

PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1 Release Notes

November 2017



PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1 (11.2.1) includes new features and enhancements, and resolves several previous issues. It also resolves important performance and reliability issues.

The documentation for this product is available in HTML and PDF formats at the [PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1 Documentation website](http://www.netiq.com/documentation/platespin-protect-11-2-1) (<http://www.netiq.com/documentation/platespin-protect-11-2-1>).

For information about how to purchase and download this product, see the [PlateSpin Protect](#) product website.

1 What's New

PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1 includes several new features and enhancements.

Many of these improvements were made in direct response to suggestions from our customers. We thank you for your time and valuable input. We hope you continue to help us ensure our products meet all your needs. You can post feedback in the [PlateSpin Protect discussion on Micro Focus Forums](https://forums.novell.com/forumdisplay.php/1338-PlateSpin-Protect) (<https://forums.novell.com/forumdisplay.php/1338-PlateSpin-Protect>), our community website that also includes product notifications, blogs, and product user groups.

- ♦ [Rebranding](#)
- ♦ [Block-Based Transfer for Windows Clusters](#)
- ♦ [Supported Configurations](#)
- ♦ [Storage](#)
- ♦ [Security](#)
- ♦ [Performance](#)

1.1 Rebranding

PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1 has been rebranded as a Micro Focus product. The rebranding does not impact product features, installation paths, and file names. Your existing licenses remain valid.

1.2 Block-Based Transfer for Windows Clusters

Protect 11.2 SP1 adds support for block-based transfer for Windows Server Clusters. The `WindowsClusterMode` setting must be set to `SingleNodeBBT` in the PlateSpin Configuration settings. Supported Windows Clusters include:

- ♦ Microsoft Windows Server 2016
- ♦ Microsoft Windows Server 2012 R2
- ♦ Microsoft Windows Server 2008 R2

See “[Preparing for Windows Cluster Protection](https://www.netiq.com/documentation/platespin-protect-11-2-1/protect_user/data/wkld-clusters.html)” (https://www.netiq.com/documentation/platespin-protect-11-2-1/protect_user/data/wkld-clusters.html) in the *PlateSpin Protect User Guide*.

1.3 Supported Configurations

PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1 provides expanded support for the following configurations.

- ♦ [Windows Workloads](#)
- ♦ [Linux Workloads](#)
- ♦ [VM Containers](#)
- ♦ [Blkwatch Drivers](#)

1.3.1 Windows Workloads

PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1 adds support for the following source Windows workloads:

Source Workload	Version	Remarks
Microsoft Windows	Windows Server 2016 Windows Server 2016 Clusters	Replication requires VMware 6.0 or later containers.

For information about all Windows workloads supported by PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1, see [“Supported Windows Workloads”](#) in the *PlateSpin Protect User Guide*.

1.3.2 Linux Workloads

PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1 adds support for the following source Linux workloads:

Operating System	Supported Versions	
Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL)	7.0 to 7.3 6.7 to 6.9	Protect does not support the XFS version 5 (v5) file system on Red Hat Enterprise Linux 7.3 and distributions based on RHEL 7.3. For Red Hat Enterprise Linux 6.7, Oracle Linux 6.7, and CentOS 6.7 workloads with LVM volumes, incremental replication is supported only for the latest available kernel (version 2.6.32-642.13.1.el6.x86_64) for the RHEL 6.7 distribution. This is the same kernel that is used by the RHEL 6.8 distribution.
SUSE Linux Enterprise Server (SLES)	11 SP4	
Oracle Linux	Distributions based on RHEL.	Precompiled blkwatch drivers are available for UEK and RHCK for Oracle Linux 6.7 and higher.
CentOS	Distributions based on RHEL.	Use RHEL blkwatch drivers. CentOS 7.x requires VMware 5.5 or higher.
Open Enterprise Server	2015 SP1	Use SLES blkwatch drivers for the appropriate distribution.

For information about all Linux workloads supported by PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1, see [“Supported Linux Workloads”](#) in the *PlateSpin Protect User Guide*.

1.3.3 VM Containers

PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1 adds support for the following target VM containers:

Target VM Container	Version
VMware vCenter	6.5
	6.0 (U1, U2, U3)
	5.5 (U3)
	5.1 (U3)
VMware ESXi	6.5
	6.0 (U1, U2, U3)
	5.5 (U3)
	5.1 (U3)

For information about the VM containers supported by PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1, see [“Supported VM Containers”](#) (https://www.netiq.com/documentation/platespin-protect-11-2-1/protect_user/data/supported-configurations.html#supported-vm-containers) in the *PlateSpin Protect User Guide*.

