Cisco usNIC Deployment Guide for Cisco UCS B-Series Blade Servers

First Published: 2020-02-20

Last Modified: 2020-07-30

Overview of Cisco usNIC

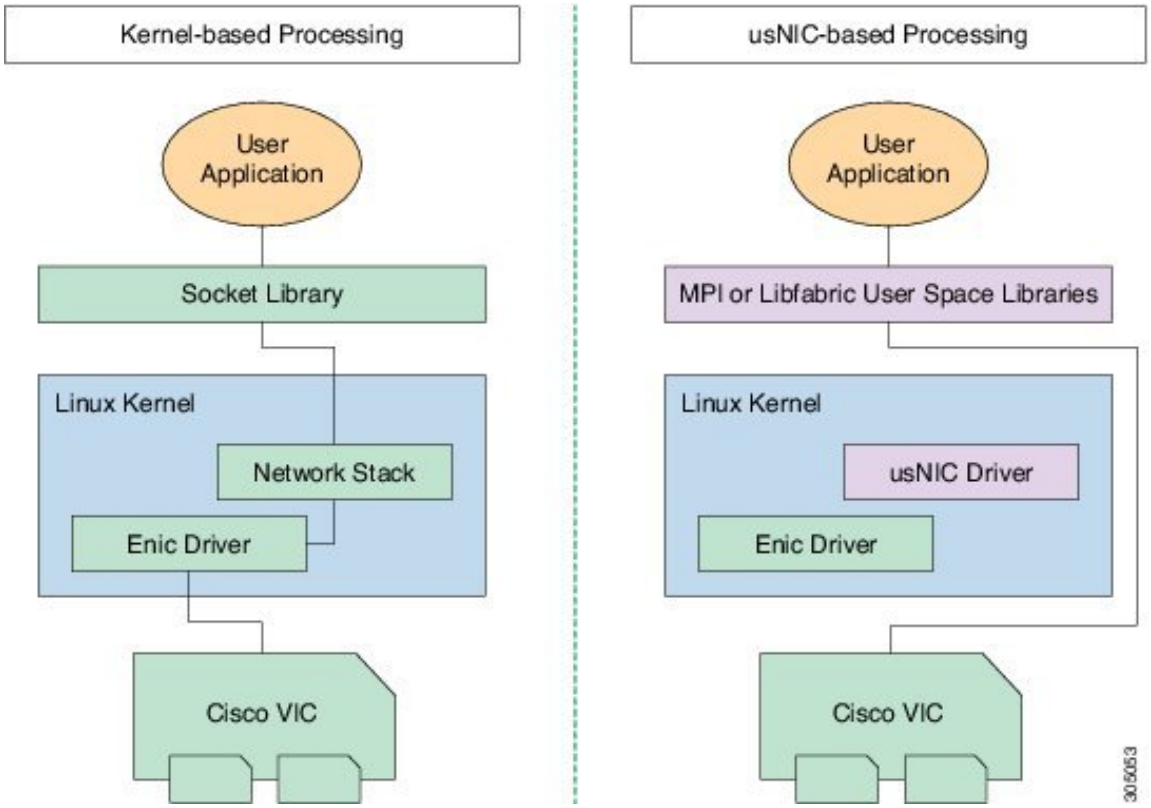
The Cisco user-space NIC (Cisco usNIC) feature improves the performance of software applications that run on the Cisco UCS servers in your data center by bypassing the kernel when sending and receiving networking packets. The applications interact directly with a Cisco UCS VIC second generation or later adapter, which improves the networking performance of your high-performance computing cluster. To benefit from Cisco usNIC, your applications must use the Message Passing Interface (MPI) or the Libfabric interface instead of sockets or other communication APIs.

Cisco usNIC offers the following benefits for your applications:

- Provides a low-latency and high-throughput communication transport.
- Employs the standard and application-independent Ethernet protocol.
- Low jitter, or near constant latency, communications.
- Takes advantage of low latency forwarding, Unified Fabric, and integrated management support in the following Cisco data center platforms:
    - Cisco UCS server
    - Cisco UCS VIC second generation or later generation adapter

Standard Ethernet applications use user-space socket libraries, which invoke the networking stack in the Linux kernel. The networking stack then uses the Cisco eNIC driver to communicate with the Cisco VIC hardware. The following figure shows the contrast between a regular software application and an MPI application that uses usNIC.

Figure 1: Kernel-Based Network Communication versus Cisco usNIC-Based Communication



Cisco usNIC Prerequisites

To benefit from Cisco usNIC, your configuration has the following prerequisites:

- A supported Linux operating system distribution release. For more information on supported Linux operating system releases, please refer to the UCS Hardware and Software Compatibility Tool.
- The UCS Driver ISO corresponding to the UCS server model, selected Linux operating system, and version of UCS firmware installed on the server as identified by the UCS Hardware and Software Compatibility Tool. For more information, see Downloading Cisco UCS VIC drivers.
- A supported MPI implementation, such as IBM Sprectrum MPI, the open source Community Open MPI package.

Configuring Cisco usNIC

The overall flow to configure Cisco usNIC is as follows:

- Create or Modify a Service Profile to support usNIC
- Install a supported Linux OS (if not already installed)
- Configure Linux kernel and OS to support usNIC
- Install usNIC drivers and utilities

- Install libfabric and MPI software
- Verify the usNIC installation

Creating a Cisco usNIC Connection Policy using the Cisco Manager GUI

You can use the procedure described below or click Play on this video to watch how a Cisco usNIC Connection policy can be created.

