

zEnterprise™¹ z114 and z196 GA2 Driver 93 Linux HiperSockets™² Support With QIOASSIST

Driver 93³ for the z114 and z196 at GA2 level changes the HiperSockets firmware such that patches are required for Linux on System z®⁴. Affected levels of SUSE®⁵ Linux Enterprise Server for System z include 10 and 11. Affected levels of Red Hat® Enterprise Linux®⁶ for IBM System z include 5 and 6.

If patches are not applied, a kernel oops and/or kernel panic will result when the HiperSockets group device is varied online. The oops will indicate an operand exception was raised within the qdio device driver. The following levels include the patch to fix this problem:

Red Hat Enterprise Linux for IBM System z:

1. RHEL5 Update 7 or newer – version 244.el5
2. RHEL6 Update 1 or newer – version 2.6.32-131.0.15.el6

SUSE Linux Enterprise Server for System z

1. SLES10 SP4 – version 2.6.16.60-0.80.1
2. SLES11 SP1 – version 2.6.32.29-0.3.1

Levels of Linux older than the ones specified above are not affected by this change since they do not include Linux support for qioassist. In addition, Linux virtual machines using z/VM HiperSocket guest lans are not affected by this change either.

If for some reason you are not able to install the service, it is possible to work around the problem by dedicating the HiperSockets subchannels with the NOQIOASSIST option. This option can be used dynamically with the z/VM ATTACH command, or in the USER DIRECT as an option to the DEDICATE statement.

¹ zEnterprise™ is a trademark of International Business Machines Corporation in the United States and/or other countries

² HiperSockets™ is a trademark of International Business Machines Corporation in the United States and/or other countries

³ The Licensed Internal Code level for z114 and z196 GA2 starting shipment on September 9, 2011

⁴ System z® is a registered trademark of International Business Machines Corporation in the United States and/or other countries

⁵ SUSE® is a registered trademark of Novell Inc. in the United States and other countries

⁶ Red Hat® and Enterprise Linux® are registered trademarks of Red Hat Inc. in the United States and/or other countries