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312530702

VERSION NUMBER
6.0

VTCS/NCS

Virtual Tape Control System/Nearline Control Solution

READ ME FIRST

PRODUCT TYPE
SOFTWARE

StorageTek

VTCS/NCS 6.0.0 Read Me First

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1 Introduction

This document provides information necessary for the installation of the 6.0.0 product set.

Please read this important notice before installing the 6.0.0 products.

2 Installation Materials

Included in this package are the following installation materials:

- a product tape containing the 6.0.0 software.
- a service tape containing PTFs for the 6.0.0 product set.

In addition, all customers must obtain the latest maintenance (PTFs and HOLDDATA) for the 6.0.0 product set and for any releases of StorageTek software that will co-exist with 6.0.0. This can be downloaded from the StorageTek website at http://www.storagetek.com/crc or by calling StorageTek Central Software Support[1] and ordering an all-PTF tape.

3 Installation Notes

A list of NCS 6.0.0 SMP/E FMIDs as well as full instructions for installing the various components can be found in the user documentation. Please refer to the latest levels of the manuals. Please ensure that on completion of the apply/accept of the fmids that the latest HOLDDATA is received and the latest PTFs are received and applied. Follow your own internal guidelines regarding the SMP/E ACCEPT of the PTFs.

It is strongly recommended to use GROUPEXTEND on all applies.

Note that the some components are sub-FMIDs of base components. ***If you are running at an SMP/E level lower than 2.5, ensure that the base FMID(s) and all PTF maintenance for the base FMID(s) is accepted before installing any sub-FMIDs.*** **For certain levels of SMP/E, the restriction applies that a dependent FMID cannot be installed if the base FMID and service have not been ACCEPTED**.

Note: When installing 6.0.0 in the same SMP/E zone as that used for earlier versions the SMP/E installation will delete the old FMIDs.

[1] (800) 678-4430 for USA customers

+1-303-673-4430 for international customers.

4 Upgrading from Down-level Releases to 6.0

If you are a VSM customer running a down-level version of NCS/VTCS (versions older than 5.0), and you are upgrading to the current version, 6.0, **you must apply version 5.1 prior to implementing 6.0**.

For complete information on upgrading, installing, and configuring VTCS, see the *VTCS Installation and Configuration Guide*. This Guide includes information on CDS format conversion in "Converting the Formatted CDS to VSM Extended Format" in Chapter 4, "Reconfiguring NCS."

It is critical, however, that you read and follow all the procedures in the *VTCS Installation and Configuration Guide* for both 5.1 and 6.0. To help you complete all the necessary installation steps, please refer to Chapter 1, "Planning for Installation." This chapter includes the "VTCS Installation Summary and Checklist" table, which provides a checklist of all the required installation and configuration tasks.

If you are an NCS-only customer, it is not necessary to install version 5.1 prior to installing version 6.0.

5 Release Notes

This provides specific details on each 6.0.0 product.

5.1 SMC 6.0.0 Notes

SMC consolidates HSC, MVS/CSC, JES2, and JES3 operating system interface components into consistent functions, and is a required NCS component.

SMC 6.0.0 communicates with HSC and/or MVS/CSC running on the same host, or with HSC executing on a remote host. When communicating with HSC on a remote host, the StorageTek HTTP Server must also be installed and must execute in a separate address space on the HSC host. In MVS-only configurations the SMC with the StorageTek HTTP Server may be used to replace MVS/CSC and LibraryStation. Please consult the current SMC documentation for details of the SMC client/server implementation.

5.2 StorageTek HTTP Server

The StorageTek HTTP Server (FMIDs SSKY500 and ASAR700) is also distributed as part of the VSM GUI product. An additional FMID (SMX6000) contains the SMC CGI routines required to access the remote HSC for SMC processing. This component is required only if you want to run SMC using a remote HSC host.

5.3 NCS 6.0.0 Notes

5.3.1 License Keys

License keys are required for each release of NCS to enable base software and associated features.

License key requests may be submitted through the Customer Resource Center (CRC) at the following URL:

http://www.support.storagetek.com

(Click on “Software Keys” under “CRC Tools” on the left-hand side of the screen.)

License keys are approved within 48 hours of receipt of the request.

5.3.2 NCS 6.0.0 TCP/IP Notes

Please consult the current LibraryStation and MVS/CSC documentation for information about TCP/IP support.

5.3.3 NCS 6.0.0 JES3 Customers

SMC JES3 has replaced HSC JES3 and MVS/CSC JES3. StorageTek recommends changing the HOSTID for JES3 hosts in the HSC CDS from the JES3 main name to the SMF system ID.

5.3.4 ExLM Considerations

When installing HSC 6.0.0, all ExLM users should ensure that they are running a currently supported release of ExLM.

