



# NVMe/FC Host Configuration for Windows Server 2012 R2 with ONTAP

## ONTAP SAN Host

Amanda Stroman, Carl Plumer  
September 11, 2020

This PDF was generated from [https://docs.netapp.com/us-en/ontap-sanhost/nvme\\_windows\\_2012r2.html](https://docs.netapp.com/us-en/ontap-sanhost/nvme_windows_2012r2.html) on October 28, 2020. Always check docs.netapp.com for the latest.

# Table of Contents

- NVMe/FC Host Configuration for Windows Server 2012 R2 with ONTAP..... 1
  - Supportability ..... 1
  - Known limitations ..... 1
  - Enabling NVMe/FC on a Windows initiator host ..... 1
  - Configuring the Broadcom FC adapter in Windows for NVMe/FC..... 2
  - Validating NVMe/FC..... 3

# NVMe/FC Host Configuration for Windows Server 2012 R2 with ONTAP

## Supportability

NVMe/FC is supported on ONTAP 9.7 or later for Windows Server 2016.

Note that the Broadcom initiator can serve both NVMe/FC and FCP traffic through the same 32G FC adapter ports. For FCP and FC/NVMe, use MSDSM as the Microsoft Multipath I/O (MPIO) option.

See the [Hardware Universe](#) for a list of supported FC adapters and controllers. For the most current list of supported configurations & versions, see the [NetApp Interoperability Matrix](#).

## Known limitations

Windows Failover Cluster (WFC) is not supported with ONTAP NVMe/FC because ONTAP does not currently support persistent reservations with NVMe/FC.



The external driver shipped by Broadcom for Windows NVMe/FC is not a true NVMe/FC driver but a translational SCSI to NVMe driver. This translational overhead does not necessarily impact performance, but it does negate the performance benefits of NVMe/FC. Thus, on Windows servers, NVMe/FC and FCP performance is the same, unlike on other operating systems such as Linux, where NVMe/FC performance is significantly better than that of FCP.

## Enabling NVMe/FC on a Windows initiator host

Follow these steps to enable FC/NVMe on the Windows initiator host:

1. Install OneCommand Manager utility on the Windows host.
2. On each of the HBA initiator ports, set the following HBA driver parameters:
  - EnableNVMe = 1
  - NVMEMode = 0
  - LimTransferSize=1
3. Reboot the host.

# Configuring the Broadcom FC adapter in Windows for NVMe/FC

With the Broadcom adapter for FC/NVMe in a Windows environment, a **hostnqn** is associated with each host bus adapter (HBA) port. The **hostnqn** is formatted as follows.

*Example*

```
nqn.2017-01.com.broadcom:ecd:nvmf:fc:100000109b1b9765
nqn.2017-01.com.broadcom:ecd:nvmf:fc:100000109b1b9766
```

## Enabling MPIO for NVMe devices on the Windows host

1. Install Windows Host Utility Kit 7.1 to set the driver parameters that are common to both FC and NVMe.
2. Open the MPIO properties.
3. From the **Discover Multi-Paths** tab, add the device ID listed for NVMe.

MPIO becomes aware of the NVMe devices, which are visible under disk management.

4. Open **Disk Management** and go to **Disk Properties**.
5. From the **MPIO** tab, click **Details**.
6. Set the following MSDSM settings:
  - PathVerifiedPeriod: **10**
  - PathVerifyEnabled: **Enable**
  - RetryCount: **6**
  - RetryInterval: **1**
  - PDORemovedPeriod: **130**
7. Select the MPIO Policy **Round Robin with Subset**.
8. Change the registry values:

```
HKLM\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Services\mpio\Parameters\PathRecoveryInterval DWORD ->
30
```

```
HKLM\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Services\mpio \Parameters\ UseCustomPathRecoveryInterval
DWORD-> 1
```

9. Reboot the host.

The NVMe configuration is now complete on the Windows host.

## Validating NVMe/FC

1. Validate that the Port Type is FC+NVMe.

Now that NVMe is enabled, you should see the **Port Type** listed as **FC+NVMe**, as follows.

```
PS C:\Program Files\Emulex\Util\OCManager> .\hbaCmd listhba
```

### Manageable HBA List

```
Port WWN      : 10:00:00:10:9b:1b:97:65
Node WWN      : 20:00:00:10:9b:1b:97:65
Fabric Name   : 10:00:c4:f5:7c:a5:32:e0
Flags         : 8000e300
Host Name     : INTEROP-57-159
Mfg           : Emulex Corporation
Serial No.    : FC71367217
Port Number   : 0
Mode          : Initiator
PCI Bus Number : 94
PCI Function  : 0
Port Type     : FC+NVMe
Model         : LPe32002-M2
```

```
Port WWN      : 10:00:00:10:9b:1b:97:66
Node WWN      : 20:00:00:10:9b:1b:97:66
Fabric Name   : 10:00:c4:f5:7c:a5:32:e0
Flags         : 8000e300
Host Name     : INTEROP-57-159
Mfg           : Emulex Corporation
Serial No.    : FC71367217
Port Number   : 1
Mode          : Initiator
PCI Bus Number : 94
PCI Function  : 1
Port Type     : FC+NVMe
Model         : LPe32002-M2
```

2. Validate that NVMe/FC subsystems have been discovered.

The **nvme-list** command lists the NVMe/FC discovered subsystems.

```
PS C:\Program Files\Emulex\Util\OCManager> .\hvacmd nvme-list 10:00:00:10:9b:1b:97:65
```

