

Enable Replication on Microsoft Hyper-V

Hyper-V replica is a wonderful thing! If you have a spare Hyper-V host, and you just don't know what to do with it, use it as a replica server for your virtual machines. It is a poor mans fail-over, but it works and machine state can be at least five minutes old.

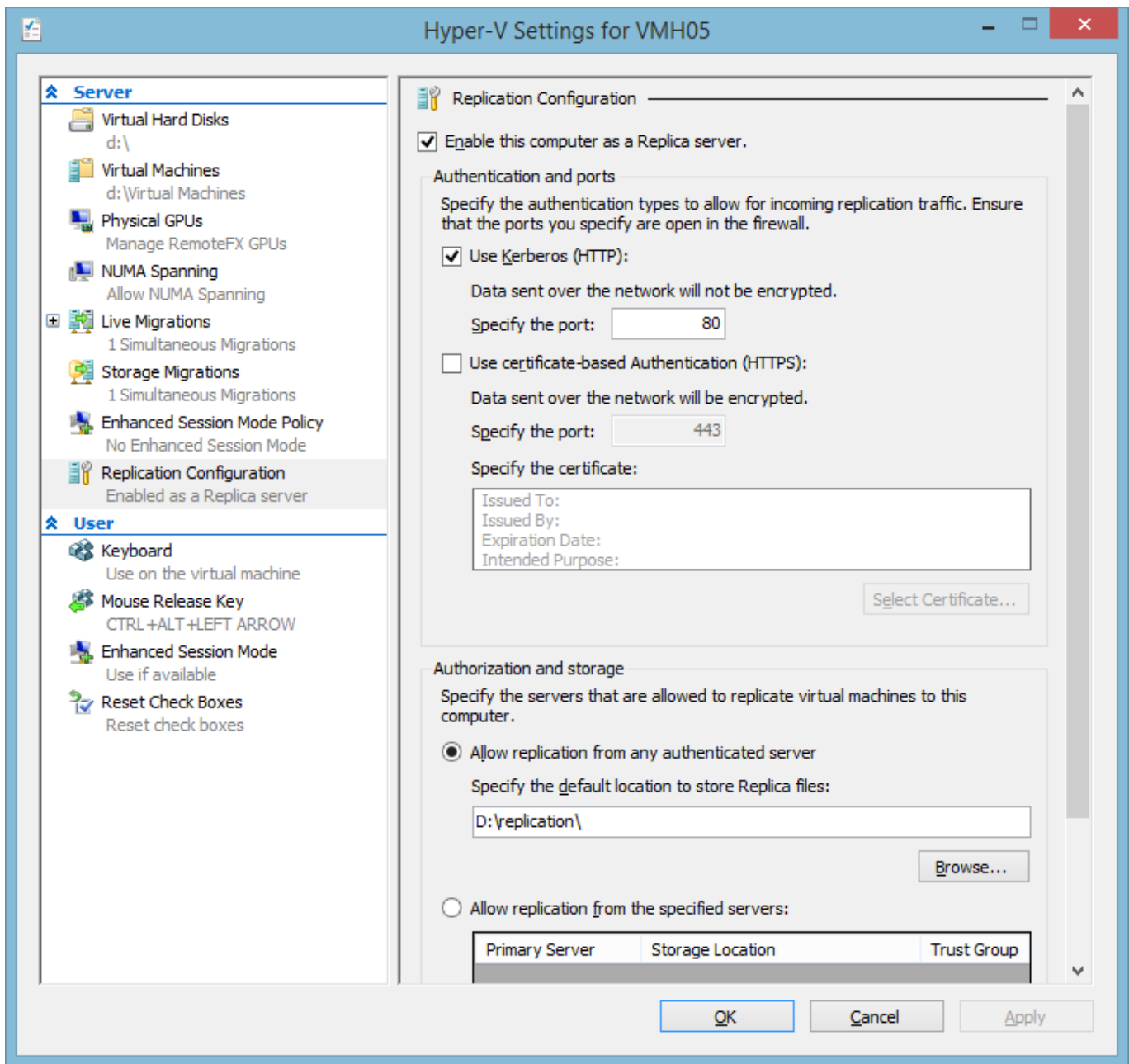
Here is a series of screenshots on how it's done with Hyper-V manager on a client machine.

My configuration:

- My network contains an Active Directory domain (not contoso.com)
- Microsoft Windows Hyper-V 2012 R2 hosts
- Microsoft Windows 8.1 clients

Open Hyper-V manager, and connect to your source and destination servers. On the destination host, open 'Hyper-V Settings', select 'Replication Configuration'

- Check 'Enable this computer as a Replica server.'
- Check 'Use Kerberos (HTTP)' (If you want, you can use HTTPS instead, or both. But be sure to have a valid certificate.)
- Select 'Allow replication from any authenticated server' and enter the path where you want to store replicated virtual machines.
