VE License Server 1.1.20 Release Notes

Contents

Relevant Products

This document is applicable to the following Stromasys software product:

Version 1.1.20 of the Charon Virtual Environment (VE) License Server.

This document also contains some information about older versions. However, please always refer to the Release Notes of your specific software version for the most relevant information.

Host System Requirements and Supported Virtual Hardware

Please refer to the VE License Server User's Guide for details.

Charon Emulator Product Compatibility

Currently, VE licensing is supported by Charon-SSP. The following table shows the compatibility between different Charon-SSP and VE license server versions:

Charon-SSP versions	Compatible VE License Server versions
>= 4.2.5 (if using version 4.2.x) **>=** 4.3.5 (if using version 4.3.x) 5.0.x 5.2.x 5.3.x	**>=** 1.1.4 (if using VE license server 1.1.x) **>=** 1.0.35 (if using VE license server 1.0.x)
< 4.2.5	**<** 1.1.4 (if using VE license server 1.1.x) **<** 1.0.35 (if using VE license server 1.0.x)

New Features since Version 1.0

Virtual Environment (VE) license server new features since version 1.0.x:

- Support added for IBM cloud and VMware environments
- Support for Nutanix AHV *(version 1.1.15)*
- Per-product-section passphrase authentication between license client and server *(version 1.1.2)*
- License transfer between license servers *(version 1.1.3)*
- Configurable TCP port settings for client/server communication and web GUI *(version 1.1.11)*
- New grace period implementation *(version 1.1.12)*. Stromasys can define a customer-specific grace period on a license that specifies how long an emulator can continue to run after the currently used license has become unavailable.
- New web manager replacing the web GUI of previous versions (version 1.1.13). In addition to other changes, it now includes user management and the option to update the license. Command-line password change option added in version 1.1.14.
- VE license server support for physical systems *(version 1.1.7)*
- Improved license_viewer (version 1.1.11: self-explanatory parameter names; version 1.1.13: display of connected clients)
- Improved logging of license server and utilities

Known Caveats

VE License Server

- A license update is required when upgrading to License Server 1.0.24 or newer from a version before 1.0.24.
- Due to the switch to a persistent VE license ID in License Server 1.0.27, a new license is required when upgrading to this or a newer version from a version before 1.0.27.
- A bugfix in version 1.0.35 and version 1.1.4 of the license server changed the protocol between license client and license server. For Charon-SSP VE 4.2, the matching change was implemented in version 4.2.5, for Charon-SSP VE 4.3.x and 5.x it was implemented in version 4.3.5. To avoid protocol mismatches, the VE license server software may have to be upgraded to the version provided with your Charon-SSP VE version when upgrading the Charon-SSP VE emulator software.
- Current VE license server versions are not backward compatible with older protocol versions that may be used by Charon license client systems. In addition, the license server cannot log a self-explanatory error message in case of a failed connection attempt by a client with a non-matching protocol version.
- The esxi_bind command currently does not check if a correct vSphere license is used. This means that the command may report success even if the prerequisites are not met.
- The server certificate included with the web-based management GUI is a self-signed certificate with Stromasys as the CA and a standard host name. This leads to a warning of the web browser. The user can override the warning. However, it is strongly recommended that the customer obtain a server certificate matching their environment. Please note: an upgrade of the license server will overwrite the new certificate. Please back it up before upgrading.

Important Bug Fixes and Other Changes in Version 1.1.x

Version 1.1.20

Bugs fixed:

- VE license server on VMware: currently the emulated LSI Logic Parallel SCSI controller is not fully supported by the Linux kernel (see https://kb.vmware.com/s/article/76401). In particular dynamically adding and removing disks is not properly recognized by Linux. This problem caused the **esxi_bind** command and the license server not to recognize the addition and removal of a test disk, which in turn caused **esxi_bind** and the license server to fail.

