

Release Notes

ARC Software/Firmware

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a  **MICROCHIP** company

Revision History

Revision	Revision Date	Details of Change
3	January 2019	Updated for 2019.1 release.
2	April 2018	Updated for 2018.1 release.
1	October 2017	Document created.

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1 About This Release

This document describes a maintenance release package of Microsemi's Adaptec® RAID controller firmware, OS drivers, tools, and host management software.

1.1 Release Identification

The firmware, software, and driver versions for this maintenance release are shown in the following table.

Table 1 • Release Summary

Package Release Date	January 24, 2019
Firmware Version	7.14.0 build 33303 (Basecode B832)
Microsemi Adaptec RAID Controller Configuration Utilities (ARCCONF Command Line Interface, maxView Storage Manager, maxView vSphere Plugin, Boot USB, EventMonitor)	2.06.00.23488
Drivers Package Version	B57011 [Windows] B57013 [Linux, VMware]

1.2 Supported Controllers

The following controllers are supported:

- Microsemi Adaptec RAID 8405
- Microsemi Adaptec RAID 8405E
- Microsemi Adaptec RAID 8805
- Microsemi Adaptec RAID 8805E
- Microsemi Adaptec RAID 8885
- Microsemi Adaptec RAID 8885Q
- Microsemi Adaptec RAID 81605Z
- Microsemi Adaptec RAID 81605ZQ

2 What is New?

2.1 Fixes and Enhancements

This section details the fixes and enhancements in this release.

2.1.1 Firmware Fixes

2.1.1.1 Fixes and Enhancements for Firmware Release Build 33303

This release provides the following fixes and enhancements:

- Fixed an issue where RAID 5 Copyback could take up to 15 times longer than Rebuild to complete.
 - *Root cause:* Small block transfer size caused increased copy iterations.
 - *Fix:* Increased block transfer size reducing iterations.
 - *Risk:* Low
- Fixed an issue where a command timeout would lead to an IOP reset.
 - *Root cause:* Large FIB writes (commands) such as 256K could be broken into smaller serialized commands, increasing the time to complete a single command.
 - *Fix:* Check for large FIBS and do not break up, sending larger commands completes faster.
 - *Risk:* Low
- Fixed an issue where a single bad drive would cause drive discovery failure.
 - *Root cause:* Bad drive caused expander PHY connected to controller to be stuck in "reset in progress" state which caused controller discovery failure.
 - *Fix:* Detect this special state and allow controller to boot, detecting all other devices.
 - *Risk:* Low
- Fixed an issue where the UEFI GUI drive speed field would display "NA" instead of proper value (i.e., 12.0G).
 - *Root cause:* Character data structure too small.
 - *Fix:* Increased structure size.
 - *Risk:* Low
- Fixed an issue where the REBUILD LED did not properly display in IBPI configuration.
 - *Root cause:* LEDs not managed per IBPI spec.
 - *Fix:* Set both "locate"/"fault" LEDs for identify device/failed drive activities per IBPI spec. Change rebuild behavior from "blinking fault LED at 1Hz and leave other LEDs as is" back to "set locate and fault LEDs to logic 1.
 - *Risk:* Low
- Fixed an issue where ARC firmware history logs could be lost if firmware assert and power loss.
 - *Root cause:* History log information not preserved if firmware assert during initialization, followed by power loss.
 - *Fix:* Enable offline log preserving.
 - *Risk:* Low
- Fixed an issue where subtractive-to-subtractive inter-expander was misinterpreted.
 - *Root cause:* Subtractive-to-subtractive inter-expander connection was treated as a loop.
 - *Fix:* Add proper detection of subtractive-to-subtractive connection.

- *Risk: Low*
- Fixed an issue where ARCCONF setstatsdatacollection returned the wrong status, but command is actually successful.
 - *Root cause:* Status not properly returned.
 - *Fix:* Qualified proper status.
 - *Risk: Low*
- Fixed an issue where the UEFI Boot Option Priorities field displayed bad characters.
 - *Root cause:* Incorrect drive structure usage.
 - *Fix:* Resolved drive structure conflict.
 - *Risk: Low*

2.1.1.2 Fixes and Enhancements for Firmware Release Build 33263

This release provides the following fixes and enhancements:

- Added support for the LED to light on the target device during COPYBACK task.
- Fixed an issue where the device was not detected after a hot-add.
- Fixed an issue where a drive command timeout could cause the adapter to reset.
- Fixed an issue where a redundant logical drive could fail after single drive failure.
- Fixed an issue where the UEFI drive would be incorrectly identified.
- Fixed an issue where the logical drive size was inconsistent between BIOS and PBSI.
- Fixed an issue to properly display the Micron 5100 SSD firmware version in PBSI.
- Fixed an issue with a slow shutdown when logical drive was failed or degraded.
- Fixed an issue where the firmware would crash after a rebuild with maxCache enabled.
- Fixed an issue where the OS adapter would reset during multiple-controller Kdump activity.
- Fixed an issue where the logical drive would fail when a metadata write failed during rebuild.
- Fixed an issue to honor PBSI frequency settings.

2.1.1.3 Fixes and Enhancements for Firmware Release Build 33204

This release provides the following fixes and enhancements:

- Removed support for auto-detecting the hot-plugged drives feature from ExtScsiPassThru layer without needing to reload the controller UEFI driver.
 - *Previous behavior:* Drives that are added after the UEFI driver has loaded could be seen by the UEFI driver by making a second call to the function EfiScsiPassThruGetNextTargetLun. This behavior has now been removed.
 - *Current behavior:* To see hot-plugged drives added after the UEFI driver has loaded, you will need to remove and reload the controller UEFI driver and then you will see the new drives. You will no longer see hot-plugged drives by calling the EfiScsiPassThruGetNextTargetLun function.
 - *Risk: Low*
- Added support for physical drive failure events through PBSI event logging.
- Added support for Green Backup events through PBSI event logging.
- Added support to allow RAW drives to remain in a spun-down state when the user spins down the drive.
 - *Exposure:* Applies to RAW drives only.
- Fixed an issue where the console showed a controller cache warning due to a backup unit fault after flashing new firmware in UEFI mode.
- Fixed an issue where the box display order could be inconsistent during POST.

- Fixed an issue with setting the Spare Drive Flag=0 for PBSI event logging.
- Removed bad character from "Physical drive failure" field in PBSI.
- Fixed a timestamp issue in PBSI.
- Fixed an issue where RAW drives were lost when spun down and followed by an ARCCONF RESCAN.
- Fixed an issue with a media change error message in the UEFI script, causing a script failure.
- Fixed an issue where entering the system BIOS, changing and saving a setting, then exiting caused the system to hang (introduce CPLD 12).

Note:

CPLD is not activated automatically with a standard firmware flash. To update CPLD, run the following command in ARCCONF: `ARCCONF CPLD 1 FLASHUPDATE`

See the *Microsemi Adaptec RAID Controller Command Line Utility User's Guide* (ESC-2160659) for more information.

- Fixed an issue where the drive would go offline during an expander reset operation.
- Fixed expander mapping issues.
- Fixed an issue where the Read Buffer would fail.
- Fixed an issue where the controller would hang when the drive member was removed from a RAID 5 array.
- Fixed an issue where the UEFI would freeze while saving the support archive.
- Added support for driver NMI feature to controllers.
- Fixed an issue where the INQUIRY to VPD page 0xB0 WRITE SAME length was leading to IO timeouts.
 - *Root cause:* The INQUIRY to VPD page 0xB0 has a field to specify the maximum WRITE SAME length that the drive can support. SAT-4 had this field as unspecified and therefore SATL was setting it. However, this is the field that the latest Linux version uses to determine the proper WRITE SAME size to send and treats "0" as the sending maximum. This led to IO timeouts.
 - *Exposure:* Setting correct fields in INQUIRY to VPD page 0xB0.
 - *Fix:* Set the WRITE SAME length field to the maximum amount a 512-buffer can accept.
 - *Risk:* None
- Set the SES, STE, SVPD to a higher priority.
 - *Root cause:* The firmware sends an RCV_DIAGNOSTICS command to the VSEP every 10 seconds and will time out this command if it does not receive a completion within 30 seconds. In highly loaded systems, the SVPD thread may not wake up within 30 seconds, causing the firmware to time out the command.
 - *Exposure:* ARC programs
 - *Fix:* Increase the priority of the SES, STE, and SVPD threads. These threads are low-activity threads and should be serviced immediately by the firmware. The high-activity threads, like SAS_FAST, will have a lower priority relative to the SES, STE, and SVPD threads.
 - *Risk:* Low

2.1.2 Driver Fixes

2.1.2.1 Fixes and Enhancements for Windows Driver Build 57011 and Linux and VMware Drivers Build 57013

This release includes the following Windows driver fixes and enhancements:

- Added support for Windows 2019 driver.