- If you plan to replicate from multiple sources, you might rather want to select 'Allow replication from the specified servers' and specify each servers storage location separately.



Note that the replication will not work if you don't enable the firewall rules. You can enable the rules from CMD on the host.

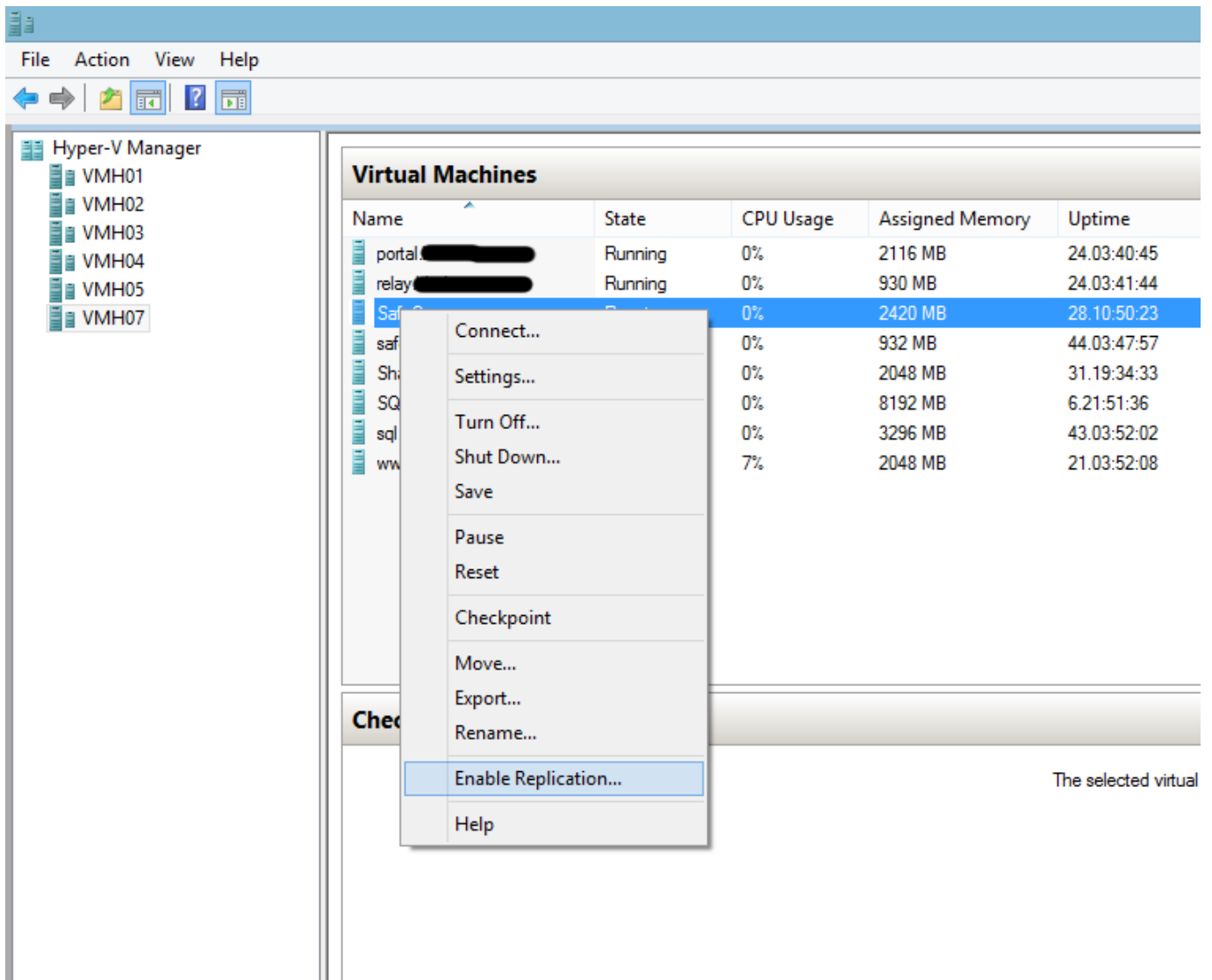
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D:\>netsh advfirewall firewall set rule name="Hyper-V Replica HTTP Listener (TCP-In)" new enable = yes
Updated 1 rule(s).
Ok.

