

**VMware vSphere 5 on Dell PowerEdge  
systems  
Release Notes**



# Notes, cautions, and warnings

 **NOTE:** A NOTE indicates important information that helps you make better use of your computer.

 **CAUTION:** A CAUTION indicates either potential damage to hardware or loss of data and tells you how to avoid the problem.

 **WARNING:** A WARNING indicates a potential for property damage, personal injury, or death.

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# Overview

VMware vSphere 5.x includes the ESXi 5.x hypervisor and is managed by vCenter Server 5.x. VMware vSphere 5.0 is the first release from VMware that does not include the ESX. The current release of the VMware software incorporates feature upgrades, new hardware and feature support, and bug fixes that enhances the virtualization experience in VMware environments.

# Installation and upgrade instructions

For information about installing ESXi 5.x or upgrading from a previous version of ESXi, see the version-specific VMware vSphere on the Dell PowerEdge systems — Deployment Guide at [Dell.com/virtualizationsolutions](http://Dell.com/virtualizationsolutions).

For the list of enhancements and bug fixes by VMware, see the version-specific VMware vSphere Release Notes at [support.vmware.com](http://support.vmware.com).



**NOTE:** Only issues relating to Dell systems running VMware vSphere 5.x are discussed in this document.

## Issues and resolutions

### NVMe devices configured as passthrough device to the guest operating system, ESXi host stops responding

**Description:** When the NVMe devices are configured as passthrough device to the guest operating system, the host system stops functioning and can result in data corruption.

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.0

**Solution:** This is a known issue.



**NOTE:** Apart from the Dell Fluid cache solution, the passthrough device configuration is not supported by Dell.

### Unable to upgrade VMware ESXi when the ESXi partition table contains a coredump partition

**Description:** When ESXi is deployed on an SD card by using the `dd` command, the ESXi host creates a `coredump` partition as the second partition, during the first boot and does not allow to upgrade the ESXi.

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.x

**Solution:** This is a known issue. For more information, refer to the *VMware Knowledge Base article 2144074*.

### IPMI driver stack may stop responding when iDRAC hard reset is performed

**Description:** On the Dell PowerEdge systems, the IPMI driver stack stops responding when iDRAC hard reset is performed.

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.x

**Solution:** This is a known issue. Complete the following workaround steps:

1. Stop all the applications that use IPMI stack by using the command `/etc/init.d/sfcbd-watchdog stop`.
2. To unload the drivers, run `Vmkload_mod -u ipmi_si_drv`

3. To load the drivers, run `Vmkload_mod ipmi_si_drv`

## Power supply unit status and details are displayed incorrectly in vSphere WebClient or vCenter Server

- Description:** On the Dell PowerEdge C6320 systems, the status and details of power supply unit (PSU) are displayed incorrectly. The PSU report is displayed as `Not Installed` on the **Hardware Health Status** tab, in vCenter Server. The PSU report is displayed as `Normal` on the **Hardware Health Status** tab, in vSphere WebClient.
- Applies to:** ESXi 5.5 Update 2 installed on PowerEdge C630
- Solution:** This is a known issue. Dell recommends to use Dell OpenManage for monitoring or managing the systems with ESXi.

## Temperature status of the processor may display incorrectly in vSphere WebClient or vCenter Server

- Description:** On the Dell PowerEdge C6320 systems, when the temperature of the processor crosses critical thresholds, the temperature status of the processor may display incorrectly on the **Hardware Health Status** tab of vCenter Server or vSphere WebClient.
- Applies to:** EESXi 5.5 Update 2 installed on PowerEdge C630
- Solution:** This is a known issue. Dell recommends to use Dell OpenManage or iDRAC for monitoring or managing the systems with ESXi.

## Storage related sensor details are not available in vSphere WebClient or vCenter Server

- Description:** On the Dell PowerEdge C6320 systems, the vSphere WebClient does not display hard disk drive, system board riser, and drive cable information under the **Storage and Cable/Interconnect sensor** section.
- Applies to:** ESXi 5.5 Update 2 installed on PowerEdge C630
- Solution:** This is a known issue. Dell recommends to use Dell OpenManage or iDRAC for monitoring or managing the systems with ESXi.

## Samsung NVMe PCIe SSD device is displayed as an XS device under the PCIe passthrough section

- Description:** NVMe PCIe SSDs such as Samsung NVMe SM1715 3.2 TB device is not listed under the PCIe passthrough section on VMware vCenter server. The controller is listed as an XS device instead of the SM device.
- Applies to:** ESXi 5.5.x

**Solution:** This is a known issue and there is no functionality loss. You can select the NVMe PCI's device that is listed as an XS device to configure the controller as passthrough.

## Unable to write vmkernel coredump to local LUN when PSOD occurs

**Description:** During heavy load on storage subsystem if PSOD occurs ESXi unable to write coredump to the local LUN and results with the error message `bad header error message`.

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.x

**Solution:** Ensure that a network share is configured to coredump.

## Unable to turn on Windows virtual machine when PCIe SSD is directly connected as a passthrough device

**Description:** Unable to turn on Microsoft Windows virtual machines such as Microsoft Windows 2008 R2 SP1, Microsoft Windows 2012 or Microsoft Windows 2012 R2 when PCIe SSDs such as NVMe is directly connected as a passthrough device.

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.x

**Solution:** This is a known limitation of Microsoft Windows guest operating systems with respect to MSI-X vectors. The maximum number of virtual machines that Windows can support is 31. You can perform the workaroud of manually setting the MSI-X vectors to 31. For more information refer to the *VMware Knowledge Base article 2032981*.

