

October 18, 2024

Latest revision October 23, 2024: clarifications in blue text.

This notice has an important update regarding IBM i and Dell storage attachments which is effective on November 1, 2024.

## Overview

Dell has elected not to renew a licensing agreement to attach Dell storage to the IBM i platform.

## Effective November 1, 2024

- Support Calls: IBM i clients should call Dell for all issues involving Dell storage attached with the IBM i D910 device driver.
- IBM i D910 Device Driver: the existing IBM i D910 device driver will not be enhanced going forward.

## **Planning**

- For the release after IBM i 7.5:
  - o IBM i clients who have existing Dell storage devices on or before November 1, 2024 will be entitled to obtain a key from IBM to enable attachment with the IBM i D910 device driver. This key will allow the existing device driver to attach Dell storage, but it will not include new enhancements. This key will allow current IBM i Storage or I/O to attach to current Dell storage using the device driver. As stated above, the existing IBM i D910 device driver will not be enhanced. There will be no guarantee that common IBM i storage or I/O path code will continue to work with Dell storage devices in the future. Dell will be responsible for any required changes if IBM i storage or I/O evolves in a way that becomes incompatible with Dell storage devices. Only customers who have used the IBM i D910 device driver for connecting Dell storage devices to IBM i by November 1 will be entitled to receive the key; this entitlement applies regardless of future expansion or upgrading of Dell storage devices. Information regarding how to acquire the key from IBM will be available upon announcement of the release after IBM i 7.5.
  - IBM i clients purchasing Dell storage for the first time after November 1, 2024 that requires the IBM i D910 device driver for attachment will not be entitled to the storage attachment key.

## **Option**

Existing or new Dell storage can be attached to IBM i via an <a href="IBM Storage SVC (SAN Volume Controller">IBM Storage SVC (SAN Volume Controller)</a>.