Sun Storage F5100 Flash Array

Product Notes



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Sun Storage F5100 Flash Array Product Notes

These product notes contain the following important information about the Sun Storage F5100 flash array from Oracle.

- "Special Considerations" on page 1
- "Configuration Guidelines and Limitations" on page 2
- "System Specifications and Requirements" on page 3
- "Aligning FMODs for Optimal Performance" on page 12
- "Known Issues" on page 13
- "Documentation Errata" on page 17

Special Considerations

Keep the following considerations in mind when handling or shipping the energy storage modules (ESMs) in the Sun Storage F5100 flash array:

Replacing Energy Storage Modules



Caution – When replacing an ESM, ensure that you follow the replacement procedures provided in the *Sun Storage F5100 Flash Array Service Manual*.

When replacing an ESM, follow these guidelines:

- Use only an ESM that has been provided by Oracle.
- Use the ESM only as described in the product service manual.

- Do not disassemble ESMs.
- Dispose of or recycle ESMs properly in accordance with local regulations, noting the warning label located on the ESMs.
- Do not attempt to recharge ESMs outside of the system.
- Fully charge ESMs before placing the array into service. This process can take up to 10 minutes. You will know an ESM is fully charged when the green OK LED changes from a slow blink to steady on.
- Fully discharge the ESM before removing it.
 For information on how to discharge an ESM, see the Sun Storage F5100 Flash Array Service Manual.



Caution – If AC power fails while an ESM is removed from the system, data on the FMods that are backed up by the removed ESM could be lost. Do not leave an ESM bay empty any longer than necessary to complete the replacement procedure.

Shipping Energy Storage Modules

If you ship an ESM, you must do so in accordance with all International Air Transport Association (IATA) regulations.

Refer to the document "Transporting Products With a Miscellaneous Class 9 Dangerous Goods Classification," which was provided with the product when it was shipped to you, for additional information. Additionally, you can refer to the Dangerous Goods Regulations document at:

http://www.iata.org

Configuration Guidelines and Limitations

The following configuration limitations exist for the Sun Storage F5100 flash array. Configuring systems that do not adhere to these guidelines might produce unexpected results.

Note – The *Sun Storage F5100 Flash Array Installation Guide* provides detailed information about the configurations that can be produced using the Sun Storage F5100 flash array.

Multipathing on the Sun Storage F5100 Flash Array

Multipathing is not supported on the Sun Storage F5100 flash array. For additional configuration restrictions, see the Sun Storage F5100 Flash Array Installation Guide.

Connecting Multiple Arrays or JBODs

Cascading a Sun Storage F5100 flash array to other Sun Storage F5100 flash arrays, JBODs, or other SAS-based storage array is not supported. Interconnecting the expanders on the Sun Storage F5100 flash array is also not supported.

Oracle Solaris Device Path Changes After FMod Replacement

After an FMod replacement, the Oracle Solaris device path will change. Applications and utilities that depend on the old device path will need to be reconfigured to work with the new one. For workaround instructions, see known issue 6801166 in "Known Issues" on page 13.

System Specifications and Requirements

This section describes the following system specifications:

- "Current and Legacy Systems" on page 4
- "Supported Hosts, HBAs, and OSs" on page 4
- "Supported Disk Management Software" on page 10

Current and Legacy Systems

Two versions of the Sun Storage F5100 flash array exist: the current system and the legacy system. Legacy systems support SAS1 HBAs and current systems support SAS1 and SAS2 HBAs. For specific HBA support, see "Supported Hosts, HBAs, and OSs" on page 4.

You can determine the system version by the manufacturing date and serial number. Systems manufactured after 12/14/2010 are current systems and have a serial number that starts with "1049BD", or greater, which appears in this format:

1049BDXXXX or greater

Legacy systems serial numbers start with any combination less than "1049BD".

The system serial number (SysSN) is located on the front of the system, left side.

Note – At this time, upgrading a legacy Sun Storage F5100 flash array to a current Sun Storage F5100 flash array is not supported.

Supported Hosts, HBAs, and OSs

The following sections describe which combinations of hardware, software, and firmware are supported with the Sun Storage F5100 flash array.

