Upgrade Guide to ESXi 5.5 Using Dell Customized Image

Dell Engineering
January 2014
Table of Contents

1 Prerequisites ................................................................................................................................................................................... 4

2 Upgrade Methods........................................................................................................................................................................... 5
   2.1 Using Dell Customized ISO ............................................................................................................................................... 5
   2.2 Scripted Upgrade using Dell Customized ISO .............................................................................................................. 5
   2.3 Upgrade using VUM and Dell Customized ISO ............................................................................................................ 5

3 Verifying the Upgraded ESXi 5.5................................................................................................................................................. 6
   3.1 With Dell Customized ESXi 5.5 A01 Image ................................................................................................................... 6
   3.2 With Dell Customized ESXi 5.5 A00 Image ................................................................................................................... 6
1 Prerequisites

Prerequisites to check before the upgrade:

1. Check the `megaraid_sas` driver version in your current deployed ESXi 5.0.x/ESXi 5.1.x. using the command 
   `#vmkload_mod -s megaraid_sas | grep Version`.
   Note: Use the Tech Support Mode to run the CLI commands. For more information on enabling the Tech support Mode, see [http://kb.vmware.com/kb/1017910](http://kb.vmware.com/kb/1017910).

2. If the `megaraid_sas` driver version is NOT later than `00.00.05.34-9vmw`, then continue with the upgrade process with the regular VMware supported methods using Dell Customized ESXi 5.5 A01 Image or later.

3. If the `megaraid_sas` driver version is later than `00.00.05.34-9vmw`, then perform any one of the following methods discussed below.
2 Upgrade Methods

2.1 Using Dell Customized ISO

1. Uninstall the existing `megaraid_sas` driver by using the command:
   
   ```
   # esxcli software vib remove -n scsi-megaraid-sas
   ```
   
   This command will uninstall the `megaraid_sas` driver and prompt the user to reboot the server.

2. Press <F12> in DCUI to reboot the server.
   
   Do not boot the server to the installed ESXi.

3. Boot the server directly into the installation mode using Dell Customized ESXi 5.5 A01 Image or later.

4. Follow the VMware upgrade instructions and upgrade ESXi 5.0.x/5.1.x host(s) to ESXi 5.5.

5. Once the upgrade is complete verify that the `megaraid_sas` driver version is `5.34-9vmw.550.0.0.1331820`.

2.2 Scripted Upgrade using Dell Customized ISO

1. Uninstall the existing `megaraid_sas` driver by using the command:
   
   ```
   # esxcli software vib remove -n scsi-megaraid-sas
   ```
   
   This command will uninstall the `megaraid_sas` driver and prompt the user to reboot the server.

2. Press <F12> in DCUI to reboot the server.
   
   Do not boot the server to installed ESXi.

3. Boot the server into the `pxe` mode to perform the scripted upgrade using Dell Customized ESXi 5.5 A01 Image or later.

4. Once the upgrade is complete verify that the `megaraid_sas` driver version is `5.34-9vmw.550.0.0.1331820`.

2.3 Upgrade using VUM and Dell Customized ISO

1. Uninstall the existing `megaraid_sas` driver by using the command:
   
   ```
   # esxcli software vib remove -n scsi-megaraid-sas
   ```
   
   This command will uninstall the `megaraid_sas` driver and prompt the user to reboot the server.

2. Press <F12> in DCUI to reboot the server to installed ESXi.

3. Follow the VUM Upgrade method using Dell Customized ESXi 5.5 ISO.

4. Once the upgrade is complete verify that the `megaraid_sas` driver version is `5.34-9vmw.550.0.0.1331820`.

   **Note:** VUM Upgrade cannot be performed using the above method on systems with ESXi installed on local disks using `megaraid_sas` driver.
3 Verifying the Upgraded ESXi 5.5

To verify if the upgraded ESXi 5.5 is in the Supported State or NOT, use the following steps:

3.1 With Dell Customized ESXi 5.5 A01 Image

1. After the successful upgrade to ESXi 5.5, verify the `megaraid_sas` driver version, using the command
   ```
   #vmkload_mod -s megaraid_sas | grep Version.
   ```

2. If the `megaraid_sas` driver version is `06.801.52.00-1vmw` then perform the following steps to move to the supported state:
   i. Uninstall the existing `megaraid_sas` driver by using the command:
      ```
      # esxcli software vib remove -n scsi-megaraid_sas
      ```
   
   ii. Press <F12> in DCUI to reboot the server.
   
   iii. Install the VMware certified `megaraid_sas` driver version `6.600.60.00.1vmw` or later available on the VMware website for ESXi 5.5.
   
   iv. After successful installation, reboot the server and verify the driver version using the command
      ```
      #vmkload_mod -s megaraid_sas | grep Version.
      ```

3.2 With Dell Customized ESXi 5.5 A00 Image

1. After the successful upgrade to ESXi 5.5, verify the `megaraid_sas` and `mpt2sas` driver versions:
   a. Using the command`#vmkload_mod -s megaraid_sas | grep Version.
   b. Using the command `#vmkload_mod -s mpt2sas | grep Version.

2. If the `megaraid_sas` driver version is `06.801.52.00-1vmw` then perform the following steps to move to the supported state:
   i. Uninstall the existing `megaraid_sas` driver by using the command:
      ```
      # esxcli software vib remove -n scsi-megaraid-sas
      ```
   
   ii. Press <F12> in DCUI to reboot the server.
   
   iii. Install the VMware certified `megaraid_sas` driver version `6.600.60.00.1vmw` or later available on the VMware website for ESXi 5.5.
   
   iv. After successful installation, reboot the server and verify the driver version using the command
      ```
      #vmkload_mod -s megaraid_sas | grep Version.
      ```

3. If the `mpt2sas` driver version is `16.00.00.00.1vmw` then perform the following steps to move to the supported state:
   i. Upgrade to the VMware certified `mpt2sas` driver version `16.00.10.00.1vmw` or later available on VMware website for ESXi 5.5.
   
   ii. After successful installation, reboot the server and verify the driver version using the command
      ```
      #vmkload_mod -s mpt2sas | grep Version.
      ```