Procedure

Step 1 In the **Navigation** pane, click **LAN**.

Step 2 Expand **LAN** > **Policies**.

Step 3 Expand the **root** node.

Step 4 Right-click **usNIC Connection Policies** and choose **Create usNIC Connection Policy**.

Step 5 In the **Create usNIC Connection Policy** dialog box, complete the following fields:

Name	Description
Name field	The name of the policy. This name can be between 1 and 16 alphanumeric characters. You cannot use spaces or any special characters other than - (hyphen), _ (underscore), : (colon), and . (period), and you cannot change this name after the object is saved.
Description field	A description of the policy. Cisco recommends including information about where and when to use the policy.
Number of usNICs field	The number of usNICs that you want to create. Each MPI process running on the server requires a dedicated usNIC. You can create up to 116 usNICs on one adapter to sustain 116 MPI processes running simultaneously. We recommend that you create at least as many usNICs, per usNIC-enabled vNIC, as there are physical cores on your server. For example, if you have 8 physical cores on your server, create 8 usNICs.
Adapter Policy drop-down list	The adapter policy that you want to specify for the usNIC. Cisco recommends that you choose the usNIC adapter policy, which is created by default.

Configuring a usNIC Ethernet Adapter Policy

Procedure

Step 1 In the **Navigation** pane, click **Servers**.

Step 2 On the **Servers** tab, expand **Servers** > **Policies** > **root** > **Adapter Policies**.

Step 3 Click **Eth Adapter Policy usNIC**.

Step 4 In the **Work** pane, click the **General** tab.

You can modify the details in the **Resources** and **Options** sections as needed. We recommend that you use the following default values for Resources:

Name	Value
Transmit Queues	6
Ring Size	256
Received Queues	6
Ring Size	512
Completion Queues	6
Interrupts	6

Modifying a usNIC using the Cisco UCS Manager GUI

Procedure

Step 1 In the **Navigation** pane, click **Servers**.

Step 2 On the **Servers** tab, expand **Servers** > **Service Profiles** > **root**.

Step 3 Expand the service profile node where you want to configure the usNIC and click **vNICs**.

Step 4 In the **Work** pane, click the **Network** tab.

Step 5 In the **vNICs** area, choose a vNIC and click **Modify**.

Step 6 In the **Adapter Performance Profile** area of the **Modify vNIC** dialog box, choose Linux from the **Adapter Policy** drop-down list.

Step 7 In the **Connection Policies** area, click the **usNIC** radio button.

Step 8 Choose the usNIC connection policy that you created from the **usNIC Connection Policy** drop-down list.

Step 9 Click **OK**.

Step 10 Click **Save Changes**.

Step 11 In the **Navigation** pane, click the service profile that you just modified.

Step 12 In the **Work** pane, click the **Policies** tab.

Step 13 Expand the **BIOS Policy** bar and choose usNIC in the **BIOS Policy** drop-down list.

Step 14 Click **Save Changes**.

Creating a usNIC using the Cisco UCS Manager CLI

Before you begin

You must log in with admin privileges to perform this task.

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	UCS-A # **scope service-profile server** *chassis-id / blade-id* or *rack_server-id*	Enters the service profile for the specified chassis, blade or UCS managed rack server ID.
Step 2	UCS-A /org/service-profile # **show vnic**	Displays the vnics that are available on the server. A usNIC vNIC is available by default when you upgrade to Cisco UCS Manager, release 2.2.
Step 3	UCS-A /org/service-profile # **scope vnic** *vnic name*	Enters the vNIC mode for the specified vNIC.
Step 4	UCS-A /org/service-profile/vnic # **set adapter-policy** Linux	Specifies Linux and the adapter policy for the usNIC.
Step 5	UCS-A /org/service-profile/vnic # **enter usnic-conn-policy-ref** *usnic connection policy reference name*	Creates the usNIC connection policy reference for the vNIC with the specified name. The maximum size for the connection policy name is 16 characters.
Step 6	UCS-A /org/service-profile/vnic/usnic-conn-policy-ref* # **commit-buffer**	Commits the transaction to the system configuration.
Step 7	UCS-A /org/service-profile/vnic/usnic-conn-policy-ref # **top**	Enters the top-level mode.
Step 8	UCS-A # **scope org**	Enters the root organization mode.
Step 9	UCS-A /org # **create usnic-conn-policy** *usnic connection policy name*	Creates a usNIC connection policy with the specified name.
Step 10	UCS-A /org/usnic-conn-policy* # **set usnic-count** *number of usnics*	Specifies the number of Cisco usNICs to create. It is recommended that you enter 58 for this value.
Step 11	UCS-A /org/usnic-conn-policy* # **set adaptor-profile usNIC**	Specifies the usNIC Ethernet adaptor profile for the usNIC connection policy. This usNIC adaptor profile is created by default when you upgrade from previous versions of Cisco UCS Manager to release 2.2.
Step 12	UCS-A /org/usnic-conn-policy* # **commit-buffer**	Commits the transaction to the system configuration.

