



Release Notes for Cisco iSCSI Driver Version 3.2.1 for IBM AIX 4.3.3

May 16, 2003



Note

You can find the most current documentation on Cisco.com. This set of electronic documents may contain updates and modifications made after the hard-copy documents were printed.

These release notes support Cisco iSCSI Driver version 3.2.1 for IBM AIX 4.3.3.

For a list of software caveats that apply to version 3.2.1, see the “[Caveats](#)” section. The caveats are updated for every maintenance version and are located on Cisco.com and the Documentation CD-ROM.

Contents

These release notes describe the following topics:

- [Introduction, page 2](#)
- [System Requirements, page 2](#)
- [New and Changed Information, page 3](#)
- [Installation Notes, page 3](#)
- [Caveats, page 4](#)
- [Troubleshooting, page 5](#)
- [Related Documentation, page 5](#)
- [Service and Support, page 6](#)
- [Obtaining Documentation, page 7](#)
- [Documentation Feedback, page 8](#)
- [Cisco Product Security Overview, page 8](#)
- [Obtaining Technical Assistance, page 9](#)
- [Obtaining Additional Publications and Information, page 10](#)



Corporate Headquarters:
Cisco Systems, Inc., 170 West Tasman Drive, San Jose, CA 95134-1706 USA

Copyright © 2003 Cisco Systems, Inc. All rights reserved.

Introduction

The Cisco iSCSI Driver for AIX provides an IP host with the ability to access storage through an IP network. The iSCSI driver uses the iSCSI protocol to transport SCSI requests and responses over an IP network between the IP host and a Cisco SN 5400 Series system.

Architecturally, the iSCSI driver combines with the IP host's TCP/IP stack, network drivers, and network interface cards (NICs) to provide the same functions as a SCSI or a Fibre Channel adapter driver with a host bus adapter (HBA).

The iSCSI driver provides a transport for SCSI requests and responses for storage devices; however, instead of providing a transport for directly attached devices, the driver transports the SCSI requests and responses between the IP host and a Cisco SN 5400 Series system via an IP network. The SN 5400 Series system, in turn, transports SCSI requests and responses between it and the storage devices attached to it.

Once the iSCSI driver is installed and started, the host proceeds with a discovery process for storage devices.

A more technical description of the driver's design and its features can be found in the readme file that accompanies the iSCSI driver in the downloaded driver archive file.

**Note**

The iSCSI protocol is an IETF-defined protocol for IP storage (ips). For more information about the iSCSI protocol, refer to the IETF standards for IP storage at <http://www.ietf.org>.

System Requirements

This section describes the system requirements for version 3.2.1 and includes the following information:

- [Operating System Requirements, page 2](#)
- [SN 5400 Series System Software Requirements, page 3](#)

Operating System Requirements

- This driver requires an IP host running the IBM AIX 4.3.3 operating system. (IBM recommends that all AIX 4.3.3 system be upgraded with the most current patch set.) The following packages must be installed on the host:

- devices.fcp.disk.rte
- devices.fcp.tape.rte

These packages are available on the IBM AIX 4.3.3 operating system CD.

- The driver supports single-processor and multiprocessor machines.
- To ensure the best performance for iSCSI drivers, the extended windowing feature of TCP should be enabled on all IP hosts connecting to the SN 5400 Series system. In general, a larger window size enhances SN 5400 Series system performance.
- The receive and transmit flow control feature of the Gigabit Ethernet driver should be enabled on all IP hosts connecting to the SN 5400 Series system.

SN 5400 Series System Software Requirements

The iSCSI Driver version 3.2.1 for IBM AIX 4.3.3 is interoperable with a Cisco SN 5400 Series system running software release 3.2.1 or later. This version of the driver is not interoperable with a Cisco SN 5400 Series system running software release 2.5.x or earlier.