## ESXi 5.x host does not function and results in Purple Screen of Death (PSOD), when NPAR is enabled

**Description:** For Dell's 13th generation of PowerEdge systems, when NPAR is enabled on Emulex network devices and VLAN is configured, the ESXi host does not function and results in Purple Screen of Death (PSOD).

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.x

**Solution:** Disable NPAR or OS2BMC or VLAN configuration.

## The PCI passthrough section on VMware vCenter server does not display NVMe PCIe SSD

**Description:** The PCI passthrough section on VMware vCenter server does not display NVMe PCIe SSD such as Samsung NVMe devices to make it available for virtual machines.

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.x

**Solution:** Manually set the device for PCI passthrough:

- `~# vmkchdev -p <Bus:Device.Function> #` where the BDF is the Bus Device Function for the NVMe device
- Edit `/etc/vmware/esx.conf` and add the line
  - `/device/<<BDF of NVMe device>>/owner = "passthru"`
  - Reboot ESXi. NVMe devices are available for VMs.

## vSphere Webclient displays an error message while turning on a virtual machine, when it is configured with Dell Express Flash NVMe PCIe-SSD as a passthrough device

- Description:** On a server that is configured with Dell Express Flash NVMe PCIe-SSD as a passthrough device, the VM to which a device connected is unable to turn on. The following message is displayed: "PCI passthrough device ID (0x57e0) is invalid".
- Applies to:** ESXi 5.x
- Solution:** This is a known behavior. However, there is no functionality loss because the VM is turned on. This issue will be fixed in later version of WebClient.

## VM with Windows as the guest OS is unable to turn on when the Dell Express Flash NVMe PCIe-SSD device is configured as a passthrough device

- Description:** On a server that is configured with Dell Express Flash NVMe PCIe-SSD as a passthrough device, a VM running on Windows guest OS is unable to turn on.
- Applies to:** ESXi 5.x
- Solution:** This is a known issue. Workaround is to reduce the number of MSI-X vectors to 31 for the guest OS. For more information, refer to the *VMware Knowledge Base article 2032981*.

## PCI passthrough page on vCenter client or server does not display the hot-plugged Dell Express Flash NVMe PCIe-SSD device

- Description:** When Dell Express Flash NVMe PCIe-SSD device is hot-plugged to a running VMware ESXi host, the PCI passthrough page on vCenter client or server does not display the devices to enable passthrough functionality.
- Applies to:** ESXi 5.x
- Solution:** To enable passthrough mode in hot-plugged devices, complete the following workaround steps:

1. Run the command, **vmkchdev -p <Bus:Device.Function>**, Where BDF is for the NVMe device.
2. Edit the */etc/vmware/esx.conf* file, and enter */device/<<BDF of NVMe device>>/owner = "passthru"* in the file.
3. Restart ESXi. After the your restart ESXi, NVMe devices will be available for VMs.

## FCoE LUN gets disconnected from ESXi after system restarts

<b>Description:</b>	When Fibre Channel over Ethernet (FCoE) fabric is set up with multi-VLAN, the FCoE LUN gets intermittently disconnected from ESXi after system restarts.
<b>Applies to:</b>	ESXi 5.x
<b>Solution:</b>	This is a known issue. Use only single VLAN for the FCoE FCF in VMware ESXi environment.

## Shared storage LUNs exposed from Dell PowerEdge VRTX are not displayed under VMware ESXi

<b>Description:</b>	After shared PERC8 firmware upgrade, LUNs exposed from Shared PERC8 controller are not displayed under VMware ESXi.
<b>Applies to:</b>	ESXi 5.x
<b>Solution:</b>	This is a known behavior. The LUNs are detected as snapshots after firmware upgrade. For more information, refer to the <i>VMware Knowledge Base article 1011387</i> .

## VMware ESXi installer displays an error message "unrecognized disk label"

<b>Description:</b>	During installation of VMware ESXi, the installer log ( <i>esxi_install.log</i> ) file displays an exception error message <code>unrecognized disk label</code> for the local disk.
<b>Applies to:</b>	ESXi 5.5 U2 and later
<b>Solution:</b>	This occurs when the local disk is not initialized as <code>msdos/gpt</code> . Initialize the local disk as <code>msdos/gpt</code> before invoking the installer.

## Fault-tolerant Shared PERC8 controller LUNs redundancy status displays as partial or no-redundant

<b>Description:</b>	In VMware vCenter Storage Views Section, Dell PowerEdge VRTX's Fault-tolerant Shared PERC8 controller LUNs redundancy status displays as partial or no-redundant.
<b>Applies to:</b>	ESXi 5.x
<b>Solution:</b>	VMware vCenter Client displays incorrect status. Refer to the Dell PowerEdge VRTX CMC storage controller page to view the actual redundancy status.

## ESXi does not support Cluster on Die Snoop Mode

<b>Description:</b>	On Dell's 13th generation of PowerEdge servers, ESXi does not support <code>Cluster on Die Snoop Mode</code> under <b>Memory Settings</b> on <b>BIOS</b> setup page.
<b>Applies to:</b>	ESXi 5.x
<b>Solution:</b>	This is known behavior with ESXi and Processor Intel Xeon E5-2600 v3 series. For more information, refer to the <i>VMware Knowledge Base article 2087032</i> .

