

HP StorageWorks Ultrium Tape Drives firmware revision B56D release notes



Description

The release includes updated firmware for Ultrium 1840 (LTO4) SCSI tape drives.

HP StorageWorks Library and Tape Tools (HP L&TT) must be used to download firmware to the tape drive.

Drive firmware version:

- B56D

Update recommendation Recommended

Supersedes B45D

Product models

- HP StorageWorks LTO-4 Ultrium 1840 SCSI Internal EH853A
- HP StorageWorks LTO-4 Ultrium 1840 SCSI External EH854A
- HP StorageWorks LTO-4 Ultrium 1840 SCSI Array Module EH856A
- HP StorageWorks LTO-4 Ultrium 1840 SCSI Rack-mount EH926A

Operating systems

- Operating systems supported by HP StorageWorks Library & Tape Tools. See <http://www.hp.com/support/tapetools>.

Languages

- English (American)
- English (International)

New functionality

- Improvements to OBDR functionality with LSI U320 HBAs
- Improving drive ability to show when the drive is appending
- Search performance optimizations
- FM (File Mark) interpolation reliability improvements with unevenly distributed File Marks
- Improvements to event logging for a power on event

Read/Space Issues

- Improvements to READ status reporting over ADI after a space
- Fix for 3023 errors (unreadable tapes) occurring in the field. This fix ensures that any such tapes can be made readable again.
- Fix so that, if a drive error occurs when searching for End Of Read (or any other unknown event combination), responds with an error (rather than a READ hang),
- Fix so that the Ready LED does not continue flashing when there is no tape movement.

Encryption/Key Management Issues

- The Configure Data Encryption Algorithm Support page (Data Encryption Security protocol) has been now implemented as per T10/08-029r2.
- T10 specs state that if the Key Request Timeout Period is set to 0 then the period in which the drive will wait for a key is infinite. This has now been implemented as previously if the timeout was set to 0 the timer would expire instantly.

Cartridge, Cartridge Memory and MAM Issues

- Faster flushing of Tape Directory to Cartridge Memory. Flushing a full 128 MB buffer to tape takes 2 seconds. This release of code improves the buffer flushing performance by only updating those Tape Directory Page wrap entries that need it.

Universal Cleaning Cartridge Issues

- Improvements so that HP initialized cleaning cartridge is accepted by non-HP drives
- Drive robustness improvement so that cleaning tape with stuck leader pin does not get stuck in drive
- Fix so that cleaning cartridge now initialized correctly even if only partially loaded

Other Issues

- Fix to address 980A errors which were causing Backup Exec Inventory to fail
- Improved connectivity with LSI HBAs on a range of platforms (e.g. Solaris, HP-UX)
- Fix so that cleaning cartridge now initialized correctly even if only partially loaded

Installation instructions

Use HP StorageWorks Library & Tape Tools (L&TT) to update the tape drive firmware. You can download L&TT from <http://www.hp.com/support/tapetools>. Online help and instructions are included with the utility.



NOTE:

Once the download has started, do NOT power off the unit or interrupt the firmware download process until the download is complete. Doing so could leave the product in a non-usable state.

The firmware files can also be obtained on the external HP support website: <http://www.hp.com/support/storage>. Select your product from the list and follow the instructions from the Web page.

NOTE: If you have trouble finding your product or firmware, use the Product Search function from <http://www.hp.com/support/downloads>.

Determining current version

You can check your current firmware revision from HP Library & Tape Tools (L&TT). Launch L&TT, select the product from the lower left hand frame and click on the identity button at the top (if necessary).

Firmware Version	Released	Status
B56D	8/2009	Active
B45D	10/2008	Active

Effective date

August 7, 2009

