Using Red Hat Enterprise Linux 7.0 with NetApp ONTAP

ONTAP SAN Host

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NetApp®

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Installing the Linux Unified Host Utilities

The NetApp Linux Unified Host Utilities software package is available on the NetApp Support Site in a 32-bit and 64-bit .rpm file. If you do not know which file is right for your configuration, use the NetApp Interoperability Matrix Tool to verify which one you need.

Installing the Linux Unified Host Utilities is strongly recommended, but not mandatory. The utilities do not change any settings on your Linux host. The utilities improve management and assist NetApp customer support in gathering information about your configuration.

Before you begin

If you have a version of Linux Unified Host Utilities currently installed you should upgrade it or, you should remove it and use the following steps to install the latest version.

1. Download the 32-bit or 64-bit Linux Unified Host Utilities software package from the NetApp Support Site Site to your host.
2. Use the following command to install the software package:

   ```
   rpm -ivh netapp_linux_unified_host_utilities-7-1.x86_64
   ```

SAN Toolkit

The toolkit is installed automatically when you install the NetApp Host Utilities package. This kit provides the `sanlun` utility, which helps you manage LUNs and HBAs. The `sanlun` command returns information about the LUNs mapped to your host, multipathing, and information necessary to create initiator groups.

Example

In the following example, the `sanlun lun show command` returns LUN information.

```
# sanlun lun show all
controller(7mode/E-Series)/            device     host               lun
vserver(cDOT/FlashRay)   lun-pathname  filename   adapter  protocol  size    Product
------------------------------------------------------------------------------
data_vserver          /vol/vol1/lun1   /dev/sdb   host16   FCP       120.0g  cDOT
data_vserver          /vol/vol1/lun1   /dev/sdc   host15   FCP       120.0g  cDOT
data_vserver          /vol/vol2/lun2   /dev/sdd   host16   FCP       120.0g  cDOT
data_vserver          /vol/vol2/lun2   /dev/sde   host15   FCP       120.0g  cDOT
```

SAN Booting

Before you begin

If you decide to use SAN booting, it must be supported by your configuration. You can use the NetApp Interoperability Matrix Tool to verify that your OS, HBA, HBA firmware and the HBA boot BIOS, and ONTAP version are supported.

1. Map the SAN boot LUN to the host.
2. Verify multiple paths are available.

   Remember, multiple paths will only be available after the host OS is up and running on the paths.

3. Enable SAN booting in the server BIOS for the ports to which the SAN boot LUN is mapped.

   For information on how to enable the HBA BIOS, see your vendor-specific documentation.

4. Reboot the host to verify the boot is successful.

Multipathing

For Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL) 7.0 the /etc/multipath.conf file must exist, but you do not need to make specific changes to the file. RHEL 7.0 is compiled with all settings required to recognize and correctly manage ONTAP LUNs.

You can use the `multipath -ll` command to verify the settings for your ONTAP LUNs.
The following sections provide sample multipath output for a LUN mapped to ASA and non-ASA personas.

All SAN Array Configuration

For All SAN Array (ASA) configuration there should be one group of paths with single priorities. All the paths are Active/Optimized, meaning they are serviced by the controller and I/O is sent on all the active paths.

Example

The following example displays the correct output for an ONTAP LUN with four Active/Optimized paths:

```
# multipath -ll
3600a09803831347657244e527766394e dm-5 NETAPP,LUN C-Mode
size=80G  features='4 queue_if_no_path pg_init_retries 50 retain_attached_hw_handle'
hwhandler='1 alua' wp=rw
`-+- policy='service-time 0' prio=50 status=active
  |- 11:0:7:1    sdfi   130:64   active ready running
  |- 11:0:9:1    sdiy  8:288     active ready running
  |- 11:0:10:1  sdml 69:464   active ready running
  |- 11:0:11:1  sdpt  131:304  active ready running
```

Do not use an excessive number of paths to a single LUN. No more than 4 paths should be required. More than 8 paths might cause path issues during storage failures.

Non-ASA Configuration

For non-ASA configuration there should be two groups of paths with different priorities. The paths with the higher priorities are Active/Optimized, meaning they are serviced by the controller where the aggregate is located. The paths with the lower priorities are active but are non-optimized because they are served from a different controller. The non-optimized paths are only used when no optimized paths are available.