## ESXi 5.5.x host may display PSOD when configured for vDGA with NVIDIA GPUs

<b>Description:</b>	On ESXi 5.5.x host, the VMs with guest OS Windows 7 or Windows 8 64-bit stop responding when configured for vDGA with NVIDIA GPUs.
<b>Applies to:</b>	ESXi 5.x
<b>Solution:</b>	This is a known issue with GPU device passthrough. For more information, refer to the <i>VMware Knowledge Base article 2092964</i> .

## IDSDM rebuilding on Dell's 13th generation of PowerEdge servers

<b>Description:</b>	On Dell's 13th generation of PowerEdge servers, the SD rebuild of IDSDM (Internal Dual SD Module) operation is performed in the background.
<b>Applies to:</b>	Dell's 13th generation of PowerEdge servers
<b>Solution:</b>	Dell's 13th generation IDSDM does not require BIOS POST to wait for SD rebuild to complete. Rebuild happens in background and is much faster as compare to Dell's 12th generation of PowerEdge servers.

## ESXi host does not display the FAN RPM on Hardware Status tab

<b>Description:</b>	ESXi host does not display the FAN RPM under <b>FAN</b> section of <b>Hardware Status</b> tab.
<b>Applies to:</b>	ESXi 5.x
<b>Solution:</b>	This issue can be ignored because there is no functionality loss.

## Remote section of ESXi installer lists virtual disks created with Dell PERC H200 controller

<b>Description:</b>	During ESXi installation on systems with PERC H200 Controller, the virtual disks are listed under the remote section of the installer.
<b>Applies to:</b>	ESXi 5.x with PERC H200 Controller
<b>Solution:</b>	This is a known issue and there is no functionality loss. For more information, refer to the <i>VMware Knowledge Base article 1027819</i> .

## Dell customized VMware ESXi 5.1 does not display FCoE LUN during deployment

<b>Description:</b>	The Dell customized version of the ESXi 5.1 installer does not display the FCoE LUN during deployment.
<b>Applies to:</b>	ESXi 5.1.x
<b>Solution:</b>	This is a known issue. It will be fixed in future versions of Dell customized VMware ESXi 5.1 images. Use the build for FCoE boot by VMware 5.1.x.

## vCenter Hardware Health Status page displays Memory Speed incorrectly

<b>Description:</b>	VMware vCenter hardware health status displays incorrect memory speed when compared to the system memory speed in BIOS.
<b>Applies to:</b>	ESXi 5.x
<b>Solution:</b>	ESXi reports only memory <b>maximum speed</b> field from SMBIOS, whereas the property displayed in BIOS setup page is the <b>configured memory clock speed</b> . The two properties are different. This is a known behavior and there is no functionality loss.

## vCenter Hardware Health Status page displays memory type incorrectly for DDR4 DIMM type

<b>Description:</b>	VMware ESXi vCenter hardware health status shows Memory Type as <b>Unknown</b> in the Memory Sensor section, for systems populated with DDR4 DIMMs.
<b>Applies to:</b>	ESXi 5.x
<b>Solution:</b>	This is a known issue and there is no functionality loss.

## USB 3.0 is not supported on VMware ESXi 5.x

<b>Description:</b>	VMware ESXi does not support USB 3.0. By default the USB 3.0 setting is disabled in System BIOS. If USB 3.0 is enabled, the keyboard does not function during ESXi deployment.
<b>Applies to:</b>	ESXi 5.x
<b>Solution:</b>	Do not enable USB 3.0 in the System BIOS with VMware ESXi 5.x.

## VM console may not respond as expected when NVIDIA GPUs are configured

<b>Description:</b>	On a VMs with the guest operating systems (Windows 7 or Windows 8) configured for vDGA with NVIDIA graphics processor units (GPU), the VM console may not respond after installing the NVIDIA driver.
<b>Applies to:</b>	ESXi 5.x, with Windows 7 or Windows 8 Guest Operating Systems
<b>Solution:</b>	Disable multi-monitor support, install view agent prior to installing NVIDIA GPU driver, or enable remote desktop protocol (RDP) on the VM, prior to NVIDIA driver install.

## ESXi 5.x displays the number of processors incorrectly with Intel Xeon E5-2600 v3 processors

<b>Description:</b>	When <b>Cluster On Die</b> option is enabled for Snoop Mode on the BIOS memory settings page of a dual socket system with Intel Xeon E5-2600 v3 processors. ESXi 5.x displays the total number of processors as 4 instead of 2.
<b>Applies to:</b>	ESXi 5.x platforms with Haswell processors
<b>Solution:</b>	ESXi 5.x does not support <b>Cluster on Die</b> mode. Ensure that you disable the <b>Cluster on Die</b> option under Snoop Mode for Memory Settings in the BIOS setup page.

## Systems with ESXi 5.1 Update 2 with 14 or more Intel Xeon E5-2600 v3 processor cores crashes with PSOD

- Description:** ESXi 5.1 Update 2 crashes with Purple Screen of Death (PSOD) while booting ESXi on systems with 14 or more cores of the Intel Xeon E5-2600 v3 processor.
- Applies to:** ESXi 5.1 Update 2
- Solution:** Install the patch P05 for ESXi 5.1 Update 2 or reduce the number of cores on systems with CPU Intel Xeon E5-2600 v3, which have more than 14 cores enabled.

## PSU wattage is not displayed for a ESXi host in the vCenter Server

- Description:** For certain PowerEdge systems with Intel Xeon E5-2600 v3 processors, the power (Watt) of PSU is not displayed in the **Power** section on the **Hardware status** tab for ESXi host in vCenter Server.
- Applies to:** ESXi 5.1 Update 2 and ESXi 5.5 Update 2
- Solution:** This issue can be ignored because there is no functionality loss.

