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How to enable MPIO of iSCSI in WS2008

Version 1.2 (SEP, 2009)

Introduction

The MPIO function is natively supported in Windows Server 2008. In this document, it will describe how to configure MPIO settings in Windows Server 2008.

Please be sure to back up your data before making any modifications or configurations.

Environment

Host OS:	Windows Server 2008
iSCSI target:	iR16IS4ER
RAM:	1GB DDR2-533

Diagram

Host

192.168.12.0/24

Gigabit Switch

192.168.11.0/24

Gigabit Switch
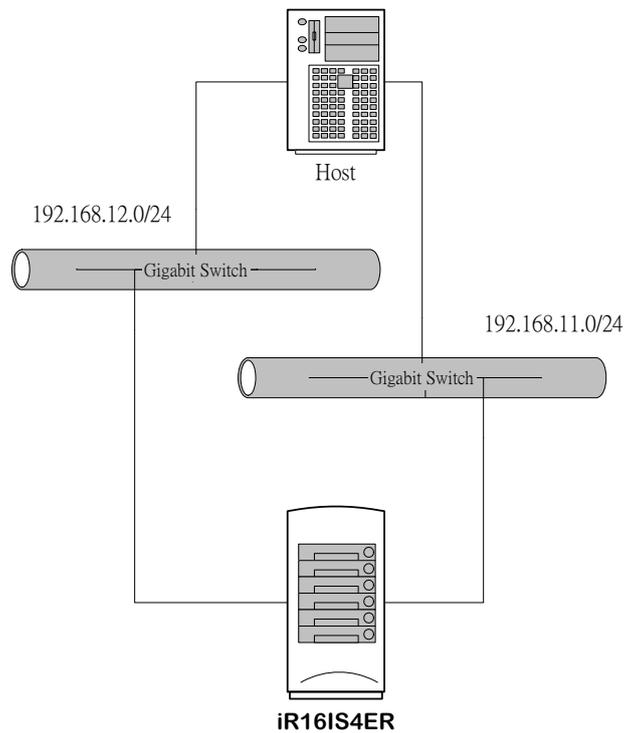
iR16IS4ER

Configuration

1. Open the **Server Manager** window, and click **Add Features**.
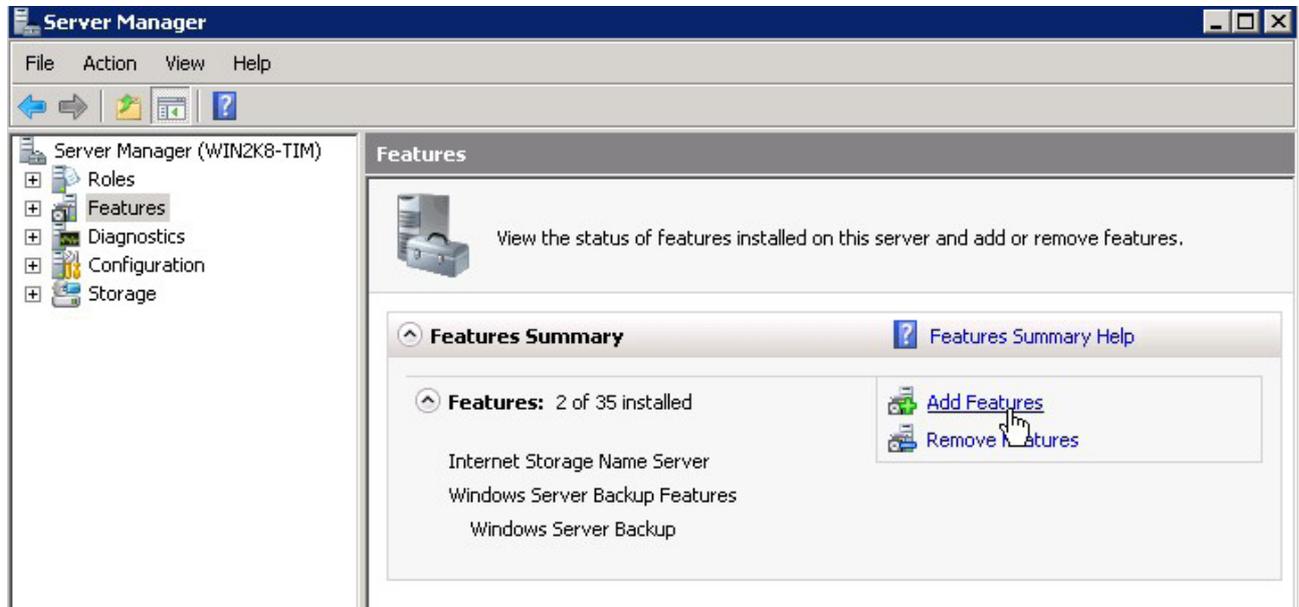
2. Check the item of **Multipath I/O**, and click **Next** button below to install this new feature.