Example

This example shows how to create a Cisco usNIC and specify its properties:

```
Server # scope org
Server /org # create usnic-conn-policy usnic1
Server /org/usnic-conn-policy* # set usnic-count 58
Server /org/usnic-conn-policy* # set adaptor-profile usNIC
Server /org/usnic-conn-policy* # commit-buffer
Server /org/usnic-conn-policy # top


Server # scope service-profile server 1/1
Server /org/service-profile # show vnic

vNIC:
Name Fabric ID Dynamic MAC Addr Virtualization Preference
------------------ --------- ------------------ -------------------------
eth0 A 00:25:B5:00:00:A1 NONE
eth1 B 00:25:B5:00:00:A2 NONE
eth2 A 00:25:B5:00:00:A3 NONE
Server /org/service-profile # scope vnic eth0
Server /org/service-profile/vnic # set adapter-policy Linux
Server /org/service-profile/vnic # enter usnic-conn-policy-ref usnic1
Server /org/service-profile/vnic/usnic-conn-policy-ref* # commit-buffer
Server /org/service-profile/vnic/usnic-conn-policy-ref # exit
```

Modifying a usNIC using the Cisco UCS Manager CLI

Before you begin

You must log in with admin privileges to perform this task.

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	UCS-A # **scope service-profile server** *chassis-id / blade-id* or *rack_server-id*	Enters the service profile for the specified chassis, blade or UCS managed rack server ID.
Step 2	UCS-A /org/service-profile # **show vnic**	Displays the vnics that are available on the server. A usnic vnic is available by default when you upgrade to Cisco UCS Manager, release 2.2.
Step 3	UCS-A /org/service-profile # **scope vnic** *vnic name*	Enters the vnic mode for the specified vNIC.
Step 4	UCS-A /org/service-profile/vnic # **enter usnic-conn-policy-ref** *usnic connection policy reference name*	Specifies the usnic connection policy reference for the vNIC that you want to use.
Step 5	UCS-A /org/service-profile/vnic/usnic-conn-policy-ref* # **commit-buffer**	Commits the transaction to the system configuration.

Example

This example shows how to modify Cisco usNIC properties:

```
Server # scope service-profile server 1/1
Server /org/service-profile # show vnic

vNIC:
Name Fabric ID Dynamic MAC Addr Virtualization Preference
------------------ --------- ------------------ -------------------------
eth0 A 00:25:B5:00:00:A1 SRIOV USNIC
eth1 B 00:25:B5:00:00:A2 NONE
eth2 A 00:25:B5:00:00:A3 NONE
Server /org/service-profile # scope vnic eth0
Server /org/service-profile/vnic # enter usnic-conn-policy-ref usnic2
Server /org/service-profile/vnic/usnic-conn-policy-ref* # commit-buffer
Server /org/service-profile/vnic/usnic-conn-policy-ref # exit
```

Deleting a usNIC using the Cisco UCS Manager CLI

Before you begin

You must log in with admin privileges to perform this task.

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	UCS-A # **scope service-profile server** *chassis-id / blade-id* or *rack_server-id*	Enters the service profile for the specified chassis, blade or UCS managed rack server ID.
Step 2	UCS-A /org/service-profile # **show vnic**	Displays the vNICs that are available on the server. A usNIC vNIC is available by default when you upgrade to Cisco UCS Manager, release 2.2.
Step 3	UCS-A /org/service-profile # **scope vnic** *vnic name*	Enters the vNIC mode for the specified vNIC.
Step 4	UCS-A /org/service-profile/vnic # **show usnic-conn-policy-ref** *usnic connection policy reference name*	Specifies the usNIC connection policy reference for the vNIC that you want to use.
Step 5	UCS-A /org/service-profile/vnic # **delete usnic-conn-policy-ref** *usnic connection policy reference name*	Deletes the specified usNIC connection policy reference.
Step 6	UCS-A /org/service-profile/vnic/usnic-conn-policy-ref* # **commit-buffer**	Commits the transaction to the system configuration.

Example

This example shows how to modify Cisco usNIC properties:

```
Server # scope service-profile server 1/1
Server /org/service-profile # show vnic

vNIC:
Name Fabric ID Dynamic MAC Addr Virtualization Preference
---------------- --------- ----------------- -------------------------
eth0 A 00:25:B5:00:00:A1 SRIOV USNIC
eth1 B 00:25:B5:00:00:A2 NONE
eth2 A 00:25:B5:00:00:A3 NONE
Server /org/service-profile # scope vnic eth0
Server /org/service-profile/vnic # show usnic-conn-policy-ref

usNIC Connection Policy Reference:
usNIC Connection Policy Name
---------------------------
usnic2
Server /org/service-profile/vnic # delete usnic-conn-policy-ref usnic2
Server /org/service-profile/vnic* # commit-buffer
Server /org/service-profile/vnic # exit
```

Configuring the Linux Kernel for Cisco usNIC

Before you begin

Make sure that the following software and hardware components are installed on the Cisco UCS server:

- A supported Linux operating system distribution release. For more information, see the UCS Hardware and Software Compatibility Tool.
- GCC, G++, and Gfortran
- libnl user library development package (either version 1 or version 3)
- Cisco UCS VIC, second generation or later adapter

Procedure

Step 1 Ensure that the Linux kernel IOMMU support is enabled. Enable the Intel IOMMU driver in the Linux kernel by manually adding '**intel_iommu =on**' in the grub.conf file (for example, `/boot/grub/grub.conf`). For AMD based servers (C125), use **amd_iommu=on** in the grub.conf file.

