

February Newsletter

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Greetings all,

I hope that your 2022 is getting off to a good start – and I hope that some of the information and tips below will be of use to you.

A few updates to share

- 2022 got off to a great start for me and I would like to thank Libby and Brandon (IBM Champion and Power Champion leads) for selecting me again to be an IBM Champion. I find the Champion programme very useful, as it brings together experts both inside and outside IBM and helps extend the reach of my contributions.
See: <https://developer.ibm.com/champions/>
- We have started a new series of IBM i focused articles written by Satid Singkorapoom from Thailand. The first article looks at improving application performance by understanding i object permissions - **IBM i : Object authority check and batch job run-time**. We will be publishing more over the next few weeks.
See: <https://belisama.has.coffee/i-object-perm>
- The draft GLVM Redpaper, **Asynchronous Geographic Logical Volume Mirroring (GLVM) Best Practices for Cloud Deployment** is now available. It covers using GLVM both standalone and with PowerHA and provides some recommendations on configuration and tuning. Would love your feedback.
See: <https://www.redbooks.ibm.com/Redbooks.nsf/RedpieceAbstracts/redp5665.html?Open>
- **IBM Power Systems Cloud Security Guide: Protect IT Infrastructure In All Layers** draft Redpaper is now available. This publication provides a security and compliance solution that is optimised for on-premises and Cloud virtualised environments on IBM Power Systems servers, running IBM AIX, IBM i and Linux. It is intended to help IT and Security managers, architects, and consultants. Again we would love any suggestions for improvement.
See: <https://www.redbooks.ibm.com/Redbooks.nsf/RedpieceAbstracts/redp5659.html?Open>

Quick bites

PowerUp 2022 – May 23-26 in face and in New Orleans

The COMMON community will gather again in-person after a 2-year hiatus to enjoy learning high quality IBM i education, networking with peers, industry experts, and solution providers, and growing together as a whole.

See: <https://www.common.org/powerup2022/home>

13 Helpful Tips For Implementing Artificial Intelligence On IBM i

Over the past few years, advancements in AI and machine learning have changed the way businesses obtain and utilise data. and many organisations employ these technologies to gain business insights, drive better decision-making, and ultimately increase ROI.

See: <https://lansa.com/blog/application-modernization/13-helpful-tips-for-implementing-artificial-intelligence-on-ibm-i/>

IBM Community

Have you been active in the IBM Community, had a look at the new layout, shared your thoughts and responded to the survey (very quick).

See: <https://community.ibm.com/community/user/home>

Top Reasons to Love AIX

IBM Champion Rob McNelly highlights his top reasons to love the Power Systems, IBM i and AIX ecosystems.

See: <https://techchannel.com/SMB/02/2022/top-reasons-aix>

IBM Notifications, AIX Migration Tips and More

IBM Champion Rob McNelly on AIX migration tips and tricks, new Power10 performance information, IBM's updated firmware release schedule and more.

See: <https://techchannel.com/SMB/02/2022/ibm-notifications-aix-migration>

Alive and Evolving: The RPG Roadmap

Tim Rowe explains IBM's strategic RPG changes, and the role customers play in the modern RPG roadmap.

See: <https://techchannel.com/SMB/02/2022/rpg-rdi-modern-business-tools>

Steve Ferrell on RDi Development

Charlie Guarino and HelpSystems' Steve Ferrell discuss RDi development and the value of RFEs.

See: <https://techchannel.com/Trends/02/2022/steve-ferrell-rdi>

Practical Single Sign On for IBM i

Eliminating passwords is good. Eliminating up to 80% of the costs of password management is even better. With the right preparation, you can achieve both.

Read this guide to learn:

- Why technology shouldn't be the driver of SSO projects
- 4 different approaches to SSO
- What to consider before implementing SSO

See: <https://www.helpsystems.com/cta/download-practical-guide-ss0>

Moving to AIX 7.1 as build environment for AIX Toolbox packages

The AIX Toolbox team is moving to AIX 7.1 as the build environment for AIX toolbox packages. Because of this, new versions of packages built on AIX 7.1 may not work on AIX 6.1 or earlier AIX releases.

See: <https://community.ibm.com/community/user/power/communities/community-home/digestviewer/viewthread?GroupId=6211&MessageKey=08630545-fc4f-4485-9200-2786d12eb470&CommunityKey=10c1d831-47ee-4d92-a138-b03f7896f7c9&ReturnUrl=%2fcommunity%2fuser%2fpower%2fcommunities%2fcommunity-home%2fdigestviewer%3fcommunitykey%3d10c1d831-47ee-4d92-a138-b03f7896f7c9>

Ending of BullFreeware

It was with great sadness that I heard that the Bullfreeware site will close the 1st of March, 2022. I have found it useful over my many years of hacking on AIX.

To help you manage the transition, you can contact them on the contact page or directly via bullfreeware@atos.net.

