic0 through vmnic11. The 'Driver' column shows 'bnx2' for vmnic0-4 and vmnic6-7, and 'igbn' for vmnic1-5 and vmnic8-11. The 'MAC address' column shows various MAC addresses. The 'Auto-negotiate' column shows 'Enabled' for most, 'Disabled' for vmnic7 and vmnic8, and 'Enabled' for vmnic9. The 'Link speed' column shows '100 Mbps, full duplex' for vmnic0-4 and vmnic6-7, 'Link down' for vmnic1-5 and vmnic9, and '1000 Mbps, full duplex' for vmnic8. The 'vmnic8' row is highlighted with a red box. The bottom pane shows 'Recent tasks' with a single task 'Power On VM' for target 'MFEL_7' initiated by 'root' on 07/19/2017 09:06:02, which completed successfully on 07/19/2017 09:06:04.

Name	Driver	MAC address	Auto-negotiate	Link speed
vmnic0	bnx2	e4:11:5b:ec:cd:c8	Enabled	100 Mbps, full duplex
vmnic1	bnx2	e4:11:5b:ec:cd:ca	Enabled	100 Mbps, full duplex
vmnic10	igbn	f4:ce:46:a9:33:be	Enabled	Link down
vmnic11	igbn	f4:ce:46:a9:33:bf	Enabled	Link down
vmnic2	bnx2	e4:11:5b:ec:cd:d0	Enabled	100 Mbps, full duplex
vmnic3	bnx2	e4:11:5b:ec:cd:d2	Enabled	Link down
vmnic4	igbn	f4:ce:46:a9:33:18	Enabled	Link down
vmnic5	igbn	f4:ce:46:a9:33:19	Enabled	Link down
vmnic6	igbn	f4:ce:46:a9:33:1a	Enabled	Link down
vmnic7	igbn	f4:ce:46:a9:33:1b	Disabled	1000 Mbps, full duplex
vmnic8	igbn	f4:ce:46:a9:33:bc	Disabled	1000 Mbps, full duplex
vmnic9	igbn	f4:ce:46:a9:33:bd	Enabled	Link down

In the left hand pane, click the **Networking** link.

From the main page, select **Physical NICs**. You should have a page similar to the one above where all of your physical interfaces are listed. It is important to check these first because you can check which interfaces you have, and which are connected. Remember which interface from this list you will use.

At the top of the page, select **Virtual Switches**.



Here we can see any vSwitches that have already been created (vSwitch0 will be there by default, and is used by the management interface of VMWare).

Click **Add standard virtual switch**.

A pop up will open to enter some data. We need to specify the following:

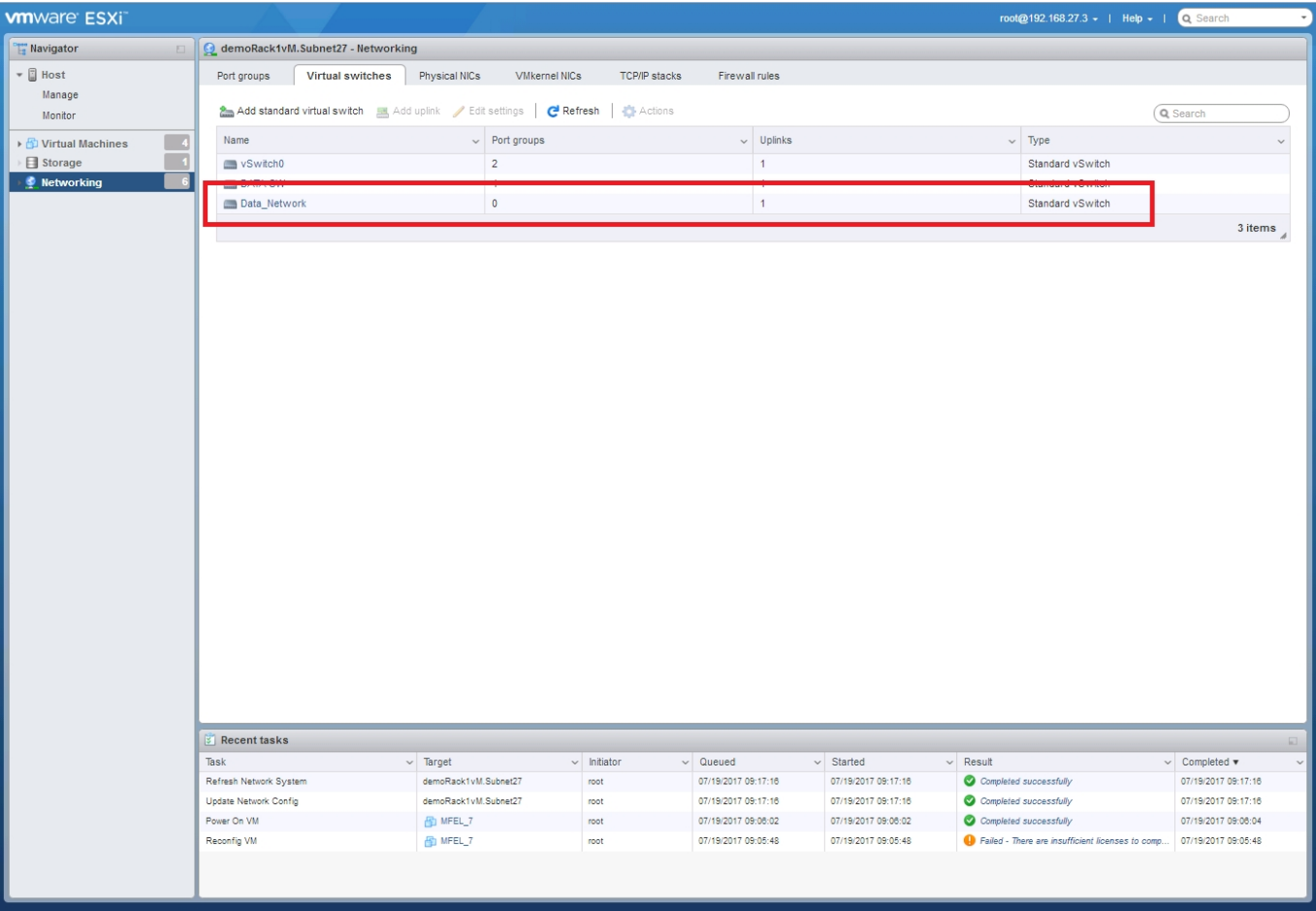
vSwitch Name: Any name you want, I have used Data_Network.

MTU: Unless you have a good reason, leave this at 1500

Uplink1: This is a drop down list, select the correct physical server interface.

Click **Add**.

You will now see your vSwitch listed in the main Networking page.



We have now created a vSwitch, and looking at our architecture, we can see below what we have completed.

Physical Server



Physical Interfaces

The next step would be to add some **Port Groups**.

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