D:\>
```

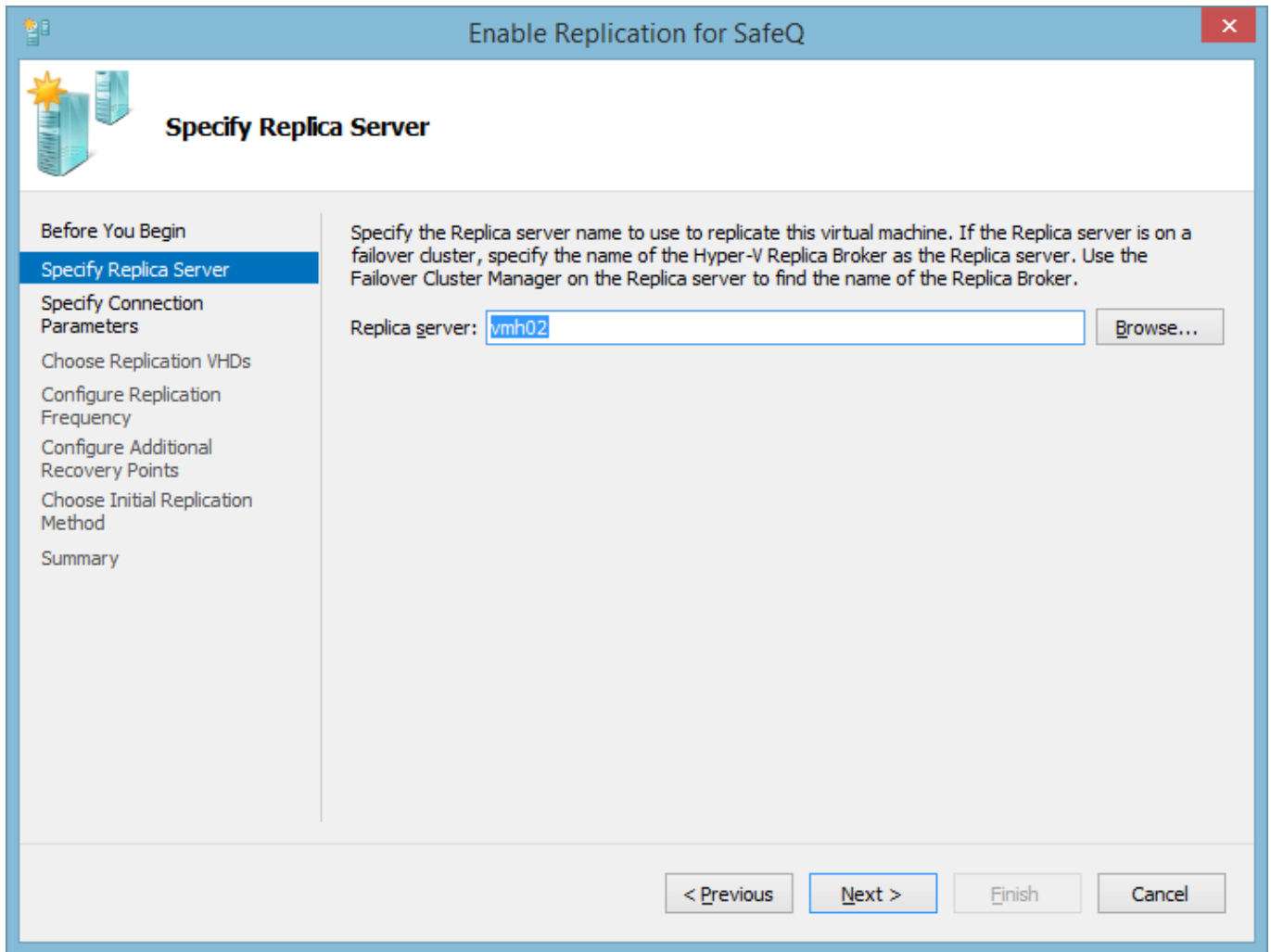
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D:\>netsh advfirewall firewall set rule name="Hyper-V Replica HTTPS Listener (TCP-In)" new enable = yes
Updated 1 rule(s).
Ok.

