

Cohesity Certified Architect Expert (CCAIE) Certification Exam Preparation Guide

Introduction

The Cohesity Certified Architect Expert exam certifies that the successful candidate has the knowledge to describe and design the suite of the Cohesity Data Cloud in a customer environment.

Target Audience

The Cohesity Certified Architect Expert certification exam is designed for roles, such as:

- Technical Sales Engineers
- Solution Architects
- Technical Consultants
- System Integration Engineers
- Presales Engineers
- System Engineers

Products, solution areas and capabilities covered

- Align Cohesity technical solutions with business problems including, but not limited to, identifying gaps in existing protection strategy
- Cohesity Data Cloud
- Cohesity platform including SpanFS
- Cohesity branded and OEM hardware, VE, CE, and NGCE
- Cohesity Cluster networking and cloud integration
- Sizing and architecting end-to-end Cohesity on-premises, cloud, multi-cloud, and hybrid solutions
- The Cohesity Web Sizing Tool
- Cohesity DataProtect
- Cohesity Cloud Services
- Cohesity DataProtect supported workloads, workflows, cloud integration and best practices
- The Cohesity data platform as a backup target
- Cohesity SmartFiles

- Cohesity Replication
- Cohesity CloudArchive
- Cohesity CloudTier
- Cohesity Organizations for multitenancy
- Cohesity Cloud-based and Self Managed Management console (Helios)
- Cohesity API for custom automation
- Cohesity platform security hardening including but not limited to MFA, SSO, RBAC, DataLock
- Design Cyber Resiliency solution including but not limited to ransomware recovery strategies
- Cyber Vaulting using Cohesity FortKnox
- Cohesity Anomaly Detection
- Cohesity Threat Hunting/Scanning/Detection
- Cohesity Data Classification
- Cohesity third-party security integrations, including but not limited to Data Security Alliance integrations
- Tools and techniques for gap analysis, including but not limited to analysing capacity usage and performance to evaluate expansion requirements
- Using Cohesity the Cohesity UI and Siren for running health checks and basic troubleshooting

Recommended Training, Knowledge, and Hands-On Experience

- Experience before taking the exam
 - Expertise in data protection and security concepts, with the ability to apply them in complex, real-world scenarios
 - At least 1 year of experience in architecting, designing, sizing, consulting, and conducting testing or proof-of-concept work with the Cohesity Data Platform suite, specifically within the exam domain, in a customer environment

- Validate/mentor Cohesity or authorized partner design/architect events
- Basic administrative, maintenance, and troubleshooting skills
- Study materials
 - Cohesity and industry-standard documentation relevant to exam domain topics, including official product manuals, technical guides, and Knowledgebase articles
- Accreditation and Certification exam(s)
 - Cohesity Platform Foundations Technical Sales Associate
 - Cohesity DataProtect Technical Sales Associate Accreditation
 - Cohesity Cloud Services Technical Sales Associate Accreditation
 - Cohesity Database Technical Sales Professional Accreditation
 - Cohesity Cyber Resiliency Technical Sales Associate Accreditation
 - Cohesity FortKnox Technical Sales Associate Accreditation
 - Cohesity Service Provider Administrator Accreditation
 - Cohesity Certified Installation Associate Certification
 - Cohesity Certified Protection Associate - DataProtect or Cohesity Certified Implementation Professional Certification
 - Cohesity Certified Implementation Professional - SmartFiles Certification
 - Cohesity Certified Security Specialist Certification
- Cohesity courses
 - Cohesity Technical Sales Professional Instructor-led Course
 - Platform
 - Platform Foundations eCourse
 - Cohesity Data Cloud Technical Sales Associate Accreditation eCourse
 - Cohesity Data Cloud Licensing eCourse
 - How to Demo Cohesity Solutions eCourse
 - Installation Instructor-led Course
 - Sizing Cohesity Solutions eCourse
 - Platform Administration Instructor-led Course
 - SmartFiles
 - SmartFiles Administration Instructor-led Course
 - DataProtect
 - Cohesity DataProtect Technical Sales Associate Accreditation eCourse
 - Data Protection Operations Instructor-led Course
 - DataProtect Delivered as a Service - Getting Started eCourse
 - M365 Data Protection eCourse
 - Cloud
 - Cohesity Cloud Services Technical Sales Associate Accreditation eCourse
 - Database
 - Cohesity Database Technical Sales Professional Accreditation eCourse
 - Cohesity DataProtect for SQL DB Admins Instructor-led Course
 - Cohesity DataProtect for Oracle DB Admins Instructor-led Course
 - Security
 - Cohesity Cyber Resiliency Technical Sales Associate Accreditation eCourse
 - Cohesity FortKnox Technical Sales Associate Accreditation eCourse
 - Data Security Administration Instructor-led Course
 - Cohesity Threat Detection - Getting Started eCourse
 - Cohesity Data Classification - Getting Started eCourse
 - FortKnox - Getting Started eCourse
 - Data Classification - Getting Started eCourse
 - Service Providers
 - Cohesity SP Solutions eCourse
 - Troubleshooting
 - Platform Troubleshooting Instructor-led Course