Supported SPARC Configurations

Supported SPARC Servers	Supported HBAs	Sun Storage F5100 System	Supported Operating Systems
Sun SPARC Enterprise M3000 Sun SPARC Enterprise M4000 Sun SPARC Enterprise M5000 Sun SPARC Enterprise M8000 Sun SPARC Enterprise M9000 Sun SPARC Enterprise T5120 Sun SPARC Enterprise T5220 Sun SPARC Enterprise T5440	SG-XPCIE8SAS-E-Z SG-SAS6-EXT-Z	Current or legacy Current	 Oracle Solaris 10 5/08 SPARC (64-bit) plus patches Oracle Solaris 10 5/09 SPARC (64-bit) plus patches
Sun SPARC Enterprise T5140 Sun SPARC Enterprise T5240	SG-XPCIE8SAS-E-Z	Current or legacy	 Oracle Solaris 10 5/08 SPARC (64-bit) plus patches Oracle Solaris 10 5/09 SPARC (64-bit) plus patches
Sun SPARC Enterprise T3-1 Sun SPARC Enterprise T3-2	SG-SAS6-EXT-Z	Current	• Oracle Solaris 10 9/10 SPARC (64-bit) plus patches
Sun SPARC Enterprise T3-1B Sun SPARC Enterprise T3-4	SG-SAS6-EM-Z	Current	• Oracle Solaris 10 9/10 SPARC (64-bit) plus patches

Supported Oracle x86 Configurations

Third-party servers are not supported.

Supported x86 Servers	Supported HBAs	Sun Storage F5100 System	Supported Operating Systems
Sun Fire X2100 Sun Fire X2100 M2 Sun Fire X2200 Sun Fire X2200 M2 Sun Fire X2250 Sun Fire X2270 Sun Fire X4100 M2 Sun Fire X4140 Sun Fire X4150 Sun Fire X4200 M2 Sun Fire X4240 Sun Fire X4240 Sun Fire X4250 Sun Fire X4440 Sun Fire X4450 Sun Fire X4460 Sun Fire X4600 Sun Fire X4600 Sun Fire X4600 Sun Fire X4600	SG-XPCIE8SAS-E-Z	Current or legacy	 Oracle Solaris 10 5/08 x86 (64-bit) plus patches Oracle Linux 5.5 (64-bit) Oracle Linux 5.4 (64-bit) SUSE 11 (64-bit) SUSE 10 SP3 (64-bit) RHEL5.5 (64-bit) RHEL5.4 (64-bit) Windows 2008 SP2 (64-bit) Windows 2008 R2 (64-bit)
Sun Fire X4640 Sun Fire X4275	SG-SAS6-EXT-Z	Current	 Oracle Solaris 10 5/08 x86 (64-bit) plus patches Oracle Linux 5.5 (64-bit) Oracle Linux 5.4 (64-bit) SUSE 11 (64-bit) SUSE 10 SP3 (64-bit) RHEL5.5 (64-bit) RHEL5.4 (64-bit) Windows 2008 SP2 (64-bit) Windows 2008 R2 (64-bit)
Sun Fire X4170 Sun Fire X4270 Sun Fire X4540	SG-SAS6-EXT-Z SG-XPCIE8SAS-E-Z	Current or legacy	 Oracle Solaris 10 5/08 x86 (64-bit) plus patches Oracle Linux 5.5 (64-bit) Oracle Linux 5.4 (64-bit) SUSE 11 (64-bit) SUSE 10 SP3 (64-bit) RHEL5.5 (64-bit) RHEL5.4 (64-bit) Windows 2008 SP2 (64-bit) Windows 2008 R2 (64-bit)

