

Mellanox NATIVE ESX Driver for VMware vSphere 7.0 Release Notes

Rev 3.19.70.1

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Release Update History

Table 1 - Release Update History

Release	Date	Description
Rev 3.19.70.1	August 31, 2020	Initial release of this MLNX-NATIVE-ESX version.

1 Overview

These are the release notes of "Mellanox Native Driver for VMware® vSphere 2015". This document provides instructions on drivers for Mellanox Technologies ConnectX® based adapter cards with VMware ESXi Server environment.

1.1 Content of MLNX-NATIVE-ESX Package

The MLNX-NATIVE-ESX driver package is distributed as an offline bundle (.zip file) and contains:

- MLNX-NATIVE-ESX-ConnectX-3_3.19.70.1-1OEM.670.0.0.8169922.zip

Driver bundle for ESXi 7.0 contains the following kernel modules:

- nmlx4_core (ConnectX family low-level PCI driver)
- nmlx4_en (Mellanox Technologies Ethernet driver)
- nmlx4_rdma (Mellanox Technologies RDMA driver)
- nmlx_en_mgmtInterface.tar.gz - management interface tarball

1.2 Supported HCAs Firmware Versions

MLNX-NATIVE-ESX v3.19.70.1 supports the following Mellanox Ethernet HCA:

Table 2 - Supported HCAs Firmware Versions

HCAs	Recommended Firmware Rev.	Additional Firmware Rev.
ConnectX-3 Pro	2.42.5000	2.36.5000
ConnectX-3	2.42.5000	2.36.5000

Please note that older firmware versions were not tested with this release.

For the latest firmware versions, visit:

- http://www.mellanox.com/page/vmware_matrix

2 Changes and New Features in Rev 3.19.70.1

Table 3 - Changes and New Features in Rev 3.19.70.1

Category	Description
General	This is the initial software release of ESXi 7.0. It is based on and includes all features and capabilities of ESXi 6.7.
PSID in Privstats (Private statistics)	New feature: Adapter card's PSID is now displayed in the Privstats (Private statistics).

3 Known Issues

The following is a list of general limitations and known issues of the various components of this MLNX-NATIVE-ESX release.

Table 4 - Known Issues

#	Description	Workaround
1.	RM#1117422: ConnectX-3 Pro 10G adapter cards wrongly report support for 40G speed when running the "esxcli network nic get" command.	N/A
2.	When the port is DOWN, the management interface port_type field (nmlx_en_MgmtIFPortType) indicates one of the port types supported by the device, in the following order: TP, FIBER, DA, NONE. If the cable supports several types, the first type in the list mentioned above will be printed.	N/A
3.	When the port is UP, the management interface port_type field (nmlx_en_MgmtIFPortType) indicates which one of all possible supported types is currently connected.	N/A
4.	Management interface port_type field (nmlx_en_MgmtIFPortType) reports SFP-to-RJ45 cable as FIBER.	N/A
5.	Management interface auto_negotiation field (nmlx_en_MgmtIFAutoNegMode) is equivalent to "esxcli network nic get -n vmnix" field "Pause Autonegotiate"	N/A