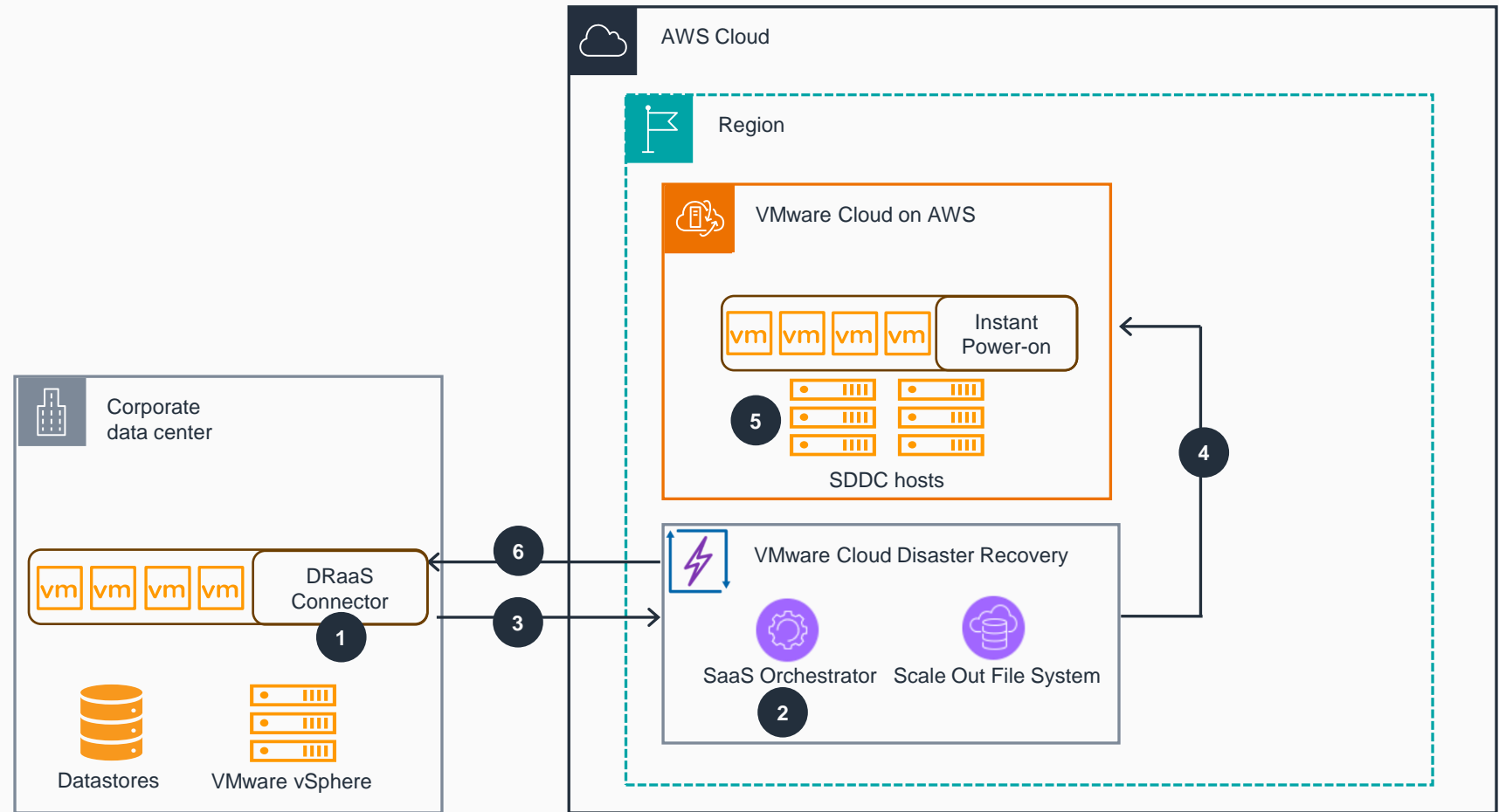


Guidance for Disaster Recovery with VMware on AWS

This architecture diagram shows how you can build a disaster recovery environment on AWS using VMware Cloud Disaster Recovery, a VMware-delivered disaster recovery as a service (DRaaS) offering that protects on-premises vSphere and VMware Cloud on AWS workloads.



- 1 The disaster recovery as a service (DRaaS) Connector is a virtual appliance that helps you to protect VMware virtual machines through VMware APIs for Data Protection (VADP) snapshots. VADP uses the snapshot capabilities of VMware vSphere to enable backup without requiring downtime for virtual machines.
- 2 The software as a service (SaaS) Orchestrator provides a disaster recovery orchestration service that operates within the AWS environment. This SaaS Orchestrator periodically evaluates the health and compliance of your disaster recovery plan so that your plan will function as intended when required.
- 3 The VMware virtual machines are replicated using hypervisor snapshots and stored within the VMware Cloud Disaster Recovery (VCDR) Scale Out File System.
- 4 In the event of a disaster, the protected VMware virtual machines will be recovered using the out-of-the-box orchestration capabilities of VCDR. If a VMware Cloud (VMC) on AWS Pilot Light environment is already established, the anticipated Recovery Time Objective (RTO) will be approximately minutes. Alternatively, the following tasks are required:
 - a. Deploy a VMC Software-Defined Data Center (SDDC) to be used as the recovery site.
 - b. Configure the minimal necessary user access and networking permissions.
- 5 The Pilot Light mode enables the deployment of a smaller subset of SDDC hosts (minimum of 2 nodes) ahead of time, facilitating the recovery of critical applications with lower RTO requirements. The Pilot Light option allows you to reduce the total cost of the cloud infrastructure by maintaining a scaled-down version of a fully functional environment. This is done in a warm-standby state for core applications to remain readily available when a disaster event is triggered.
- 6 When the original protected site is restored to an operational state, VCDR orchestrates the failback process, enabling the replication of only the delta changes to reduce the failback time. The VMC on AWS cluster can be scaled down to a 2-node Pilot Light configuration or even eliminated entirely, depending on the RTO requirements.