New and Changed Information

- SLP (Service Location Protocol) support—When enabled in the storage router, SLP provides the ability to advertise targets of specified SCSI routing instances. Target discovery through SLP can be used in addition to or in place of the DiscoveryAddress mechanism.
- Support for two-way CHAP (Challenge Handshake Authentication Protocol) authentication—Provides for two way authentication between the target and the initiator. The authentication feature on the SN 5400 system must be enabled to use this feature.
- Target portal failover—Enables the iSCSI driver to attempt to connect to a target using the next available IP address if an existing target connection fails. A “preferred portal” can also be specified.
- Multipath I/O software support—Allows third-party multipath I/O software applications to be used in conjunction with the iSCSI driver.
- Prior to version 3.2.1, the iSCSI driver used the file /etc/iscsi_bindings, instead of /etc/iscsi.bindings. The first time you start the version 3.2.1 driver, it will convert the old file to the new file format and create the new /etc/iscsi.bindings file. The old file will be renamed /etc/iscsi_bindings.old.
- Configuration changes can be made to the iSCSI driver without having to stop it or without having to reboot the system.

See the readme file for additional information about all new features.

Installation Notes

This section describes how to obtain iSCSI driver software and upgrade an existing iSCSI driver installation, and includes the following information:

- [Downloading the iSCSI Driver, page 3](#)
- [Installing, Upgrading and Uninstalling iSCSI Driver Software, page 4](#)

Downloading the iSCSI Driver

Registered Cisco.com users can download the most current SN 5400 Series system software, Cisco iSCSI drivers, readme files and release notes from Cisco.com. In addition, information about driver compatibility and other relevant driver information is available on Cisco.com.

You can access software and related information by following these instructions:

-
- Step 1** At <http://www.cisco.com>, log in to Cisco.com. Click **Technical Support** and **Software Center**.
- Step 2** At the Software Center web page, under Software Products & Downloads, click **Storage Networking Software**.

- Step 3** At the Storage Networking Software web page, click the appropriate link for your software.
- Step 4** At the Software Download web page, click the file that you want to download. Another software download web page will be displayed with detailed information about the download file and Cisco's Software License Agreement. Follow the instructions on that and any subsequent web pages to download the software.
- Step 5** To install and configure storage router software, see the appropriate storage router software configuration guide and release notes. To install and configure an iSCSI driver, see the readme file that accompanies the iSCSI driver (in the downloaded driver archive file) and the appropriate release notes.

Configuration guides and release notes are available online. You can access online documentation by following these instructions:

- Step 1** At <http://www.cisco.com>, click **Products & Services** and **Storage Networking Products**.
 - Step 2** At the Cisco Storage Networking Products web page, click **Cisco SN 5400 Series Storage Routers**.
 - Step 3** At the Cisco SN 5400 Series Storage Routers web page, click **Technical Documentation**. On the Technical Documentation web page, choose the appropriate link for documentation, release notes, or other related information.
-

Installing, Upgrading and Uninstalling iSCSI Driver Software

For complete procedures to install and configure, upgrade, or uninstall iSCSI driver software, refer to the readme file that accompanies the iSCSI driver (in the downloaded driver archive file).

Caveats

Caveats describe unexpected behavior or defects in the specified version of the driver. Severity 1 caveats are the most serious caveats; severity 2 caveats are less serious.

There are no open or resolved severity 1 or 2 caveats for the iSCSI Driver version 3.2.1 for IBM AIX 4.3.3.



Note

If you have an account with Cisco.com, you can use Bug Navigator II to find caveats of any severity for any version. You can reach Bug Navigator II on Cisco.com at Service & Support: http://www.cisco.com/cgi-bin/Support/Bugtool/launch_bugtool.pl.

Troubleshooting

Cisco iSCSI driver troubleshooting information is available on the Cisco.com web site.

