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Troubleshoot SAN Boot with lunlist and freinds

Using native Palo/Serrano adapter CLI and UCSM tools for Troubleshooting and Configuration



Karl Vietmeier Cisco Systems 2/19/2012



CONTENTS

INT	RODUCTI	ION		4
1	LAB CO	NFIGURATION		5
	1.1	Physical and Logical Connections	5	
	1.2	Example SAN Object Identities	5	
2	TROUBL	ESHOOTING ENTRY POINTS/TOOLS		6
	2.1	UCS	6	
	2.1.1	Fabric Interconnect	6	
	2.1.2	VIC shell interface	7	
	2.2	MDS	7	
	2.2.1	Storage (In this example NetApp)	7	
3	THE VIR	TUAL INTERFACE CONTROLLER SUBSHELL		8
	3.1	The VIC and Option ROM:	8	
	3.2	Exploring the M81KR/1280 subshell – Working Example	8	
	3.3	"lunlist" Breakdown	11	
4	соммо	N SAN BOOT FAILURE SCENARIOS		13
	4.1	Boot Policy Issues	13	
	4.1.1	Wrong Boot Target in the Policy (typo)	13	
	4.1.2	Wrong LUN ID in Boot Policy (case 1 – no extra LUNs mapped)	14	
	4.1.3	Wrong LUN ID in Boot Policy (case 2 – Many LUNs mapped)	15	
	4.1.4	Wrong Boot Target in the Policy (Targets Reversed)	16	
	4.2	LUN Masking is wrong	16	
	4.2.1	No LUNs Mapped	16	
	4.2.2	LUNs Mapped, no initiators in the igroup	18	
	4.3	Zone configuration is incorrect	18	
	4.4	Everything is correct but I still can't boot from the LUN	19	
5	USING L	ICSM GUI TOOLS		20
	5.1	"Boot Order Details"	20	
	5.2	VIF Paths	21	
6	APPEND	DIX A - TRACE THE PATH: WORKING OUTWARD FROM UCS TO THE TARGET		22
	6.1	Verify internal UCS Connections:	22	
	6.2	Verify MDS Configuration/Status	23	
	6.3	Verify the Storage (Data ONTAP)	24	
	6.3.1	What are the Target WWPNs?	24	
	6.3.2	What initiators are logged in?	25	
7	APPEND	DIX B - BOOT POLICY EXAMPLES		26
	7.1	Correct Example	26	
	7.2	Туро	26	

7.3	Wrong LUN	27	
7.4	Reversed Paths	27	
7.5	vHBA Name not enforced	28	
7.6	No HBA Check, Paths Reversed	28	
7.7	Reversed Paths	29	
APPEND	DIX C - LUNLIST ISSUES		30
8.1	Multi-Initiator Zones	30	

Introduction

Cisco is often asked why we don't have a BIOS utility available for configuring the Palo/Serano (Cisco VIC) interface, especially when someone is struggling with a SAN Boot configuration that isn't working. This is a fair question, and easily answered. There isn't a "legacy" BIOS utility because we don't need one, the UCS has better, more efficient ways to access and configure BIOS parameters. When using the UCS, an end user should never have to enter the BIOS for any reason, all management and configuration of objects within the system is accomplished through the UCSM interfaces (GUI, CLI, XML), and several subshells. *A thorough discussion of UCSM is outside the scope of this document, the focus will be on specific tools and interfaces related to the VIC and booting blades*.

The purpose of this whitepaper is to document these tools and provide some example use cases to demonstrate their power and usefulness

Configuration of the VIC is done via the following UCSM Policies and a key Parameter:

SAN Boot Policy

It is the SAN Boot Policy that holds the key to properly configuring a UCS Service Profile for SAN Booting. This policy configures the BIOS Boot order and the Option ROM, directing the VIC where to look for int13h devices, i.e. which FC target to connect to and which LUN the MBR has been written to. The BIOS Boot Policy is explicitly defining the device path where the bootstrap process expects to find the MBR. To successfully boot a server needs 3 things correctly defined:

- 1. A "Controller", this is the vHBA
- 2. A Target the storage array port
- 3. A LUN

If there are errors in this policy – typos, wrong LUN, wrong target, etc. the blade will not boot. What causes the most confusion here is that while you can't boot, you are often able to successfully install on a LUN. *It is very important to understand the difference between Option ROM int13h boot devices and a running OS kernel with drivers loaded*. So, before looking for any other configuration problems like bad zones or incorrect LUN masking, make triply sure you have set this up correctly, and then check once more. A *large* percentage of "mysterious" Boot from SAN (BFS) issues are directly attributable to an error in the Boot Policy.