For example, if your grub.conf file contains a "kernel" line such as `kernel (hd0,0)/vmlinuz LANG=en_US.UTF-8 KEYTABLE=us`, then you will add '**intel_iommu=on**' to the end as shown below:

```
kernel (hd0,0)/vmlinuz LANG=en_US.UTF-8 KEYTABLE=us intel_iommu=on
```

For AMD-based servers, you would use the following:

```
kernel (hd0,0)/vmlinuz LANG=en_US.UTF-8 KEYTABLE=us amd_iommu=on
```

For Red Hat Enterprise Linux use the grubby command line tool to add intel_iommu=on to the configuration file.

```
# grubby --args="intel_iommu=on" --update-kernel /boot/vmlinuz-`uname -r`
```

For AMD-based servers, use the following:

```
# grubby --args="amd_iommu=on" --update-kernel /boot/vmlinuz-`uname -r`
```

For SLES, add "intel_iommu=on" or "amd_iommu=on" (as appropriate) to the GRUB_CMDLINE_LINUX_DEFAULT option found in /etc/default/grub configuration file then run the grub2-mkconfig command below to apply the changes.

```
# grub2-mkconfig -o /boot/grub2/grub.cfg
```

For Ubuntu, add "intel_iommu=on" or "amd_iommu=on" (as appropriate) to the GRUB_CMDLINE_LINUX_DEFAULT option found in /etc/default/grub configuration file then run the update-grub command below to apply the changes.

```
# update-grub2
```

Step 2 Reboot your Cisco UCS server.

You must reboot your server for the changes to take after you enable the IOMMU.

Step 3 Verify that the running kernel has booted with the appropriate *_iommu=on option.

```
$ cat /proc/cmdline | grep iommu
```

Step 4 Install the Cisco usNIC Linux drivers.

For more information about installing the drivers, see "Installing Linux Drivers" section in the guide.

Note The Cisco usNIC packages do not support the upgrade or downgrade of an operating system. To update the operating system, first uninstall the usNIC packages, update the operating system, and then reinstall the usNIC drivers.

Alternatively, you can update the operating system, uninstall the usNIC drivers, and then reinstall the usNIC drivers.

What to do next

Installing Linux Software Packages for Cisco usNIC

The following section lists the content of the usNIC folder, specific for each supported Linux operating system distribution that is included in the UCS Drivers ISO bundle. Documentation about known issues and installation instructions are also included in the README file in the usNIC folder.

- **kmod-usnic_verbs-{version}.x86_64.rpm**—Linux kernel verbs driver for the usNIC feature of the Cisco VIC SR-IOV Ethernet NIC.

Note On systems with SLES 12.1 and later, there is a single RPM that contains both the enic and usnic_verbs drivers named cisco-enic-usnic-kmp-default-{version}.x86_64.rpm. Due to how SLES kernel module dependencies work, this "combo" RPM must be installed instead of installing individual enic and usnic_verbs RPMs.

- **usnic_tools-{version}.x86_64.rpm** — Utility programs for usNIC.
- **usd_tools-{version}.x86_64.rpm** — Additional diagnostic tools for usNIC.
- **libfabric-cisco-{version}.x86_64.rpm**— Libfabric package with built-in support for the Cisco usNIC transport.
- **libfabric-cisco-devel-{version}.x86_64.rpm** — Development headers for the Libfabric package with built-in support for the Cisco usNIC transport.
- **libusnic_verbs-{version}.x86_64.rpm**— A dummy library that causes the libibverbs library to skip Cisco usNIC Linux devices (because Cisco usNIC functionality is exposed through libfabric, not libibverbs). This RPM is only necessary on older Linux distros that have not upgraded to the "rdma-core" packaging of the libibverbs library (e.g., RHEL 6).

Procedure

Step 1 Upgrade to the latest version of the enic driver included in the Cisco UCS ISO for your Linux distribution as documented in Cisco UCS Virtual Interface Card Drivers for Linux Installation Guide.

Step 2 Install the Cisco usNIC software packages from the Cisco UCS Drivers ISO for your Linux distribution.

Step 3 Enable the Linux RDMA services. Once enabled, RDMA services will be started automatically after a system reboot. The exact command to enable Linux RDMA may vary between each operating system.

```
# chkconfig rdma on
```

Note You may need to perform this step on some Linux operating systems distributions, such as RHEL 6.4.

Step 4 Reboot your server for the installation changes to take effect automatically. By rebooting at this point and performing the installation validation steps found below, you will be confident your system is configured properly.

Important It is recommended that you install all the binary RPMs from the ISO. Building and installing source code packages is intended for advanced users who are familiar with Linux device driver development environments.

Source code for Linux Cisco usNIC software packages

The source code for the Cisco usNIC software packages is provided on the Cisco UCS Drivers ISO. It is recommended that you do not mix source code and binary package installations.

Manually Loading the Kernel Modules for Cisco usNIC

Assuming that the operating system was booted with Intel IOMMU support enabled, you can manually load the Cisco usNIC kernel modules with the following steps.

Before you begin

Ensure you delete all the existing versions of the driver before you load the latest version of the driver. This will help you configure the system successfully.

