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1 Dell EMC & Oracle Joint HCL Support Policy

This document explains some but not all Dell EMC & Oracle Joint HCL support policy regarding Oracle VM (OVM) and Oracle Linux (OL) running Unbreakable Enterprise Kernel (UEK). It is provided to help interpret what is supported and not-supported.

In this document, the following OS update definitions are used to explain the HCL support policy:

- OL x.y where 'x' is considered major update and 'y' is considered as minor update
- UEK RxUy where 'x' is considered major update and 'y' is considered as minor update
- 3.8.13-xyz where '3.8.13' is considered major update kernel version and '-xyz' is considered minor update kernel version.
- OVM x.y.z 'x.y' is considered major update and 'z' is considered as minor update

HCL Support Policies

1. Newer or higher minor updates are implicitly supported and do not require explicit cert for support

   E.g.: If R730 is certified with OL 6.5 running UEK R3U2 (3.8.13-35) and OVM 3.3.1 then
   a. All newer or higher minor updates of OL 6 is implicitly supported, unless stated otherwise, and does not require new HCL cert for them. So, OL 6.6, OL 6.7, etc. is auto-supported on R730.
   b. All newer or higher minor updates of UEK R3 (3.8.13-xyz) is implicitly supported, unless stated otherwise, and does not require new HCL cert for them. So, UEK R3U3 (3.8.13-44), UEK R3U4 (3.8.13-55), etc. is auto-supported on R730 running OL 6.5 or higher.
   c. All newer or higher minor updates of OVM 3.3 is implicitly supported, unless stated otherwise, and does not require new HCL cert for them. So, OVM 3.3.2, OVM 3.3.3, etc. is auto-supported on R730.

   EXCEPTION(s): Based on the above provided example, OL 6.8 with the default UEK kernel is not auto-supported on R730 based on HCL cert with UEK R3 since default UEK kernel in OL 6.8 is UEK R4. However, OL 6.8 with a newer UEK R3 kernel will be auto-supported. These exception rules will, in general, extend to similar scenarios where the default UEK kernel in a minor OL or OVM release switches from any major version of UEK to another.

2. Major updates are not implicitly supported and require new HCL cert for support

   E.g. If R730 is certified with OL 6.5 running UEK R3U2 (3.8.13-35) and OVM 3.3.1 then
   a. All newer or higher major updates of OL is not implicitly supported, unless stated otherwise, and requires new HCL cert. So, OL 7 is not auto-supported on R730 unless certified and listed explicitly.
   b. All newer or higher major updates of UEK is not implicitly supported, unless stated otherwise, and requires new HCL cert. So, UEK R4 (4.1.12-xyz) is not auto-supported on R730 unless certified and listed explicitly.
   c. All newer or higher major updates of OVM is not implicitly supported, unless stated otherwise, and requires new HCL cert. So, OVM 4 or OVM 3.4 is not auto-supported on R730 unless certified and listed explicitly.

3. UEK cert. does not auto-extend across major releases and OSes: Though it is possible that two different major versions of OL (e.g. OL 6 and OL 7) could be running the same version of UEK (e.g. UEK R3U7), cert on one major version does not auto-extend to cert on the other major version. Similarly, cert of a particular version of UEK running within OL does not auto-extend to OVM that is running the same version of UEK kernel in Dom0, and vice-versa.

   E.g. If R730 is certified with OL 6 running UEK R3U5 (3.8.13-68) then
   a. OL 7 with the same UEK R3U5 (3.8.13-68) kernel is not implicitly supported, and requires explicit HCL cert, and vice-versa.
   b. OVM 3.3.3 with the same UEK R3U5 (3.8.13-68) kernel in Dom0 is not implicitly supported, and requires explicit HCL cert, and vice-versa.

4. Second generation of server (MLK) requires new HCL cert

   E.g. If R740 with 1st generation CPU is certified with OL 7.5 running UEK R5 then R740 with 2nd generation CPUs will require new HCL certification with newer version of OL/UEK that supports the 2nd generation CPUs.