This release includes the following Linux driver fixes and enhancements:

- Added retpoline support to correct potential spectre/meltdown issues for OEL 6.9 with both UEK4 and UEK3.

- Use command lsblk to show drives behind the controller are removable.
 - *Root cause:* The SCSI device removable bit was set to 1 in the driver code.
 - *Fix:* Added module parameter aac_removable (to pass while loading a module) which indicates whether the drive is removable or not. (aac_removable = 0: Not removable, aac_removable = 1: Removable)
- Fixed an issue where the build packaging changes and version numbers in modinfo and the rpm file did not match.
 - *Root cause:* To add a subversion (-1) after the version in UEK binaries. "-1" indicates a bump in driver version and the subsequent script changes will be "-2" and so on, when the driver code does not change.
 - *Fix:* Changed the Oracle Linux UEK spec file and the aacraid_build script to add an extra literal.
- Changed timeout in ARC to 60 seconds.
 - *Root cause:* IOP_RESET occurs more frequently.
 - *Fix:* Changed "AAC_ARC_TIMEOUT = 45" to "AAC_ARC_TIMEOUT = 60".
- Fixed an issue where the driver was sending IOP reset and causing the firmware to assert.
 - *Root cause:* The driver was sending IOP reset and causing the firmware to assert.
 - *Fix:* Issue drop I/O before changing interrupt mode to prevent firmware from asserting when sending IOP reset.
- Fixed an issue where using kickstart to install the OS leads to AACRAID driver install failure during pre-install steps.
 - *Root cause:* Pre-install would fail if the "/lib/modules/`uname -r`/updates" directory did not exist.
 - *Fix:* Removed the %pre section and the subsequent builds to be handled.
- Fixed an issue to prevent resets during Extended Error Handling scenario.
 - *Root cause:* Extended Error Handling mechanism gets triggered during error handling reset.
 - *Fix:* Check the bit that indicates if Extended Error Handling is enabled and required before any PCI BAR register access is done. If enabled, then disallow the regular error handling path.
- Added support for consistent naming convention for RPMs in UEK R3 and R4.
- Fixed an issue where the OEL/UEK matrix was broken.
 - *Root cause:* OEL/UEK matrix was broken.
 - *Fix:* Added UEK R4 support for OEL 7.2 and UEK R3 support for OEL 6.8.
- Fixed an issue where the controller could not detect the disk after doing a hot plug test.
 - *Root cause:* The OS was not exposing a drive when host_target_num=256.
 - *Fix:* Properly initialized a device element in the driver to allow a device rescan after hot-adding the drive
- Fixed an issue where ARCCONF stopped working after savesupportarchive was executed.
 - *Root cause:* All management commands are utilized at some point while executing the "arconf savesupportarchive" command. So the driver was not able to perform the requested command.
 - *Fix:* Use aac_fib_free() api to free the management commands instead of aac_fib_free_tag() in aac_intr_normal().
- Fixed an issue where the Device Identification VPD page(0x83) was not supported for logical drive in SUSE11 SP3.
 - *Root cause:* VPD page(0x83) is not supported for SUSE kernel.
 - *Fix:* Added VPD page(0x83) for SUSE kernel.

2.1.2.2 Fixes and Enhancements for Windows and Linux Drivers Build 56008 and VMware Drivers Build 56009

This release includes the following Windows driver fixes and enhancements:

- Fixed an issue where the copyright and provider information were incorrect.
 - *Root cause:* The copyright and provider were incorrect.
 - *Fix:* Updated the copyright and provider information.
 - *Risk:* Low

This release includes the following Linux driver fixes and enhancements:

- Fixed an issue where reset functions were broken up into their individual functions.
 - *Root cause:* The driver only had two reset functions, which were broken up into their individual functions for device, target, bus, and host.
 - *Fix:* This was an upstream patch, which was propagated into the out-of-box driver.
 - *Risk:* Low
- Backported inbox changes from 50740 to an out-of-box driver.
 - *Root cause:* In order to harmonize in-box/out-of-box drivers, sync changes between the two drivers.
 - *Fix:*
 - *Risk:* Low
- Fixed an issue with the static code analysis.
 - *Root cause:* Correct static code analysis issues.
 - *Fix:*
 - *Risk:* Low
- Fixed an issue where some devices may be offline after a reset.
 - *Root cause:* Devices which caused errors may be offline after reset.
 - *Fix:* Reset offline devices to be available after reset.
 - *Risk:* Low
- Reworked the IOP_Reset functionality.
 - *Root cause:* In-box driver 50834 included changes to the IOP_Reset functionality.
 - *Fix:* Backported these changes to the inbox driver.
 - *Risk:* Low
- Fixed an issue where the ARCCONF reset command could hang.
 - *Root cause:* Need to ensure that we are the only user of ioctl commands.
 - *Fix:* Protect access using the ioctl mutex.
 - *Risk:* Low
- Added support for kdump on 3 or more adapters.
 - *Root cause:* When using reset devices, an IOP Reset for each controller will take 45 seconds, while the timeout for bringing devices online is 120 seconds. A method was required to perform a soft reset that will not take as long as an IOP Reset.
 - *Fix:* Incorporated the soft-reset functionality, and dropped IO in firmware to allow the kdump to be able to handle more than two controllers.
 - *Risk:* Medium
- Fixed an issue where the ARCCONF does not respond to commands after lockup on second controller.
 - *Root cause:* Check for controller failure during ioctl processing.

- *Fix:* Included a check for controller health prior to executing ioctl.
- *Risk:* Low
- Fixed an issue where a controller would unexpectedly reset due to a lack of resources.
 - *Root cause:* Some fibs would not be returned to the management free pool.
 - *Fix:* Included a check to determine which pool a fib belongs to and return appropriately.
 - *Risk:* Low
- Fixed an issue where kdump would not function on RHEL 7.1.
 - *Root cause:* Kdump on RHEL 7.1 would only allow 30 seconds prior to issuing a SIGKILL, which caused the driver to report an error.
 - *Fix:* Included a workaround for RHEL 7.1, which would not be interruptible during kdump.
 - *Risk:* Low
- Backported a timespec64 change from the Linux kernel.
 - *Root cause:* The current time methods would rollover, due to 32-bit values.
 - *Fix:* Use the 64-bit time methods.
 - *Risk:* Low
- Hardened support for AER errors.
 - *Root cause:* Include support to handle all soft/hard AER error.
 - *Fix:*
 - *Risk:* Low

This release includes the following VMware driver fixes and enhancements:

- Fixed a VMware issue that was causing the driver to fail.
 - *Root cause:* Some Linux functions are not available on VMware.
 - *Fix:* Implement compatibility functions for VMware.
 - *Risk:* Low

2.1.2.3 Fixes and Enhancements for Drivers Build 55022

This release includes the following Windows driver fixes and enhancements:

- Fixed an issue where the IO would be lost during heavy IO, resulting in an IOP reset.
 - *Root cause:* A race condition exists in MSI-X mode which would cause the Fib pointer to be cleaned up for the wrong handle.
 - *Fix:* Use the MSILock() for locking when using MSI-X.
 - *Exposure:* Affects Windows driver for Series-6, 7, 8, and SmartRaid.
 - *Risk:* Low

This release includes the following Linux and VMware driver fixes and enhancements:

- Fixed an issue where a driver could crash during heavy IO runs with 64 RAID volumes.
 - *Root cause:* A call trace was seen when running heavy IO on 64 containers, which included driver re-entry after completing a command.
 - *Fix:* Use atomic memory allocation for the buffer, as it is in interrupt mode.
 - *Exposure:* All Linux versions.
 - *Risk:* Low

2.1.3 Management Software Fixes

2.1.3.1 Fixes and Enhancements for maxView Storage Manager/ARCCONF Version 2.06.00 Build 23488

This release provides the following fixes and enhancements:

- Fixed an issue where a warning message was missing when a customer created multiple logical devices on the same physical devices.
 - *Root cause:* Need to add a warning if multiple logical devices are created on a device that is online.
 - *Fix:* Added a warning if multiple logical devices are created on a device that is online.
- Fixed an issue where the default size was not accepted for the expansion of RAID1 created with SSDs in maxView.
 - *Root cause:* While expanding a logical device from maxView, max size and user input size were not compared properly and the default value was not accepted.
 - *Fix:* Made the changes to compare the max size with the user input size to accept default size.
- Fixed an issue where RAID level migration by specifying the size as MAX was failing in ARCCONF.
 - *Root cause:* Validation of stripe size, size, RAID level, and legs parameters were missing in ARCCONF while blocking the modify command.
 - *Fix:* Added validation based on stripe size, size, RAID level, and legs parameters for RAID level migration.
- Fixed an issue where lane information was missing in maxView.
 - *Root cause:* New implementation to display the lane information of connector maxView.
 - *Fix:* Added changes to display the lane information Connector tab in maxView.
- Fixed an issue where creating a logical device failed in German Windows server.
 - *Root cause:* In maxView, an exception while formatting the size in German locale failed to create a logical device.
 - *Fix:* Made changes to format the size according to locale while populating the size tool-tip in maxView.
- Fixed an issue where maxView email notification was not working.
 - *Root cause:* Instead of TLS, the mail server was using deprecated SSL, which failed to deliver the email notifications.
 - *Fix:* Added changes to use SSL as a fallback mechanism for secure communication for the mail server when TLS connection fails.
- Fixed an issue where firmware upgrade for Micron 5100 SATA device failed.
 - *Root cause:* Mode 3 support is failing for SATA device firmware upgrade due to wrong parameters for ATA passthrough command.
 - *Fix:* Made changes to provide valid input parameter for modes 3 and 7 for SATA firmware upgrade through ATA passthrough command.

2.1.3.2 Fixes and Enhancements for maxView Storage Manager/ARCCONF Version 2.06.00 Build 23164

This release provides the following fixes and enhancements:

- Reinstated a check for ESXi memory allocation.
- Added a condition for controlling out-of-bound memory access.
- Added code to hold ldbname in temporary variable and set ldbname after memset.

2.1.3.3 Fixes and Enhancements for maxView Storage Manager/ARCCONF Version 2.05.00 Build 22932

This release provides the following fixes and enhancements:

- Added support for executing UART commands through ARCCONF.
- Added a new command in ARCCONF to enable/disable SMART poll on the controller for RAW drives.
- Fixed an issue where exceeding the backup unit temperature caused a permanent warning sign to display on the controller.
 - *Root cause:* There was no check to not render the warning icon when the CAP temperature in the backup unit went back to normal.
 - *Fix:* When the CAP temperature is back to normal, the rendering of the orange warning icon for CAP temperature is blocked.
 - *Risk:* Low
- Fixed an issue where every user was being assigned an administrator role regardless of their original role.
 - *Root cause:* Using the domain name, every user was getting the Admin role irrespective of his original role.
 - *Fix:* Correct user roles are identified using domain-level authentication as well.
 - *Risk:* Low
- Miscellaneous UI changes/enhancements.

2.2 Limitations

This section details the limitations in this release.

2.2.1 Firmware Limitations

2.2.1.1 Limitations for Firmware Build 33303

There are no known limitations for this release.

2.2.1.2 Limitations for Firmware Build 33263

There are no known limitations for this release.

2.2.1.3 Limitations for Firmware Build 33204

There are no known limitations for this release.

2.2.2 Driver Limitations

2.2.2.1 Limitations for Windows Driver Build 57011 and Linux and VMware Drivers Build 57013

There are no known limitations for this release.

2.2.2.2 Limitations for Windows and Linux Drivers Build 56008 and VMware Drivers Build 56009

There are no known limitations for this release.

2.2.2.3 Limitations for Drivers Build 55022

There are no known limitations for this release.

2.2.3 Management Software Limitations

2.2.3.1 Limitations for maxView Storage Manager/ARCCONF Version 2.06.00 Build 23488

There are no known limitations for this release.

2.2.3.2 Limitations for maxView Storage Manager/ARCCONF Version 2.06.00 Build 23164

There are no known limitations for this release.

2.2.3.3 Limitations for maxView Storage Manager/ARCCONF Version 2.05.00 Build 22932

This release includes the following limitation:

- The locate logical device operation in GUI displays a blank dialog box.
WORKAROUND: Use the physical device locate operation to locate the logical device member drives.

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