## Unable to Log in to Dell OpenManage DWS

- Description:** Unable to start Dell OpenManage or log in to the OpenManage DWS when the ESXi 510-201404001 patch is installed on ESX 5.1.x.
- Applies to:** ESXi 5.1.x
- Solution:** VMware Express Patch has been released to fix the issue. Find and download the patch by using the patch portal on [vmware.com](http://vmware.com). For more information, refer to the *VMware Knowledge Base article 2077641*. The ESXi build number with a fix for the issue is 1900470.

## Enabling NetQueue fails

- Description:** NetQueue (VMDq) is not enabled on Intel Gigabit Ethernet network ports.
- Applies to:** ESXi 5.x with igb driver version 5.0.5.1
- Solution:** This is a known issue. Intel no longer supports NetQueue for 1 Gbps network ports from ESXi 5.5.

## VMware ESXi displays USB NIC description incorrectly

<b>Description:</b>	VMware ESXi displays the description of Dell iDRAC USB NIC incorrectly as <code>unknown unknown</code> .
<b>Applies to:</b>	ESXi 5.x
<b>Solution:</b>	This issue can be ignored because there is no functionality loss.

## SD Card status displays incorrectly

<b>Description:</b>	The status of the SD card is incorrectly displayed as <code>unknown</code> on the <b>Hardware Status</b> tab of the ESXi host installed on the SD card.
<b>Applies to:</b>	ESXi 5.x
<b>Solution:</b>	This issue can be ignored because there is no functionality loss.

## Floppy drive connected through USB port display its name incorrectly

<b>Description:</b>	The floppy drive mapped to the ESXi host through iDRAC via virtual media is incorrectly displayed as <code>USB CD media</code> , instead of <code>USB Floppy Drive</code> .
<b>Applies to:</b>	ESXi 5.x
<b>Solution:</b>	This issue can be ignored because there is no functionality loss.

## Fault-tolerant Shared PERC 8 controller failover takes time to reflect actual state

<b>Description:</b>	On PowerEdge VRTX enclosures, when a failover occurs to the active controller of a Fault Tolerant Shared PERC 8, the initial active (IO) path appears unresponsive for a few minutes before its active status registers.
<b>Applies to:</b>	ESXi 5.x
<b>Solution:</b>	There is no functionality loss.

## VM guest operating system missing error after adding a new vSCSI controller

<b>Description:</b>	A VM fails to boot with an error message <code>Operating System missing</code> when a new vSCSI LSI Logic parallel controller is added.
<b>Applies to:</b>	ESXi 5.x

**Solution:** This is a known issue. Perform either of the following to resolve the issue:

- Edit the **.vmx** file of the VM: add the string `bios.hddOrder = "scsi0:0"` at the end of the **.vmx** file. For more information, refer to the *VMware Knowledge Base article 1023592*.
- Boot to the VM BIOS and change the disk order manually to **scsi0:0**.

## In PowerEdge VRTX enclosures, fast initialization of Shared PERC 8 VD might be delayed

**Description:** If you fast initialize a Shared PERC 8 VD that is currently used by a VM, the process might be delayed.

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.x

**Solution:** In order to resolve the issue, unmap the disk carved out from the specific VD from the VM and perform fast initialization.

## Multipathing status under storage view tab of vCenter Client displays partial or no redundancy for fault-tolerant Shared PERC 8 VD

**Description:** The storage view tab of vSphere Client displays the multipathing status of a Shared PERC 8 VD as **Partial or No Redundancy** even though the controllers are redundant.

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.x

**Solution:** There is no functionality loss. For more information, refer to the *VMware Knowledge Base article 1017634*.

## Enabling DPM fails with an invalid BMC MAC address

**Description:** On Dell PowerEdge Modular servers, enabling VMware Distributed Power Management (DPM) fails with an error message `Invalid BMC MAC address`.

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.x

**Solution:** Click **vCenter Server** → **Hardware Status** → **Baseboard Controller** and use the BMC (iDRAC) MAC address displayed here. Alternatively, use the server-assigned MAC address rather than the chassis-assigned address displayed on the iDRAC page of the server.

## Hot add or removal of PCIe SSD does not function

**Description:** You cannot remove PCIe SSD when device is in use. This device does not functional even when the device is added back to the same drive slot or another.

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.x

**Solution:** This is a known issue. Restart the system to make the PCIe SSD functional. For more information, refer to the *VMware Knowledge Base article 2004605*.

## Dual port Mellanox cards display unusual vmnic number

**Description:** The dual port Mellanox cards display a unusual vmnic number for the second port.

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.x

**Solution:** There is no functionality loss. This is a known issue with the Mellanox driver design.

## VM is unable to recover from suspended state when LUNs are associated

**Description:** In the PowerEdge VRTX enclosure, VMs fail to resume from suspended state when the associated LUNs are inaccessible.

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.x

**Solution:** This is a known issue. To recover:

1. Edit the **.vmx** file, and set the string `scsi0:1.present = "FALSE"` to `"TRUE"`, where `scsi0` is the virtual scsi controller, and `1` is the hard disk drive number. This can be determined from VI client by selecting the corresponding hard disk drive.
2. Right-click the VM from VI client and reset the VM.

## ESXi does not display dual paths for LUNs created on PowerEdge VRTX shared storage

**Description:** When you map LUNs created on PowerEdge VRTX enclosures to an ESXi host that is already running, the host displays only one LUN path.