5.4 VTCS 6.0.0 Notes

VTCS 6.0.0 represents the latest development of the host software provided by StorageTek in support of StorageTek’s VSM solution. VTCS 6.0.0 provides the following enhancements to StorageTek’s VSM solution:

- support for up to 4 migrated VTV copies.
- support for 800Mb VTVs.
- support for a rule-based method of controlling:
  - the selection of a VTSS to be favored when allocating a VTV.
  - the selection of an MVC copy to be favored when recalling a VTV.
  - the selection of a VTSS to be favored when reclaiming an MVC.

6 6.0.0 Co-existence With Previous Releases

It is not mandatory to upgrade all hosts to 6.0.0 at the same time. The 6.0.0 products may co-exist with hosts running 5.0.0 and above[2].

There are, however, a number of considerations when co-existing with down-level hosts.

6.1 6.0.0 Compatibility PTFs

Before attempting to start 6.0.0 ensure that the following compatibility PTFs are installed on the down level releases that share the CDS.

HSC 5.0 (FMID SOS5000)	L1H11PW
VM/HSC 5.0 (SMS5000)	L1H11PV
VTCS 5.0 (SWS5000)	L1H11SO
LS 5.0 (SOC5000)	L1S103D
HSC 5.1 (FMID SOS5100)	L1H11PT
VM/HSC 5.1 (SMS5100)	L1H11PS
VTCS 5.1 (SWS5100)	L1H11SL
LS 5.1 (SOC5100)	L1S103E

Table 1 Compatibility PTFs

In addition it is strongly recommended to obtain the latest service (including HOLDATA) for the down-level hosts systems.

The suggested method of implementing 6.0.0 is to:

1. install the correct service on production hosts
2. install 6.0.0 on a test host(s)
3. test and verify 6.0.0 on test host(s).
4. schedule the rollout of 6.0.0 to production hosts.

6.2 VTCS 6.0.0 Migration Considerations

VTCS 6.0.0 can co-exist with all VTCS versions on or above VTCS 5.0.0. ***There are, however, limitations to this co-existence. To exploit either 800Mb VTV or 4 migrated copy support requires that all co-operating systems[3] are at VTCS 6.0.0 level***

6.2.1 VTSS Dependencies.

In order to enable the 800Mb VTVs feature introduced in VTCS 6.0, PTF L1H11WY must be installed **and** the following microcode level is **required** to be active on each of the VTSS systems:

- VSM3 - N01.00.69.04 or N01.00.71.00 or higher
- VSM4 - D01.00.04.03 or D01.00.06.03 or higher

[2] Other hosts that share the CDS.

[3] Systems that share the HSC CDS.

6.2.2 VTCS Migration Considerations

Migration to VTCS 6.0.0 requires the following considerations:

- All LPARs accessing the shared CDS must run either VTCS level 5.0.0 or above; VTCS 6.0.0 will not co-exist with VTCS levels prior to 5.0.0.
- Co-operating VTCS LPARs running other than VTCS 6.0.0 must have the correct toleration PTF installed.
- The CDS accessed by all co-operating VTCS systems must be of the extended format type. ***Important: See the VTCS 6.0 documentation for details of conversion.***
- VTCS 6.0.0 should be installed on a test LPAR.
- A VTCS Config (with the RESET option specified) should be run using VTCS 6.0.0 libraries prior to activating any of the co-operating VTCS systems. ***Please note that all hosts that use the CDS must be stopped.***

This set of considerations will provide a 6.0.0 environment that is capable of co-existing with VTCS 5.0.0 systems and above. Support for the migration of up to 4 migrated copies of a VTV and 800Mb VTVs will, however, be disabled.

Transitioning to support of up to 4 migrated copies and/or 800Mb VTVs requires the following considerations:

- A decision must be taken on a time/date for which it is necessary to have up to 4 migrated copies and/or 800Mb VTVs support available.
- Prior to this time/date, it will be necessary to install VTCS 6.0.0 on all appropriate LPARs.
- On the time/date chosen for the conversion to support for up to 4 migrated copies and/or 800Mb VTVs, all VTCS systems accessing the CDS should be terminated.
- On the time/date chosen for the conversion, a VTCS Config (with the RESET CDSLEVEL(V6ABOVE) option specified) must be run using VTCS 6.0.0 libraries.

After the conversion has been completed, VTCS systems other than 6.0.0 will not activate against the chosen CDS. Both support for up to 4 migrated copies and 800Mb VTVs will have been activated.

In the case of returning to the support of a complex not containing VTCS 6.0.0, care must be taken to follow information provided in VTCS 6.0.0 documentation. In particular, details regarding CDS conversion should be thoroughly analyzed.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

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ABOUT STORAGETEK®

Storage Technology Corporation (NYSE: STK), a $2 billion worldwide company with headquarters in Louisville, CO, has been delivering a broad range of storage management solutions designed for IT professionals for over 30 years. StorageTek offers solutions that are easy to manage, integrate well with existing infrastructures, and allow universal access to data across servers, media types and storage networks. StorageTek's practical and safe storage solutions for tape automation, disk storage systems and storage integration, coupled with a global services network, provide IT professionals with confidence and know-how to manage their entire storage management ecosystem today and in the future.

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