Example

The following example displays the correct output for an ONTAP LUN with two Active/Optimized paths and two Active/non-Optimized paths:

```
# multipath -ll
3600a09803831347657244e527766394e dm-5 NETAPP,LUN C-Mode
size=80G features='4 queue_if_no_path pg_init_retries 50 retain_attached_hw_handle
hwhandler='1 alua' wp=rw
|-+- policy='service-time 0' prio=50 status=active
| |- 11:0:1:0 sdj  8:144  active ready running
| |- 11:0:2:0 sdr  65:16  active ready running
`-+- policy='service-time 0' prio=10 status=enabled
  |- 11:0:0:0 sdb  8:i6   active ready running
  |- 12:0:0:0 sdz  65:144 active ready running
```

Do not use an excessive number of paths to a single LUN. No more than 4 paths should be required. More than 8 paths might cause path issues during storage failures.

Recommended Settings

The RHEL 7.0 OS is compiled to recognize ONTAP LUNs and automatically set all configuration

parameters correctly for both ASA and non-ASA configuration.
The multipath.conf file must exist for the multipath daemon to start, but you can create an empty, zero-byte file using the command:
`touch /etc/multipath.conf`
The first time you create this file, you might need to enable and start the multipath services.

```
[root@jfs0 ~]#systemctl enable multipathd
[root@jfs0 ~]# systemctl start multipathd
```

There is no requirement to add anything directly to multipath.conf, unless you have devices that you do not want to be managed by multipath or you have existing settings that override defaults.
You can add the following syntax to the multipath.conf file to exclude the unwanted devices.

Replace the <DevId> with the WWID string of the device you want to exclude. Use the following command to determine the WWID:

```
blacklist {
        wwid <DevId>
        devnode "^(ram|raw|loop|fd|md|dm-|sr|scd|st)[0-9]*"
        devnode "^hd[a-z]"
        devnode "^cciss.*"
}
```

Example

In this example, sda is the local SCSI disk that we need to blacklist.

1. Run the following command to determine the WWID:

```
# /lib/udev/scsi_id -gud /dev/sda
360030057024d0730239134810c0cb833
```

2. Add this WWID to the blacklist stanza in the /etc/multipath.conf:

```
blacklist {
     wwid   360030057024d0730239134810c0cb833
     devnode "^(ram|raw|loop|fd|md|dm-|sr|scd|st)[0-9]*"
     devnode "^hd[a-z]"
     devnode "^cciss.*"
}
```

You should always check your `/etc/multipath.conf` file for legacy settings, especially in the defaults

section, that may be overriding default settings.
The table below shows the critical `multipathd` parameters for ONTAP LUNs and the required values. If a host is connected to LUNs from other vendors and any of these parameters are overridden, they will need to be corrected by later stanzas in `multipath.conf` that apply specifically to ONTAP LUNs. If this is not done, the ONTAP LUNs may not work as expected. These defaults should only be overridden in consultation with NetApp and/or OS vendor and only when the impact is fully understood.

Parameter	**Setting**
detect_prio	yes
dev_loss_tmo	"infinity"
failback	immediate
fast_io_fail_tmo	5
features	"3 queue_if_no_path pg_init_retries 50"
flush_on_last_del	"yes"
hardware_handler	"0"
no_path_retry	queue
path_checker	"tur"
path_grouping_policy	"group_by_prio"
path_selector	"service-time 0"
polling_interval	5
prio	"ontap"
product	LUN.*
retain_attached_hw_handler	yes
rr_weight	"uniform"
user_friendly_names	no
vendor	NETAPP

Example

The following example shows how to correct an overridden default. In this case, the `multipath.conf` file defines values for `path_checker` and `no_path_retry` that are not compatible with ONTAP LUNs. If they cannot be removed because of other SAN arrays still attached to the host, these parameters can be corrected specifically for ONTAP LUNs with a device stanza.

```
defaults {
   path_checker      readsector0
   no_path_retry      fail
}

devices {
   device {
      vendor         "NETAPP  "
      product         "LUN.*"
      no_path_retry     queue
      path_checker      tur
   }
}
```