Supported x86 Servers	Supported HBAs	Sun Storage F5100 System	Supported Operating Systems
Sun Fire X4170 M2 Sun Fire X4270 M2	SG-SAS6-EXT-Z	Current	 Oracle Solaris 10 9/08 x86 (64-bit) plus patches Oracle Linux 5.5 (64-bit) Oracle Linux 5.4 (64-bit) SUSE 11 (64-bit) SUSE 10 SP3 (64-bit) RHEL5.5 (64-bit) RHEL5.4 (64-bit) Windows 2008 SP2 (64-bit) Windows 2008 R2 (64-bit)
Sun Fire X6220 Sun Fire X6240 Sun Fire X6250 Sun Fire X6270 Sun Fire X6275 Sun Fire X6440 Sun Fire X6450	PCIE8SAS-EB-Z	Current or legacy	 Oracle Solaris 10 5/08 x86 (64-bit) plus patches Oracle Linux 5.5 (64-bit) Oracle Linux 5.4 (64-bit) SUSE 11 (64-bit) SUSE 10 SP3 (64-bit) RHEL5.5 (64-bit) RHEL5.4 (64-bit) Windows 2008 SP2 (64-bit) Windows 2008 R2 (64-bit)
Sun Fire X6270 M2 Sun Fire X4800	SG-SAS6-EM-Z	Current or legacy	 Oracle Solaris 10 5/08 x86 (64-bit) plus patches Oracle Linux 5.5 (64-bit) Oracle Linux 5.4 (64-bit) SUSE 11 (64-bit) SUSE 10 SP3 (64-bit) RHEL5.5 (64-bit) RHEL5.4 (64-bit) Windows 2008 SP2 (64-bit) Windows 2008 R2 (64-bit)
Sun Fire X4470	SG-SAS6-EXT-Z	Current	 Oracle Solaris 10 9/08 x86 (64-bit) plus patches Oracle Linux 5.5 (64-bit) Oracle Linux 5.4 (64-bit) SUSE 11 (64-bit) SUSE 10 SP3 (64-bit) RHEL5.5 (64-bit) RHEL5.4 (64-bit) Windows 2008 SP2 (64-bit) Windows 2008 R2 (64-bit)

Supported HBA Firmware

The following table describes the supported firmware version for each HBA, and which HBA works in which Sun Storage F5100 system (current or legacy).

Download HBA firmware at http://www.lsi.com/support/sun

Note – Before you connect your flash array to a SGX-SAS6-EXT-Z or SGX-SAS6-EM-Z HBA, you must install CAM 6.7 and apply the latest CAM patches for your host OS. The patches are required to ensure proper support for this configuration and may be found at https://support.oracle.com/CSP/ui/flash.html.

Sun Storage F5100 System	Supported HBAs	Description	Required Firmware Version
Current	SGX-SAS6-EXT-Z	Oracle's Sun Storage 6 Gb SAS PCIe HBA provides 6 Gbyte/sec SAS performance and supports up to 40 Fmods on the array.	MPTFW-05.00.17.00, or greater
	SGX-SAS6-EM-Z	Oracle's Sun Storage 6 Gb SAS PCIe Express Module HBA provides 6 Gbyte/sec SAS performance and supports up to 40 Fmods on the array.	MPTFW-05.00.17.00, or greater
	SG-XPCIE8SAS-E-Z	Sun StorageTek PCIe SAS host bus adapter that provides 2x4 lanes of 3 Gbyte/second SAS performance and supports up to 20 FMods on the array.	MPTFW-01.29.06.00-IT, or greater
	SG-XPCIE8SAS-EB-Z	Sun StorageTek SAS ExpressModule HBA for Sun Blade Servers. Provides 2x4 lanes of PCIe 3Gb/s per ports. Supports up to 20 FMods on the array.	MPTFW-01.29.06.00-IT, or greater
Legacy	SG-XPCIE8SAS-E-Z	Sun StorageTek PCIe SAS host bus adapter that provides 2x4 lanes of 3 Gbyte/second SAS performance and supports up to 20 FMods on the array.	MPTFW-01.29.06.00-IT, or greater
	SG-XPCIE8SAS-EB-Z	Sun StorageTek SAS ExpressModule HBA for Sun Blade Servers. Provides 2x4 lanes of PCIe 3Gb/s per ports. Supports up to 20 FMods on the array.	MPTFW-01.29.06.00-IT, or greater

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Supported System Firmware

Firmware	Legacy Systems	Current Systems
SAS expander firmware	LSI FW 05.03.73.00	LSI FW 05.04.05
Flash Module firmware	MP1F	D129
FPGA firmware	2.2	2.4

Note – CAM 6.7 provides the latest SAS expander firmware and the latest Flash Module firmware.