1.3.4 Blkwatch Drivers

PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1 adds `blkwatch` drivers for the newly supported Linux distributions:

- ♦ Red Hat Enterprise Linux 6.7 to 6.9 and 7.0 to 7.3
- ♦ SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 11 SP 4

This release also adds precompiled `blkwatch` driver support for Oracle Linux (formerly Oracle Enterprise Linux) versions with the Unbreakable Enterprise Kernel (OEK). Drivers are available for the Oracle Linux installed with the standard Red Hat Compatible Kernel (RHCK) or the Unbreakable Enterprise Kernel (UEK). In other Oracle Linux releases, precompiled drivers are available only for the standard kernel.

- ♦ Oracle Linux 6 (U7, U8, U9)
- ♦ Oracle Linux 7 (GA, U1, U2, U3)

For a list of the non-debug Linux distributions for which PlateSpin Protect has a `blkwatch` driver, see [“Linux Distributions Supported by PlateSpin Protect”](#) in the *PlateSpin Protect User Guide*.

1.4 Storage

PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1 adds the following enhancements for storage media.

1.4.1 Same as Source Storage Mapping Strategy

The Same as Source storage mapping strategy configures storage objects for the target volumes and disks in the destination storage location using the same layout, size, and format as the volumes on the source workload.

1.4.2 File Systems

PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1 does not support the XFS version 5 (v5), which is available in Red Hat Enterprise Linux 7.3, and distributions based on RHEL 7.3.

1.4.3 VMware vSAN

PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1 adds support for VMware vSAN 5.5 and 6.2 on target VMware vCenter containers.

1.4.4 LVM Raw Disks

PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1 adds support for LVM raw disk volumes for Same as Source storage configurations on Linux workloads.

1.4.5 Configuring NSS Snapshots for NSS Pool Replication

PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1 adds the ability to leverage NSS snapshots for NSS pool replication. For more information, see “Configuring NSS Snapshots for NSS Pool Replication” (https://www.netiq.com/documentation/platespin-protect-11-2-1/protect_user/data/linux-snapshots.html#data-transfer-nss-snaps) in the *PlateSpin Protect User Guide*.

1.5 Security

PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1 updates the GNU C Library (glibc) to address vulnerability [CVE 2015-7547](https://web.nvd.nist.gov/view/vuln/detail?vulnId=CVE-2015-7547) (<https://web.nvd.nist.gov/view/vuln/detail?vulnId=CVE-2015-7547>), a stack-based buffer overflow in the `getaddrinfo()` function in the `glibc` DNS client-side.

PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1 updates OpenSSL to address vulnerability issues in OpenSSL. For more information see the [OpenSSL project](http://openssl.org) (<http://openssl.org>).

1.6 Performance

PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1 improves performance for the following:

- ♦ OFX Controller
- ♦ Workload configuration tasks in the Web Interface

2 Significant Changes in Behavior or Usage

PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1 resolved issues that affected the behavior or usage of the following features:

- ♦ [OFX Controller Heartbeat Startup Delay](#)
- ♦ [Take Control Memory Size](#)
- ♦ [NAT IP Pinning](#)
- ♦ [VSS Snapshot and Backups](#)
- ♦ [Cluster Node Name Is Case Insensitive](#)
- ♦ [Temporary OFX.* File Cleanup \(Linux\)](#)

2.1 OFX Controller Heartbeat Startup Delay

To avoid discovery failures caused by timing issues, a default heartbeat startup delay of 15 seconds (15000 ms) is set on the OFX Controller. The Controller heartbeat is configurable by adding the `HeartbeatStartupDelayInMS` registry key on the source workload. This registry key is not configured by default. See “[Modifying the OFX Controller Heartbeat Startup Delay](https://www.netiq.com/documentation/platespin-protect-11-2-1/protect_user/data/controller-heartbeat.html)” (https://www.netiq.com/documentation/platespin-protect-11-2-1/protect_user/data/controller-heartbeat.html) in the *PlateSpin Protect User Guide*.

2.2 Take Control Memory Size

PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1 improves replication performance by increasing the amount of memory allocated to the replication environment. In the PlateSpin Configuration settings, the default value of the `TakeControlMemorySizeinMB` parameter has been increased from 512 MB to 768 MB.

