IBM LTO-6 Firmware Version KAJ0 (FH) and KAJ1 (HH) Release Announcement

January 2020

Preface

This Product Information Bulletin announces the release of IBM LTO-6 firmware updates KAJ0 for full-height (FH) drives and KAJ1 for half-height (HH) drives. These updates are 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 LTO-6 drives, both FH and HH.

Upgrade Considerations

All systems running code IBM LTO-6 K4M0/K4M1 can be upgraded to LTO-6 KAJ0/KAJ1.

⚠️ **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 KAJ0 FH and KAJ1 HH updates:

General Drive Improvements

- Fix drive panic during a CM Update
- Multiple PEWZ errors on non-buffered writes
- Fix queue hang/race on Erase
- Allow CM MAM page to be created on un initialized WORM cartridges
- FSC 7225 on a write append
- Mode Page 11 clearing was not correct
- Drive Panic while reading a marginal tape
- Write command fails with a FSC 6010
- Improve transfer length and overlap handling to avoid a drive PANIC
- LTO 6 MP media is not defined in ADC Device Server Configuration mode page
- Improve SCD display for multi-port handling

- Update VHF tape motion when formatting
- LP3 pass count in CM was incorrectly incremented
- Fix fill bytes in Task Management response frame
- Drive Panic while rewinding after write
- READ timeout at BOW dataset
- FSC 7245 on READ returned unexpectedly
- Stuck tape required power cycle
- FSC 7095 on READ
- WRITE command timeout
- SPACE to filemark timeout
- FSC 7265 on WRITE

Encryption Improvements

- Fix drive hang on multi-burst write w/PEWZ starting before BOP

Library Drive Improvements

- Watchdog timeout hang in interrupt with malformed packets
- Fix queuing of library interface messages

SAS Drive Improvements

- SAS: Inquiry page 90h should have 2 descriptors not 1
- SAS: Drive Panic due to poor link quality
- Fix a SAS transfer permission acquire issue

FC Drive Improvements

- FC Host unable to detect drive after reset

Downloads

Firmware update codes IBM LTO-6 KAJ0 (FH) and KAJ1 (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.