You can access troubleshooting information by following these instructions:

-
- Step 1** At <http://www.cisco.com>, log in to Cisco.com. Click **Products & Services**, and select **Storage Networking Software** from the menu.
 - Step 2** At the Cisco Storage Networking Software web page, click **Cisco iSCSI Drivers**, and then click **Technical Documentation**.
 - Step 3** At the Technical Documentation web page, click the **Tech Notes** link.
 - Step 4** At the Tech Notes page, click the appropriate link for your iSCSI driver.
-

You can access iSCSI driver FAQs by following these instructions:

-
- Step 1** At <http://www.cisco.com>, log in to Cisco.com. Click **Products & Services**, and select **Storage Networking Software** from the menu.
 - Step 2** At the Cisco Storage Networking Software web page, click **Cisco iSCSI Drivers**, and then click **Product Literature**.
 - Step 3** At the Product Literature web page, click the **Q&A** link.
 - Step 4** At the Q&A page, click the appropriate link for your iSCSI driver.
-

Related Documentation

The following sections describe the related documentation available for the iSCSI Driver version 3.2.1 for IBM AIX 4.3.3 and the Cisco SN 5400 Series system. These documents consist of the iSCSI driver release notes and readme file, and the SN 5400 Series system hardware installation and software configuration guides.

The SN 5400 Series system hardware installation and software configuration documentation sets are available as printed manuals or electronic documents. The iSCSI driver readme file is available in electronic format, as part of the software download package. See the [“Downloading the iSCSI Driver” section on page 3](#) for details.

Release-Specific Documents

This Release Notes document is the only document specific to iSCSI Driver version 3.2.1 for IBM AIX 4.3.3. It is located on Cisco.com and the Documentation CD-ROM.

Each release of SN 5400 Series system software includes an associated Release Notes document, which is also available as an electronic document on Cisco.com and the Documentation CD-ROM.

Hardware Documents

Refer to the appropriate SN 5400 Series system hardware installation guide for hardware installation procedures. The *Cisco SN 5428 Storage Router Hardware Installation Guide* provides hardware installation procedures for SN 5428 Storage Routers. The *Cisco SN 5428-2 Storage Router Hardware Installation Guide* provides hardware installation procedures for SN 5428-2 Storage Routers. These documents are available as printed manuals. They are also available as electronic documents on Cisco.com and the Documentation CD-ROM.

Software Documents

Refer to the appropriate SN 5400 Series system software configuration guide for software configuration information. The *Cisco SN 5428 Storage Router Software Configuration Guide Release 3.2* (or later) provides configuration information for SN 5428 Storage Routers. The *Cisco SN 5428-2 Storage Router Software Configuration Guide Release 3.2* (or later) provides configuration information for SN 5428-2 Storage Routers. These documents are available as printed manuals. They are also available as electronic documents on Cisco.com and the Documentation CD-ROM.

For documentation on the SN 5400 Series system web-based GUI, refer to the SN 5400 Series system web-based GUI online Help system.

Service and Support

For service and support for a product purchased from a reseller, contact the reseller, who offers a wide variety of Cisco service and support programs described in “Service and Support” of Cisco Information Packet shipped with your product.



Note

If you purchased your product from a reseller, you can access Cisco.com as a guest. Cisco.com is Cisco Systems' primary real-time support channel. Your reseller offers programs that include direct access to Cisco.com services.

For service and support for a product purchased directly from Cisco, use Cisco.com.

Software Configuration Tips on the Cisco TAC Home Page

A variety of Cisco SN 5400 Series system software and iSCSI driver installation, configuration and usage tips are available on the Cisco Technical Assistance Center (TAC) Web Site.

You can access “tech tips” by following these instructions:

-
- Step 1 At <http://www.cisco.com>, log in to Cisco.com. Click **Technical Support**, and select **Hardware Support** from the menu.
 - Step 2 At the Hardware Support web page, click **Storage Networking Devices** from the Hardware Support menu on the left side of the page.

- Step 3** At the Storage Networking Devices web page, click the appropriate link for your system. For example, click the **SN 5428 Storage Routers** link.
- Step 4** Click the **Troubleshooting** link, and then click the appropriate links for information about installing, configuring, and troubleshooting SN 5400 Series system software and iSCSI drivers.
-

Obtaining Documentation

Cisco documentation and additional literature are available on Cisco.com. Cisco also provides several ways to obtain technical assistance and other technical resources. These sections explain how to obtain technical information from Cisco Systems.

