

IBM LTO-8 Firmware Version KAH1 (HH) Release Announcement

January 2020

Preface

This Product Information Bulletin announces the release of IBM LTO-8 firmware update KAH1 for half-height (HH) drives. This update is intended, among other things, to increase overall reliability, improve tape handling, further reduce any possibility of error, and provide continued enhancements to diagnostic capabilities.

Models Affected

This firmware affects all IBM HH LTO-8 drives.

Upgrade Considerations

All systems running code IBM LTO-8 K4K1 for HH drives can be upgraded to LTO-8 KAH1.



CAUTION: To prevent data corruption, verify that all active backup and recovery jobs to the NEO tape library are completed prior to performing the upgrade.

Downgrades

Downgrades are not supported.

Functional Improvements (Reduce Permanent Errors)

Firmware fixes included with the KAH1 HH update:

General Drive Improvements

- Fix drive panic during a CM Update
- Fix queue hang/race on Erase
- Allow CM MAM page to be created on WORM cartridges
- MTR fails with a 2E05
- FSC 7226 on READ
- FSC 7076, 7060 on READ and positioning reads (LOCATE and SPACE)
- Write Attribute fails with a check condition
- Change FSC 2E1B from media error to hardware
- Archive unload didn't behave as expected
- FSC 7225 on a write append
- Timeout on a LOAD

- Drive Panic during error recovery
- FSC 7420 on WRITE
- FSC 7340 on WRITE
- Mode Page 11 clearing was not correct
- Drive Panic while reading a marginal tape
- Aborted Write command caused FSC 6010
- FSC 6000 on a READ at BOP
- FSC 7060 on READ
- FSC 6353/7076 on READ
- Improve transfer length and overlap handling to avoid a drive PANIC
- FSC 7076 error was reported after reading EOD at EOW
- Improve SCD display for multi-port handling
- Update VHF tape motion when formatting
- Drive fails with servo error FSC 7855
- FSC 7060 on EOT_READ
- LP3 pass count in CM was incorrect by 2 step unload
- 7125 on READ
- Fix fill bytes in Task Management response frame
- Drive hang on WRITE
- Improve tension compensation for better READ performance
- Drive Panic while rewinding after write
- 7067 on Write
- Improve MRR calculation to better detect FSC 5334
- Improve update time when writing to the CM
- FSC 78E3 on recheck unthread fail
- Optimize servo channel AGC for Eldora drives
- READ timeout at BOW dataset
- 2E13 due to timeout on Low tension unload
- 6353 failure on rewind
- 7830 with older Generation cartridges on read
- 6353 on SPACE or LOCATE
- FSC 7245 on READ returned unexpectedly
- Stuck tape required power cycle
- FSC 7095 on READ
- WRITE command timeout
- SPACE to filemark timeout
- FSC 78C1 on tape motion command after power saving unspool
- Change park position to reduce FSC 2E03
- FSC 7170 on READ
- FSC 7475 on WRITE append
- FSC 7060 on READ
- Change reporting of open servo readers
- Update timeouts for the ERASE command
- Vibration mode counter in LP3Eh

- Drive failures for FSC 2E1B
- Unload fails with a 2E13
- FSC 7265 on WRITE
- Change park position to reduce FSC 2E03

Encryption Improvements

- Fix Drive hang on multi-burst write @BOP w/PEWZ

Library Drive Improvements

- Watchdog timeout hang in interrupt with malformed packets
- Library did not handle interface messages correctly

FH Drive Improvements

- Added tension ERP to improve write failures

SAS Drives

- Inquiry page 90h should have 2 descriptors not 1
- SAS: Drive Panic due to poor link quality

FC Drives

- Fix multiple PEWZ check conditions on non-buffered writes
- FC Host unable to detect drive after reset

Downloads

Firmware update codes IBM LTO-8 KAH1 (HH) are available for download for supported NEO users with active software entitlement agreements. Go to the Overland-Tandberg Customer Support Portal by navigating to the Manage Products page: <http://support.overlandstorage.com/support/neo-series.htm>.