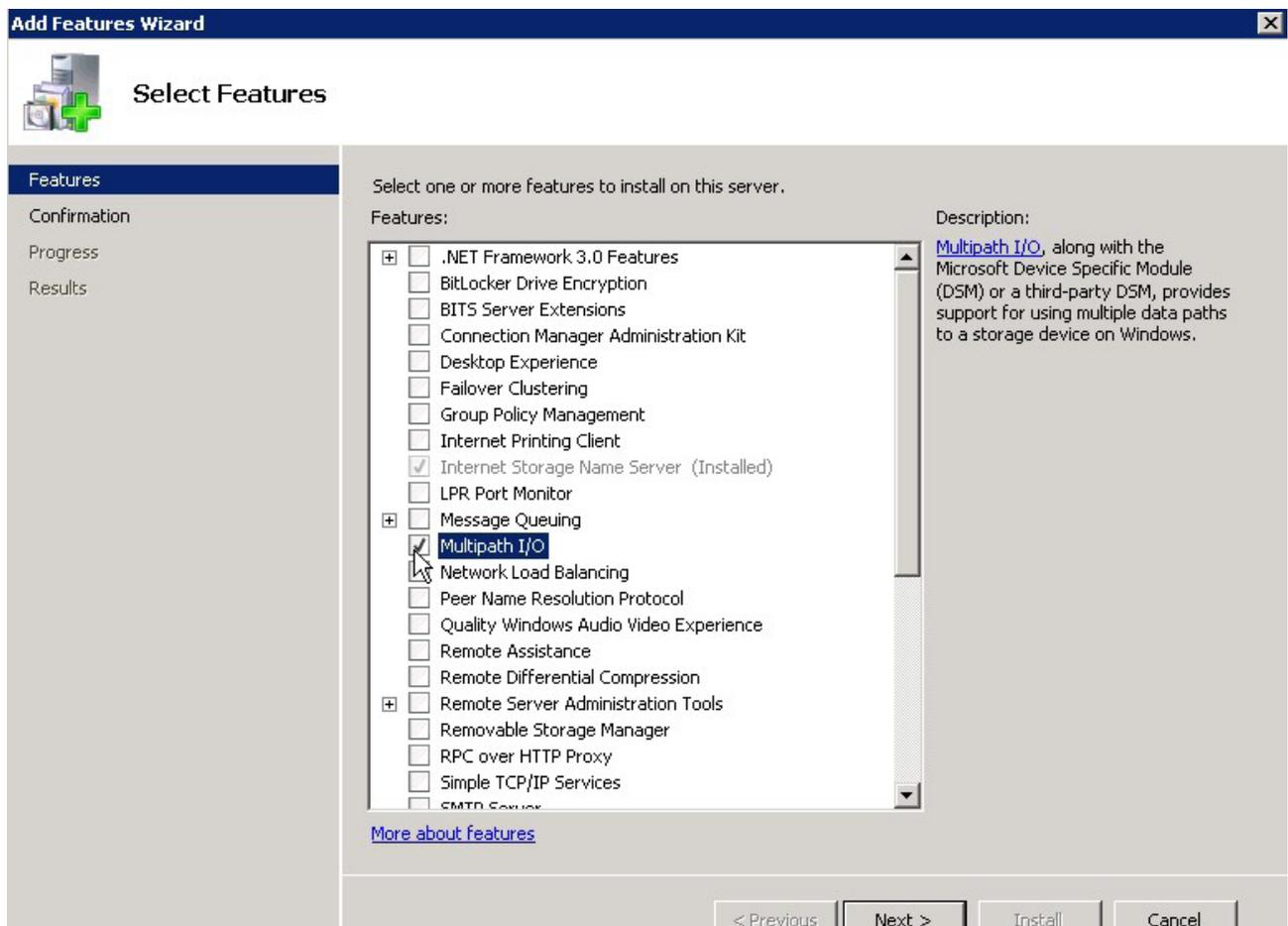
3. Create and attach a LUN in **iR16IS4ER**, then use the **iSCSI Initiator** program to connect to the iSCSI target.
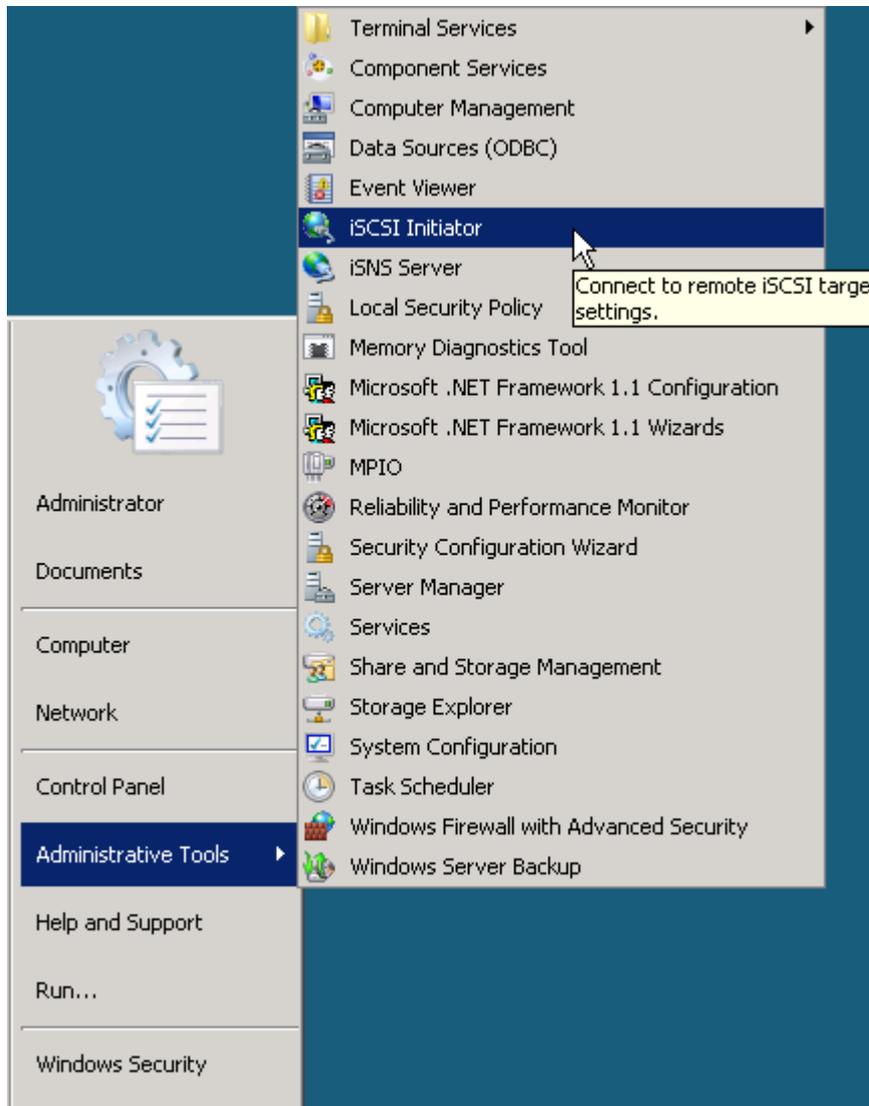
4. In **Device Manager**, it will display one or more iSCSI disks.
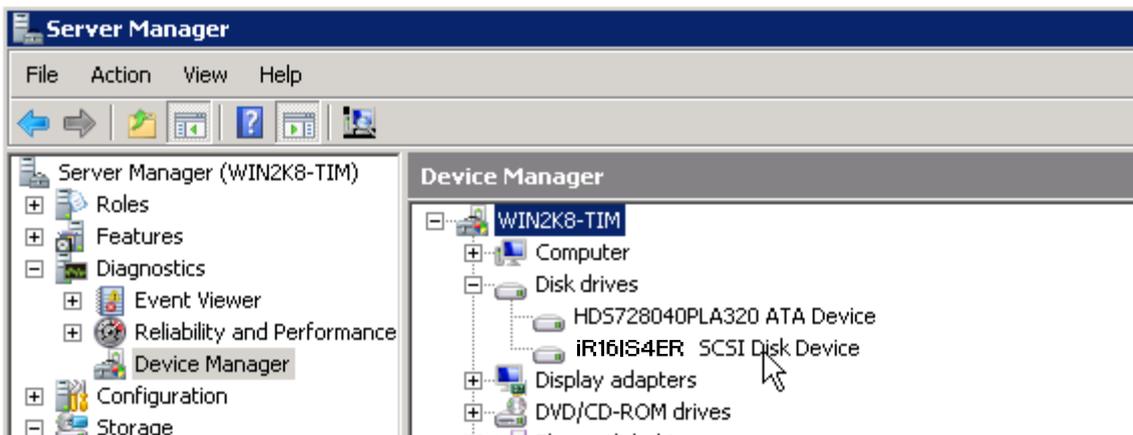
5. After adding the feature, MPIO support for devices multipathed can be