



IBM System x
IBM Upward Integration for
VMware vSphere
Release Notes

Version 2.0





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Note

Before using this information and the product it supports, read the information in “Notices” on page 9.

Edition Notice

This edition applies to version 2.0 of the IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere and to all subsequent releases and modifications until otherwise indicated in new editions.

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About this publication

These Release Notes[®] provide the latest information for the IBM[®] Upward Integration for VMware vSphere, version 2.0. IBM Upward Integration is used to acquire system information, update firmware, monitor power usage, manage Predicted Failures, and change advanced system settings in VMware vCenter management environment.

Conventions and terminology

This topic provides information about conventions and terminology used in these release notes.

Note: These notices provide important tips, guidance, or advice.

Important: These notices provide information or advice that might help you avoid inconvenient or difficult situations.

Attention: These notices indicate possible damage to programs, devices, or data. An attention notice appears before the instruction or situation in which damage can occur.

The following table describes some of the terms, acronyms, and/or abbreviations used in this document.

Table 1. Frequently used terms and acronyms

Term/Acronym	Definition
ASU	Advanced Settings Utility
DSA	IBM Dynamic System Analysis
IMM	Integrated Management Module
IVP	IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere
PFA	Predictive Failure Alert
UXSP	UpdateXpress System Packs
UXSPi	UpdateXpress System Package Installer

Information resources

This topic provides additional information about IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere, version 2.0 available on the World Wide Web.

You can find additional information about IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere, version 2.0 in the product documentation and on the World Wide Web.

World Wide Web resources

The following web pages provide resources for understanding, using, and troubleshooting IBM System x[®], BladeCenter[®] blade servers, and systems-management and systems-deployment tools.

IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere site

IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere site

Locate the latest downloads for the IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere.

IBM Systems Technical support site

IBM Systems Technical support site

Locate support for IBM hardware and systems-management software.

IBM Systems Management Software: Download/Registration page

IBM Systems Management Software: Download/Registration page

Download IBM systems-management and systems-deployment software.

IBM System x Systems Management page

IBM System x Systems Management

Obtain an overview of IBM systems management using IBM Director Agent or IBM Director Core Services.

IBM ServerProven® page

System ServerProven

Obtain information about hardware compatibility with IBM System x, IBM BladeCenter, and IBM IntelliStation® hardware.

VMware vCenter Product Family

VMware vCenter Product Family

Obtain information about VMware vCenter Product Family that describes how to monitor your IBM systems across large organizations using IBM and VMware applications and operating system knowledge to resolve operational problems.

Chapter 1. About this release

The topics in this section provide information about Version 2.0 of the IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere.

What's new in this release

This topic provides information about new and enhanced features of IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere version 2.0.

New user interface for VMware vSphere Web Client

IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere version 2.0 supports access with the VMware vSphere Web Client. For VMware vCenter 5.1 or a newer version, you can choose to access the plug-in with vSphere client (Windows .NET based) or the vSphere Web client when you install the plug-in. It is recommended that you access the plug-in with the vSphere Web client, as IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere is integrated with vSphere Web Client and provides better usability and performance compared with that integrated with vSphere Client.

Trial license

IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere version 2.0 provides a 90-day trial license by default. When the license expires after 90 days, all of the premium features are disabled. You need to purchase the IBM License Tool to activate the premium features. For more information, see the *IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere Installation and User's Guide*.

Support for additional IBM servers

IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere version 2.0 adds support for new IBM servers. For complete support list, see the *IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere Installation and User's Guide*.

Premium features

The following features are fee-based functions that are enabled if you purchase an activation license. Activation licenses can be purchased by contacting your IBM representative or an IBM Business Partner.

Dashboard

The Dashboard provides an overview of the host status including a system information summary and system health messages.

Dynamic System Analysis

The Dynamic System Analysis (DSA) collects and analyzes system information to help diagnose system problems.

Firmware update

The firmware update function acquires and applies the latest UpdateXpress System Packs and individual firmware updates to your ESXi system. You can choose to update from the IBM website or a local repository.

Power[®] Metric

Power Metric monitors and provides a summary of power usage, thermal history, and fan speed and a trend chart of the managed host. The Power Metric function is manually enabled or disabled on a host. You can also set the power capping for a power-capping capable host to limit the server

power usage. The power throttling function is supported and provides notification if the server power usage exceeds the value you set.

Advanced Settings

The Advanced Settings Utility manages the current system settings on the host including IMM, uEFI, and boot order settings for the host.

Predictive Failure Management

Predictive failure management monitors the server hardware status and receives predictive failure alerts. You can set a management policy for a server based on a predictive failure alert. IVP will evacuate VMs from the host or notify you based on the policy you set. Predictive failure management is manually enabled or disabled on a host.

Chapter 2. Known limitations, problems, and workarounds

The following limitations, problems, and workarounds are applicable to the IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere, version 2.0.

Limitations

The following limitations are applicable to the IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere, version 2.0.

Some functions do not work after IMM TLS1.1 or 1.2 are enabled for IBM servers running ESXi5.1 or an earlier version.

Symptom

If you change the IMM setting to enable TLS1.1 or 1.2 for IBM servers running ESXi5.1 or an earlier version, you cannot collect the system diagnostic, perform a firmware update, or configure IMM, uEFI, and BootOrder any longer with the IVP.

Description

TLS1.1 and 1.2 require openssl v1.0.1 or a later version for connecting IMM. However, ESXi5.1 or an earlier version use openssl v0.9.8. VMware will only upgrade openssl to the next generation ESXi.

Some advanced system settings are not supported in Configuration.

Symptom

An error occurs when you are trying to save a setting. The following message is displayed: One or more parameter values passed to the method were invalid including missing, duplicate, unrecognized or otherwise incorrect parameters. Pegasus Exception: InvokeMethod failed.

