**Overview**

A vSphere Distributed Switch provides centralized management and monitoring of the networking configuration of all hosts that are associated with the switch. You set up a distributed switch on a vCenter Server system, and its settings are propagated to all hosts that are associated with the switch.

**Image**

- vDS puts management plane on vCenter server
- each data plane on ESXi host

**vDS abstractions**

- Uplink Port Group
  - map physical nics to this
  - At the host level, each physical NIC is connected to an uplink port with a particular ID.
- Distributed Port Group
  - The virtual ports that are connected to a distributed port group share the same properties that are configured to the distributed port group.

**Explanation**