Known Problems and Limitations

NetApp Bug ID	Title	Description	Bugzilla ID
844417	Emulex 16G FC (LPe16002B-M6) host crashes during I/O with storage failover operations	You might observe a 16G FC Emulex (LPe16002B-M6) host crash during I/O with storage failover operations.	1131393
811587	Emulex 16G FC (LPe16002B-M6) host crashes during I/O with storage failover operations	You might observe a 16G FC Emulex (LPe16002B-M6) host crash during I/O with storage failover operations.	1079735
803071	Emulex 16G FC (LPe16002B-M6) host crashes during I/O with storage failover operations	You might observe a 16G FC Emulex (LPe16002B-M6) host crash during I/O with storage failover operations.	1067895

NetApp Bug ID	Title	Description	Bugzilla ID
820163	QLogic host hang or path failures observed during I/O with storage failover operations	You might observe a host hang or path failures on QLogic host during I/O with storage failover operations. In such scenarios, you might see the following message: "Mailbox cmd timeout occurred, cmd=0x54, mb[0]=0x54 and Firmware dump saved to temp buffer" messages which leads to host hung/path failure.	1090378
799323	Emulex FCoE (OCe10102-FX-D) host hang or path failures observed during I/O with storage failover operations	You might observe a host hang or path failures on Emulex 10G FCoE host (OCe10102-FX-D) during I/O with storage failover operations. In such scenarios, you might see the following message: "driver's buffer pool is empty, IO busied and SCSI Layer I/O Abort Request Status" messages which leads to host hung/path failures.	1061755
849212	Emulex 16G FC (LPe16002B-M6) host hang or path failures are observed during I/O with storage failover operations	You might observe a host hang or path failures on Emulex 16G FC (LPe16002B-M6) host during I/O with storage failover operations. In such scenarios, you might see the following message: "RSCN timeout Data and iotag x1301 is out of range: max iotag" messages which leads to host hung/path failures.	1109274

NetApp Bug ID	Title	Description	Bugzilla ID
836800	Anaconda displays an iSCSI login failure message although logins are successful during RHEL 7.0 OS installation	When you install the root(/) on a iSCSI multipath'd LUN, the IP address for the Ethernet interfaces are specified in the kernel command line so that the IP addresses are assigned before the iSCSI service starts. However, dracut cannot assign IP addresses to all the Ethernet ports during the boot, before the iSCSI service starts. This causes the iSCSI login to fail on interfaces without IP addresses. You will see the iSCSI service attempt to login numerous times, which will cause a delay in the OS boot time.	1114966

NetApp Bug ID	Title	Description	Bugzilla ID
836875	IP addresses are not always assigned during the boot of a RHEL 7.0 OS installed on an iSCSI multipath'd LUN	When you are installing RHEL 7.0, the anaconda installation screen displays that iSCSI login to multiple target IPs have failed though the iSCSI logins are successful. Anaconda displays following error message: "Node Login Failed" You will observe this error only when you select multiple target IPs for iSCSI login. You can continue the OS installation by clicking the "ok" button. This bug does not hamper either the iSCSI or the RHEL 7.0 OS installation.	1114820
836657	Anaconda does not add bootdev argument in kernel cmd line to set IP address for RHEL 7.0 OS installed on iSCSI multipath'd LUN	Anaconda does not add a bootdev argument in the kernel command line where you set the IPv4 address during the RHEL 7.0 OS installation on an iSCSI multipath'd LUN. This prevents assigning of IP addresses to any of the Ethernet interfaces that were configured to establish iSCSI sessions with the storage subsystem during the RHEL 7.0 boot. Since iSCSI sessions are not established, the root LUN is not discovered when the OS boots and hence the OS boot fails.	1114464

Release Notes

ASM Mirroring

ASM mirroring might require changes to the Linux multipath settings to allow ASM to recognize a problem and switch over to an alternate fail group. Most ASM configurations on ONTAP use external redundancy, which means that data protection is provided by the external array and ASM does not mirror data. Some sites use ASM with normal redundancy to provide two-way mirroring, normally across different sites. See Oracle Databases on ONTAP for further information.