Active System Manager 8.1

Release Notes

Release Type and Definition

Active System Manager

Active System Manager (ASM) is Dell's unified management product that provides a comprehensive infrastructure and workload automation solution for IT administrators and teams.

The release notes contains important information available at the time of release of Active System Manager™(ASM), release 8.1, including information about ASM release lineup and dependencies, ASM documentation lineup, known issues, and the methods to contact your service provider.

This document contains updated information for the ASM and any other technical documentation included with ASM. Two new issues, ASM – 3892 and ASM – 4007 have been added as part of ASM 8.1 release v2.

Version 8.1 Rev A01

Release Date

Jun 2015

Importance

None

Platform(s) Affected

Supported ASM Software Components

- ASM Virtual Appliance

Supported Virtualization Platforms

- VMware ESXi 5.1
- VMware ESXi 5.5
- Microsoft Windows Hyper-V 2012
- Microsoft Windows Hyper-V 2012 R2
- System Center Virtual Machine Manager 2012
- System Center Virtual Machine Manager 2012 R2
- RHEL 7.0
- Cent OS 7.0

What is Supported

Supported Web Browsers and Operating Systems

- Microsoft Internet Explorer, version 9 and later
- Mozilla Firefox, version 26 and later
- Google Chrome, version 32 and later
- Safari, version 6 and later

What's New

The following are the highlights of Active System Manager version 8.1:

- Template based flexible RAID configuration
- Granular BIOS settings enabled in service template
- File upload for MXL configuration
- Support for multiple license files
- Usability updates for configuration wizard
- NTP configuration on all installed operating systems
- Firmware compliance improvements
- Service error reporting
- FX2 Support For iSCSI, FCoE, and FC
- RHEL 7.0 support
- Cent OS 7.0
- I/O Aggregator, Uplink, and VLT Configuration
- MXL Upload Switch Configuration

Important Notes

To support interoperability, ASM 8.1 requires:

- The following resources locale are set to English:
    - Microsoft System Center Virtual Machine Manager (SCVMM)
    - VMware vCenter
    - Dell EqualLogic
    - Dell Compellent
    - Dell Chassis Management Controller (CMC)
    - Integrated Dell Remote Access Controller (iDRAC)
    - NetApp
- All Bare Metal OS installations must be in English to support unattended installation process.
- The credentials used for all the external systems that ASM interfaces must be in English. For example, Virtual Machine Manager Credentials for systems such as SCVMM and VMware vCenter must be in English. Therefore, ASM can provision to these environments.
- DNS names must be in English.

Known Issues

This section provides information on open issues and resolutions with this release of Active System Manager 8.1..

- ASM-2910: DHCPD configuration assigned to incorrect PXE IP address.
    - If the appliance is configured with multiple interfaces in which a non-routed network for PXE uses the appliance as the DHCP server, it is expected that the correct PXE server IP address will be used in the dhcpd.conf that ASM creates.

- When multiple interfaces are used and DHCP is being served from the ASM appliance, ensure that during the initial configuration on the appliance "eth0" is selected as the interface on the PXE network as eth0 is used for DHCP.
- ASM-3493: Network scale up should only allow Public/Private networks.
  - During the scale up of a network within a service allow only Public and Private Networks, as the Public and Private networks are typically selected for Workload networks.
- ASM 3490: Host and sub host groups cannot be used in separate deployments for Hyper-V deployments.
  - Hyper-V deployments uses one logical network and all hosts are assigned the same logical network. In case of two deployments, if the first deployment uses the parent host group and the second deployment uses a user defined host group, then the second deployment with the user defined host group fails.
- ASM-3150: Log event shows EqualLogic deployment fails.
  - When you deploy EqualLogic storage, the Log event shows deployment is failed. However, the ASM GUI shows deployment is successful.
  - You should try an auto-retry.
- ASM-2381: In Mozilla Firefox, IQN/IPs are displayed as mandatory for Hyper-V template.
  - If you open ASM in Mozilla Firefox and update Hyper-V template, ASM prompts you to enter IQN/IPs, which are not valid.
  - Use Google Chrome to update Hyper-V template
- ASM-3157: For SCVMM cluster provisioning, Active Directory must not contain any hosts with the same name.
  - When you provision a SCVMM cluster using a Hyper-V cluster creation template, if the template has the AD entries for the Cluster that are persistent and match the name you are trying to provision, the SCVMM cluster deployment will fail.
  - Active Directory and DNS conflicts must be resolved prior to a deployment if you intend to use names that may already exist within your AD/DNS. ASM requires the names to be removed from AD/DNS and these will be re-provisioned during the template execution
- ASM-3129: Disk type information retrieved from ASM inventory is not the updated information.
  - After upgrading ASM from 8.0 to 8.1, to get the latest disk type information, you need to run the inventory. If not, the disk type information will not be available in 8.0 inventory. Or, you have to manually, run inventory or wait till ASM runs the inventory.
- ASM-2382: During volume scale up, duplicate volume lists existing volumes.
  - During volume scale up, if you select the Duplicate option, the existing volumes are displayed.
  - If we select a volume that does not match the duplicated resource, then there will be no dulicating.
- ASM-2951: Error message is displayed during firmware update on C series.
  - While performing firmware update on C series servers, the health status of the C series switch changes to <gray> and the following error message is displayed.
    ```
    Unknown error querying ipmi on host 172.31.32.142: Could
    not retrieve IPMI status: ipmi_sensor_read: internal IPMI
    error.
    ```