D:\>
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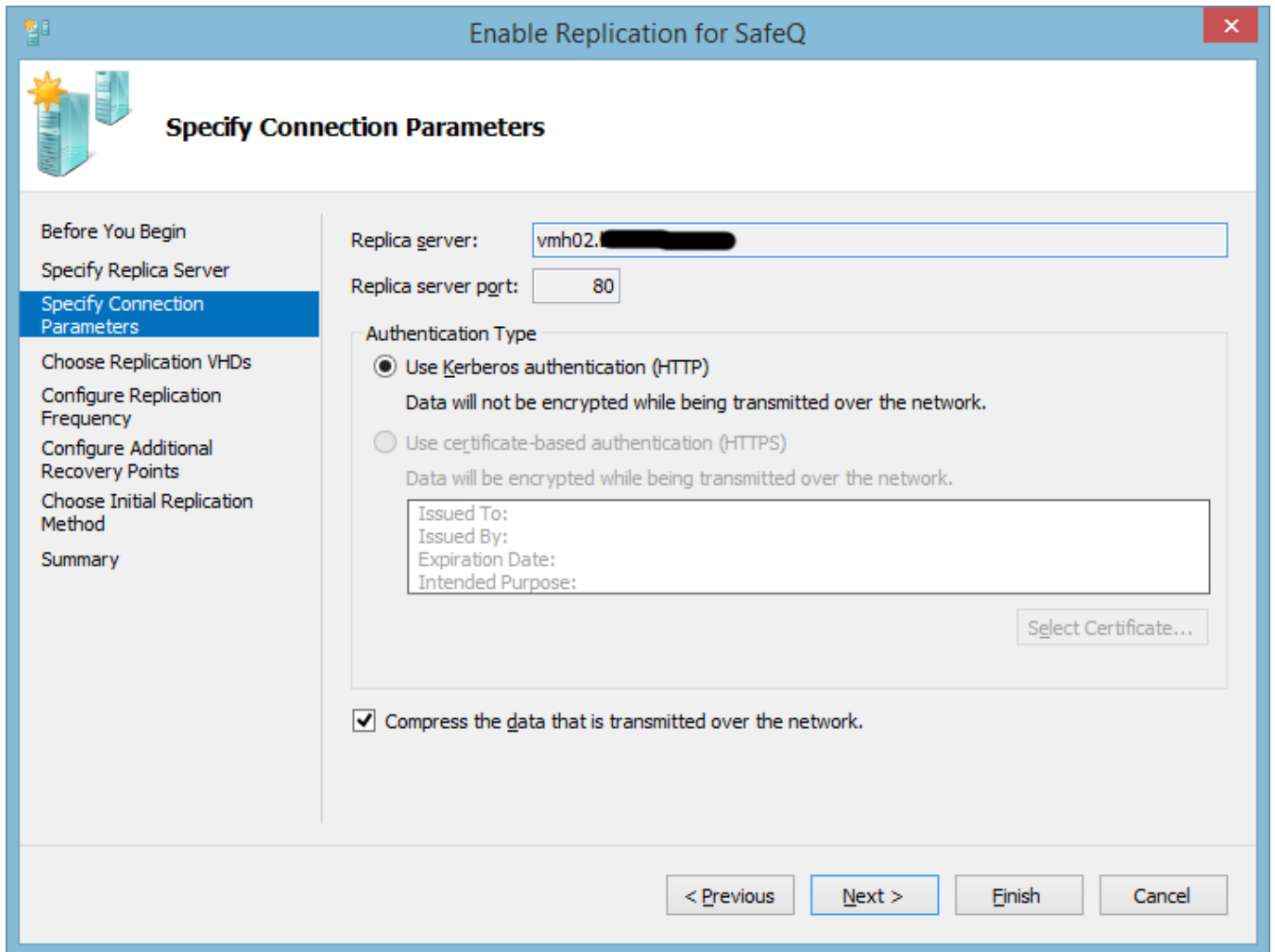
On the source host, right-click the virtual machine for which you wish to enable replication, and