



Cisco UCS Virtual Interface Card Drivers for ESX Installation Guide

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CONTENTS

Preface

Preface v

Organization v

New and Changed Information for this Release v

Related Cisco UCS Documentation vi

Documentation Feedback vi

Obtaining Documentation and Submitting a Service Request vi

CHAPTER 1

Overview 1

Overview of Cisco UCS Virtual Interface Card Drivers 1

Supported Hardware and Software 1

CHAPTER 2

Downloading and Installing Cisco UCS VIC Drivers 3

Downloading Cisco UCS VIC Drivers 3

Obtaining the ISO Image Bundle 3

Installing Cisco UCS VIC Drivers 4

Installation Methods 4

Installing ESX Drivers During OS Installation 4

Installing Existing ESX Drivers 5

Updating Existing ESX Drivers 5

CHAPTER 3

Uninstalling Cisco UCS VIC Drivers 7

Uninstalling ESX Drivers 7



Preface

This preface includes the following sections:

- [Organization](#), page v
- [New and Changed Information for this Release](#), page v
- [Related Cisco UCS Documentation](#), page vi
- [Documentation Feedback](#), page vi
- [Obtaining Documentation and Submitting a Service Request](#), page vi

Organization

This document includes the following parts:

Chapter	Title	Description
Chapter 1	Overview	Contains an overview of Cisco UCS VIC drivers.
Chapter 2	Downloading and installing Cisco UCS VIC Drivers	Contains information about how to obtain and install Cisco UCS VIC drivers.
Chapter 3	Uninstalling Cisco UCS VIC Drivers	Contains information about uninstalling Cisco UCS VIC drivers.

New and Changed Information for this Release

The following table provides an overview of the significant changes to this guide for this current release. The table does not provide an exhaustive list of all changes made to this guide or of the new features in this release. For information about new supported hardware in this release, see the *Release Notes for Cisco UCS Software* available through the [Cisco UCS B-Series Servers Documentation Roadmap](#).

Table 1: New Features

Feature	Description	Where Documented
New Cisco UCS VIC drivers installation guide	Platform-specific installation guides for Cisco UCS VIC drivers.	<i>Cisco UCS Virtual Interface Card Drivers for ESX Installation Guide</i>

Related Cisco UCS Documentation

Documentation Roadmaps

For a complete list of all B-Series documentation, see the *Cisco UCS B-Series Servers Documentation Roadmap* available at the following URL: <http://www.cisco.com/go/unifiedcomputing/b-series-doc>.

For a complete list of all C-Series documentation, see the *Cisco UCS C-Series Servers Documentation Roadmap* available at the following URL: <http://www.cisco.com/go/unifiedcomputing/c-series-doc>.

For information on supported firmware versions and supported UCS Manager versions for the rack servers that are integrated with the UCS Manager for management, refer to [Release Bundle Contents for Cisco UCS Software](#).

Other Documentation Resources

Follow [Cisco UCS Docs on Twitter](#) to receive document update notifications.

Documentation Feedback

To provide technical feedback on this document, or to report an error or omission, please send your comments to ucs-docfeedback@cisco.com. We appreciate your feedback.

Obtaining Documentation and Submitting a Service Request

For information on obtaining documentation, submitting a service request, and gathering additional information, see the monthly [What's New in Cisco Product Documentation](#), which also lists all new and revised Cisco technical documentation.

Subscribe to the *What's New in Cisco Product Documentation* as a Really Simple Syndication (RSS) feed and set content to be delivered directly to your desktop using a reader application. The RSS feeds are a free service and Cisco currently supports RSS version 2.0.

Follow [Cisco UCS Docs on Twitter](#) to receive document update notifications.



CHAPTER

1

Overview

This chapter includes the following sections:

- [Overview of Cisco UCS Virtual Interface Card Drivers, page 1](#)
- [Supported Hardware and Software, page 1](#)

Overview of Cisco UCS Virtual Interface Card Drivers

Cisco UCS Virtual Interface Card (VIC) drivers facilitate communication between supported operating systems and Cisco UCS Virtual Interface Cards (VICs).

Cisco UCS VIC driver ISO bundles include an eNIC driver and an fNIC driver. The eNIC is the driver for the Cisco UCS VIC Ethernet NIC. The fNIC is the driver for the Cisco UCS VIC Fibre Channel over Ethernet HBA.

Supported Hardware and Software

For a complete list of supported hardware and software, see the *Hardware and Software Interoperability Matrix* for this release located at: http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/ps10477/prod_technical_reference_list.html



CHAPTER 2

Downloading and Installing Cisco UCS VIC Drivers

This chapter contains the following sections:

- [Downloading Cisco UCS VIC Drivers, page 3](#)
- [Installing Cisco UCS VIC Drivers, page 4](#)

Downloading Cisco UCS VIC Drivers

Obtaining the ISO Image Bundle

This procedure describes how to download the UCS Drivers ISO bundle, which contains most Cisco UCS Virtual Interface Card drivers. In some cases, a driver may be contained in a different bundle, which will be noted in the installation procedure for that driver.

