

# IBM LTO-6 Firmware Version KAJ8 (FH) and KAJ9 (HH) Release Announcement

June 2020

## Preface

This Product Information Bulletin announces the release of IBM LTO-6 firmware updates KAJ8 for full-height (FH) drives and KAJ9 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 KAJ0/KAJ1 can be upgraded to LTO-6 KAJ8/KAJ9.



**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 KAJ8 FH and KAJ9 HH updates:

### General Drive Improvements

- **Locate or space failure:** Locate failure on file mark near beginning of wrap resulting in FSC 6353, position error on media with a secondary FSC 7230, Media inconsistent fragment.
- **A drive could hang or fail for a FSC 601D on Space to EOD:** If a previous WRITE command had permed, a drive spacing/locating to EOD might hang or fail.
- **Log Page 0x38 was incorrectly updated during FC SRR:** The log page counters for blocks were incorrectly updated when an SRR occurs on an FC drive. This caused the values to go very large.
- **Host interface may incorrectly log byte counts when a CRC spans a burst boundary:** Fixed the boundary case so that the byte count is correct.

### Library Drive Improvements

- **Drive incorrectly sends check condition on LUN1 (library) command:** Incorrect checking of sense data for LUN1 causing check condition when determining if the library is ready.

- **An aborted command with delayed processing caused a panic:** The drive did not clean up an aborted command completely which caused the drive to panic.
- **Set VHF Cleaning Requested when the Clean is indicated in the Tape Alerts:** Although the cleaning request was indicated in the tape alerts, it was not always reported in the VHF data.
- **ADI drive communication failures:** If many re-login occurs for error recovery, some IUs may not be cleared correctly from tracker list, which can cause the drive to stop communicating with the library.

### SAS Drive Improvements

- **Multi-initiator on SAS may stop receiving frames:** Prevented race condition on multiple initiator SAS that interfere with open request.
- **SAS command Timeout:** When being accessed by multiple SAS initiators, a rare race condition that could cause the drive to timeout in handling multi-initiator change of initiators.
- **Drive may do unnecessary host interface retries:** Retry counts were not always cleared for test unit ready and request sense commands causing the drive to think it needed to issue host retries.

### FC Drive Improvements

- **Panic due to HBA re-use of OX\_ID too quickly:** Improved the re-use of host HBA originator exchange id in the drive to avoid unexpected reboot.

## Downloads

Firmware update codes IBM LTO-6 KAJ8 (FH) and KAJ9 (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>.