



# Random Number Generator Support for OS and Platforms

- [Feature Summary and Revision History, on page 1](#)
- [Feature Description, on page 2](#)

## Feature Summary and Revision History

### Summary Data

Applicable Product(s) or Functional Area	All
Applicable Platform(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• VPC-DI</li><li>• VPC-SI</li></ul>
Feature Default	Disabled - Configuration required
Related Changes in This Release	Not applicable
Related Documentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>VPC-DI System Administration Guide</i></li><li>• <i>VPC-SI System Administration Guide</i></li></ul>

### Revision History



#### Important

Revision history details are not provided for features introduced before releases 21.2 and N5.1.

Revision Details	Release
First introduced.	21.13

## Feature Description

A few of the features deployed on the ASR 5500 and VPC platforms require random numbers for performing certain tasks. While it uses the kernel random number generator for these tasks, the numbers generated may or may not be sufficiently random as per the security standards. However, hardware or host-provided random numbers are considered reliable and meet security standards.

The Random Number Generator Support for OS and Platforms feature addresses this security compliance requirement. It enables the system administrator to configure hardware random number generator (HWRNG) on their host machines.

When configured, the system uses the the hardware random number generators.




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**Note** This feature works only when HWRNG support is available on the host.

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When HWRNG support is available, add the following configuration to the `libvirt xml` file on the host. This adds `virtio_rng` support to the client (StarOS).

```
<rng model='virtio'>
  <backend model='random'>/dev/random</backend>
  <address type='pci' domain='0x0000' bus='0x00' slot='0x07' function='0x0' />
</rng>
```




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**Note** If there is a conflict in using slot number 7 (as shown in the preceding configuration) in the configuration, use the next available slot.

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This configuration must be applied on the supported platforms based on the respective deployment configurations.

No configuration changes are required on the client. The client (StarOS) picks up `virtio_rng` automatically if the support is enabled on the host.