Cisco.com

You can access the most current Cisco documentation at this URL:

<http://www.cisco.com/univercd/home/home.htm>

You can access the Cisco website at this URL:

<http://www.cisco.com>

You can access international Cisco websites at this URL:

http://www.cisco.com/public/countries_languages.shtml

Documentation DVD

Cisco documentation and additional literature are available in a Documentation DVD package, which may have shipped with your product. The Documentation DVD is updated regularly and may be more current than printed documentation. The Documentation DVD package is available as a single unit.

Registered Cisco.com users (Cisco direct customers) can order a Cisco Documentation DVD (product number DOC-DOCDVD=) from the Ordering tool or Cisco Marketplace.

Cisco Ordering tool:

<http://www.cisco.com/en/US/partner/ordering/>

Cisco Marketplace:

<http://www.cisco.com/go/marketplace/>

Ordering Documentation

You can find instructions for ordering documentation at this URL:

http://www.cisco.com/univercd/cc/td/doc/es_inpc/pdi.htm

You can order Cisco documentation in these ways:

- Registered Cisco.com users (Cisco direct customers) can order Cisco product documentation from the Ordering tool:

<http://www.cisco.com/en/US/partner/ordering/>

- Nonregistered Cisco.com users can order documentation through a local account representative by calling Cisco Systems Corporate Headquarters (California, USA) at 408 526-7208 or, elsewhere in North America, by calling 1 800 553-NETS (6387).

Documentation Feedback

You can send comments about technical documentation to bug-doc@cisco.com.

You can submit comments by using the response card (if present) behind the front cover of your document or by writing to the following address:

Cisco Systems
Attn: Customer Document Ordering
170 West Tasman Drive
San Jose, CA 95134-9883

We appreciate your comments.

Cisco Product Security Overview

Cisco provides a free online Security Vulnerability Policy portal at this URL:

http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/products_security_vulnerability_policy.html

From this site, you can perform these tasks:

- Report security vulnerabilities in Cisco products.
- Obtain assistance with security incidents that involve Cisco products.
- Register to receive security information from Cisco.

A current list of security advisories and notices for Cisco products is available at this URL:

<http://www.cisco.com/go/psirt>

If you prefer to see advisories and notices as they are updated in real time, you can access a Product Security Incident Response Team Really Simple Syndication (PSIRT RSS) feed from this URL:

http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/products_psirt_rss_feed.html

Reporting Security Problems in Cisco Products

Cisco is committed to delivering secure products. We test our products internally before we release them, and we strive to correct all vulnerabilities quickly. If you think that you might have identified a vulnerability in a Cisco product, contact PSIRT:

- Emergencies—security-alert@cisco.com
- Nonemergencies—psirt@cisco.com

**Tip**

We encourage you to use Pretty Good Privacy (PGP) or a compatible product to encrypt any sensitive information that you send to Cisco. PSIRT can work from encrypted information that is compatible with PGP versions 2.x through 8.x.

Never use a revoked or an expired encryption key. The correct public key to use in your correspondence with PSIRT is the one that has the most recent creation date in this public key server list:

<http://pgp.mit.edu:11371/pks/lookup?search=psirt%40cisco.com&op=index&exact=on>

In an emergency, you can also reach PSIRT by telephone:

- 1 877 228-7302
- 1 408 525-6532

Obtaining Technical Assistance

For all customers, partners, resellers, and distributors who hold valid Cisco service contracts, Cisco Technical Support provides 24-hour-a-day, award-winning technical assistance. The Cisco Technical Support Website on Cisco.com features extensive online support resources. In addition, Cisco Technical Assistance Center (TAC) engineers provide telephone support. If you do not hold a valid Cisco service contract, contact your reseller.

Cisco Technical Support Website

The Cisco Technical Support Website provides online documents and tools for troubleshooting and resolving technical issues with Cisco products and technologies. The website is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, at this URL:

<http://www.cisco.com/techsupport>

Access to all tools on the Cisco Technical Support Website requires a Cisco.com user ID and password. If you have a valid service contract but do not have a user ID or password, you can register at this URL:

<http://tools.cisco.com/RPF/register/register.do>

**Note**

Use the Cisco Product Identification (CPI) tool to locate your product serial number before submitting a web or phone request for service. You can access the CPI tool from the Cisco Technical Support Website by clicking the **Tools & Resources** link under Documentation & Tools. Choose **Cisco Product Identification Tool** from the Alphabetical Index drop-down list, or click the **Cisco Product Identification Tool** link under Alerts & RMAs. The CPI tool offers three search options: by product ID or model name; by tree view; or for certain products, by copying and pasting **show** command output. Search results show an illustration of your product with the serial number label location highlighted. Locate the serial number label on your product and record the information before placing a service call.