Exam Domains/Topics

Section 1 – Cohesity Data Cloud Data Management Platform Architecture (22%)

- Demonstrate knowledge of Cohesity products, technology use cases and limitations
- Demonstrate knowledge of how to design and architect a DataProtect Platform

Section 2 – Cohesity Architecture Solution Discovery and Design (35%)

- Demonstrate knowledge of how to properly size Cohesity Data Platform
- Demonstrate knowledge of how to choose the appropriate protection technique or methodology while protecting workloads using Cohesity Data Cloud
- Demonstrate knowledge of how to design an end-to-end Cohesity solution across hybrid and multi-cloud environments
- Demonstrate knowledge of when and how to use Helios Self-Managed to manage Cohesity Clusters for Dark Sites
- Demonstrate knowledge of how to identify business problems and align Cohesity technical solutions to them

Section 3 – Design Security-focused Solutions (18%)

- Demonstrate knowledge of key security features within Cohesity Data Cloud
- Demonstrate knowledge of design considerations regarding cyber resiliency

Section 4 – Integrate Third-party Solutions with Cohesity (13%)

- Demonstrate knowledge of how to integrate third-party solutions with Cohesity
- Demonstrate knowledge of how to use Cohesity's API to create custom automations

Section 5 – Gap Analysis and Troubleshooting (12%)

- Demonstrate how to capture capacity and performance usage data from a Cohesity cluster to evaluate the solutions' usage, as-built vs. as-used, and future expansion requirements
- Describe how to identify the gaps in a customer data protection strategy
- Demonstrate knowledge of how to access Siren for troubleshooting and performing pre-check

Recommended Preparation

In addition to the recommended training, reference study materials, and hands-on experience, this document includes practice test questions to help candidates prepare for the Cohesity Certified Architect Expert certification exam.

Exam Details

Cohesity exams are delivered and proctored through a third-party testing center, with both onsite and remote testing options available. Onsite testing is available in specific locations.

Certification Track	Cohesity Solutions Professional
Specialty	Cohesity Solutions Architect
Credential	Cohesity Certified Architect Expert
Exam Number and Title	Coh500 - Cohesity Certified Architect Expert
Prerequisite Exams or Certifications	None
Exam Duration	90 minutes
Fee	\$200 (USD)
Expiration	2 years
Retake Policy	The exam can be attempted once every 14 days
Language	English
Age requirement	None
Passing Score	60%

Cohesity Certified Architect Expert – Practice Exam Questions and Answers

Below are practice questions similar to those found on the certification exam. Please note that these practice exam questions are provided to give candidates a general idea of the type, look, and feel of the questions on the proctored certification exam. Answers to the questions can be found at the bottom of the document.

The list of exam domains/topics and the recommended study materials offer much more detailed information regarding exam content. Performance on these practice questions does not guarantee similar results or passing marks on the actual certification exam(s).

Cohesity Certified Architect Expert – Practice Exam Questions

Question 1

An enterprise is implementing Cohesity to align with the modernized 3-2-1 backup rule for enhanced data protection.