See: <http://www.bullfreeware.com/newsPage>

Coming soon

- **PowerSC with Stephen Dominguez – IBM PowerVUG**

Over the past few years, security has become a major concern for anybody managing a data centre. Stolen data, ransomware and malware are all scary experiences to deal with. I have seen estimates for the average cost of a data centre breach range from \$4M to \$9M. For the Power Systems VUG February webinar, Stephen Dominguez, IBM's premier security expert is going to talk about PowerSC - Security and Compliance.

Register: <https://ibm.webex.com/ibm/onstage/g.php?MTID=ee7c5eb2cee5d0691477643a89e489895>

- **February ASEAN Power (AIX, i, Linux) Meetup**

Join us on, 25th February, at 10:00 UTC +8 for the ASEAN Power (AIX, i, Linux) meetup with 2 sessions:

- Sunny Panjabi who will be introducing Homomorphic Encryption and HElayers (an open-source toolkit).

and

- Antony Steel who will be introducing replicating AIX logical volumes over IP (GLVM).

Hope to "see" you there.

Meetup: <https://www.meetup.com/Singapore-AIX-IBM-i-Linux-on-Power-Meetup-Group/events/284039326/>

IBM Community: <https://community.ibm.com/community/user/events/eventdescription?CalendarEventKey=1f2cb0f2-8431-40f0-8747-373561da3f1b&CommunityKey=63dd8216-5e59-4ab1-a119-cff1df1f6191&Home=%2fcommunity%2fuser%2fcommunities%2fcommunity-home%2frecent-community-events>

Redbooks and Redpapers

- **Asynchronous Geographic Logical Volume Mirroring (GLVM) Best Practices for Cloud Deployment**, draft Redpaper, Published: February 2, 2022
<http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/redpieces/abstracts/redp5665.html?Open>
- **IBM Power Systems Cloud Security Guide: Protect IT Infrastructure In All Layers**, draft Redpaper, revised: Published: February 4, 2022
<http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/redpieces/abstracts/redp5659.html?Open>
- **IBM FlashSystem Best Practices and Performance Guidelines for IBM Spectrum Virtualize Version 8.4.2**, draft Redbook, Revised: February 2, 2022
<http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/sg248508.html?Open>
- **IBM Power E1080 Technical Overview and Introduction**, draft Redbook, Revised: February 3, 2022
<http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/redp5649.html?Open>
- **Why IBM Hybrid Cloud for Your Journey to the Cloud?**, draft Redbook, Published: February 3, 2022
<http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/redp5653.html?Open>
- **Highly Efficient Data Access with RoCE on IBM Elastic Storage Systems and IBM Spectrum Scale**, draft Redbook, Revised: February 18, 2022
<http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/redp5658.html?Open>

IBM alerts and notices

AIX information:

- **AIX 7.3 is new certified for Power Systems running Oracle Database 19c**
On December 17, 2021, Oracle announced the availability of the Oracle Database Release 19c with AIX 7.3.
See: https://www.ibm.com/support/pages/node/6554184?myns=aix&myntp=OCSWG10&mync=E&cm_sp=aix--OCSWG10--E
- **AIX Installation Tips**
The support centre has released an update of successful tips for the installation of AIX 7.3
See: https://www.ibm.com/support/pages/node/6513320?myns=aix&myntp=OCSWG10&mync=E&cm_sp=aix--OCSWG10--E
- **SAS Disk Array Management**
How do I create, list and manage SAS Disk Array?
See: https://www.ibm.com/support/pages/node/631807?myns=aix&myntp=OCSWG10&mync=E&cm_sp=aix--OCSWG10--E

- **AIX Service Pack 7200-04-05-2148**
This Service Packs contain important fixes.
See: https://www.ibm.com/support/pages/node/6554180?myns=aix&mynp=OCSWG10&mync=E&cm_sp=aix-_-OCSWG10-_-E

PowerHA Security Bulletin:

- **Lodash versions prior to 4.17.21 vulnerability in PowerHA**
PowerHA SystemMirror vVersions affected
7.2.1 *
7.2.2 *
7.2.3
7.2.4
7.2.5
See: https://www.ibm.com/support/pages/node/6524656?myns=swgother&mynp=OCSSPHQG&mync=E&cm_sp=swgother-_-OCSSPHQG-_-E

PowerVM VIO Server:

- **Unable to connect to Configuration Manager Database (CMDB)**
Error: SOLID Communication Error 21306: Server 'tcp 6001' not found, connection failed.
See: https://www.ibm.com/support/pages/node/646363?myns=swgother&mynp=OCSSPHKW&mync=E&cm_sp=swgother-_-OCSSPHKW-_-E
- **Fix Pack 3.1.3.14**
Remember that 3.1.0 is EoS.
See: https://www.ibm.com/support/fixcentral/vios/selectFixes?product=ibm%2Fvios%2F5765G34&fixids=VIOS_FP_3.1.3.14&source=myna&myns=swgother&mynp=OCSSPHKW&mync=E&cm_sp=swgother-_-OCSSPHKW-_-E&function=fixId&parent=Virtualization%20software
- **Fix Pack 3.1.2.30**
See: http://www.ibm.com/support/fixcentral/quickorder?product=ibm%2Fvios%2F5765G34&fixids=VIOS_SP_3.1.2.30&source=myna&myns=swgother&mynp=OCSSPHKW&mync=E&cm_sp=swgother-_-OCSSPHKW-_-E
- **Fix Pack 3.1.1.50**
See: http://www.ibm.com/support/fixcentral/quickorder?product=ibm%2Fvios%2F5765G34&fixids=VIOS_SP_3.1.1.50&source=myna&myns=swgother&mynp=OCSSPHKW&mync=E&cm_sp=swgother-_-OCSSPHKW-_-E

IBM Elastic Storage Server alerts:

- **Intermittent restart of the Spectrum Scale daemon**
ESS versions 6.1.2.0 and 6.1.2.1 may exhibit restart of the Spectrum Scale daemon or fail to mount file system when configured with RDMA.
See: https://www.ibm.com/support/pages/node/6554496?myns=s033&mynp=OCSTHMCM&mync=E&cm_sp=s033--OCSTHMCM--E
- **NVMe drive FRU replacement may fail**
In ESS 3000, the NVMe drive FRU replacement may fail due to an incorrect type check. The ESS 3000 Spectrum RAID software incorrectly interpreted the product ID as the type code as opposed to the FRU P/N for gen3 and gen4 NVMe drives.
See: https://www.ibm.com/support/pages/node/6554156?myns=s033&mynp=OCSTHMCM&mync=E&cm_sp=s033--OCSTHMCM--E

IBM Elastic Storage Server information:

- **ESS_DME_BASEIMAGE_3200-6.1.2.2-x86_64-Linux**
See: http://www.ibm.com/support/fixcentral/quickorder?product=ibm%2FStorageSoftware%2FIBM+Elastic+Storage+Server+%28ESS%29&fixids=ESS_DME_BASEIMAGE_3200-6.1.2.2-x86_64-Linux&source=myna&myns=s033&mynp=OCSTHMCM&mync=E&cm_sp=s033--OCSTHMCM--E
- **ESS_DAE_BASEIMAGE_3200-6.1.2.2-x86_64-Linux**
See: http://www.ibm.com/support/fixcentral/quickorder?product=ibm%2FStorageSoftware%2FIBM+Elastic+Storage+Server+%28ESS%29&fixids=ESS_DAE_BASEIMAGE_3200-6.1.2.2-x86_64-Linux&source=myna&myns=s033&mynp=OCSTHMCM&mync=E&cm_sp=s033--OCSTHMCM--E
- **ESS_DAE_BASEIMAGE_Legacy-6.1.2.2-ppc64LE-Linux**
See: http://www.ibm.com/support/fixcentral/quickorder?product=ibm%2FStorageSoftware%2FIBM+Elastic+Storage+Server+%28ESS%29&fixids=ESS_DAE_BASEIMAGE_Legacy-6.1.2.2-ppc64LE-Linux&source=myna&myns=s033&mynp=OCSTHMCM&mync=E&cm_sp=s033--OCSTHMCM--E
- **ESS_DME_BASEIMAGE_Legacy-6.1.2.2-ppc64LE-Linux**
See: http://www.ibm.com/support/fixcentral/quickorder?product=ibm%2FStorageSoftware%2FIBM+Elastic+Storage+Server+%28ESS%29&fixids=ESS_DME_BASEIMAGE_Legacy-6.1.2.2-ppc64LE-Linux&source=myna&myns=s033&mynp=OCSTHMCM&mync=E&cm_sp=s033--OCSTHMCM--E

- **ESS_DME_BASEIMAGE-6.1.2.2-ppc64LE-Linux**
See: http://www.ibm.com/support/fixcentral/quickorder?product=ibm%2FStorageSoftware%2FIBM+Elastic+Storage+Server+%28ESS%29&fixids=ESS_DME_BASEIMAGE-6.1.2.2-ppc64LE-Linux&source=myna&myns=s033&mynp=OCSTHMCM&mync=E&cm_sp=s033-OCSTHMCM-_E
- **ESS_DAE_BASEIMAGE-6.1.2.2-ppc64LE-Linux**
See: http://www.ibm.com/support/fixcentral/quickorder?product=ibm%2FStorageSoftware%2FIBM+Elastic+Storage+Server+%28ESS%29&fixids=ESS_DAE_BASEIMAGE-6.1.2.2-ppc64LE-Linux&source=myna&myns=s033&mynp=OCSTHMCM&mync=E&cm_sp=s033-OCSTHMCM-_E

Keep safe and best wishes again for the year of the tiger
Red, Belisama