NOTE: In an upgrade, the parameter value is automatically increased or decreased to the new default value of 768 MB. If you set a higher custom value, you must reset it manually after the upgrade.

2.3 NAT IP Pinning

When a source workload is in a NAT environment, you can configure the target workload to use the source workload’s NAT public IP address as the first address to try in a NAT IP-pinning scenario when connecting to the source machine for replication.

2.4 VSS Snapshot and Backups

As a best practice, ensure that no backups run during the narrow window when the Microsoft Volume Shadow Copy Service (VSS) snapshot is created for Windows workload replication. This practice applies for any software that uses VSS to create snapshots, including anti-virus, SQL backups, and so on.

2.5 Cluster Node Name Is Case Insensitive

This release allows cluster node names in mixed case. It treats all node names as case insensitive.

2.6 Temporary OFX.* File Cleanup (Linux)

This release adds a clean-up step to remove the temporary `ofx.*` files from the `/tmp` directory after a replication job runs. You can manually remove the existing `ofx.*` files in the `/tmp` directory.

3 Unsupported Platforms

PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1 no longer supports the protection of desktop (workstation) platforms for any operating system.

4 Known Issues

Micro Focus strives to ensure that our products provide quality solutions for your enterprise software needs. There are no known issues for PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1.

If you need assistance with any issue, visit [Micro Focus Support \(https://www.microfocus.com/support-and-services/\)](https://www.microfocus.com/support-and-services/), then select the appropriate product category.

- [Validator Does Not Prevent Adding RHEL/CentOS/OL 7.3 Workloads with XFS v5 File System](#)
- [Windows Dynamic Disks: Npart Error Code 28 msg=Device <Name> Does Not Have Enough Free Space \(No Space Left on Device\)](#)
- [Linux Partitions Are Created on Opposite Partitions within the Same Disk on Linux Target VM](#)
- [At Least One Swap Partition Must Be Recreated](#)

4.1 Validator Does Not Prevent Adding RHEL/CentOS/OL 7.3 Workloads with XFS v5 File System

Issue: PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1 does not support XFS version 5 (v5), which is available in Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL) 7.3 and distributions based on that release, including CentOS 7.3 and Oracle Linux 7.3. The Oracle Linux 7.3 UEK and RHCK default installations use the XFS v4.x file system.

In the Web Interface, the source workload file system validator does not stop you from configuring a workload with the XFS v5 file system. However, an unexpected error occurs in the Copy Data job, with a message in the system log about the wrong file system type.

To verify whether the source workload is using the XFS v5 file system, enter the following on the source workload as the `root` user:

```
dmesg | grep XFS
```

It returns the following message:

```
...  
Mounting V5 Filesystem
```

Workaround: For source Linux workloads based on the RHEL 7.3 distribution, use the XFS v4.x or earlier file system, or use a different supported file system.

4.2 Windows Dynamic Disks: Npart Error Code 28 msg=Device <Name> Does Not Have Enough Free Space (No Space Left on Device)

Issue: A source Windows workload has a Simple Dynamic Volume or a Spanned Dynamic Volume. The member partitions for the Windows Dynamic Disk are initialized as MBR, but the volume size exceeds 2 TB. A disk error occurs when the volume is created on the target workload:

```
Npart error code 28 msg=Device sdd does not have enough free space (no space left on device)
```

Protect does not support Windows Dynamic Disks at the target. The dynamic disk will reside on the target workload as a Simple Basic Volume disk. If the total combined size of partitions in a dynamic disk exceeds the MBR partition size limit of 2 TB, the target disk must be initialized as GPT.

The Npart error occurs because the summation process misses the last member partition when it calculates whether to initialize the target disk as MBR or GPT. In most cases, the total combined size falls well below or well above the 2 TB limit for MBR partitions, and the target disk is properly initialized as MBR or GPT. In rare cases, the last partition size is large enough such that the disk size exceeds the 2 TB limit. Because the calculation misses that partition, the disk is partitioned improperly as MBR, and available space is limited to 2 TB. (Bug 1046179)

Workaround: Do one of the following:

- ♦ Re-partition the source and initialize the Dynamic Disk as GPT.
- OR-
- ♦ If the Dynamic Disk uses MBR, a patch is required. Contact [Technical Support \(https://www.netiq.com/support/kb/product.php?id=PlateSpin_Protect\)](https://www.netiq.com/support/kb/product.php?id=PlateSpin_Protect), or search for current patches in [Micro Focus Patch Finder \(https://download.microfocus.com/patch/finder/#\)](https://download.microfocus.com/patch/finder/#).