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.1 Update2

**Solution:** This is a known issue. To resolve this issue, reboot the ESXi host to reflect dual LUN paths.



**NOTE:** Failover is not functional if dual LUN paths are not available.

## Unmapping LUNs from PowerEdge VRTX shared storage generates inaccessible LUN entries In ESXi

- Description:** When you unmap LUNs from PowerEdge VRTX Shared Storage, ESXi displays inaccessible LUN entries. This issue occurs if the mapped virtual disks are already assigned to VMs.
- Applies to:** ESXi 5.1.x
- Solution:** Complete the following steps to resolve the issue:
1. Remove the virtual disks that are already mapped to the VM using vCenter client.
  2. Unmap the virtual disks from the CMC.
  3. Rescan the shared Shared PERC 8 card from ESXi using vCenter client or the Command Line Interface (CLI).

## ESXi uses the management network interface for iSCSI SAN traffic

- Description:** ESXi uses the Management Network Interface for iSCSI Storage Area Network traffic, although there is a specific interface configured for iSCSI SAN traffic. The log entry for iSCSI storage array displays the ESXi Management IP address instead of the initiator IP address.
- Applies to:** ESXi 5.x
- Solution:** This is an expected behavior when both ESXi Management Network and iSCSI SAN Network are configured in the same subnet. To resolve this issue, configure separate subnets for ESXi management network and iSCSI SAN.

## Microcode related error messages logged in the ESXi Syslog.log file

- Description:** The **syslog.log** file lists entries similar to the ones listed below:
- ```
2013-10-31T06:43:52Z vmkmicrocode: Warning: File
microcode_amd_0x100fa0.bin does not contain a valid microcode
update for any of the processors
2013-10-31T06:43:52Z vmkmicrocode: Warning: Error: file
microcode-1027.dat is not a container file
2013-10-31T06:43:52Z vmkmicrocode: Warning: Error: file
m4010676860C0001.dat is not a container file
```
- Applies to:** ESXi 5.x
- Solution:** This issue can be ignored because there is no functionality loss.

## The vmkernel.log file displays warning messages related to allocating interrupt vectors

**Description:** The **vmkernel.log** file displays warning messages related to the allocation of interrupt vectors similar to the ones listed below:

```
2013-10-25T06:43:51.268Z cpu13:8732)WARNING: VMK_PCI: 1171:
device 00:00:16.1 has no legacy interrupt(s)
2013-10-25T06:43:51.268Z cpu13:8732)VMK_PCI: 1228: device
00:00:16.1 failed to allocate 1 vectors (intrType 1)
2013-10-25T06:43:51.268Z cpu13:8732)WARNING: LinPCI:
LinuxPCILegacyIntrVectorSet:80:Could not allocate legacy PCI
interrupt for device 0000:00:16.1
```

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.x

**Solution:** This is a known issue. Ignore these warning messages.

## PSU status is displayed as unknown in the hardware status screen

**Description:** On PowerEdge C8220 and C6145 systems, the power supply unit (PSU) status displays as unknown under the **Hardware** status screen.

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.1.x and ESXi 5.5

**Solution:** This is a known issue.

## ESXi trusted boot fails on PowerEdge R210-II and T110-II systems

**Description:** On PowerEdge R210-II and T110-II systems, ESXi 5.5 fails to boot into trusted mode.

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.5

**Solution:** This is a known issue and will be fixed in the BIOS version 2.7.0 and later.

## ESXi vmkernel log file displays an error message

**Description:** If an NFS share that was attached earlier to ESXi is no longer available, the following error message is seen in the **vmkernel.log** file.

```
got error 2 from mount call
```

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.x

**Solution:** Remove the unavailable NFS share by running the following command: `esxcli storage nfs remove -v <NFS_Datastore_Name>`.

## VMware ESXi hostd log file displays a file corruption error message

- Description:** The following message is logged in the **hostd.log** file.
- ```
FileIO error: Could not find file : /var/lib/vmware/hostd/stats/hostAgentStats.idMap. Possible file corruption!
```
- Applies to:** ESXi 5.x
- Solution:** This is a known issue and the message can be ignored. For more information, refer to the *VMware Knowledge Base article 2036086* .

## VMware ESXi hostd log file displays core dump configuration related warnings

- Description:** The following message is logged in the **hostd.log** file.
- ```
Failed to remove host config issue:  
esx.problem.coredump.unconfigured
```
- Applies to:** ESXi 5.x
- Solution:** If the core dump partition is already configured, this message can be ignored.

## Sensor categorization issues in vCenter hardware health status page

- Description:** The vCenter server **Hardware Health Status** tab does not display the **Temperature** group.
- All temperature sensors are shown under the **Other** group. The Sensor values for FAN, Power Supply Voltage, and Current are listed in **Other** group instead of the respective categorized group.
- Applies to:** ESXi 5.5
- Solution:** This is a known issue.

## vSphere webclient displays incorrect service tag for Dell PowerEdge blade systems

- Description:** The vCenter server connected using a Webclient displays incorrect service tag for Dell PowerEdge blade systems. The service tag displayed is a combination of chassis service tag and blade system service tag.
- The vCenter server connected using vCenter client displays the correct service tag.
- Applies to:** ESXi 5.5

**Solution:** This is a known issue.

## CPU status shown as dormant in the vCenter server Hardware Health Status page

**Description:** The dormant CPU state indicates that the CPU is currently idle. However the same status is indicated even when the processors are used.