Version 1.1.19

Bugs fixed:

- License transfer problem (related to a feature planned for future use).
- License server would enter an endless loop if the message payload was not received (for future use).
- The command **license_server –status** returned the wrong error code.
- Under some circumstances, the **esxi_bind** command failed to detect the added test disk.

Other changes and enhancements:

- If a connected client does not provide information about the number of CPUs and/or the size of memory, the corresponding fields in the client list now contain a "-" character.

Version 1.1.18

Bugs fixed:

- A vClock expired error was caused by importing the same license as the currently active one into the license server.
- The **esxi_bind** command or the **license server** itself may fail to connect to the vCenter/ESXi server.

Version 1.1.17

Bugs fixed:

- If a vCenter Server manages more than 99 VMs, **esxi_bind** may fail and report that the VM it runs on cannot be found on the vCenter Server.

Other changes and enhancements:

- Improvements for synchronization between license server peers (for future use).
- **esxi_bind**: improved log messages when the UUID of the VM on which **esxi_bind** runs cannot be found on the vCenter or ESXi server.

Version 1.1.16

Other changes and enhancements:

- Improved license server logging to include peer license server status (for future use).

Version 1.1.15

Other changes and enhancements:

- Registered cloud instances can be displayed in web GUI (reserved for future use).
- The VE server is now supported on Nutanix AHV.
- Web-based management GUI rework for compliance reasons.

Version 1.1.14

Bugs fixed:

- Default username/password did not work after upgrade from previous version with old GUI.
- Memory leak in web-based management GUI.
- When a COUNTDOWN license was used, the number of unclosed file descriptors would increase.

Other changes and enhancements:
- Web-based management GUI: the password of user charon can now be changed from the command-line (`license_server -p`).
- The **license_viewer** tool can now list connected client systems (new `-r` option). This functionality is reserved for future use.
- The web-based management GUI now performs an automatic redirect to https.

Version 1.1.13

Other changes and enhancements:
- Improved grace period support.
- The **license_viewer** tool can now list connected client systems (new `-c` option).
- Completely new web-based management GUI. Among other changes, it now allows license updates.

Version 1.1.12

Other changes and enhancements:
- Improved error logging for license servers running in ESXi/vCenter environments.
- New license parameter *grace period*. Allows Stromasys to define per license how long an emulator is allowed to run after the license has been lost.

Version 1.1.11

Other changes and enhancements:
- The TCP ports used by the license server for client/server, server/server (for future use), and web GUI communication can now be selected by the user.
- The name of the license server log directory changed from *license_log* to *log*.
- The output of the *license_viewer* utility now shows self-explanatory parameter names.

Version 1.1.10

Bugs fixed:
- The license server failed to check the IAM role in the AWS us-gov-east-1 and us-gov-west-1 regions.

Version 1.1.9

Other changes and enhancements:
- AWS RSA public certificates were updated for the us-gov-east-1 and us-gov-west-1 regions.
- C2V file content changed, but changes should not affect end-user.
- Improved logging to provide more information about permission problems.

Version 1.1.8

Other changes and enhancements:
- Updated license content for future product support.

Version 1.1.7

Other changes and enhancements:
- VE license server support for physical hosts.

Version 1.1.6

Other changes and enhancements:
- The licensed service is now stopped cleanly before exiting when an exception is detected. This avoids repeated restarts.

Version 1.1.5

Bugs fixed:

- The **–password** option of esxi_bind did not work.

Other changes and enhancements:

- New log message when a license server client tries to login with the wrong passphrase.
- Check that a supported ESXi/vCenter version is used when running the VE license server in a VMware environment.

Version 1.1.4

Other changes and enhancements:

- Improved license transfer feature.

Version 1.1.3

Other changes and enhancements:

- First introduction of the license transfer feature.

Version 1.1.2

Other changes and enhancements:

- Introduced per product-section passphrase.

Version 1.1.1

Other changes and enhancements:

- Initial introduction of the passphrase authentication between license server and client.