Their requirements include:

- Maintaining three copies of data across different storage media
- Ensuring one copy is off-site and another is air-gapped or immutable to protect against ransomware
- Verifying backups to ensure zero errors for reliable recovery

Which three Cohesity products and features fulfill these requirements? (Select three.)

- A. SmartFiles
- B. DataProtect
- C. CloudArchive
- D. FortKnow
- E. Helios

Question 2

A customer is converting the network to jumbo frames. The network team has configured the switch ports to 9124 bytes MTU.

In this scenario, which value would you use for the network on the Cohesity cluster?

- A. 8999 bytes
- B. 9124 bytes
- C. 9216 bytes
- D. 9000 bytes

Question 3

A VMware ESXi host is configured with multiple VMkernel IP addresses. The host has already been added as a Cohesity source. You want to cause backup traffic to flow to a specific network interface to isolate or optimize data transfer.

In this scenario, which two supported configuration changes will accomplish this task? (Select two.)

- A. use vi to directly edit the `/etc/hosts` file on the Cohesity nodes in the cluster
- B. configure custom host mappings in the Cohesity Appliance Manager
- C. configure network address translation on the Cohesity firewall to map to the desired network interface on the ESXi host
- D. tag the VMkernel vNIC with the `vSphereBackupNFC` tag in the vSphere client

Question 4

When designing a new Cohesity solution, a customer requests that they want to use Cloud for long-term retention of archive data. To meet legal compliance requirements, the data should be archived every month and retained for seven years.

Which three actions should be used to satisfy this requirement? (Select three.)

- A. register the storage bucket as an external target, specify the type as archival
- B. under external targets on the cluster, create and deploy an archive bucket in Azure Blob storage
- C. manually create an AWS Glacier vault along with an access policy

- D. create a protection policy for the data that has archive set to run once every 30 days and retain for seven years
- E. within the Azure console, create an Azure Blob storage policy to retain the data for seven years

Question 5

You are talking with a customer and realize that they should be using a Cohesity agent to protect one of their virtual machines.

In this scenario, what is a valid reason for this design implementation?

- A. to produce crash-consistent backups
- B. to produce application-consistent backups
- C. to be able to schedule backups
- D. to protect Hyper-V VMs

Question 6

A customer wants to use SmartFiles to store their backups from an incumbent backup tool.

In this scenario, where would they see the single-largest performance advantage using Cohesity's SpanFS and SnapTree technologies?

- A. deduplication
- B. compression
- C. rehydration
- D. throughput

Question 7

Your organization uses Windows DFS namespaces to provide unified file shares across multiple branch locations. You are asked to implement a backup strategy using Cohesity DataProtect that ensures:

- protection of underlying file servers hosting DFS targets
- consistent recovery of namespace and folder targets
- avoidance of inconsistencies due to open files or system state issues
- minimal impact on end-user access during backup windows

In this scenario, what would be a best-practice approach to protecting this infrastructure using Cohesity?

- A. reconfigure DFS namespace referrals to point to a new SMB share hosted on SmartFiles, migrate file data to SmartFiles and apply SmartFiles' compliance features like DataLock, and use cloud tiering for cold data
- B. create new DFS targets on each branch file server, then use rsync to replicate data to SmartFiles periodically, and retain SmartFiles for read-only archival purposes
- C. use SmartFiles as a cold object storage backend and configure DFS to continue using existing file servers, with a custom script to push cold data from DFS targets into SmartFiles buckets
- D. mount SmartFiles over NFS to each branch and configure DFS to use the NFS-mounted shares as namespace targets

Question 8

A large media company wants to reduce their on-premises storage footprint by moving cold data, such as older video assets, to the Cloud while retaining the ability to retrieve it if needed.

In this scenario, which feature accomplishes this task?

- A. CloudArchive
- B. CloudTier
- C. FortKnox
- D. DataLock

Question 9

You are a system architect at a company that uses Cohesity DataProtect as a Service to protect its Amazon EC2 instances. Your organization has strict security policies that require backup data to be stored outside of the original AWS region and bucket to ensure data security and maintain an additional copy for redundancy.