click 'Enable Replication'



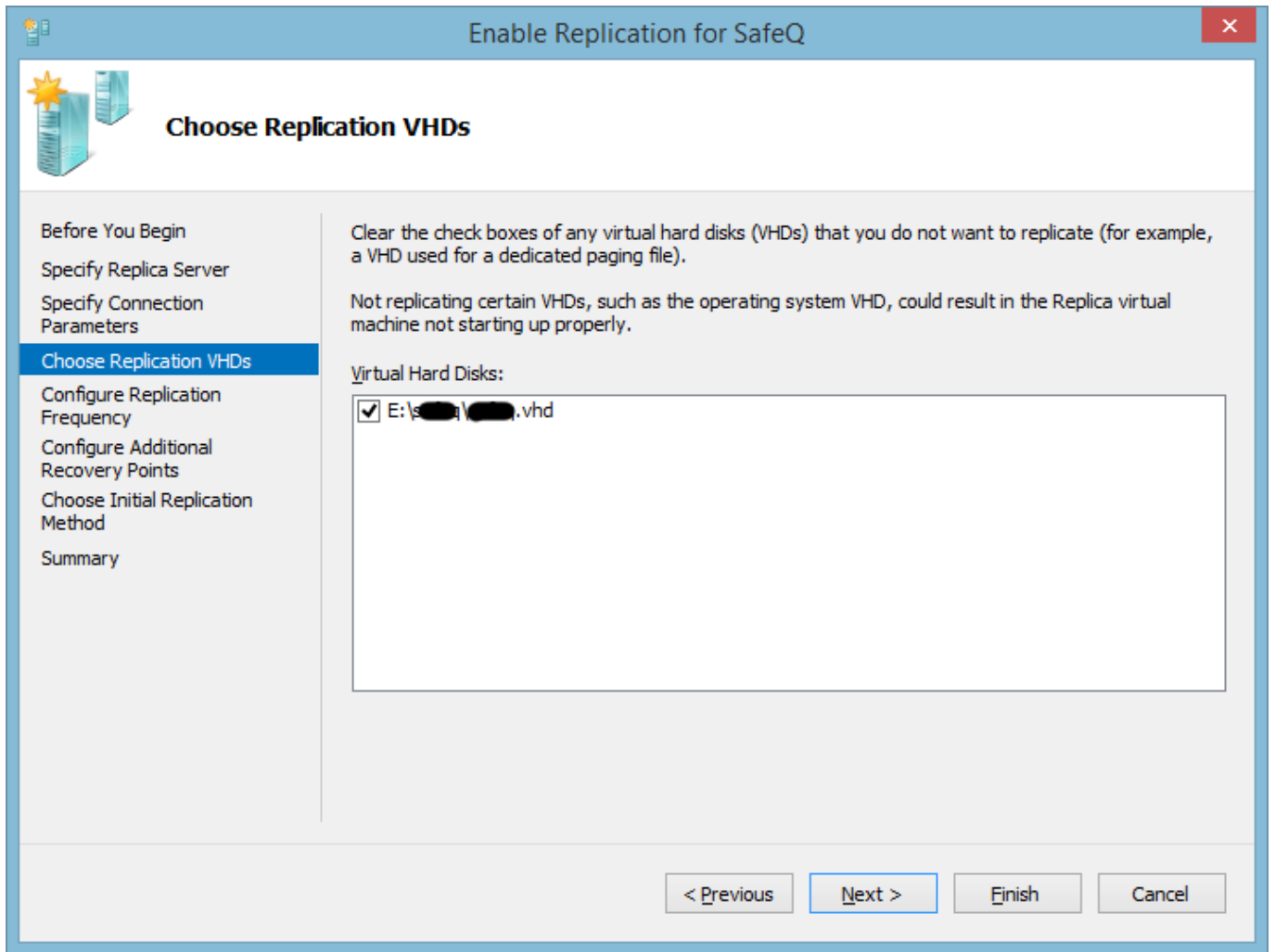
Enter the host name of your destination Hyper-V host



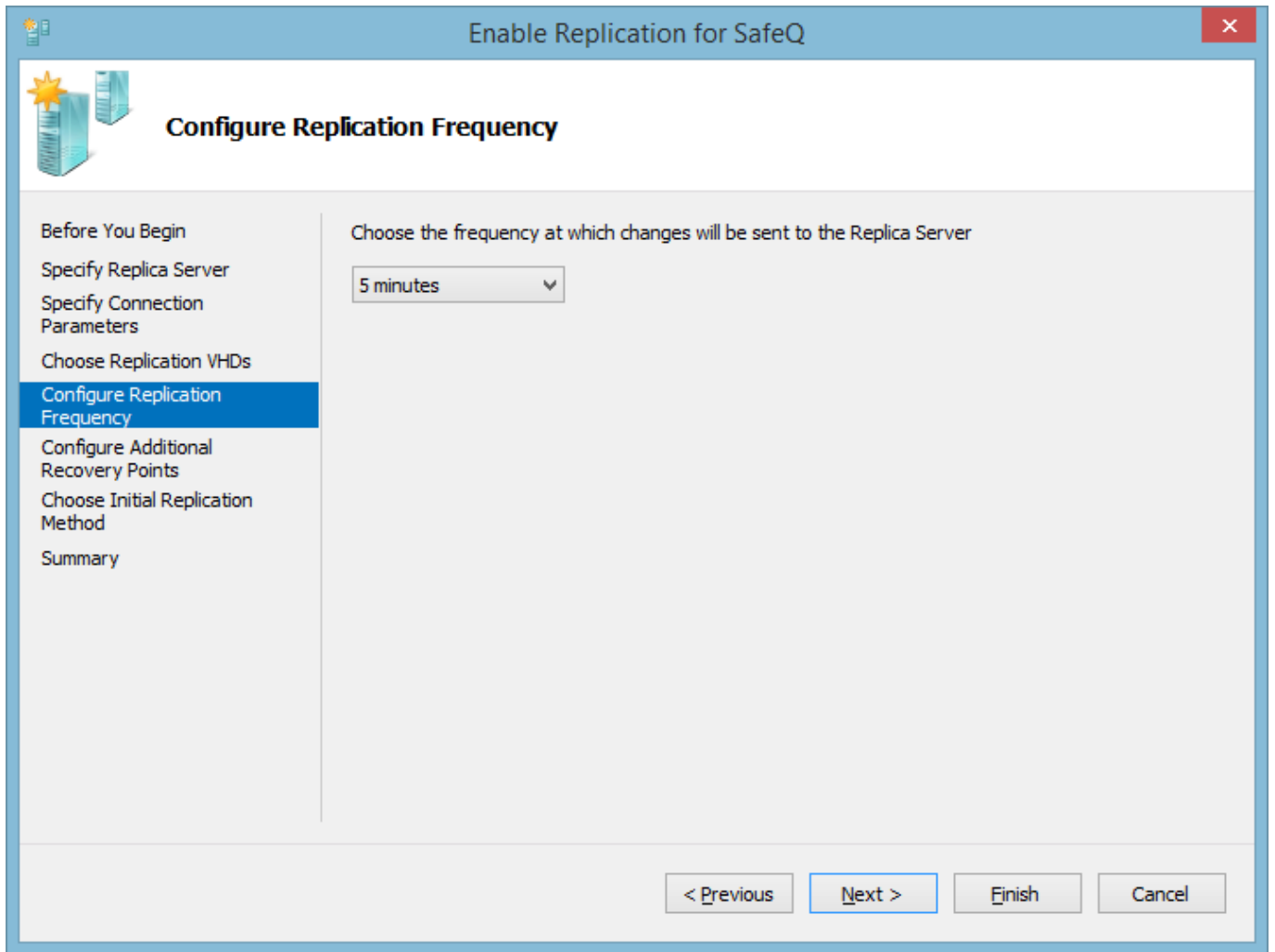
