

April Newsletter

[Subscribe/Unsubscribe](#)

Greetings all,

I hope you are keeping well, and sorry I have been snowed under with some interesting ESS issues and the Australian election has been keeping my “free hours” full. This newsletter was also delayed as I had to “fix” some broken links from support.

A few updates to share

- Interested in PowerVS from an i perspective? Alex Woodie put together a “What’s new with IBM PowerVS in 25” focusing on IBMi – covering new locations, update on virtual serial numbers and Global Replication Service (GRS)

[Link](#)

Quick bites

IBM Support technote: Do Not Mix Oracle ASM Disks With LVM

For those not familiar, in Oracle 10g, Oracle released a disk management layer named Automatic Storage Management (ASM). This is typically deployed with Oracle RAC in order to manage raw disks used by the Oracle database in a RAC cluster. It is important to remember that disks used by Oracle ASM cannot be used by AIX LVM, as ASM puts information on the raw disk that will overwrite and PVID or VGDA information.

[Link](#)

IBM X-Force 2025 Threat Intelligence Index

In partnership with Red Hat, IBM shares insights about the changing threat landscape and how organisations can transform cyber defense into cyber resilience.

[Link](#)

Why can the VIO Client network interface communicate with the default gateway

- But the VIO Server network interface cannot?

Support provided a good overview of PowerVM networking and VLANs– well worth a read.

[Link](#)

Using vSCSI and planning DR failover rehearsal?

Support published another technote covering the extra steps required when performing a DR failover rehearsal operation using vSCSI / clone / flash copy.

[Link](#)

Error log has ECH_CHAIN_FAIL and ECH_PING_FAIL_BCKP every day?

This support technote explores some of the reasons for seeing etherchannel log messages, such as ECH_CHAIN_FAIL and ECH_PING_FAIL_BCKP in the errpt every day.

[Link](#)

How to enable jumbo frame in AIX vNIC setup?

This Support Q&A looks at setting up jumbo frames when you are using an AIX vNIC configuration.

[Link](#)

In case you missed

- **ASEANZK AIX/IBM i/Linux on Power Meetup Group**

The April webinar covered No-Code Graph Analytics with IBM Power & Rocketgraph

[Slides](#)

Coming soon

- **Power Systems VUG May 2025: Update on HA/DR for Power with Steve Finnes**

This Power VUG on 1/5 23:00-00:30 SG or 2/5 01:00-02:30 AEST by Steve Finnes covers:

- PowerHA for AIX
- PowerHA for IBM i
- VM Recovery Manager
- On-Premises Options
- PowerVS Options

[To register](#)

[Past topics and slides](#)

Redbooks and Redpapers

- **IBM Power10 Scale Out Servers Technical Overview S1012, S1014, S1022s, S1022 and S1024**, 04 April 2025, Redpaper

[Link](#)

- **Introduction to Deployable Architectures in IBM Power Virtual Server**, 09 April 2025, Redbooks

[Link](#)

- **IBM Storage Scale System 6000 with NVIDIA DGX SuperPOD Deployment Guide**, 09 April 2025, Redpaper

[Link](#)

- **Introduction to IBM Power Virtual Server Private Cloud**, 10 April 2025, Redpaper

[Link](#)

- **IBM Power Security Catalog**, 16 April 2025, Redbooks

[Link](#)

IBM alerts and notices

Lots of my readers have noted that they are now using the IBM notifications themselves – and pulling information from the IBM Security APAR information site ([Link](#)) – so I won't bore you all with full details of fixes in the future – just some key ones in case you missed.

AIX alerts:

- **High Impact / Highly Pervasive APAR IJ53641 Unexpected performance loss on AIX 7.3 TL3 or VIOS 4.1.1 with offload_iodone enabled**

Affected Domain

AIX 7.3 TL3 or VIOS 4.1.1

Abstract

Unexpected performance loss on AIX 7.3 TL3 or VIOS 4.1.1 with offload_iodone enabled

Description

LPARs running AIX 7.3 TL3 or VIOS 4.1.1 with the default setting of offload_iodone enabled may see lower than expected I/O performance. This is only seen if the LPAR is running on: Power8; Power9 not in "POWER9" mode; or Power10 not in "default" or "POWER10" mode.

Recommended Action

Only if affected, as described above, install the ifix and follow the steps in the link.

Affected AIX Levels and Recommended Fixes

	Min	Max	Interim Fix
AIX 7300-03-00			
bos.mp64	7.3.3.0 AIX	7300-03-00	IJ53641
bos.mp64	7.3.3.0 AIX	7300-03-01	IJ53641
VIOS 4.1.1.0			
bos.mp64	7.3.3.0 VIOS	4.1.1.0	IJ53641
bos.mp64	7.3.3.0 VIOS	4.1.1.10	IJ53641

[Link](#)

- **New Microcode for Firmware 950 .. 950.E0**

Abstract

The latest service pack 950.E0 is now available for system firmware levels VL950, VM950, and VH950 and addresses a number of HIPER Security issues (CVE-2024-13176).

This fix is HIPER for all versions and is platform independent for the following components:

- IBM Power System S914 (9009-41G)
- Power System E950 Server (9040-MR9)
- Power System E980 Server (9080-M9S)
- Power System H922 Server (9223-22H)
- Power System H922 Server (9223-22S)

- Power System H924 Server (9223-42H)
- Power System H924 Server (9223-42S)
- Power System L922 Server (9008-22L)
- Power System S914 Server (9009-41A)
- Power System S922 Server (9009-22A)
- Power System S922 Server (9009-22G)
- Power System S924 Server (9009-42A)
- Power System S924 Server (9009-42G)

[Link](#)

GPFS/Scale/ESS updates:

- **Service planning**

IBM has published the latest IBM Storage Scale Software Version Recommendation Preventive Service Planning

Other useful links

- [Preferred method of using the installation toolkit](#)
- [Toolkit quick deployment guide](#)
- [Scale quick deployment guide](#)
- [Storage notifications registration](#)
- [Contact Expert Labs](#) or [email](#)
- [Scale alerts](#)

[Link](#)

Keep safe and happy May Day
Red, Belisama

