intel® Action Alert

AA-679-1

5200 NE Elam Young Parkway
Hillsboro, OR 97124

April 5, 2004

Invalid firmware setting is present after using Intel® server setup utilities to configure LAN management

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Products Affected

This action alert affects all Intelligent Platform Management Interface (IPMI) 1.5-based Intel® server boards and platforms that are configured for LAN management using Intel provided setup utilities.

The following Intel® server products are affected if LAN management is enabled:

Intel® Server Board SCB2
Intel® Server Board SDS2
Intel® Carrier Grade Server TSRMT2
Intel® Carrier Grade Server TSRLT2
Intel® Server Board SE7500WV2
Intel® Server Board SHG2
Intel® Server Platform SRSH4
Intel® Server Platform SPSH4
Intel® Server Board SE7501WV2
Intel® Server Board SE7501HG2
Intel® Server Board SE7501BR2
Intel® Carrier Grade Server TIGPR2U
Intel® Server Platform SR870BN4
Intel® Server Platform SR870BH2
Intel® Entry Server Board SE7210TP1-E
Intel® Entry Server Platform SR1325TP1-E

Description
Intel® server boards and platforms have the ability to be remotely managed via a LAN connection. The LAN management functionality is based on the IPMI suite of industry specifications. The LAN connection is made to the Baseboard Management Controller (BMC) on the server board. The functionality allows system administrators to remotely check system status and access system information. This feature is not enabled by default and must be enabled by the system administrator. One of the following configuration utilities is provided with each Intel® server board or platform and can be used to enable the remote LAN management feature:

- System Setup Utility (SSU)
- System Maintenance Utility (SMU)
- Server Configuration Wizard (SCW)
- CLI Autoconfig Utility

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Enabling the LAN management functionality allows one or more of the following Intel® management tools to remotely connect to the server: Direct Platform Control (DPC), Command Line Interface (CLI) or Client System Setup Utility (CSSU). If you use DPC, CLI, or CSSU, you need to follow the recommendations in this Action Alert.

When Intel's standard IPMI configuration tools, System Setup Utility (SSU), System Maintenance Utility (SMU) or the Server Configuration Wizard (SCW) are used to configure remote LAN management on an IPMI-enabled server, the utilities set an invalid LAN configuration parameter. The parameter, 'Authentication Type Enables', includes a setting of 'None' as a valid authentication type. The 'None' setting should be disabled by default when other authentication types are enabled.

Root Cause

The SSU, SMU, and SCW configure the 'Authentication Type Enables' parameter to include 'None' as a valid authentication type in Byte 3 and Byte 4 of that configuration parameter. This is not a valid configuration.

Corrective Action / Resolution

Intel has created a utility, called BmcLanFix.exe (Windows*) or BmcLanFix (Red Hat* Linux 8.0 or Red Hat* Linux 9.0) to correct this parameter and disable 'None' as a valid authentication type. BmcLanFix is a LAN-based utility that can connect to a range of server IP addresses to correct the configuration issue. The utility is run on a remote console and can connect to and repair the configuration on multiple servers. Please refer to the readme.txt included with the BmcLanFix utility for more information about the utility.

The BmcLanFix utility is available for download on Intel Business Link (IBL) – requires a username and password or Intel's public support site, http://support.intel.com. Intel suggests only running this utility if it was downloaded from the aforementioned sites.

Users of the CLI AutoConfig Utility must also download an updated version of CLI AutoConfig if the utility is configured to run during Linux startup. Version AUTOSERVERCFG-1.0-5.i386.rpm of the CLIAutoConfig or later does not set this invalid configuration. This version of the utility is available for download from IBL or http://support.intel.com

Intel is investigating the possibility of providing updated versions of the SSU, SMU, and SCW to correct this configuration issue.

Recommended Customer Action

Intel strongly recommends that customers who enable LAN management on their Intel® Server Boards or Platforms download the BmcLanFix utility and run it to correct the invalid configuration on servers that have IPMI based LAN management enabled.

Please contact your Intel Sales Representative if you require more specific information about this issue.

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