Select authentication method (be sure to match it with the destination host)



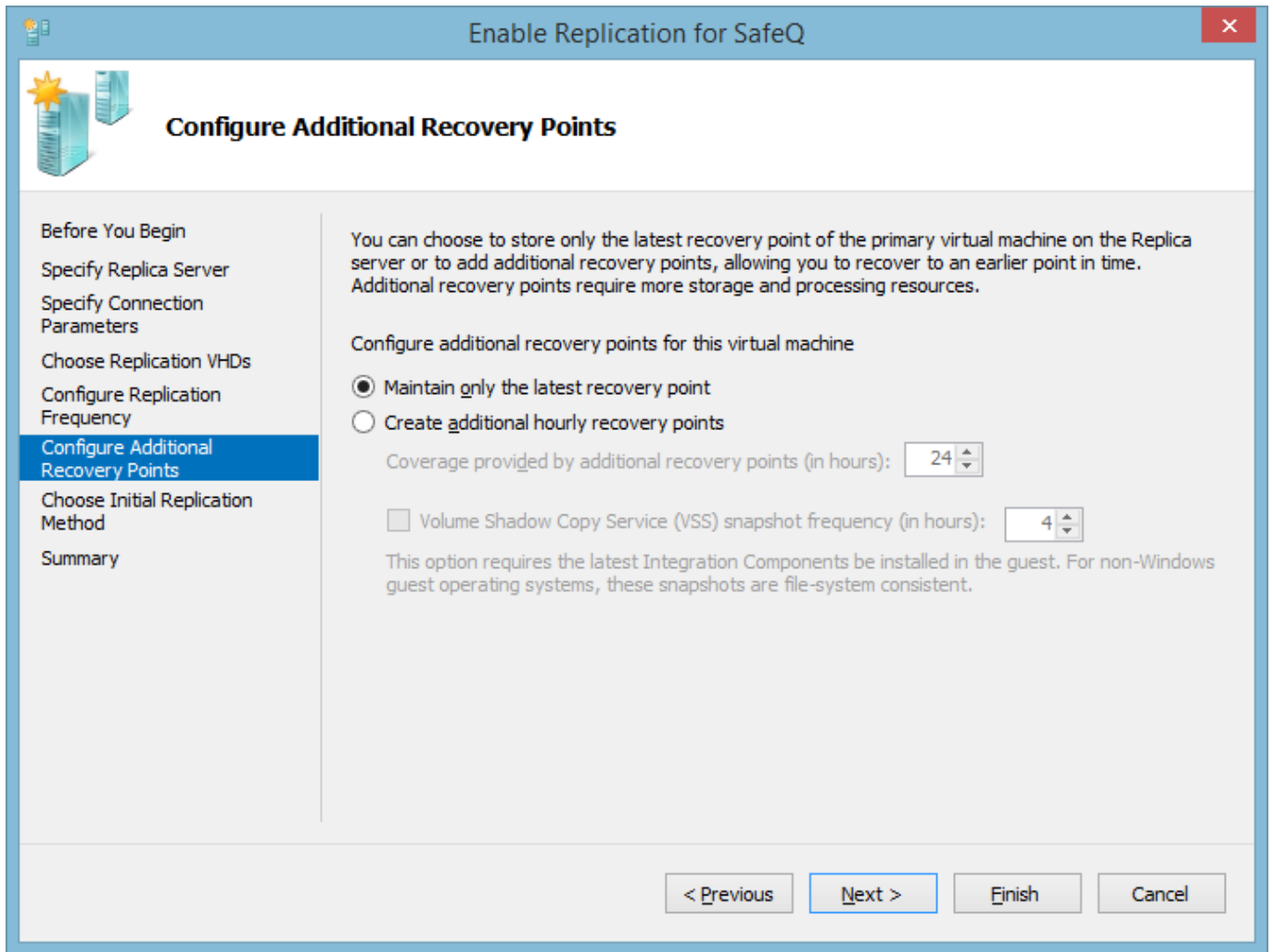
Select the virtual hard disks you want to replicate (Note that if you don't select