Procedure

- Step 1** In a web browser, navigate to <http://www.cisco.com>.
- Step 2** Under **Support**, click **All Downloads**.
- Step 3** In the product selector, click **Products**, then click **Servers - Unified Computing**.
- Step 4** If prompted, enter your Cisco.com username and password to log in.
You must be signed in to download Unified Computing System (UCS) drivers.
- Step 5** Choose your server.
Cisco UCS drivers are available for **Cisco UCS B-Series Blade Server Software**, **Cisco UCS C-Series Rack-Mount UCS-Managed Server Software**.
- Step 6** Click **Unified Computing System (UCS) Drivers**.
- Step 7** Click the **Release Notes** link to view the latest version of the Release Notes.
- Step 8** For each driver ISO that you want to download, do the following:
 - a) Click the link for the release that you want to download.

The latest release version is selected by default.

- b) Choose your download method and follow the prompts to complete your driver download.

Download

Downloads the software immediately.

Add to Cart

Adds the software driver ISO to your cart to be downloaded at a later time.

What to Do Next

Read the Release Notes before installing the Cisco UCS Virtual Interface Card drivers.

Installing Cisco UCS VIC Drivers

Installation Methods

Cisco UCS Virtual Interface Card drivers for ESX can be installed in the following ways:

- During a new ESX OS installation.
- After OS installation using the service console or through a command prompt.

Administrative privileges are required to install and update Cisco UCS Virtual Interface Card drivers.

Installing ESX Drivers During OS Installation

A virtual media image may be used in the following procedure in place of physical media.

Procedure

-
- Step 1** Insert the ESX installation DVD in the host machine's DVD drive.
 - Step 2** Restart the ESX host.
 - Step 3** Accept the terms of the license agreement.
 - Step 4** Choose a keyboard type.
 - Step 5** When prompted for custom drivers, click **Yes** to install custom drivers.
 - Step 6** Click **Add** to eject the ESX installation DVD.
 - Step 7** Place the supplemental eNIC or fNIC driver CD in the DVD driver of the ESX host and click **Next**.
 - Step 8** Click **Yes** to load the system drivers.
 - Step 9** Complete the ESX installation.

After the drivers are installed, you are prompted to remove the driver CD and reinsert the ESX installation DVD.

What to Do Next

You can run the following command to check if the VMware vSphere Installation Bundle(VIB) was installed successfully:

```
esxcli software vib list |grep -i vib_name
```

Installing Existing ESX Drivers

You can use this procedure to install offline bundles that have been copied from the driver ISO image to the ESX host.

Procedure

- Step 1** Extract the contents of the ISO image to the ESX host.
 - Step 2** Identify the *offline-bundle.zip* file containing the eNIC or fNIC driver being installed.
 - Step 3** Log into the ESX host using the vSphere Client with administrator privileges, such as root.
 - Step 4** Using **DataStore Browser**, upload the *offline-bundle.zip* file to the ESX host's datastore.
 - Step 5** Enter the host into maintenance mode.
 - Step 6** Log into the ESXi console as root through SSH or iLO/DRAC.
 - Step 7** Copy the *offline-bundle.zip* file to a datastore accessible by the ESXi host by running this command:

```
cp offline-bundle.zip /vmfs/volumes/datastore_name
```
 - Step 8** Run the following command to install drivers using the offline bundle. An absolute path is required to run this command.

```
cp offline-bundle.zip /vmfs/volumes/datastore_name
```

For example:`esxcli software vib install -d /vmfs/volumes/datastore_name/offline_bundle.zip`
 - Step 9** You can run the following command to check that the VMware vSphere Installation Bundle(VIB) is installed successfully:

```
esxcli software vib list | grep -i vib_name
```
 - Step 10** Restart the host.
 - Step 11** Exit maintenance mode.
-

Updating Existing ESX Drivers

You can use this procedure to install offline bundles that have been copied from the driver ISO image to the ESX host.

Procedure

- Step 1** Extract the contents of the ISO image to the ESX host.
- Step 2** Identify the *offline-bundle.zip* file containing the eNIC or fNIC driver being installed.
- Step 3** Log into the ESXi host using the vSphere Client with administrator privileges, such as root.
- Step 4** Using **DataStore Browser**, upload the *offline-bundle.zip* file to the ESX host's datastore.
- Step 5** Enter the host into maintenance mode.
- Step 6** Log into the ESXi console as root through SSH or iLO/DRAC.
- Step 7** Copy the *offline-bundle.zip* file to a datastore accessible by the ESXi host using the following command:
- ```
cp offline-bundle.zip /vmfs/volumes/datastore_name
```
- Step 8** Run the following command to install drivers using the offline bundle. An absolute path is required to run this command.
- ```
esxcli software vib update -d /path/offline-bundle.zip
```
- For example: `esxcli software vib update -d /vmfs/volumes/datastore_name/offline-bundle.zip`
- Step 9** You can run the following command to check that the VMware vSphere Installation Bundle(VIB) is installed successfully:
- ```
esxcli software vib list | grep -i vib_name
```
- Step 10** Exit maintenance mode.
-



## Uninstalling Cisco UCS VIC Drivers

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This chapter contains the following sections:

- [Uninstalling ESX Drivers, page 7](#)

### Uninstalling ESX Drivers

For information about uninstalling Cisco UCS VIC drivers for ESX, see the VMware documentation.