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	# **rmmod enic**	Unloads the existing enic driver module. **Note** Make sure that you are not logged in to the OS using the enic driver, for example, via SSH to a VIC IP interface, because your network connection will get disconnected when the enic driver is unloaded. Instead, you need to log in to the server using the console, via KVM, or through a LOM IP interface.
Step 2	# **modprobe enic**	Loads the enic driver module.
Step 3	# **dmesg | grep 'Cisco VIC Ethernet NIC Driver'**	Verify that the correct version of the enic driver was loaded. The output from this command should show a version string that matches the version of the enic RPM from the Cisco UCS Driver ISO that you just installed.
Step 4	# **modprobe usnic_verbs**	Loads the usnic_verbs driver module.
Step 5	# **lsmod | grep usnic_verbs**	Verify that the usnic_verbs module loaded successfully. If it did, you should see some output. If the usnic_verbs module did not load, you should see no output.

Uninstalling Linux Software Packages for Cisco usNIC

Procedure

Step 1 Uninstall the following usNIC software packages:

- libusnic_verbs (if applicable)
- libfabric-cisco-devel
- libfabric-cisco
- usd_tools
- usnic_tools
- kmod-usnic_verbs (or cisco-enic-usnic-kmp-default)

Step 2 Reboot your Cisco server.

Upgrading the Linux Software Packages for Cisco usNIC

Procedure

Step 1 Follow the procedure in "Uninstalling Linux Drivers" to uninstall the previous versions of the usNIC software packages.

Step 2 Follow the procedure in "Installing Linux Drivers" to install usNIC software packages from the Cisco UCS Drivers ISO for your Linux distribution.

Installing MPI

Before you begin

Install the kmod-usnic_verbs, libfabric-cisco, and libfabric-cisco-devel RPMs.

Procedure

Step 1 Download the latest version of Open MPI from https://www.open-mpi.org/software/ompi/current/. This URL will automatically redirect you to the current release.

Step 2 Extract the Open MPI tarball with the following command:

```
$ tar xf openmpi-VERSION.tar.bz2
```

Step 3 In the directory that is created, run the configure command with the following options:

```
$ cd openmpi-VERSION
$ ./configure \
 --prefix=INSTALL_DIRECTORY \
 --with-usnic \
 --with-libfabric=/opt/cisco/libfabric \
 --without-memory-manager \
 --enable-mpirun-prefix-by-default \
 --enable-mca-no-build=btl-openib,common-verbs,oob-ud \
 LDFLAGS="-Wl,-rpath -Wl,/opt/cisco/libfabric/lib -Wl,--enable-new-dtags"
```

Substitute an appropriate directory for "INSTALL_DIRECTORY" (e.g., /opt/openmpi/VERSION).

Note Note that the above configure command will build an Open MPI without verbs support (because older versions of the libibverbs library will issue needless warnings to stderr about usNIC devices). You can remove the --enable-mca-no-build option if you need your Open MPI to support the Linux verbs API.

Step 4 At the successful conclusion of configure, build Open MPI:

```
$ make -j 8
```

Step 5 At the successful conclusion of make, install Open MPI (you may need root or specific user permissions to write to your chosen INSTALL_DIRECTORY):

```
$ make install
```

Adding MPI to User Environments

Before MPI applications can be compiled and launched, an MPI implementation must be added to each user's environment. It is recommended that you only add one MPI implementation to a user's environment at a time.

Environment for Community Open MPI

Community Open MPI requires that you add its installation binary and library paths to the environment variables. It is usually best to add these paths to the environment in your shell startup files so that they are automatically set upon login to all nodes in your cluster.

Specifically, you should prepend the PATH environment variable with INSTALL_DIRECTORY/bin, and prefix the LD_LIBRARY_PATH environment variable with INSTALL_DIRECTORY/lib. Optionally, you can also add the INSTALL_DIRECTORY/share/man to the MANPATH environment variable.

For example, if you configured Community Open MPI with an INSTALL_DIRECTORY of /opt/openmpi, if you are using Bash as your login shell, you can add these lines to your shell startup file (which is typically $HOME/.bashrc):

```
export PATH=/opt/openmpi/bin:$PATH
export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=/opt/openmpi/lib:$LD_LIBRARY_PATH
export MANPATH=/opt/openmpi/share/man:$MANPATH
```

Alternatively, if you're using C shell as your login shell, you can add these lines to your shell startup file (which is typically $HOME/.cshrc):

```
set path=(/opt/openmpi/bin $path)
setenv LD_LIBRARY_PATH /opt/openmpi/lib:$LD_LIBRARY_PATH
if ("1" == "$?MANPATH") then
    setenv MANPATH /opt/openmpi/share/man:${MANPATH}
else
    setenv MANPATH /opt/openmpi/share/man:
endif
```

Your system may require slightly different commands. Check the Open MPI Community FAQ (https://www.open-mpi.org/faq/) in the "Running MPI Jobs" section for more information about how to set your PATH, LD_LIBRARY_PATH, MANPATH environment variables.

Adding Libfabric to User Environments

If you are developing Libfabric-specific applications, you may benefit from having the Libfabric test executables (such as fi_pingpong) and/or man pages in your environment. Two scripts are installed by the Cisco libfabric package to help set the required environment variables. One script is for Bourne shell users, the other is for C shell users:

- `/opt/cisco/libfabric-vars.sh`
- `/opt/cisco/libfabric-vars.csh`

The appropriate script should be sourced as part of the users's shell startup / login sequence.