Which two statements are correct in this scenario?
(Select two.)

- A. Cohesity DataProtect as a Service can protect Amazon EC2 instances by ingesting the backup data, providing an air-gapped backup and granular file and folder-level recoveries.
- B. Cohesity DataProtect as a Service can protect Amazon EC2 instances using native AWS snapshots, which are stored in the same AWS account and region as the source instances.
- C. Cohesity DataProtect as a Service allows you to store backup data in a different AWS region from the source instances, ensuring data security and redundancy.
- D. Cohesity DataProtect as a Service supports AWS snapshots for protecting Amazon EC2 instances in another account and region.

Question 10

A customer is exploring methods to manage all their Cohesity clusters in a dark site.

Which two Cohesity solutions should they use in this scenario? (Select two.)

- A. Multi-Cluster Manager
- B. Helios SaaS Standard
- C. Helios Self-Managed
- D. Cohesity Cluster UI

Question 11

A customer reports that backups are taking a long time due to backup server performance bottlenecks. Currently, there is no way to quickly restore multiple VMs at the same time.

Which two features of Cohesity DataProtect address these business problems? (Select two.)

- A. CloudRetrieve
- B. CloudArchive
- C. Instant Mass Restore
- D. Distributed data ingestion with DataProtect

Question 12

A partner has deployed Cohesity in a customer's environment and enabled Active Directory integration. The customer now requires enforcement of multifactor authentication (MFA) for all administrators and a hardened security posture that aligns with common compliance frameworks like CIS benchmarks.

Which configuration accurately satisfies these requirements?

- A. enable SAML-based authentication, configure AD groups for RBAC, and enforce cluster login MFA through the Cohesity dashboard
- B. enable RADIUS-based authentication, enforce password complexity for all AD users, and disable local accounts
- C. configure MFA using the Cohesity CLI, set firewall rules and disable all API access
- D. enable Kerberos authentication, configure token-based login, and use internal-only Cohesity user accounts

Question 13

The Security and Infosec teams are evaluating your Cohesity solution design to better understand risk to stored data. During the review, they are concerned about data tampering and access to data stored in FortKnox vaults.

Which three statements are correct in this scenario? (Select three.)

- A. Customers can directly manage read and write operations to the cloud vault.
- B. The Cohesity cluster must authenticate through the control service to obtain temporary security credentials for accessing the cloud vault.
- C. Direct access to the cloud vault is permitted for customers using secure AWS API calls.
- D. Temporary security credentials for write operations are granted only during a defined vaulting window.
- E. The control service grants the Cohesity cluster restricted privileges to access the cloud vault using short-lived, token-based, authenticated APIs.

Question 14

A multinational financial services institution is implementing a multi-cloud security strategy that requires Microsoft Sentinel integration with Cohesity Data Cloud for anomaly detection.

Which specific Cohesity configuration is required to enable this integration?

- A. configure Cohesity DataProtect with direct Azure Log Analytics workspace connection using managed identity
- B. configure Cohesity Helios API with Azure Logic Apps custom connector and implement Microsoft Graph API permission
- C. deploy Cohesity Security Center with Azure Sentinel Workbooks and configure the Microsoft Security Graph API connector
- D. configure API keys, Azure Function App, data connector, and playbooks

Question 15

You are building a script to assign newly discovered VMware VMs to a default protection job.

What is the primary reason to use Cohesity's API for this task?

- A. The UI cannot display unprotected objects.
- B. The API enables automation to reduce manual assignment.
- C. The protection job must be re-created each time.
- D. All assignments must be performed using the CLI.

Cohesity Certified Architect Expert – Practice Exam Answers

Sample Question 1	B, C, D
Sample Question 2	D
Sample Question 3	B, D
Sample Question 4	A, C, D
Sample Question 5	B
Sample Question 6	C
Sample Question 7	A
Sample Question 8	B
Sample Question 9	A, C
Sample Question 10	C, D
Sample Question 11	C, D
Sample Question 12	A
Sample Question 13	B, D, E
Sample Question 14	D
Sample Question 15	B

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