Required Patches

The following patch identifiers represent the minimum level of the patches that must be installed. Use the following table to locate the appropriate patches for your system.

Legacy Systems Required Patches	Current Systems Required Patches
Oracle Solaris Performance Patch	HBA Firmware Patch
HBA Firmware Patch	 Persistent Log Message Patch
• Windows 2003 Patch	
• Persistent Log Message Patch	

Oracle Solaris Performance Patch

Download and install the following *mandatory* performance patch on your Oracle Solaris host:

- For Oracle Solaris 10 SPARC U4-U7, 138881-01 or later with MPT patch 141736-05
- For Oracle Solaris 10 x86 U4-U7, 138881-01 or later with MPT patch 141737-05

Available for download from the following web site:

https://support.oracle.com/CSP/ui/flash.html

Note — To enable maximum throughput from the MPT driver, add mpt_doneq_thread_n_prop=8; to /kernel/drv/mpt.conf and reboot the system.

Note – Refer to the CAM software release notes to identify the Oracle Solaris patches required by the CAM software.

HBA Firmware Patch

You must update your HBA firmware to support Oracle's Sun Storage F5100 flash array. For the supported HBAs firmware versions, see "Supported HBA Firmware" on page 8.

HBA firmware is available for download from the following web site:

http://www.lsi.com/support/sun

Windows 2003 Patch

On Windows 2003 platforms, you must install the Windows 2003 SP2 HotFix (KB943545) patch. You will be unable to register the storage device using the CAM software until you install this patch.

The patch is available for download from the following web site:

```
http://support.microsoft.com/kb/943545/en-us
```

If you are unable to access this web site, contact your Oracle Account Representative for assistance.

Persistent Log Message Patch

If you are experiencing persistent log messages such as command slot is full, and other problems associated with known issue 6807120 ("Known Issues" on page 13), download the appropriate patch, listed in the following section, "Oracle Solaris Performance Patch" on page 9.

Supported Disk Management Software

The following software is supported for use with the Sun Storage F5100 flash array.

 TABLE 1
 Supported Disk Management Software for Current Systems

Software	Description
Oracle's Sun Storage Common Array Manager 6.7 with patch:	Enclosure management software
• 145965-03 CAM 6.7.0 Firmware Release 5.4.5 for F5100 (for Oracle Solaris)	
• 145966-03 CAM 6.7.0 Firmware Release 5.4.5 for F5100 (for Windows)	
• 144861-01 Windows platform fix	
• 145967-03 CAM 6.7.0 Firmware Release 5.4.5 for F5100 (for Linux RHEL SuSE)	

 TABLE 2
 Supported Disk Management Software for Legacy Systems

Software	Description
Oracle's StorageTek Common Array Manager 6.5.0 with patch:	Enclosure management software
• 141581-01 (for Windows)	
No patches are needed for Oracle Solaris or Linux	
Oracle's StorageTek Common Array Manager 6.4.1 with patch:	Enclosure management software
• 141484-01, or higher (for Oracle Solaris)	
• 141485-01 (for Windows)	
• 141486-01 (for Linux)	

To download the software, and find more information about the CAM software, refer to the following web site:

http://www.oracle.com/us/products/servers-storage/storage/disk-storage/031603.htmlhttp://www.oracle.com/us/products/servers-storage/storage/disk-storage/031603.htm

Aligning FMODs for Optimal Performance

To obtain optimal performance, all partitions must be aligned to start on 4K-aligned boundaries. Actions required to ensure proper alignment vary based on your environment.

In SPARC environments with an SMI label, no verification is required. In SPARC environments with an EFI label, it is sufficient to verify that partition boundaries start on 4K-aligned boundaries by using the format command. In x86 environments there are multiple tools to create partitions, it is important to understand the tool used to ensure the partition starts at a 4K-aligned value.

The example below uses the format command to inspect and alter partition tables.

Along with verifying partition boundaries, in x86 environments, you must also ensure that the disk partition¹ starts at a 4K-aligned value. If the entire disk is specified for use by the Oracle Solaris OS, the disk partition starts at cylinder 1 by default. This can be determined by using the fdisk command as follows:

EXAMPLE 1 Determine Whether a Partition Starts at a 4K-Aligned Value

A cylinder is 16065 blocks: (16065 blocks/cylinder * 512 bytes/block)/4096 = 2008.125 bytes This is *not* a 4K-aligned value.