Adding usNIC Tools to User Environments

Adding the usNIC tools to the environment can be accomplished via the following scripts; the first is for Bourne shell users, the second is for C shell users:

- /opt/cisco/usnic/bin/usnic-vars.sh
- /opt/cisco/usnic/bin/usnic-vars.csh

Verifying the Cisco usNIC Installation for Cisco UCS B-Series Blade Servers

After you install the required Linux drivers for Cisco usNIC, perform the following procedure at the Linux prompt to make sure that the installation completed successfully.

Note The examples shown below are configurations verified on Linux operating system distribution RHEL 6.5.

Procedure

Step 1 Search and verify if the **usnic_verbs** kernel module was loaded during the OS driver installation.

```
$ lsmod | grep usnic_verbs
```

The following details are displayed when you enter the **lsmod | grep usnic_verbs** command. The kernel modules listed on your console may differ based on the modules that you have currently loaded in your OS.

```
usnic_verbs            73762  2
ib_core                74355  2 ib_uverbs,usnic_verbs
enic                   73723  1 usnic_verbs
```

Step 2 View the configuration of Cisco usNIC-enabled NICs.

```
$ /opt/cisco/usnic/bin/usnic_devinfo
```

The following section is a brief example of the results that are displayed when you execute the **usnic_devinfo** command. The results may differ based on your current installation. When the results are displayed on your console, ensure that the link state for each of the listed ports are shown as UP.

The following example shows two interfaces (**usnic_1** and **usnic_0**) that are configured on a Cisco UCS VIC adapter. If you configured only one Cisco usNIC-enabled vNIC, you will see a listing for only **usnic_0**.

```
usnic_0:
        Interface:              eth3
        MAC Address:            00:25:b5:31:32:10
        IP Address:             10.10.10.2
        Netmask:                255.255.255.0
        Prefix len:             24
        MTU:                    9000
        Link State:             UP
        Bandwidth:              40 Gb/s
        Device ID:              UCSB-MLOM-40G-03 [VIC 1340] [0x012c]
        Vendor ID:              4407
        Vendor Part ID:         207
        Firmware:               4.1(3S1)
        VFs:                    58
        CQ per VF:              6
        QP per VF:              6
        Interrupts per VF:      6
        Max CQ:                 348
        Max CQ Entries:         65535
        Max QP:                 348
```

```
        Max Send Credits:       4095
        Max Recv Credits:       4095
        Capabilities:
          Map per res:          yes
          PIO sends:            yes
          CQ interrupts:        no
usnic_1:
        Interface:              eth4
        MAC Address:            00:25:b5:31:32:20
        IP Address:             10.20.10.2
        Netmask:                255.255.255.0
        Prefix len:             24
        MTU:                    9000
        Link State:             UP
        Bandwidth:              40 Gb/s
        Device ID:              UCSB-MLOM-40G-03 [VIC 1340] [0x012c]
        Vendor ID:              4407
        Vendor Part ID:         207
        Firmware:               4.1(3S1)
        VFs:                    58
        CQ per VF:              6
        QP per VF:              6
        Interrupts per VF:      6
        Max CQ:                 348
        Max CQ Entries:         65535
        Max QP:                 348
        Max Send Credits:       4095
        Max Recv Credits:       4095
        Capabilities:
          Map per res:          yes
          PIO sends:            yes
          CQ interrupts:        no
```

Step 3 Run the **usnic_check** script to view the installed RPMs and their versions.

```
$ /opt/cisco/usnic/bin/usnic_check
```

Note If you installed any components from the source code in the Cisco usNIC software packages, the usnic_check script will report the corresponding RPM as missing. It is recommended that you do not mix source code and binary package installations.

Step 4 Verify that the Cisco usNIC network packets are being transmitted correctly between the client and server hosts.

a) Determine the name of the Ethernet interface associated with the Cisco usNIC on the server host.

```
[server]$ /opt/cisco/usnic/bin/usnic_status
usnic_0: 0000:07:0.0, eth3, 00:25:b5:31:32:10, 58 VFs
 Per VF: 6 WQ, 6 RQ, 6 CQ, 6 INT

In use:
0 VFs, 0 QPs, 0 CQs


usnic_1: 0000:0c:0.0, eth4, 00:25:b5:31:32:20, 58 VFs
 Per VF: 6 WQ, 6 RQ, 6 CQ, 6 INT

In use:
0 VFs, 0 QPs, 0 CQs
```

b) Determine the IP address for the Ethernet interface.

```
[server]$ ip addr show dev eth1 | grep "inet[^6]"
```

```
    inet 10.10.10.2/24 brd 50.42.110.255 scope global eth1
```

c) Run the **fi_pingpong** program on the server host.

```
[server]$ /opt/cisco/libfabric/bin/fi_pingpong -p usnic
```

For more information about the command line options used with the fi_pingpong program, see the output of **fi_pingpong --help**.

d) Execute the **fi_pingpong** program on the client host by using the IP address that corresponds to the Cisco usNIC on the server host.

```
[client]$ /opt/cisco/libfabric/bin/fi_pingpong -p usnic SERVER_IP_ADDRESS
```