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.5

**Solution:** This is a known issue. For more information, refer to the *VMware Knowledge Base article 1023032*.

## Migration of virtual machines fails between Intel Xeon E5-26xx and E5-26xx v2 series processors

**Description:** When the virtual machine hardware version is less than or equal to 8, enhanced vMotion fails to migrate between different processor series.

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.x

**Solution:** Update the virtual machine hardware version to greater than 8.

## Systems running ESXi may freeze and display a purple screen of death or PSOD screen if the max CPUID value limit token is enabled in the BIOS

**Description:** In some Dell systems, the BIOS provides a token **Max CPUID Value Limit** to support older operating systems on newer processors. VMware ESXi does not support this BIOS token.

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.x

**Solution:** The default value of the **Max CPUID Value Limit** BIOS token is disabled. Do not enable the token for systems running ESXi.

## PCI devices listed as unknown under PCI passthrough section of vSphere client

**Description:** Few PCI devices may be listed as **unknown** in PCI passthrough section for specific PowerEdge servers.

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.x

**Solution:** This is a known issue. The lack of specific device IDs in the **pci.ids** file causes the corresponding PCI devices to be listed as unknown. There is no functionality loss.

## ESXi reports 1011.5 GB of memory on specific systems populated with 1 TB Of memory

|                     |                                                                                                                                                           |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Description:</b> | On PowerEdge systems such as R815 and M915, running an AMD processor and populated with 1 TB memory, ESXi reports memory as 1011.5 GB instead of 1024 GB. |
| <b>Applies to:</b>  | ESXi 5.x                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Solution:</b>    | This is a known issue.                                                                                                                                    |

## Uninstallation of Dell OpenManage VIB fails to delete certain files

|                     |                                                                                                            |
|---------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Description:</b> | Specific Dell OpenManage files and directories are not deleted after uninstalling the Dell OpenManage VIB. |
| <b>Applies to:</b>  | ESXi 5.x                                                                                                   |
| <b>Solution:</b>    | There is no functionality loss. Reboot the system again for complete cleanup.                              |

## vCenter displays physical BMC MAC address although flex addressing is enabled

|                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Description:</b> | The hardware health status page for vCenter Server displays the physical MAC address for the host iDRAC MAC even when Flex addressing is enabled in the Dell PowerEdge M1000e chassis for iDRAC. |
| <b>Applies to:</b>  | ESXi 5.x                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Solution:</b>    | This is a known issue. Use the physical MAC of BMC and iDRAC for VMware Distributed Resource Scheduler (DRS) and VMware Distributed Power Management (DPM).                                      |

## Creating local VMFS Datastore fails after a ESXi installation

|                     |                                                                                                                                                                             |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Description:</b> | The issue occurs if there are two partitions on the local disk and the host cannot delete the partitions to create a VMFS partition.                                        |
| <b>Applies to:</b>  | ESXi 5.x                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Solution:</b>    | Remove the partitions present in the disk before attempting to create the VMFS partition. For more information, refer to the <i>VMware Knowledge Base article 2037192</i> . |


## Dell systems management monitoring applications fail to authenticate to an ESXi host after a few days of use

|                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Description:</b> | Dell OpenManage Software Administrator and OpenManage Essentials are not responsive after running in the ESXi environment for several days.                                                                                     |
| <b>Applies to:</b>  | ESXi 5.x                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Solution:</b>    | The failure is due to insufficient memory allocated for the process and a memory leak in the WSMAN daemon in ESXi. Restart the WSMAN service. For more information, refer to the <i>VMware Knowledge Base article 2043464</i> . |

## VMware vCenter service stops responding when fibre channel LUN is attached to ESXi host via software FCoE adapter

|                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Description:</b> | When a Fibre Channel (FC) Logical Unit Number (LUN) is attached to the ESXi host via software Fibre Channel over Ethernet (FCoE) adapter, VMware vCenter vpxa service stops responding for that ESXi host. The failure occurs due to the Virtual LAN (VLAN) ID used in the fabric and also when the connection to the vCenter is made after software FCoE configuration via vSphere client. |
| <b>Applies to:</b>  | ESXi 5.x                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Solution:</b>    | To resolve this issue, do not use a VLAN ID in the range of $32xn - 1$ where $n=1, 2, \dots$ . For more information, refer to the <i>VMware Knowledge Base article 2033385</i> .                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

## Unable to install and configure VMware vShield on Dell customized ESXi image

|                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Description:</b> | Unable to install and configure <b>VMware vShield</b> on Dell customized ESXi image. The vShield vSphere Installation Bundle (VIB) fails to install with the following error message: <code>ERROR: DependencyError: File path of '/VIB/postinst' is claimed by multiple non-overlay VIBs.</code>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Applies to:</b>  | ESXi 5.x                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Solution:</b>    | For the earlier version of ESXi images, complete the following tasks to resolve this issue: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Download the latest ESXi image <b>ima-qla4xxx (file name : qla4xxx-624.01.43-771651.zip)</b> from <b>vmware.com</b> and upgrade the driver using the following command: <code>esxcli software vib update -d &lt; absolute path to offline vib&gt;qla4xxx-624.01.43-offline_bundle-771651.zip</code></li><li>2. After driver installation, restart the system and start the vShield installation.</li></ol> <p> <b>NOTE:</b> This issue is fixed in the latest Dell customized ESXi image.</p> |

## Upgrade from Dell customized VMware ESXi 5.0 ISO to a later update fails

**Description:** When upgrading from Dell customized VMware ESXi 5.0 ISO to a later update, the update fails with the following error message:

```
File path of/etc/vmware/oem.xml is claimed by Multiple overlay VIBs
File path of/etc/vmware/support is claimed by Multiple overlay VIBs:
File path of/etc/vmware/vmware.lic is claimed by Multiple overlay VIBs:
```

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.0.x

**Solution:** This is a known issue. Follow any one of the options below to resolve the issue.

- Perform the upgrade by making use of a relevant upgrade patch from **vmware.com**.
- Before you upgrade, run the following commands from ESXi tech support mode.

```
~# esxcli software vib remove -n Dell-Configuration-VIB
~# esxcli software vib remove -n Dell-License-VIB
```

## vmkernel Portgroups uses unused adapters when the active adapter goes down

**Description:** If the Active NIC, which is part of a vmkernel portgroup fails, vSwitch starts using the NIC under **Unused Adapters**. This happens when there are unused adapters configured in the NIC teaming.