(Note: Blank cell indicates not-certified; UEK = Unbreakable Enterprise Kernel; RHCK = Red Hat Compatible Kernel)

For RHCK versions supported by platforms refer to:

Dell EMC OL and OVM HCLs on Oracle’s site can be found at:

RHCL Support Matrix
Dell EMC Oracle HCLs <search by Dell>
## 2 Support Matrix - PowerEdge Latest Generation Servers

### 2.1 Oracle Linux (OL) with UEK Release 5

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<tr>
<th>Server</th>
<th>CPU Series</th>
<th>OL 7 (x86_64)</th>
<th>OL 6 (x86_64)</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<td>ISO</td>
<td>UEK R5</td>
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<td>Scalable x2xx series1</td>
<td>OL 7.6 (or higher)</td>
<td>4.14.35-1902 (or higher)</td>
<td>Intel Optane DC PMEM - though supported by UEK5u2 was NOT tested in this cert</td>
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<tr>
<td>R740</td>
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<td>OL 7.6 (or higher)</td>
<td>4.14.35-1902 (or higher)</td>
<td>Intel Optane DC PMEM - though supported by UEK5u2 was NOT tested in this cert</td>
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<td>OL 7.5 (or higher)</td>
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<td>NVDIMM-N persistent memory in storage mode is certified with Scalable x1xx series</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>OL 7.6 (or higher)</td>
<td>4.14.35-1902 (or higher)</td>
<td>Intel Optane DC PMEM - though supported by UEK5u2 was NOT tested in this cert</td>
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<tr>
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<td>ISO</td>
<td>UEK R5</td>
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<td>4.1.12-112 (or higher)</td>
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1. 2nd Generation Intel Scalable x2xx series needs min BIOS v2.2.10 and with OL7.6 min UEK R5 Update2 kernel 4.14.35-1902.0.18.el7uek.x86_64 or higher
2. Intel Optane DC PMEM is certified in Memory Mode and as Storage over App-Direct Mode (persistent storage)
3. Intel Optane DC PMEM is not supported with UEK R4. Requires min UEK R5u2
4. 2nd Generation Intel Scalable x2xx series needs min BIOS v2.2.10 and with OL6.10 min UEK R4 Update7 kernel 4.14.12-124.24.3.el6uek.x86_64 or higher
5. 2nd Generation Intel Scalable x2xx series is not supported with OL7 running UEK4 kernel. With OL7, it requires min UEK5u2
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* 2nd Generation Intel Scalable x2xx series needs min BIOS v2.2.10 and with OVM3.4.6 min UEK R4 Update7 kernel 4.14.12-124.24.3.el6uek.x86_64 or higher

* Intel Optane DC PMEM requires min UEK5 kernel and OVM 3.4 Dom0 kernel does not support UEK5.

* OVM is not supported with SAS-based shared storage within the M1000e, VRTX, or FX2 modular chassis.
# Support Matrix - PowerEdge 13th Generation Servers

## 3.1 Oracle Linux (OL) with UEK Release 4

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<th>OL 7 (x86_64) UEK R4</th>
<th>OL 6 (x86_64) ISO</th>
<th>OL 6 (x86_64) UEK R4</th>
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## Oracle Linux (OL) with UEK Release 3

### Dell EMC PowerEdge 13th Generation Servers – Oracle Linux (OL) with UEK Release 3

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### Dell EMC PowerEdge 13th Generation Servers – Oracle VM (OVM) Release 3

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9 OVM is not supported with SAS-based shared storage within the M1000e, VRTX, or FX2 modular chassis
## 4 Support Matrix - PowerEdge 12th Generation Servers

### 4.1 Oracle Linux (OL) with UEK and Oracle VM (OVM)

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<th>OL 7 x86_64 (UEK)</th>
<th>OL 6 x86_64 (UEK)</th>
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<td>OL 5.7 (UEK 2.6.32-200 or higher)</td>
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## Support Matrix - PowerEdge 11th Generation Servers

### 5.1 Oracle Linux (OL) with UEK and Oracle VM (OVM)

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