The following example shows the results that are displayed when you run the **fi_pingpong** program.

```
Server-side:
[server]$ /opt/cisco/libfabric/bin/fi_pingpong
bytes   #sent   #ack     total       time     MB/sec    usec/xfer   Mxfers/sec
64      10k     =10k     1.2m        0.07s     17.84       3.59       0.28
256     10k     =10k     4.8m        0.08s     66.23       3.87       0.26
1k      10k     =10k     19m         0.10s    199.76       5.13       0.20
4k      10k     =10k     78m         0.18s    466.60       8.78       0.11

Client-side:
[client]$ /opt/cisco/libfabric/bin/fi_pingpong -p usnic SERVER_IP_ADDRESS
bytes   #sent   #ack     total       time     MB/sec    usec/xfer   Mxfers/sec
64      10k     =10k     1.2m        0.07s     17.84       3.59       0.28
256     10k     =10k     4.8m        0.08s     66.25       3.86       0.26
1k      10k     =10k     19m         0.10s    199.77       5.13       0.20
4k      10k     =10k     78m         0.18s    466.61       8.78       0.11
```

Note fi_pingpong is not a high-performance benchmark. It shows the general performance levels of your usNIC devices, but it is not highly tuned to show the absolute best performance. The fi_pingpong output should only be used to ensure that performance is in the general neighborhood of expected performance.

Step 5 Download, compile, and execute the **ring_c** test program to validate that the MPI traffic is correctly transmitted between the client and server hosts.

You can obtain the **ring_c** test program from this link: https://raw.githubusercontent.com/open-mpi/ompi/v2.x/examples/ring_c.c.

The following example shows how to use the **wget** utility to obtain, compile, and execute the **ring_c**. Alternatively, you can use other methods of obtaining and running the test program.

Note Run the following commands with a single MPI implementation setup in your environment.

```
$ wget --no-check-certificate
https://raw.githubusercontent.com/open-mpi/ompi/v2.x/examples/ring_c.c
--2017-03-21 19:46:20-- https://raw.githubusercontent.com/open-mpi/ompi/v2.x/examples/ring_c.c
Resolving raw.githubusercontent.com... 151.101.192.133, 151.101.64.133, 151.101.128.133,
...
Connecting to raw.githubusercontent.com|151.101.192.133|:443... connected.
HTTP request sent, awaiting response... 200 OK
Length: 2416 (2.4K) [text/plain]
Saving to: 'ring_c.c'

ring_c.c 100%[=====================>] 2.36K --.-KB/s in 0s
```

```
2017-03-21 19:46:20 (29.5 MB/s) - ‘ring_c.c’ saved [2416/2416]

$ mpicc ring_c.c -o ring_c
[no output]

# IBM Spectrum MPI:
$ /path/to/mpirun --usnic --host host1,host2 -n 2 ./ring_c

# Community Open MPI:
$ mpirun --mca btl usnic,vader,self --host host1,host2 -n 2 ./ring_c

# The expected output from both IBM Spectrum MPI and Community Open MPI is:
Process 0 sending 10 to 1, tag 201 (4 processes in ring)
Process 0 sent to 1
Process 0 decremented value: 9
Process 0 decremented value: 8
Process 0 decremented value: 7
Process 0 decremented value: 6
Process 0 decremented value: 5
Process 0 decremented value: 4
Process 0 decremented value: 3
Process 0 decremented value: 2
Process 0 decremented value: 1
Process 0 decremented value: 0
Process 0 exiting
Process 2 exiting
Process 1 exiting
Process 3 exiting ...
```

Note If desired, setup a different MPI implementation in your environment and re-run the **mpicc** and **mpirun** commands to verify that MPI implementation with Cisco usNIC functionality.

If the **fi_pingpong** program and the **ring_c** program executed successfully, you should now be able to run general MPI applications over Cisco usNIC.

Troubleshooting Information

Problem

Viewing the list of installed RPMs using **usnic_check** causes the following:

1. A warning such as **No usnic devices found**.
2. A version mismatch error such as **usnic_verbs_xxxx does not match installed version**.

Possible Cause

1. A previously-installed version of usnic_verbs can cause this error.
2. The usnic_verbs driver may have failed to load if the loaded enic driver is not compatible with usnic_verbs.

Solution

This problem is typically caused by one of two things:

1. An old version of the usnic_verbs RPM is still installed.

a. List all installed versions using the following command: rpm -qa | grep usnic_verbs

b. Uninstall all versions using the following command: rpm -e

c. Reboot your system.

d. Re-install all the RPMs.

2. The enic driver loaded by the Linux kernel is not compatible with this version of usnic_verbs.

a. This can happen if the distro-provided enic RPM was loaded instead of the enic driver on the same UCS Driver ISO from which you obtained the usnic_verbs driver.

b. Specifically: the enic and usnic_verbs drivers must "match" -- if they don't, it is likely that usnic_verbs will fail to load with messages in "dmesg" from usnic_verbs about missing enic symbols.

c. If this is the case, ensure that both the enic and usnic_verbs drivers are loaded from the UCS Drivers ISO.

d. Also ensure that the correct enic driver version is being loaded upon bootup: check the output from "dmesg" to ensure that the enic version number matches that of the enic RPM that you installed.

e. If they do not match, you may need to check depmod output and/or make a new initrd to ensure that the correct enic driver is bootstrapped and loaded into the kernel at boot time.