The next 4k aligned value in this case would be cylinder 8: (8 cylinder * (16065 blocks/cylinder * 512 bytes/block) / 4096 = 16065

This value *is* a 4k aligned value (evenly divisible by 8).

References to disk partitions in this context refer to the partitions on the Sun Storage F5100 flash array FMods.

Note – When a disk is added to zpool, ZFS creates partitions that start on cylinder 0 by default, which results in 4k alignment. No tuning is needed if you use ZFS.

You need to ensure that individual partitions are created on 4K-aligned boundaries. To do this, use the format command to inspect and alter partition boundaries. 4K-aligned boundaries must be setup in both format and in fdisk.

When you are finished, the partition should look similar to the following example.

EXAMPLE 2 Verify That a Partition Starts at a 4K-Aligned Value

```
# fdisk /dev/rdsk/c0t13d0p0
    Total disk size is 2987 cylinders
    Cylinder size is 16065 (512 byte) blocks
             Cylinders
Partition Status
                   Type
                            Start
                                    End
                                         Length
                  =====
                            =====
                                    ===
=====
                                         ====== ===
           Active Solaris2 8
                                    2986
                                          2979
                                                100
```

Once the fdisk partition is aligned, no further adjustments are needed.

Known Issues

This section describes issues that are known to affect the product and provides possible workarounds for them.

 TABLE 3
 Known Issues and Workarounds

Bug ID	Description	Workaround
6855446	While registering 16 data hosts connected to Sun Storage F5100 through Sun Storage Common Array Manager registration wizard in a single operation, some times one or two hosts may not get successfully registered. Navigation tree will not display SAS domains for those hosts, which will ultimately prevent SAS domain management, pertaining to those data hosts.	Manage SAS zoning from Common Array Manager > Storage Systems > Device Name > SAS Domains > SAS Domain Name.
6793967	The zpool status -x command incorrectly displays healthy when actual status is degraded.	Use Common Array Manager alarm report for Failed FMod or missing device paths.
6807120	Under sustained heavy I/O in Oracle Solaris configurations, CAM may consistently lose communication with the Sun Storage F5100 and report alarms. Alarms may persist if I/O load remains high. Log messages on the host will indicate that command slot is full.	Download the appropriate patch, listed in the following section, "Oracle Solaris Performance Patch" on page 9.

 TABLE 3
 Known Issues and Workarounds (Continued)

Bug ID	Description	Workaround
6801166	After a Sun Storage F5100 FMod replacement, the Oracle Solaris device path will change. Applications and utilities that depend on the	To replace an FMod, use the following procedure for each Oracle Solaris host that has access to the replaced FMod:
	old device path will need to be reconfigured to work with the new one.	1. Open and login to the CAM utility which manages the Oracle Solaris host.
		2. Expand the "Hosts" tree in the left sidebar.
		3. Click the hostname of the Oracle Solaris host in the tree.
		4. In the main page, scroll to the "Disks" section
		5. If necessary, click the "Show Data in a Single Page" icon to display all disks connected to the host.
		6. Save the main frame into a temporary file. (The method for accomplishing this is web browser-dependent.)
		7. Properly power down the array and replace the FMod.
		8. Properly power up the array.
		9. When the Sun Storage F5100 is fully operational, click the "REFRESH" button in the top frame of StorageTek CAM.
		10. Compare the web page snapshot saved in step 6 to the current list of devices displayed in the "Disk" table in CAM. Find the previous and newly created device paths for the replaced FMod by comparing the values in the Path columns.
		11. Reconfigure affected applications and utilities using the newly created device path in place of the previous device path.
6809771	Under heavy I/O load in Oracle Solaris, a large number of messages may be seen indicating I/O retries (such as incomplete read- retrying). These messages occur due to a hardware bug in the LSI SAS controller that may incorrectly detect underrun conditions and report them to the driver. Overall data integrity is not compromised, but a performance impact may be observed due to the messages logged and retries required.	Ignore the retry messages or use an external means to throttle I/O throughput down to a level where these messages are not being produced in great numbers. The method required to throttle I/O will be very configuration and workload specific.
6839094	The iostat -En command does not report proper fault information on the Sun Storage F5100 Array and should not be used for this purpose.	Do not use the iostat -En command on the Sun Storage F5100 flash array from Oracle.