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.0.x

**Solution:** Set the **Failback** option available in **NIC Teaming** tab to **Yes** for that particular vmkernel portgroup.

## Scripted installation of Dell-Customized VMware ESXi image fails

**Description:** When installing the Dell-Customized VMware ESXi 5.0 image using gPXE, the scripted installation fails with a message: Dell-Con.v00: file not found:  
Fatal Error: 15

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.0.x

**Solution:** Copy the ISO image contents to the web server location, and run the following commands:

```
cd<ISO image content Location>  
mv dell-con.v00 Dell-Con.v00  
mv dell-lic.v00 Dell-Lic.v00
```

This issue will be fixed in a future release of the Dell-customized VMware ESXi image.

## DHCP lookup failed message is displayed on the DCUI

**Description:** Every time you reboot the system, the following message is displayed on the Direct Control User Interface (DCUI): DHCP lookup failed. You may be unable to access this system until you customize its network configuration

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.x

**Solution:** If you are able connect to the system using DHCP IP even after receiving the warning message, press <Enter> on the DCUI screen to resolve the issue.

## PERC H310 mini controller is displayed as MegaRAID SAS SKINNY controller

**Description:** The PowerEdge RAID Controller (PERC) H310 Mini controller is displayed as **MegaRAID SAS SKINNY** controller in the Virtual Center and the ESXi shell.

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.x

**Solution:** This is a known issue. The PERC H310 Mini controller is displayed as **MegaRAID SAS SKINNY** controller due to an incorrect name provided in the **pci.ids** file for PERC H310. The issue will be fixed in a future release of ESXi.

## ESXi with BIOS versions older than 1.2.6 may crash under heavy load

**Description:** On Dell systems installed with Intel Xeon E5-2600 processor series, the ESXi host may crash under heavy load.

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.0

**Solution:** Upgrade the BIOS of the systems to a minimum version 1.2.6 or later.

## Drive type listed as non-SSD for datastores created with SSD

**Description:** For virtual disks created with SSDs, the datastores drive type may be listed as **Non-SSD**.

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.0.x  
**Solution:** This is a known issue.

## Power management settings displayed as not supported or not applicable

**Description:** On systems installed with AMD Opteron 6200 and AMD Opteron 4200 series of processors, the **Power Management** settings in vCenter may be listed as **not supported** or **not applicable**.

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.0.x  
**Solution:** This is a known issue.

## FC or iSCSI LUN details are not displayed in vCenter server

**Description:** LUN details may not be listed in vCenter Server under **Storage Adapters**.  
**Applies to:** ESXi 5.0.x  
**Solution:** This is a known issue with the 1024 x 768 screen resolution. Increase the screen resolution to resolve the problem.

## IPMI related error messages logged in the vmkernel log file

**Description:** IPMI related error messages, similar to the ones listed below, may get logged in **vmkernel.log** file.

```
ipmi_si: Trying SMBIOS-specified kcs state machine at i/o
address 0xca8, slave address 0x20, irq 10

WARNING: VMK_VECTOR: 103: Bad vector 10 specified

WARNING: LinIRQ: request_irq:187:Couldn't register vector 0xa


ipmi_si: ipmi_si unable to claim interrupt 10, running polled

ipmi_si: Could not enable interrupts, failed set, using polled
mode
```

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.0.x  
**Solution:** These messages can be safely ignored. This issue will be fixed in a future version of ESXi release.

## ESXi may fail to install or boot on a NUMA-enabled system

**Description:** On a Non-Uniform Memory Access (NUMA) enabled system, ESXi may fail to install or boot because of unbalanced memory distribution across the nodes. The performance of the system may be degraded. The following error message is displayed: `The BIOS reports that NUMA node X has no memory.` This issue is either caused by a poorly configured BIOS or a unbalanced distribution of memory modules.

 **NOTE:** A NUMA-enabled PowerEdge M905 system installed with ESXi with the **Node Interleaving** option disabled in the BIOS may fail to boot. This issue occurs if the processor nodes are not populated with similar memory size.

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.0

**Solution:** VMware recommends populating all the processor nodes with similar amount of memory to enable balanced distribution of memory across the nodes.

## USB optical driver or iDRAC virtual CD drive is not available to a VM

**Description:** If a USB optical driver or an iDRAC virtual CD drive is connected to an ESXi host after the system completes boot, the device may not display from the **Host Device** drop-down menu under **VM Settings** tab in vCenter Server or vSphere Client.

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.0

**Solution:** To resolve this issue, complete one of the following tasks:

- Reconnect the ESXi host to vCenter Server or vSphere Client.
- Restart the management agents on the ESXi host.

## vCenter server or VI client does not report a failed or critical array

**Description:** In the Virtual Center **Hardware Health Status** page, critical or failed arrays are not reported for the degraded or failed hard drives.