Problem

Verifying that Cisco usNIC packets are being transmitted correctly between client and server using **fi_pingpong** causes the following errors:

1. “No such address or device” error. See the following example:

```
$ /opt/cisco/libfabric/bin/fi_pingpong -p usnic
fi_getinfo: -61
```

Possible Cause

1. The Cisco usNIC connection policy is not assigned or set as 'not set' in the vNIC interface.
2. The server side does not receive packets from the client side.

Solution

1. Make sure that valid Cisco usNIC connection policy is configured in usNIC Connection Policies and assigned to the vNICs in the Service Profile.
2. Make sure that IP addresses of the Cisco usNIC devices on both the server and client are configured correctly.
3. Make sure that the client pingpong is attempting to send packets to the correct server IP address of Cisco usNIC device.

Problem

Running the Cisco usNIC traffic using the `mpirun` causes the following errors:

MTU size mismatch error. See the following example:

```
Example:
# Enter the command below at the prompt on a single line from mpirun up to Sendrecv.
# The backslash is included here as a line continuation and is not needed when the command
 is
# entered at the prompt.
$ mpirun --host node05,node06 -np 12 --mca btl usnic,vader,self \
--mca btl_usnic_if_include usnic_1 IMB-MPI1 Sendrecv

The MTU does not match on local and remote hosts.  All interfaces on
all hosts participating in an MPI job must be configured with the same
MTU.  The usNIC interface listed below will not be used to communicate
with this remote host.

  Local host:      node05
  usNIC interface: usnic_1
  Local MTU:       8958
  Remote host:     node06
  Remote MTU:      1458
```

Possible Cause

1. The MTU size is incorrectly set on the appropriate VLANs.
2. The MTU size is incorrectly set in the QoS.

Solution

Make sure that the MTU size has been set correctly on the VLANs and QoS.

See: Configuring QoS System Classes with the LAN Uplinks Manager.

Problem

Installing a Cisco enic driver causes the following Cisco enic dependency errors:

```
# rpm -ivh kmod-usnic_verbs-1.0.4.318.rhel6u5-1.x86_64.rpm
error: Failed dependencies:
                ksym(enic_api_devcmd_proxy_by_index) = 0x107cb661 is needed by
kmod-usnic_verbs-1.0.4.318.rhel6u5-1.x86_64
                ksym(vnic_dev_alloc_discover) = 0xfb7e4707 is needed by
kmod-usnic_verbs-1.0.4.318.rhel6u5-1.x86_64
                ksym(vnic_dev_get_pdev) = 0xae6ae5c9 is needed by
kmod-usnic_verbs-1.0.4.318.rhel6u5-1.x86_64
                ksym(vnic_dev_get_res) = 0xd910c86b is needed by
kmod-usnic_verbs-1.0.4.318.rhel6u5-1.x86_64
                ksym(vnic_dev_get_res_bar) = 0x31710a7e is needed by
kmod-usnic_verbs-1.0.4.318.rhel6u5-1.x86_64
                ksym(vnic_dev_get_res_bus_addr) = 0x7be7a062 is needed by
kmod-usnic_verbs-1.0.4.318.rhel6u5-1.x86_64
                ksym(vnic_dev_get_res_count) = 0x759e4b07 is needed by
kmod-usnic_verbs-1.0.4.318.rhel6u5-1.x86_64
                ksym(vnic_dev_get_res_type_len) = 0xd122f0a1 is needed by
kmod-usnic_verbs-1.0.4.318.rhel6u5-1.x86_64
                ksym(vnic_dev_unregister) = 0xd99602a1 is needed by
kmod-usnic_verbs-1.0.4.318.rhel6u5-1.x86_64
#
```

Possible Cause

1. The enic driver is incorrectly installed.
2. The enic driver is not installed.

Solution

Ensure that the correct enic driver has been installed. In addition, make sure of the following:

- Specifically, you must ensure the following: the enic and usnic_verbs drivers must match. If you have a mismatch, you can get the above version errors.
- Specifically, the enic and usnic_verbs that come in the Cisco UCS drivers ISO must be matched together. If you use an enic from one Cisco UCS driver ISO and usnic_verbs from another Cisco UCS driver ISO, it will result in the above version errors.

Note When installing the "combo" enic and usnic_verbs RPM on systems with SLES 12.1 and later, it is guaranteed that the enic and usnic_verbs drivers will match.

Problem

Intel IOMMU causes the following warnings:

```
# rpm -ivh kmod-usnic_verbs-1.0.4.318.rhel6u5-1.x86_64.rpm
Preparing...                ########################################### [100%]
   1:kmod-usnic_verbs       ########################################### [100%]
WARNING -
Intel IOMMU does not appear to be enabled - please add kernel parameter
intel_iommu=on to your boot configuration for USNIC driver to function.
#
```

Possible Cause

The Intel IOMMU support is not enabled in the Linux kernel.

Solution

Enable Intel IOMMU driver in the Linux kernel.

Problem

When viewing the configuration of Cisco usNIC enabled VICS using `usnic_devinfo`, the command output does not list any usNIC interfaces..

Possible Cause

The RDMA service is not enabled.

Solution

Enable RDMA service using the following commands:

```
# service rdma start
Or
# chkconfig rdma on
```