How to enable MPIO of iSCSI in WS2008

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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



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.

Add Features Wizard		×
Select Features		
Features Confirmation Progress Results	Select one or more features to install on this server. Features:	 Description: Multipath I/O, along with the Microsoft Device Specific Module (DSM) or a third-party DSM, provides support for using multiple data paths to a storage device on Windows. a storage device on Windows.

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.

💺 Server Manager	
File Action View Help	
🗢 🔿 🙍 🖬 🚺 🔝	
Server Manager (WIN2K8-TIM)	Device Manager
🛨 👕 Roles	E- 🛃 WIN2K8-TIM
	🗄 🚛 Computer
Imaginestics Imaginestics Imaginestics Imaginestics Imaginestics Imaginestics	
🛨 🔯 Reliability and Performance	iP16IS (EP) SCSI Dick Device
🔜 🛃 Device Manager	
🕀 🏬 Configuration	
📄 📇 Storage	

5. After adding the feature, MPIO support for devices multipathed can be added or removed via **MPIO** program in **Administrative tools**.

🔄 Data Sources (ODBC)	
	🛃 Event Viewer
	🔍 iSCSI Initiator
	📚 iSNS Server
	🚡 Local Security Policy
	Memory Diagnostics Tool
	nicrosoft .NET Framework 1.1 Configuration
	Reg Microsoft .NET Framework 1.1 Wizards
	PIO NPIO
Administrator	Reliability an Albertormance Monitor
	Security Cormultipathed.
Documents	🚠 Server Manager
Computer	Services
Computer	📆 Share and Storage Management
Network	🔄 Storage Explorer
,	🔄 System Configuration
Control Panel	🕑 Task Scheduler
	💮 Windows Firewall with Advanced Security
Administrative Tools 🔹 🕨	🐌 Windows Server Backup

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.

MPIO Properties	×
MPIO-ed Devices Discover Multi-Paths DSM Install	
SPC-3 compliant	
Device Hardware Id	
Add support for iSCSI devices	
Add	
Others	
Device Hardware Id	

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.