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Release Notes

Emulex® Drivers for VMware® ESXi 8.0

Release 14.4.726.0

Purpose and Contact Information

These release notes describe the supported operating systems, new features, resolved issues, known issues, and technical tips that are associated with these Emulex® drivers for VMware® releases.

For the latest product documentation and for supported driver versions, go to www.broadcom.com. If you have questions or require additional information, contact an authorized Broadcom® Technical Support representative at ecd-tech.support@broadcom.com.

Supported Operating Systems

ESXi 8.0 and Updates

New Features

- Modified the range of the driver parameter `lpfc_hba_queue_depth` to include values 2K to 256K.
- On an ESXi server, increased the number of supported HBA ports to 32.
- Support is added for the BB credit recovery feature while configuring a point-to-point topology.

NOTE:

- The HBA-initiated DPortTest is no longer supported; the feature will be disabled in a future release. The HBA continues to support switch-initiated tests.
- The Emulex HBA Manager application only supports the Emulex HBA Manager CLI. The Emulex HBA Manager GUI is no longer supported.
- The boot type x86 is no longer supported and will be removed from all boot commands in a future release.

Resolved Issues

No issues were resolved in this release.

Known Issues

1. Changing the `lpfc_log_buf` module parameter to a higher value (maximum of 32 MB) consumes additional heap memory and may fail to discover some ports in the system. Modify this parameter only during the debugging phase for specific ports.

   Workaround

   None.

2. In the *Emulex Drivers for VMware ESXi User Guide*, the maximum value of the `lpfc_link_speed` parameter is incorrect. The maximum value supported is 64 Gbaud.

3. In the *Emulex Drivers for VMware ESXi User Guide*, the heap size values that can be specified for the `lpfc_max_heap_size` parameter are incorrect. The heap size can range from 64 MB to 1536 MB. The maximum heap size supported is 1536 MB.

4. An ESXi host might not discover all the targets in a configuration when a large number of targets are connected.

   Workaround

   Issue a LIP (Loop Initialization Primitive) on the host port and all targets will be discovered.

Technical Tips

1. ESXi servers can appear to have the same VMID application ID. The VMID is the combination of the application ID appended to the end of the N_Port ID, which provides uniqueness within the fabric.

2. To view VMID information on all VMs in a multipathing configuration, set the path policy to `Round Robin`.

3. The server must be in ESXi maintenance mode to safely change the firmware in flash memory.

   For operations such as firmware download, bring the server into ESXi maintenance mode before flashing the firmware.

4. Upgrading from a previous driver to the latest 8.0 asynchronous `lpfc` driver results in the driver retaining the module parameters configured for the previous driver. Setting an invalid value causes the module parameter to be set to the default value. Reset the `lpfc_max_heap_size` parameter to activate the upgrade.

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