Dell™ Failover Clusters Important Information – Using EMC® PowerPath® in a Dell PowerEdge™ Cluster Configuration

EMC PowerPath enhances SAN performance and availability with automatic I/O load balancing and path failover features. In a Dell PowerEdge Cluster, PowerPath requires a unique host ID for each cluster host to reserve the shared disks. This unique host ID is set to the largest numerical MAC address found in the host during installation and is saved in the Microsoft® Windows® registry.

NOTE: Ensure that the network interface card (NIC) driver is loaded when PowerPath is installed in a cluster environment. You must follow the installation process in the order specified in the following documents:

- *Dell/EMC CX4-series iSCSI Storage Arrays With Microsoft Windows Server® Failover Clusters Hardware Installation and Troubleshooting Guide*.
- *Dell Failover Clusters With Microsoft Windows Server 2003 Software Installation and Troubleshooting Guide*.
- *Dell Failover Clusters With Microsoft Windows Server 2008 Software Installation and Troubleshooting Guide.*

If the components are not installed in a proper sequence, the host ID may be duplicated among the cluster nodes. To correct the duplication of host ID, run the `emcphostid` utility on each cluster node.

To run the `emcphostid` utility:

1. Ensure the NIC driver is installed and at least one MAC address is available.
2. Run the `emcphostid set -no_prompt` command.
3. Reboot the host system.

For more information on how to use `emcphostid` utility, see the appropriate EMC PowerPath documentation.

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