

This release notes contains the latest information about the AIX iSCSI SW initiator

Beginning with AIX 5L with 5200-03, the iSCSI protocol driver is included as part of AIX BOS. The iSCSI protocol allows accessing storage devices over gigabit ethernet TCP/IP networks. The iSCSI support is in the filesets `devices.iscsi_sw.rte`, `devices.iscsi.disk.rte` and `devices.common.IBM.iscsi.rte`. These filesets supercede the `iscsi_sw.rte` fileset that previously was included on the AIX Bonus Pack.

To use the iSCSI protocol, the iSCSI targets being accessed must be added to the `/etc/iscsi/targets` file. Please consult the section "iSCSI Software Initiator" in the "System Management Guide: Communications and Networks" for more details about configuring iSCSI. The `/etc/iscsi/targets` file is described in more detail in the "Files Reference".

The AIX iSCSI protocol driver supports the 1-port and 2-port gigabit ethernet adapters with optical or copper connections (FC 5700, FC 5701, FC 5706 and FC 5707). The iSCSI driver has been verified to work with the Cisco MDS 9000 IPS module as the iSCSI target, using IBM TotalStorage ESS F20 and IBM TotalStorage ESS 800 storage devices.

The current iSCSI driver implements the draft-20 version of the IETF iSCSI standard, with the following limitations:

- o During installation, the iSCSI driver creates a default initiator name. However, this generated iSCSI name may not comply with the format specified by the iSCSI String Profile document. The iSCSI `smit` panels (under `smit iscsi`) may be used to change the initiator name to comply with the standard or to match local iSCSI name conventions.
- o The iSCSI driver limits support to connections to 16 unique targets at one time. If fewer targets are in use, changing the "Maximum Targets Allowed" field in the `smit` panel will reduce memory usage by the iSCSI driver.
- o This implementation of iSCSI supports only one TCP/IP connection per iSCSI session.
- o This implementation of iSCSI does not support redirection of iSCSI logins. Any login response with a status class code of "01" will be treated as a login failure.