added or removed via **MPIO** program in **Administrative tools**.
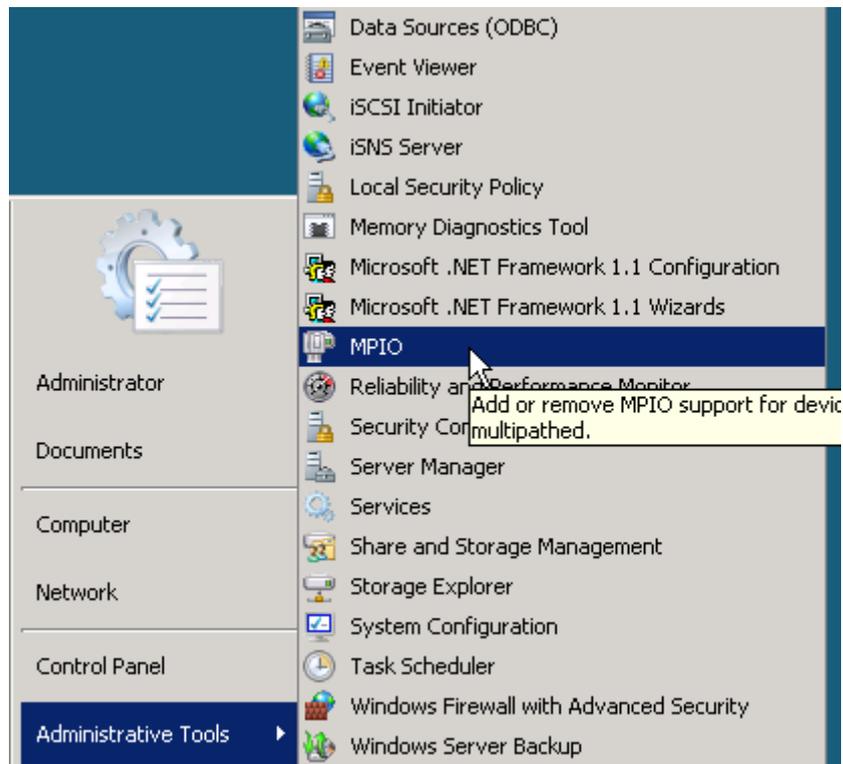
6. In **MPIO Properties** window, switch to the label of **Discover Multi-Paths**. Check the option of **Add support for iSCSI devices** and press **Add** button. Then the system will require rebooting.
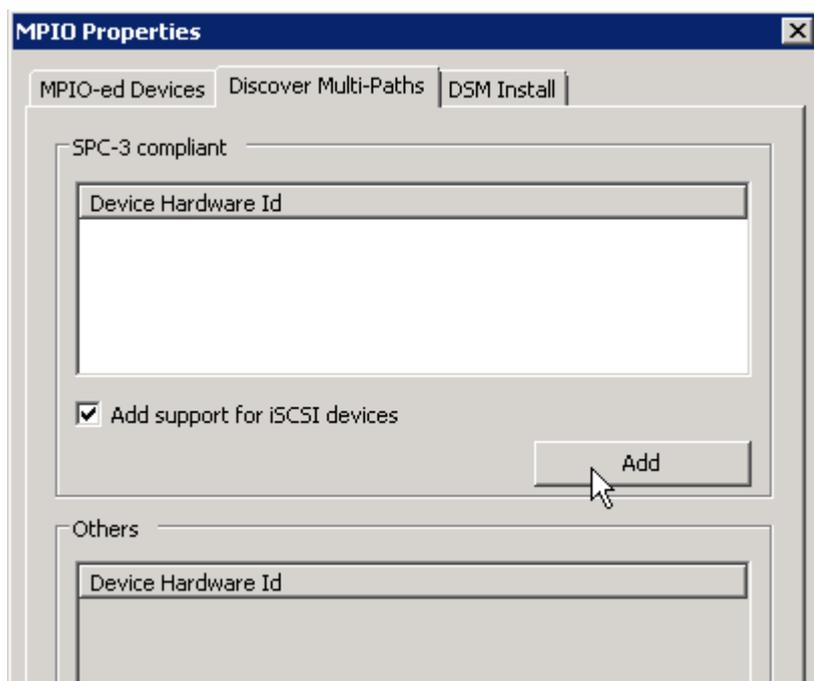