- o This is an expected behavior because connection is not established with the BMC for a few seconds when you initiate firmware update operation, and the firmware update continues after the connectivity is established with BMC.
- ASM-3133: ASM performs the discovery operation on the FX2 chassis after you update the CMC firmware.
  - o The Chassis firmware update will trigger the Chassis inventory which will trigger the Chassis discovery in order to detect any newly inserted blades or IOMs.
  - o This is an expected behavior. When you update the CMC firmware on FX2 chassis, the chassis firmware update operation initiates the Chassis inventory operation, which in turn initiates the chassis discovery operation to collect the information about the blades or IOMs that are newly inserted.
- ASM-3520: Deployments fail if SD and HDD are enabled and operating system is installed on SD.
  - o ESXi Operating System installation was done on the SD card with HDD and SD card enabled on the server. The configuration sequence was first HDD and then SD. After the operating system was installed the server was not able to boot from the HDD.
  - o Check for ESXi management IP Address access.
- ASM-3545: C-series cannot be taken as a reference server though it is displayed in the import list.
  - o This is an expected behavior. C-series servers cannot be referenced as reference servers as they do not have iDRAC supported.
- ASM-3328: Import from R430 reference server sets server type undefined in networking section
  - o For all servers prior to ASM discovery, ensure the RAID controller is enabled if it is available, and that any unsupported 1Gb NICs are disabled. After updating these devices setting, you should reboot the server to ensure that Lifecycle Controller system inventory is updated.
- ASM-2144: Server with bare hard drive fails to get HddSeq set properly
  - o If you choose SD boot and the server has a bare hard drive (not connected through a RAID controller) the HddSeq may fail to get set properly, Leaving the bare hard drive at the top of the list. The server may boot off the bare hard drive instead of the SD card where the operating system was installed.
- ASM-3734: Backups from ASM versions prior to 8.1 will not contain the appliance NTP settings.
  - o When restoring from a backup file created prior to 8.1, the user is required to configure NTP settings in the Virtual Appliance Management settings section.
- ASM-3504: When you clone a template from Hyper-V to ESX, the deployment fails with Hype-V exception
  - o Cloning a template built for Hyper-V and changing it to ESX results in "Install Hyper-V" flag being cached in the back end. The new template with ESX, when deployed fails with the following exception.

```
#<Exception: HyperV does not work with target boot device
SD>

/opt/asm-deployer/lib/asm/processor/server.rb:22:in
`munge_hyperv_server'
/opt/asm-deployer/lib/asm/service_deployment.rb:3234:in
`process_server'
/opt/asm-deployer/lib/asm/service_deployment.rb:682:in
`process_components
```

- ASM-3497: Filtering error message for insufficient user privileges needs to be enhanced.
    - When a user with insufficient privileges to a server pool tries to kick off a deployment, the filtering code does not allow the deployment to be kicked off and the following error message is displayed:

      `{=0 servers could be chosen for deployment}`
- ASM-3463: Compellent deployment fails if you type apostrophes (') or other special characters in some fields.
    - When you try to enter apostropes or any other special characters in a field the compellent deployment fails. You should not enter apostropes or special characters.
- ASM-2599: Issue with Configure Resources when IOM Firmware is out-of-date with minimum Firmware requirements.

    - The following error message is displayed while configuring resources when a firmware running on the I/O module does not meet the minimum requirements. If the IOM firmware is not within the Compatibility Matrix minimum firmware, This error is displayed when it attempts to show the discovered resources.

      An Unexpected error has occurred on the system Please try again later.
    - You must update the I/O module firmware and retry initial discovery and configuration of the chassis.
- ASM-3892: Firmware update for 12th generation blades with intel cards and Broadcom card fails in some cases when Intel NICs are installed.
    - Updating Intel X520 cards with versions earlier than 15.5.0 to 16.5.x requires a manual update to 15.5.0, prior to upgrading to 16.5.x with ASM.
- ASM-4007: ASM 8.1 has a default update repository of http://linux.dell.com/repo/ASM/current. When you try to update the appliance with the default repository path the appliance update fails.
    - Select the edit option for "Update Repository Path". An edit window is displayed and no changes are required in the edit window. Select **Save** to set the updated configuration files. You can then proceed with the appliance update.

Limitations

None

Installation Prerequisites

For installation Pre-requisites, see the "Active System Manager 8.1 Installation Guide".

Installation Procedure

For complete installation instructions, see the "Active System Manager 8.1 Installation Guide" available at **dell.com/support/manuals**.

Installation and Configuration Notes

None

Documentation Errata

None

2015 - 06