 TABLE 3
 Known Issues and Workarounds (Continued)

Bug ID	Description	Workaround
6835314	When rezoning FMods in an Sun Storage F5100 connected to a Linux host (as is done with StorageTek CAM access configuration, for example), access to drives may become blocked. The Linux host may frequently log messages such as removing sata device, tur checker reports path is down and LogInfo. The first message is commonly seen during zoning operations and is expected, but when accompanied by the other messages, access to the drives may become blocked. Only a host reboot will recover access.	To avoid this scenario, perform the following actions when rezoning a Sun Storage F5100 flash array: 1. Rezone the array using the StorageTek CAM management tool. 2. If the StorageTek CAM management host is a Linux host and the access permissions for this host have been modified, reboot this host. 3. Reboot all other Linux hosts attached to the array for which the access control permissions have been modified.
6853620 and 6853219	An unexpected reduction in performance may be caused by malfunctioning hardware.	To check for this condition, examine all of the SAS port LEDs on the back of the system. During normal operation, system is booted to an OS, any port that is cabled to an HBA should have a green activity LED. Disconnected ports should have amber LEDs. If any cabled ports has a Yellow LED, indicating that both green and amber are on, first check/replace the SAS cable. If that does not correct the problem, contact Sun Service for assistance. (NOTE: This condition is valid only after booting the OS. During boot the LEDs change state as devices get discovered by the system.).
6862435	Run Agent command within CAM fails with an exception when run on Windows2008 SP2 platform with NetBIOS over TCP/IP disabled. By default NetBIOS over TCP/IP is enabled.	Verify that NetBIOS over TCP/IP is enabled.
6853757	Problems were seen with the following patches: SPARC 141736-02, 141736-03, 141736-04 and x86 141737-02, 141737-03, 141737-04.	Remove the bad patch replace with the -01 version of the patch (141845-01) or contact Sun Service.
6943376	vxdisk list does not list Sun Storage F5100 devices connected to a SGX-SAS6-En HBA.	No workaround.
6865769	No temperature alarm generated when ambient temperature raised above 40.0 C.	When CAM registers a chassis alarm, check for an over temperature situation and resolve as needed. If no over temperature situation is apparent, contact Sun Service for additional troubleshooting assistance.

 TABLE 3
 Known Issues and Workarounds (Continued)

Bug ID	Description	Workaround
6838767	The sscs service -o locate command, when executed on a non-existent FMod, will generate a return code of 1. This return code is different from the previous version of CAM, which would generate a return code of 25 in the same conditions. Note the command output is correct. The problem is with the return code.	If this command is integrated into customer scripts that rely on the previous return code value of 25, those scripts need to be modified to check for this different return code of 1.
6777089	When running a Linux host with the following HBA (SG-XPCIE8SAS-E-Z with MPT 3.16.00.00), unplugging and reinserting a SAS cable causes the host to hang.	Reboot the host.
701836 (6978674)	If power is removed from a Sun Storage F5100 Flash Array when connected to a host running an Oracle Solaris 11 Express snv_151a x86 with the following HBA (SG-SAS6-EXT-Z), the host hangs and must be rebooted. After a reboot, the HBA disappears and none of the FMods are visible from the OS. System /var/log/messages indicates there is a PCIEX error on the host.	To recover the HBA from this state, run fmadm repair. For example: # fmadm repair 201627ba-6411-6325-9d46-d40abf0fbc7f To fix this problem, download and install patch ID 1329516 from My Oracle Support https://support.oracle.com.

Documentation Errata

The following late-breaking information does not appear in the product documentation.

 TABLE 4
 Documentation Updates

Title	Page Number	Update
System service labels	n/a	System labels and illustrations that reference them may have incorrect port labeling. All SAS expander ports could be incorrectly labeled with diamond and circle icons. The correct labeling scheme should have ports 0–2 labeled with diamonds, and port 3 labeled with circles.