7. After reboot, logon to the iSCSI target again. The iSCSI disk drive in **Device Manager** becomes a multi-path disk device now.
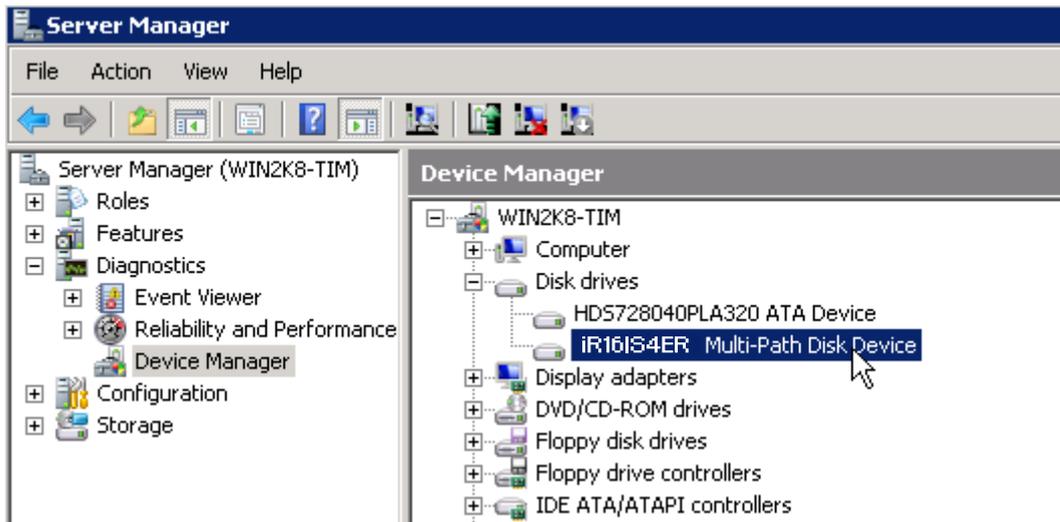
Summary

The MPIO function is a build-in feature of Windows Server 2008 and needs to be enabled and configured before using it. This is a new feature compared with the previous version of MS operating systems. It will help the user connect to SAN storage more robust and faster.