4.3 Linux Partitions Are Created on Opposite Partitions within the Same Disk on Linux Target VM

Issue: On a Linux workload with multiple Linux partitions on the same disk, the partitions are created in the opposite order on the target workload. For example, if the source partition order is AB, the target partition order is BA. (Bugs 988650, 970822)

Workaround: The order of the Linux partitions on the disk does not impact functionality. The target machine works as expected.

4.4 At Least One Swap Partition Must Be Recreated

Issue: For a Linux workload, a standard swap file or LVM swap file is not recognized after discovery as a swap file because of a pvscan error. A validation error occurs:

```
Validation failed: [ProtectionSpec:SwapSpaceWillBeRecreated] At least one swap
partition must be recreated in the target. Swap space /dev/mapper/rootvg-swap will
not be recreated in the target
```

Discovery and failover might be affected. (Bugs 967241 and 1025310)

Workaround: A patch is required. Contact [Technical Support \(https://www.netiq.com/support/kb/product.php?id=PlateSpin_Protect\)](https://www.netiq.com/support/kb/product.php?id=PlateSpin_Protect), or search for current patches in [Micro Focus Patch Finder \(https://download.microfocus.com/patch/finder/#\)](https://download.microfocus.com/patch/finder/#).

5 Resolved Issues

PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1 resolves several software defects for Protect 11.2 that were reported by customers and partners. See [PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1 Resolved Issues \(https://www.netiq.com/documentation/platespin-protect-11-2-1/protect_11-2-1_resolved_issues/data/protect_11-2-1_resolved_issues.html\)](https://www.netiq.com/documentation/platespin-protect-11-2-1/protect_11-2-1_resolved_issues/data/protect_11-2-1_resolved_issues.html).

6 Installing or Upgrading PlateSpin Protect

Refer to the following information to plan your installation or upgrade of PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1.

- ♦ [System Requirements](#)
- ♦ [Installation](#)
- ♦ [Upgrade](#)

6.1 System Requirements

For information about requirements for a new installation of PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1, see “[Preparing to Install PlateSpin Protect](#)” in the *PlateSpin Protect Installation and Upgrade Guide*. See also “[Installation](#)”.

For upgrade, PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1 can be applied to a base installation of PlateSpin Protect 11.2, with or without hotfixes or patches applied. See also “[Upgrade](#)”.

6.2 Installation

For information about installing PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1, see “[Installing PlateSpin Protect](#)” in the *PlateSpin Protect Installation and Upgrade Guide*.

6.3 Upgrade

To upgrade your PlateSpin Server to PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1, you must have an existing installation of PlateSpin Protect 11.2 on your PlateSpin Server host, with or without hotfixes or patches applied. Other direct updates are not supported. For earlier versions of PlateSpin Protect, you must first upgrade to version 11.2 before you can upgrade to PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1.

For information about how to upgrade your PlateSpin Server to version 11.2 SP1, see “[Upgrading PlateSpin Protect](#)” in the *PlateSpin Protect Installation and Upgrade Guide*.

7 Licensing Information

For information about activating your PlateSpin Protect license, see “[Activating Your Product License](#)” in the *PlateSpin Protect User Guide*.

8 Previous Releases

For Release Notes documents that accompanied previous PlateSpin Protect releases, visit the [PlateSpin Protect 11.2 SP1 Documentation website](#), and go to *Previous Releases* at the bottom of the Table of Contents.

9 Contacting Micro Focus

Our goal is to provide documentation that meets your needs. If you have suggestions for documentation improvements, click **comment on this topic** at the bottom of any page in the HTML version of the documentation. You can also email Documentation-Feedback@microfocus.com.

For specific product issues, contact Micro Focus Support at <https://www.microfocus.com/support-and-services/>.

Additional technical information or advice is available from several sources:

- ♦ Product documentation, Knowledge Base articles, and videos: <https://www.microfocus.com/support-and-services/>
- ♦ The Micro Focus Community pages: <https://www.microfocus.com/communities/>

10 Legal Notice

For information about legal notices, trademarks, disclaimers, warranties, export and other use restrictions, U.S. Government rights, patent policy, and FIPS compliance, see <https://www.microfocus.com/about/legal/>.

Copyright © 2017 NetIQ Corporation, a Micro Focus company. All rights reserved.

License Grant

Licenses purchased for PlateSpin Protect 11 and later versions cannot be used for PlateSpin Protect 10.3 or prior versions.