the system disk, you will not be able to boot the replicated server)



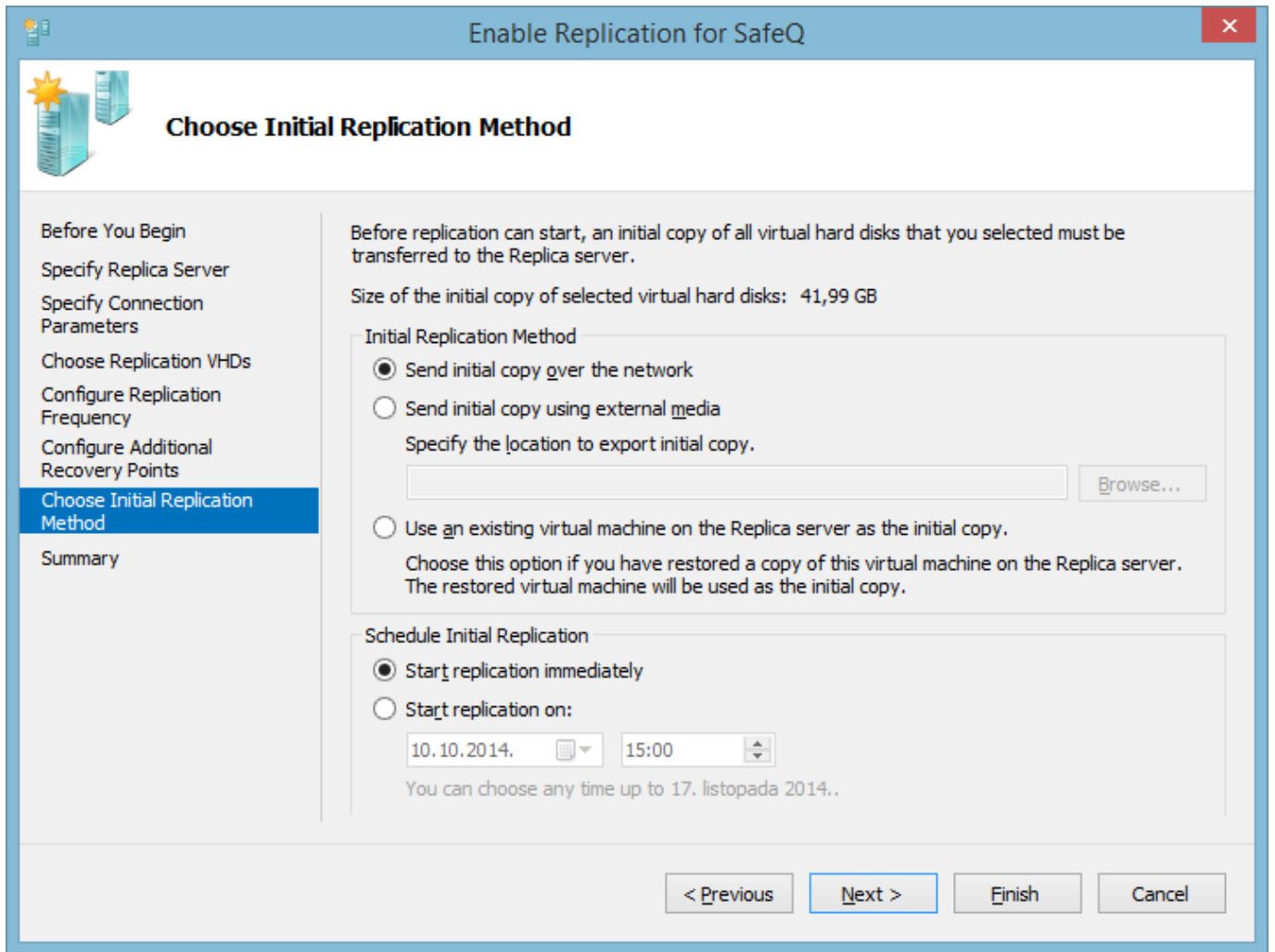
Select the interval which will be met to send changes to the replica server.