Description

If you are trying to change a setting that is not currently supported, an error occurs. The following advanced system settings are not supported for this release:

- Critical Alerts
- Warning Alerts
- System Alerts
- SNMP Warning Alert
- SNMP Critical Alert
- SNMP Warning Alert
- SNMP System Alert
- SNMPv1 Agent
- SNMPv3 Agent

Predictive failure management does not work on some IBM servers with management policy set.

Symptom

Predictive failure management is enabled and management policy is set, however some Predictive Failure Alert (PFA) indications never appear, and the management policy can not be launched.

Description

This issue is a limitation of some IBM servers. Because predictive failure management relies on hardware PFA capability, when the server does not have the capability to generate PFA indications, then the user defined management policy can not be triggered.

IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere does not display the fan speed and thermal information for blade servers.

Symptom:

If you are working with a blade server and try to view the power metric, the fan speed and thermal information entries are blank.

Description:

A blade server does not have a fan or thermal sensor, therefore the fan speed and thermal information entries are blank.

IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere allows you to enter some of the IMM/uEFI settings although these settings are not supported.

Symptom:

Some of the IMM/uEFI settings are not supported. However, the input controls are not grayed out, and you can still enter text.

Description:

IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere uses a symbol to indicate which settings are currently not supported on the host. The text that is entered is not saved.

The drop-down menu lists of unsupported IMM/uEFI settings are not grayed out until you hover over them with a mouse.

Symptom:

Some of the IMM/uEFI settings are not supported on the host. By default, the drop-down menu lists of these settings are not grayed out, until you hover over them with a mouse.

Description:

IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere uses a symbol to indicate which settings are currently not supported on the host. You cannot select the drop-down menu lists for these settings.

IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere displays a warning stating there is a "script error" when you switch between pages too quickly.

Symptom:

If the page you are viewing has not completely loaded and you try to open another page, IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere displays a pop-up warning stating there is a "script error".

Description:

The page-loading operation on the current page is not complete. Trying to access another page interrupts this operation and may cause this error. It is best to complete the current operation and allow the page to load completely before accessing another page.

IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere displays a warning stating "an error has occurred in a script on this page" when initially loading IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere with vSphere Client.

Symptom:

If this is the first time you access IBM Upward Integration tab with

vSphere Client, IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere might display a pop-up warning stating "an error has occurred in a script on this page."

Description:

The Error displays "Permission denied". Select **Yes** to continue running script on this page, and then click **IBM Upward Integration** again to load this page. The page will display normally.

IMM firmware update failed due to timeout error sometimes, but actually IMM firmware has been updated successfully.

Symptom:

The firmware update function reports the Integrated Management Module (IMM) firmware update as "Installation did not succeed" and a timeout error appears in the IVP log. However, the diagnostic results show that the IMM firmware was updated successfully to the new version.

Description:

This issue is a limitation of the UXSPI tool integrated by IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere. UXSPI sometimes throws a timeout error even though IMM firmware updates successfully.

IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere cannot be accessed by blind and visually impaired computer users.

Symptom:

Buttons on the IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere graphical user interface cannot be read correctly by the screen reading program that blocks blind and visually impaired computer users.

Description:

This issue is a limitation of DOJO that used to develop the IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere user interface. The DOJO button cannot be read correctly by the screen reading program.

The installation program cannot roll back when you cancel the uninstallation process.

Symptom:

If you cancel the uninstallation after it begins uninstalling IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere, IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere cannot roll back uninstalled components.

Description:

This issue is a limitation of the IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere installation program.

Action:

Start the IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere installation program and completely uninstall the software. Then, install IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere again.

IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere cannot update the firmware of the Qlogic and Brocade cards.

Symptom:

You are unable to update the firmware of the Qlogic and Brocade cards.

Description:

IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere does not support firmware updates for both Qlogic and Brocade cards in this release.

IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere keeps three years of Power and Cooling history data**Symptom**

IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere keeps three years of power and cooling history data and automatically removes the old data from the database.

Description

IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere keeps collecting power and cooling data for all of the hosts with Host Monitoring enabled. In order to improve the performance of vCenter, IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere keeps three years of the history data and automatically removes the old data.

IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere may download more than N update packages from IBM website though the user only initiates N updates.**Symptom**

When a user starts N updates from an IBM website, the number of update packages that are downloading shown on the download page may be more than N .

Description

Each update package may have prerequisite packages. IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere downloads both of them. The package number that is downloading is displayed on the download page and might display more than the number of updates that you initiated.

Known problems and workarounds

The following known problems and workarounds are applicable to the IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere, version 2.0.

The "Failed to connect server" error message displays after changing the IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere server port.**Description**

If you have used IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere with the vSphere Web Client several times and then change the server port that is allocated to the plug-in, the following error message is displayed: Failed to connect server when you access IBM Upward Integration.

Workaround

On the vSphere Web Client server, delete the directory: com.ibm.ivp located in C:\ProgramData\VMware\vSphere Web Client\vc-packages\vsphere-client-serenity, and then restart the VMware vSphere Web Client service from the Windows service console.

IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere Failed to request a ticket from the vCenter server for the target host.

Sometimes the

Failed to request ticket from vCenter server

error message appears when you are working with IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere.

Workaround

Check the target ESXi host status and make sure the connection between the ESXi host and vCenter is not lost. Then, restart the vSphere client.

Changing the Installation path when upgrading IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere causes history data loss.

Description

IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere is unable to use history data such as diagnostic history, history power metric, and the history firmware update repository if you change the installation path during an IBM Upward Integration for VMware vSphere upgrade.

Workaround

Copy the contents of the IVP\bin\data directory from the previous installation path to the new installation path.

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