Submitting a Service Request

Using the online TAC Service Request Tool is the fastest way to open S3 and S4 service requests. (S3 and S4 service requests are those in which your network is minimally impaired or for which you require product information.) After you describe your situation, the TAC Service Request Tool provides recommended solutions. If your issue is not resolved using the recommended resources, your service request is assigned to a Cisco TAC engineer. The TAC Service Request Tool is located at this URL:

<http://www.cisco.com/techsupport/servicerequest>

For S1 or S2 service requests or if you do not have Internet access, contact the Cisco TAC by telephone. (S1 or S2 service requests are those in which your production network is down or severely degraded.) Cisco TAC engineers are assigned immediately to S1 and S2 service requests to help keep your business operations running smoothly.

To open a service request by telephone, use one of the following numbers:

Asia-Pacific: +61 2 8446 7411 (Australia: 1 800 805 227)

EMEA: +32 2 704 55 55

USA: 1 800 553-2447

For a complete list of Cisco TAC contacts, go to this URL:

<http://www.cisco.com/techsupport/contacts>

Definitions of Service Request Severity

To ensure that all service requests are reported in a standard format, Cisco has established severity definitions.

Severity 1 (S1)—Your network is “down,” or there is a critical impact to your business operations. You and Cisco will commit all necessary resources around the clock to resolve the situation.

Severity 2 (S2)—Operation of an existing network is severely degraded, or significant aspects of your business operation are negatively affected by inadequate performance of Cisco products. You and Cisco will commit full-time resources during normal business hours to resolve the situation.

Severity 3 (S3)—Operational performance of your network is impaired, but most business operations remain functional. You and Cisco will commit resources during normal business hours to restore service to satisfactory levels.

Severity 4 (S4)—You require information or assistance with Cisco product capabilities, installation, or configuration. There is little or no effect on your business operations.

Obtaining Additional Publications and Information

Information about Cisco products, technologies, and network solutions is available from various online and printed sources.

- Cisco Marketplace provides a variety of Cisco books, reference guides, and logo merchandise. Visit Cisco Marketplace, the company store, at this URL:

<http://www.cisco.com/go/marketplace/>

- *Cisco Press* publishes a wide range of general networking, training and certification titles. Both new and experienced users will benefit from these publications. For current Cisco Press titles and other information, go to Cisco Press at this URL:

<http://www.ciscopress.com>

- *Packet* magazine is the Cisco Systems technical user magazine for maximizing Internet and networking investments. Each quarter, Packet delivers coverage of the latest industry trends, technology breakthroughs, and Cisco products and solutions, as well as network deployment and troubleshooting tips, configuration examples, customer case studies, certification and training information, and links to scores of in-depth online resources. You can access Packet magazine at this URL:

<http://www.cisco.com/packet>

- *iQ Magazine* is the quarterly publication from Cisco Systems designed to help growing companies learn how they can use technology to increase revenue, streamline their business, and expand services. The publication identifies the challenges facing these companies and the technologies to help solve them, using real-world case studies and business strategies to help readers make sound technology investment decisions. You can access iQ Magazine at this URL:

<http://www.cisco.com/go/iqmagazine>

- *Internet Protocol Journal* is a quarterly journal published by Cisco Systems for engineering professionals involved in designing, developing, and operating public and private internets and intranets. You can access the Internet Protocol Journal at this URL:

<http://www.cisco.com/ipj>

- World-class networking training is available from Cisco. You can view current offerings at this URL:

<http://www.cisco.com/en/US/learning/index.html>

This document is to be used in conjunction with the documents listed in the “[Related Documentation](#)” section.



Copyright © 2003 Cisco Systems, Inc. All rights reserved.