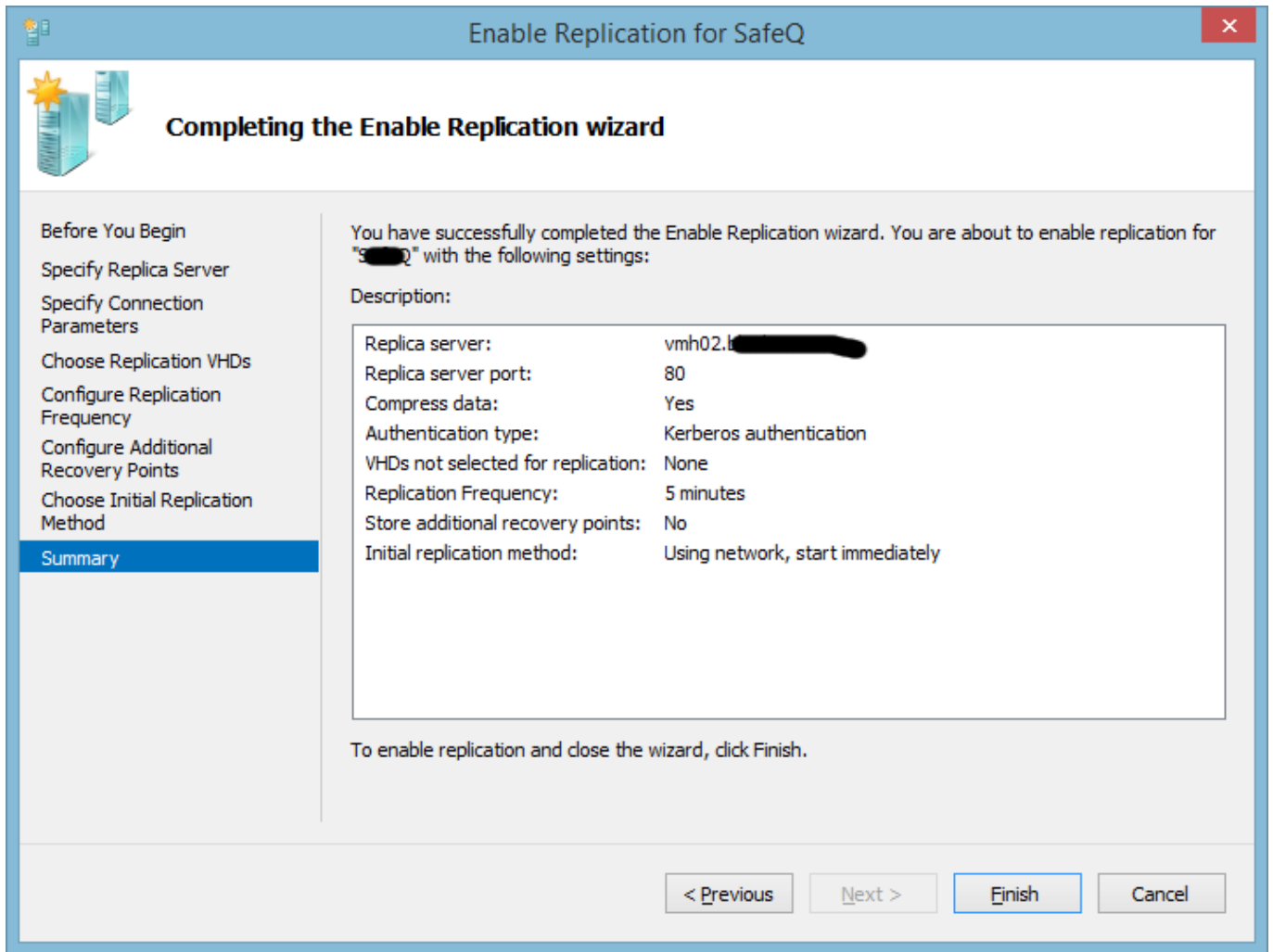
Select if you need hourly recovery points, or just the latest recovery point.



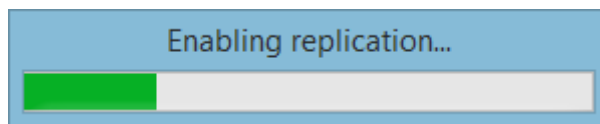
Determine how and when you want to do the initial replication. It would be wise to use external media if the VHDs are large, or schedule the initial replication after office hours.



Review the wizard data, and click 'Finish'



Wait for the configuration to complete



And check the replication progress (if you started it immediately) in the Hyper-V Manager

Virtual Machines						
Name	State	CPU Usage	Assigned Memory	Uptime	Status	Replication Health
portal [redacted]	Running	0%	2116 MB	24.03:43:48		Not Applicable
relay [redacted]	Running	0%	930 MB	24.03:44:47	Sending Initial Replica (98%)	Normal
[redacted]	Running	0%	2420 MB	28.10:53:23	Sending Initial Replica (2%)	Normal
[redacted]	Running	0%	932 MB	44.03:51:00		Not Applicable
[redacted]	Running	0%	2048 MB	31.19:37:36		Not Applicable
[redacted]	Running	0%	8192 MB	6.21:54:40		Not Applicable
[redacted]	Running	0%	3296 MB	43.03:55:05		Not Applicable
w [redacted]	Running	8%	2048 MB	21.03:55:12	Sending Initial Replica (38%)	Normal

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