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.0

**Solution:** There is no functionality loss.

## Windows Server 2008 cannot be automatically preactivated

**Description:** When you install the Microsoft Windows Server 2008 operating system on virtual machines (VM) using the Dell Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) installation media, the operating system stops working. This issue occurs because the VMs running on the Dell system do not automatically preactivate the Windows Server 2008 operating system.

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.0

**Solution:** Use a virtual key to enable the Windows Server 2008 operating system. For more information, see the white paper *Dell OEM Windows Server 2008 Installation on Virtual Machines Using Dell OEM Media* at [Dell.com/support](http://Dell.com/support).

## DCUI displays the hardware label as N/A

**Description:** For some network cards, the **Hardware Label** field in the DCUI of ESXi displays **N/A** instead of a valid device description. This issue occurs because of the method in which ESXi maps the device to the user interface by checking the output of the **lspci** and **smbios** commands from the system.

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.0

**Solution:** This is a display issue and there is no functionality loss.

## vSphere client displays invalid values for DDR3 memory

**Description:** vSphere Client displays invalid values for hardware information of Double-Data-Rate 3 (DDR3) memory modules under the **Hardware Status** tab.

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.0

**Solution:** This is a known issue.

## RAID 10 virtual disks are displayed as RAID 1 in vCenter server or VI client

**Description:** RAID 10 configured in H200 controller is reported as **RAID 1** in vCenter Server or VI Client.

**Applies to:** ESXi 5.0

**Solution:** This is a display issue and there is no functionality loss.

## ESXi reports an incorrect MAC address for FlexAddress-enabled modular systems

**Description:** The MAC address for ESXi Management Network portgroup (vmk0) is not updated when FlexAddress is enabled on PowerEdge modular systems.




**Applies to:** ESXi 5.0

**Solution:** To resolve the issue:

1. Open the Troubleshooting console in Tech Support mode and run the following command:  
`esxcfg-advcfg -s 1 /Net/FollowHardwareMac`
2. Restart the server.

For more information, refer to the *VMware Knowledge Base article 1031111*.

## Related information

-  **NOTE:** For Dell VMware documentation, go to [Dell.com/virtualizationsolutions](http://Dell.com/virtualizationsolutions).
-  **NOTE:** For Dell OpenManage documentation, go to [Dell.com/openmanagemanuals](http://Dell.com/openmanagemanuals).
-  **NOTE:** For all PowerEdge documentation, go to [Dell.com/poweredgemanuals](http://Dell.com/poweredgemanuals), and type the Service Tag of your system to get your system documentation.

Your product documentation at [Dell.com/virtualizationsolutions](http://Dell.com/virtualizationsolutions) includes the following:

**Table 1. Related information**

| If you need information about                                                                                                                                                                                 | See                                                                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Basic configuration information for running ESXi on a Dell PowerEdge system.                                                                                                                                  | <i>Getting Started Guide</i>                                                    |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information about downloading, installing, and configuring ESXi</li> <li>• Supported hardware configurations for running ESXi on a Dell PowerEdge system.</li> </ul> | <i>Deployment Guide</i>                                                         |
| PowerEdge systems and compatibility with VMotion                                                                                                                                                              | <i>VMware VMotion and 64-bit Virtual Machine Support Compatibility Matrix</i>   |
| ESXi ISO image customization information                                                                                                                                                                      | <i>ESXi 5.x Image Customization Guide</i>                                       |
| PowerEdge and PowerVault compatibility information for running ESXi                                                                                                                                           | <i>Dell PowerEdge and Storage Systems Compatibility Matrix For Running ESXi</i> |

## Technical support resources


- [vmware.com/support](http://vmware.com/support)
- [Dell.com/support](http://Dell.com/support)
- [Dell.com/services](http://Dell.com/services)

## Discussion forums

- [vmware.com/communities/content](http://vmware.com/communities/content)
- [en.community.dell.com/techcenter/virtualization/w/wiki/vmware.aspx](http://en.community.dell.com/techcenter/virtualization/w/wiki/vmware.aspx)
- [Dellcommunity.com](http://Dellcommunity.com)

## Knowledge base

[vmware.com/support/kb](http://vmware.com/support/kb)

-  **NOTE:** For more information related to VMware ESXi installation on Dell PowerEdge systems, go to <http://en.community.dell.com/techcenter/virtualization/w/wiki/>.
-  **NOTE:** For more information about supported virtualization videos for Dell PowerEdge systems, go to [Supported Operating Systems for Dell PowerEdge Systems playlist](#).

# Getting help

## Contacting Dell

Dell provides several online and telephone-based support and service options. If you do not have an active internet connection, you can find contact information on your purchase invoice, packing slip, bill, or Dell product catalog. Availability varies by country and product, and some services may not be available in your area. To contact Dell for sales, technical assistance, or customer-service issues:

1. Go to **Dell.com/support**.
2. Select your country from the drop-down menu on the bottom right corner of the page.
3. For customized support:
  - a. Enter your system Service Tag in the **Enter your Service Tag** field.
  - b. Click **Submit**.  
The support page that lists the various support categories is displayed.
4. For general support:
  - a. Select your product category.
  - b. Select your product segment.
  - c. Select your product.  
The support page that lists the various support categories is displayed.
5. For contact details of Dell Global Technical Support:
  - a. Click [Global Technical Support](#).
  - b. The **Technical Support** page is displayed with details to call, chat, or e-mail the Dell Global Technical Support team.