

vtServer®

vtAlpha, vtVAX and vtSparc Bare Metal

v4.6.0

Release Notes

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Chapter 1

Version v4.6.0 Release Highlights

We are pleased to announce the latest update to vtServer, version 4.6.0.

V4.6.0 is an updated release of the vtServer Bare Metal hypervisor platform that includes updates, new features and bug fixes.

The most significant changes are:

1.1 vtServer

1.1.1 New

- Linux kernel (6.12.56).
- Add ip addresses in sysinfo display.
- Allow a normal user to set the nfs_mount_version system parameter.
- Mount all network shares in parallel during boot.
- Add scsi re-scan in vtmenu.

1.1.2 Fixes

- Fix iSCSI login when specifying different usernames per target.
 - Increase emulator startup timeout in non-cloud environment to 2 minutes to prevent license timeout.
 - Don't let the configuration export fail if bad filenames are present.
 - Implement 'safe mode' booting to disable autostart of all emulators and preventing of mounting network shares.
 - Retry check for a network link status to prevent stale information.
 - Ethernet adapter display in sysinfo when running under hyper-v.
 - Change alert check for swap space to take available memory into account.
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1.2 vtAlpha

1.2.1 New

- Add support for de504 and de602 ethernet devices.
- Rework mac address generation in networking to include console specification and bus location of network adapter.
- Add host cpu info and kernel version to license environment variable in srm console.
- Allow disabling of ctrl-p on console.

1.2.2 Fixes

- Fix stf instruction in jit.
- Log ecoapp state changes and simplify ecoapp detection.
- Fix possible memory corruption in ei1000 network controller.
- Remove misleading transfer error from the logs when vtdsk is used.

1.3 vtVAX

1.3.1 New

- vtVAX Emulator 4.0.35
 - vtVAXMVII 4.0.32 (353)
 - vtVAX3900 4.0.31 (353)
 - vtVAX4090 4.0.32 (353)
 - vtVAX4100 4.0.33 (353)
 - vtVAX4200 4.0.34 (353)
 - vtVAX7000 4.0.32 (2170)
- Up to 56 storage units on scsi adapters is now supported. (7 scsi targets available with for each 8 luns)

1.3.2 Fixes

- Enhanced DSSI performance significantly for 4000-100 and 4000-200 emulators and a small improvement for the 7000 series.
- Enhanced network socket error messages to provide the port number when applicable and the error message instead of just the error number.
- Correct recognition of halt key on 4000-90 and 4000-100 emulators after OS is shut down.
- Correct crash caused by Tape Manager when a filename is blank.
- Allow the logical tape “Max size” option to be 0 to define a tape that Tape Manager will report as “unlimited”.
- Create directory when it does not exist for tapemgr create command. Properly set protection on tape image file when created with tape manager. Properly set protection on directories created by tape manager copy or move.

1.4 vtSparc

1.4.1 New

- vtSparc version 1.0.35 added.

1.4.2 Fixes

- Fix to make LDDA SPARC insn atomic when used for 128bit loads (Solaris panics).
- Improve help output in management interface.
- MMU bug fix.
- Added command line option to show build/configure options.
- OpenBOOT 1.17: Improved compilation for better speed.
- OpenBOOT 1.17: boot-device property taken from NVRAM on initialization.
- OpenBOOT 1.17: Clarify message when boot command fails on non-bootable device.
- Build vtSparc with higher optimize flags.
- Enable user-mode for vtSparc testing.
- Generate pseudo random MAC address for NIC when nothing is specified.

1.5 vtMonitor

1.5.1 New

- You can add for the VAX up to 56 storage unit on a scsi adapter. (7 scsi targets available with for each 8 luns.)
- The Web Console sub-tab is added under the Host tab of vtMonitor.
- A new privilege is added for the web console under vtServer Management. Per default only the Administrator role has this privilege.
- After you forced an exception to accept the self-signed certificates vtMonitor will do the rest of the job by itself, no need to close a message tab and re-do the previous actions or refresh the view.
- vtAlpha config version is updated to v1.3. This version allows management of de504 and de602 in the UI.
- Replace shellinabox by tttyd.
- Show available nvidia driver in sysinfo.
- Unfinished long lasting commands from other users are now visible in the task view of vtMonitor and even in some cases cancelable if you have enough privilege.
- You can visually follow the progress of the following commands in the UI:
 - a compress and decompress command
 - a download
 - a 'Copy Physical to Logical'
 - a file Copy-Paste
 - a file Cut-Paste
- After having selected 1 folder in the right pane of the File Browser you can see its disk usage. It is noted underneath the view together with the total amount of items.
- You can also use the Property menu-item visible after a right-click on the left pane of the File Browser to require the disk usage of the selected folder (and its sub-folders).
- Types such as "Text File" and "Compressed File" are added to the Type column in the File Browser.
- The number of configurations running that are visible at the bottom of the navigation pane now includes the VMs in the halted state (emulator running and waiting in console for user input).
- Service name definition as shown in the Host tab is slightly changed.
- A nice improvement concerns the rendering of the VM list in the Firefox browser. Independently of the size of your window the VMs are all aligned now (same indent).
- You can now launch from the UI the 'vtScan' utility at least if protocol is https.
 - Open the menu in the navigation pane. Click 'vtScan', a new window will open with vtScan live results.
 - vtScan runs on the same subnet as your url domain. To make it possible to see vtServer systems in another subnet it is possible to add a proxy server using the menu option found in vtScan.
- There are two new chapters added to the vtServer manual that comes with vtServer:
 - A chapter with links to some technical notes.
 - A chapter with a link to this release notes.

1.5.2 Fixes

- A change of timezone is immediately visible in the UI for new tasks or newly created files. Time is then shown according to the new local time. A reboot of the VM is not anymore necessary.

1.6 vtTools disk

1.6.1 New

- In the directory [3RDPARTY.OPENVMS_INFORMATION] OPENVMS_INFORMATION_V3_0.COM is placed. This version is tested on more OpenVMS versions and can run on smaller systems. It can create HTML files to show the collected data using an Internet browser.

1.6.2 Fixes

- Xdisp V1.3 fixes installation on OpenVMS Alpha V7.0, V7.1, V7.1-1H1, V7.1-1H2 and V7.1-2.
- Xdisp V1.3 fixes installation on OpenVMS VAX V6.1.
- TapeMGR V2.2 disallow a change of compression, maximum size, format or autoloading when the tapeunit is mounted.

Chapter 2

Installation And Update Procedure

The vtServer software may be installed on a new host platform, or it may be updated incrementally. These options are described in more detail below.

2.1 Installation On A New Host

The installation process installs a complete version of the vtServer software package on a server with no previous vtServer installation.

The vtServer installation kit is available in multiple formats:

1. On a DVD-ROM; as an .iso formatted file that can be burned to a DVD or used as a virtual DVD device when installing vtServer in a virtual machine.
2. As a bootable USB thumb drive.

For a detailed description of the installation process, please see the vtServer vtAlpha/vtVAX Bare Metal Reference Manual.

2.2 Incremental Update

The incremental update process is the preferred method for updating existing vtServer installations. A complete set of incremental updates is provided on the distribution media (DVD, .iso file or USB drive). Update files can also be retrieved from our ftp server.

To update to vtServer V4.5.0 the current version has to be V4.4.0.

For a detailed description of the update process, please see the vtServer vtAlpha/vtVAX Bare Metal Reference Manual.

2.3 Post-Update Instructions

After completing the installation or update of vtServer, the host system should be rebooted and the vtMonitor user interface should be reloaded.

Creating a vtServer backup after an installation or update is recommended.
