IBM PowerVM 2.2.6 virtualization cloud enables the next generation of IBM Power servers

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At a glance

IBM$^{(R)}$ PowerVM$^{(R)}$ 2.2.6 has been updated to optimize the next generation of IBM POWER9^{TM} technology-based enterprise servers as industrial-strength cloud platforms. Its firmware-based design ensures maximum security, resilience, and scalability. PowerVM will be delivered with all POWER9 technology-based enterprise server models, while remaining a popular option for POWER8$^{(R)}$ technology-based models.

Overview

PowerVM 2.2.6 delivers enterprise-grade virtualization, providing the foundation for cloud computing on IBM Power Systems^{TM} platforms. CIOs and enterprise IT teams use PowerVM to efficiently share resources among applications, consolidate multiple workloads, and provide the application mobility that is essential for a multi-cloud infrastructure. The result is increased resource utilization, reduced operating costs, and a more agile environment for deploying essential IBM AIX$^{(R)}$, IBM i, and Linux$^{(R)}$ applications that benefit from the leading performance, security, and scalability of the Power Systems platform.

Key prerequisites

Any IBM system that includes a POWER9 processor.

The PowerVM component VIOS will not be supported for preload on POWER9 technology-based servers.

Planned availability date

March 20, 2018

Description

PowerVM 2.2.6 is delivered with the FW910 server firmware release and also includes VIOS 2.2.6.21. The following new capabilities are included:

- Enhanced LPM First Failure Data Capture: logging of source and target Virtual Input/Output Server data to help diagnose the root cause of Live Partition Mobility failures

- Support for PCIe3 10/25 RoCE (RDMA over Converged Ethernet) adapter features (#EC2S, #EC2R, #EC2U, and #EC2T)
- Support for 2-port 32 Gb PCIe3 Fibre Channel adapter features (#EN1A, #EN1B, #EL5U, and #EL5V) and 4-Port 16 Gb PCIe3 Fibre Channel adapter features (#EN1C and #EN1D)
- Support for Mellanox ConnectX-4 NICs with SR-IOV (100 Gb and 40 Gb)
- Support for Mellanox ConnectX-4 Lx NICs with SR-IOV (25 Gb/10 Gb and 10 Gb)
- Support for Mainstream 400 GB Solid State Drive NVMe M.2 module (#ES14)

PowerVM Enterprise Edition will be included with all POWER9 enterprise server models (excluding L and LC models).

Purchasers of POWER8 enterprise server models can select either PowerVM Standard Edition or PowerVM Enterprise Edition.

Statement of general direction

IBM intends to enable selected AIX VM guests on IBM Hyperconverged Systems powered by Nutanix (CS series).

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Program number

Program number	VRM	Program name
5765-PVE	2.2.6	IBM PowerVM Enterprise Edition
5765-PVL	2.2.6	IBM PowerVM, Linux Edition

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