Discovered NVMe Subsystems for 10:00:00:10:9b:1b:97:65

```
NVMe Qualified Name      : nqn.1992-
08.com.netapp:sn.a3b74c32db2911eab229d039ea141105:subsystem.win_nvme_interop-57-159
Port WWN                 : 20:09:d0:39:ea:14:11:04
Node WWN                  : 20:05:d0:39:ea:14:11:04
Controller ID            : 0x0180
Model Number              : NetApp ONTAP Controller
Serial Number             : 81CGZBPU5T/uAAAAAAB
Firmware Version         : FFFFFFFF
Total Capacity            : Not Available
Unallocated Capacity     : Not Available
```

```
NVMe Qualified Name      : nqn.1992-
08.com.netapp:sn.a3b74c32db2911eab229d039ea141105:subsystem.win_nvme_interop-57-159
Port WWN                 : 20:06:d0:39:ea:14:11:04
Node WWN                  : 20:05:d0:39:ea:14:11:04
Controller ID            : 0x0181
Model Number              : NetApp ONTAP Controller
Serial Number             : 81CGZBPU5T/uAAAAAAB
Firmware Version         : FFFFFFFF
Total Capacity            : Not Available
Unallocated Capacity     : Not Available
```

Note: At present Namespace Management is not supported by NetApp Arrays.

```
PS C:\Program Files\Emulex\Util\OCManager> .\hbacmd nvme-list 10:00:00:10:9b:1b:97:66
```

Discovered NVMe Subsystems for 10:00:00:10:9b:1b:97:66

```
NVMe Qualified Name      : nqn.1992-
08.com.netapp:sn.a3b74c32db2911eab229d039ea141105:subsystem.win_nvme_interop-57-159
Port WWN                  : 20:07:d0:39:ea:14:11:04
Node WWN                  : 20:05:d0:39:ea:14:11:04
Controller ID             : 0x0140
Model Number              : NetApp ONTAP Controller
Serial Number             : 81CGZBPU5T/uAAAAAAB
Firmware Version          : FFFFFFFF
Total Capacity            : Not Available
Unallocated Capacity      : Not Available
```

```
NVMe Qualified Name      : nqn.1992-
08.com.netapp:sn.a3b74c32db2911eab229d039ea141105:subsystem.win_nvme_interop-57-159
Port WWN                  : 20:08:d0:39:ea:14:11:04
Node WWN                  : 20:05:d0:39:ea:14:11:04
Controller ID             : 0x0141
Model Number              : NetApp ONTAP Controller
Serial Number             : 81CGZBPU5T/uAAAAAAB
Firmware Version          : FFFFFFFF
Total Capacity            : Not Available
Unallocated Capacity      : Not Available
```

Note: At present Namespace Management is not supported by NetApp Arrays.

### 3. Validate that namespaces have been created.

The `nvme-list-ns` command lists the namespaces for a specified NVMe target that lists the namespaces connected to the host.

```

PS C:\Program Files\Emulex\Util\OCManager> .\HbaCmd.exe nvme-list-ns
10:00:00:10:9b:1b:97:66 20:08:d0:39:ea:14:11:04 nq
.1992-08.com.netapp:sn.a3b74c32db2911eab229d039ea141105:subsystem.win_nvme_interop-57-
159 0

```

Active Namespaces (attached to controller 0x0141):

NSID	DeviceName	SCSI Bus Number	SCSI Target Number	SCSI OS LUN
0x00000001	\\.\PHYSICALDRIVE9	0	1	0
0x00000002	\\.\PHYSICALDRIVE10	0	1	1
0x00000003	\\.\PHYSICALDRIVE11	0	1	2
0x00000004	\\.\PHYSICALDRIVE12	0	1	3
0x00000005	\\.\PHYSICALDRIVE13	0	1	4
0x00000006	\\.\PHYSICALDRIVE14	0	1	5
0x00000007	\\.\PHYSICALDRIVE15	0	1	6
0x00000008	\\.\PHYSICALDRIVE16	0	1	7



## Copyright Information

Copyright © 2020 NetApp, Inc. All rights reserved. Printed in the U.S. No part of this document covered by copyright may be reproduced in any form or by any means-graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, taping, or storage in an electronic retrieval system-without prior written permission of the copyright owner.

Software derived from copyrighted NetApp material is subject to the following license and disclaimer:

THIS SOFTWARE IS PROVIDED BY NETAPP “AS IS” AND WITHOUT ANY EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, WHICH ARE HEREBY DISCLAIMED. IN NO EVENT SHALL NETAPP BE LIABLE FOR ANY DIRECT, INDIRECT, INCIDENTAL, SPECIAL, EXEMPLARY, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES (INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, PROCUREMENT OF SUBSTITUTE GOODS OR SERVICES; LOSS OF USE, DATA, OR PROFITS; OR BUSINESS INTERRUPTION) HOWEVER CAUSED AND ON ANY THEORY OF LIABILITY, WHETHER IN CONTRACT, STRICT LIABILITY, OR TORT (INCLUDING NEGLIGENCE OR OTHERWISE) ARISING IN ANY WAY OUT OF THE USE OF THIS SOFTWARE, EVEN IF ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGE.

NetApp reserves the right to change any products described herein at any time, and without notice. NetApp assumes no responsibility or liability arising from the use of products described herein, except as expressly agreed to in writing by NetApp. The use or purchase of this product does not convey a license under any patent rights, trademark rights, or any other intellectual property rights of NetApp.

The product described in this manual may be protected by one or more U.S. patents, foreign patents, or pending applications.

RESTRICTED RIGHTS LEGEND: Use, duplication, or disclosure by the government is subject to restrictions as set forth in subparagraph (c)(1)(ii) of the Rights in Technical Data and Computer Software clause at DFARS 252.277-7103 (October 1988) and FAR 52-227-19 (June 1987).

## Trademark Information

NETAPP, the NETAPP logo, and the marks listed at <http://www.netapp.com/TM> are trademarks of NetApp, Inc. Other company and product names may be trademarks of their respective owners.