

SnapServer GuardianOS Version 7.6 Release Announcement

August 2014

Preface

This Product Information Bulletin announces the release of GuardianOS® Version 7.6 for selected SnapServer® systems.

Models Affected

GuardianOS Version 7.6 introduces support for the new SnapServer XSD 40 and is only supported as an upgrade for SnapServer DX1 or DX2 appliances running GuardianOS 7.5.

NOTE: GuardianOS 7.5 is required in order to upgrade to GuardianOS 7.6. Upgrade servers to 7.5 first if running an earlier version of GuardianOS.

Upgrade Considerations

When upgrading to GuardianOS 7.6, there are a few factors to consider before performing the upgrade:

- Backup the system prior to any GuardianOS upgrade.
- Reboot the system prior to any GuardianOS upgrade.
- After upgrading, it is recommended that a disaster recovery image be created to ensure the recovery of the system should a hardware failure occur.

Downgrades are Not Supported

As with all previous GuardianOS releases downgrades are not supported.

GuardianOS 7.6 Changes and Enhancements

This release upgrades critical software components and includes the following new features:

- **New SnapServer XSD 40** – GuardianOS provides full support for the new XSD 40 desktop SnapServer.
- **RDX Support** – Basic support for RDX QuikStor devices is new in GuardianOS 7.6. This includes support for both NTFS and XFS formatted media. Also included is media management and copying files to and from the RDX.

GuardianOS 7.5 Previous Changes and Enhancements

The previous release upgraded critical software components and included several new features:

- **High-Performance Snapshots** – The file system snapshot capability has been enhanced to eliminate Copy-On-Write (COW) to the snapshot pool for blocks not yet allocated by the file system. Under optimal conditions, this significantly improves write performance on volumes with snapshots present to approach performance of volumes without snapshots.

Snapshots are now limited to a maximum of 128 for servers with up to 2GB of RAM, 256 for servers with up to 4GB of RAM, and 512 for servers with over 4GB of RAM.

- **Windows Security Model** – Volumes can now be configured with a security model that permits only Windows personality file system permissions (ACLs).
- **LDAP Integration** – Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP) can be used to look up user/group names and UIDs/GIDs for quota assignment, ID mapping, and home directories.
- **BitTorrent Sync** – GuardianOS 7.5 now includes a new SnapExtension, BitTorrent Sync. This application can be installed and enabled from the Web Management Interface, and can be used to replicate data between SnapServers and other servers or workstations.

Files and directories replicated to a Unix or Windows/Unix security model on another Snap Server will be owned by root and have 644 or 755 permissions. For greater control, configure btsync targets to replicate to directories on a Windows security model and configure directory ACLs as appropriate to provide desired user access.

NOTE: Files replicated via BitTorrent Sync do not retain any Windows or Unix permissions or owner information. Details on BitTorrent Sync configuration and security issues can be found on the [BitTorrent web site](#).

GuardianOS 7.2 Previous Changes and Enhancements

- **OS Update** – Improved the OS Update feature by adding support for systems running an older version of GuardianOS 7.2 on a new replacement chassis.
- **USB Detection** – Fixed an issue that prevented detection, on certain hardware platforms, of a USB-attached APC Uninterruptible Power Supply.
- **DNS Lookup** – Fixed a DNS hostname lookup failure associated with very large EDR environments.
- **CA Antivirus Install** – Corrected an issue that can result in the CA Antivirus program failing to install or run on GuardianOS systems.
- **Volume Maintenance** – Fixed an issue that may prevent the deletion of traditional RAID volumes including resetting the storage environment.
- **Fan Speed Monitoring** – Made additional improvements to fan speed monitoring and adjustment on the DX1 hardware platform.
- **Snapshots** – Various bug fixes to improve the handling of Snapshots.
- **Real Time Clock (RTC)** - Updated the DX1 and DX2 platform BIOS to fix a RTC issue where under certain conditions a SnapServer may hang during reboot.
- **Drive Monitoring Improvements** – Improved the monitoring and handling of drive failures in a Dynamic RAID group.
- **System Manufacturing Data** - Added manufacturing version number to help with the identification of a system by the Service and Support teams.
- **Traceability of Key Manufacturing Data** - Added the ability to record system manufacturing information in the Web Management Interface to facilitate the tracking and auditing of key quality data.

- **Support for large Windows Domains** - Improved software and Web Management Interface with respect to the lookup and management of Users / Groups, and Quotas when joined to large (100,000+ user) domains. There is no longer a limit to the supported number of users/groups in a Windows domain.
- **Support for iSCSI LUNs Greater than 2TB** - Support has been added for creating and growing iSCSI LUNs greater than 2TB. The maximum size of an iSCSI LUN is now limited only by the size of the volume hosting it.
- **10 GbE Support** - Added support for 10 gigabit Ethernet. GuardianOS supports the following network cards:
 - **OV-ACC902030 ACC** - PCIe Card, DX2, Dual Port 10GbE FC SFP+ NIC (Intel® Ethernet Server Adapter X520-SR2)
 - **OV-ACC902031 ACC** - PCIe Card, DX2, Dual Port 10GbE RJ-45 NIC (Intel® Ethernet Server Adapter X520-T2)
- **Solid State Drive Support** - 120GB, 240GB, and 480GB SSDs are now supported as primary storage on SnapServer DX1 and DX2 products.
- **4TB SATA Drive Support** - Added support for 4TB SATA drives for SnapServer DX1, DX2, and SnapExpansion products.
- **4-port GbE NIC Support** - Fixed an issue that prevented the 4-port gigabit Ethernet network card (OV-ACC902019) from booting on certain DX hardware platforms.
- **Local User/Group Names with Spaces** - Fixed an issue that prevented share access assignment to local users and groups with spaces in their names.

Third Party Product Support

NOTE: Refer to the [Compatibility Guide on the Overland Storage Support website](#) for a list of compatible operating systems, software and hardware.

- **Windows Hardware Certification** - Microsoft Windows Hardware Certification has been completed for the following iSCSI targets:
 - Windows Server 2012
 - Windows Server 2008 R2 x64
 - Windows Server 2008 x64 & x86
 - Windows Server 2003 R2 x64 & x86
- **Third Party Backup Products** - The following third party backup agents have been qualified with GuardianOS 7.2:
 - Symantec Backup Exec 2010R3, 2012
 - Symantec NetBackup 7.6
 - CA ARCserve 11.5, 12.0
 - EMC Networker 7.3, 7.4
- **VMware iSCSI and NFS Certification** - VMware ESXi 5.1 certification for iSCSI (software initiators) has been completed. You can see a complete listing of the certification testing completed on the VMware Compatibility Guide web page.
- **Citrix iSCSI and NFS Certification** - Citrix XenCert 6.0.2 storage hardware certification.

Downloads

GuardianOS 7.6 is available for download for supported SnapServer users with active software entitlement agreements from the Overland NAS support website:

<http://docs.overlandstorage.com/snapserver>

Additional documentation on how to operate, configure, and support your SnapServer is also available on this site.