• Adapter Policies

Adapter policies set common parameters like queue depths and IO timeouts, the defaults have been tested and certified with the storage arrays in the HW compatibility matrix and should not need to be altered.

• VSAN

While not a policy, failure to configure this correctly will prevent any connectivity.

Intended Audience:

This document is focused on the operational aspects of the Cisco VIC, UCSM, NXOS, and Storage Arrays and is intended for use by experienced field personnel. This is not a tutorial on Fibre Channel or Storage Array concepts and the author assumes a degree of knowledge and experience in these areas, as such - the following concepts should be familiar to the reader:

FLOGI, NPIV, LUN Masking, Fibre Channel Zoning, Option ROM, Int13h Devices.

1 Lab Configuration

The Equipment used in this set of examples consists of:

- Cisco MDS
 - o **9148**
 - o **9513**
- Cisco UCS running 2.0.1t Firmware
 - o **6120**
 - o **2104**

0

- B200 Blades with M81KR Adapter
- NetApp 3210

1.1 Physical and Logical Connections



1.2 Example SAN Object Identities

Target NetApp 3210:

Fabric A: 50:0a:09:83:8d:53:43:54 - port 0c
Fabric B: 50:0a:09:83:9d:53:43:54 - port 0c
Initiator M81KR:
Fabric A (vHBA-A): 20:00:00:25:b5:0a:01:0f
Fabric B (vHBA-B): 20:00:00:25:b5:0a:02:0f

2 Troubleshooting Entry Points/Tools

There are 3 primary points of instrumentation for troubleshooting a SAN Boot problem, this paper focusses on UCS but we will use examples from the others when appropriate. Below is a quick summary of the key commands you can use to verify configuration and connectivity. You can see from the list that one need not necessarily be an expert on these platforms to get useful information; the list of relevant commands is fairly small. If you don't have access to the storage or SAN switches, you can use this list to let the appropriate Admins know what information you need. Each of these tools will be used in examples later in the document; this is simply a "Quick Reference/Summary".

2.1 UCS

2.1.1 Fabric Interconnect

- GUI
 - Currently configured BIOS Boot Order:
 - ⇒ Equipment/Blade#/"Boot Order Details" (also on the Server Details tab of the Service Profile)
 - Link status and Identity of vHBAs and vNICs instantiated on the blade
 - ⇒ Org/ServiceProfile/"VIF Paths"
- UCSM CLI
 - Get a list of associated Service Profiles find the one you are interested in
 - # sh service-profile assoc | grep -b 1 Assoc
 - Display VNIC/VHBA logical names mapped to veth/vfc and status of pinning (same as VIF paths)
 - # sh service-profile circuit name <sp name>
 - # sh service-profile circuit server #/#
 - What is the Boot Policy?
 - # sh server boot-order #/# detail
 - What is the actual boot order currently configured in the BIOS?

```
# sh server actual-boot-order #/#
```

- NXOS <connect nxos [FI] > (Read Only but good information):
 - What initiators and targets are known by the Fabric Services?
 - **#** sh fcns database
 - # sh flogi database
 - Check FC interface pinning and VSAN Trunking config (only works in FC EHM)
 - # sh npv status
 - # sh npv flogi-table

- What VSANs are configured?
 - # sh vsan
- What VSANs are the physical ports configured on and what veths are in which VSAN.
 - # sh vsan membership

2.1.2 VIC shell interface

- List vnics configured on an adapter need the output for later commands:
 - # vnic
- Query FC port database
 - # lunlist <vnic#>
- Show PLOGI information
 - # login <vnic#>
- Get PWWN and FCID of initiator
 - # lif <lif#>

2.2 MDS

- Show devices present in the Fabric: FCID, Type, Vendor, PWWN
 - # sh fcns database
- Show devices present in the Fabric: Physical Port, VSAN, FCID, PWWN/WWNN
 - # sh flogi database
- Zones that are currently active and device status in the zone
 - # sh zoneset active

2.2.1 Storage (In this example NetApp)

• What are the WWPNs of the target ports (verify with Boot Policy)

fcp show adapters

- What initiators are currently FLOGI/FDISC'd into the ports
 - # fcp show initiators
- What igroups are those initiators mapped to:
 - # igroup show
- What LUNs are currently created and then mapped to an igroup and the LUN ID:
 - # lun show
 - # lun show -m

3 The Virtual Interface Controller subshell

3.1 The VIC and Option ROM:

When a Service Profile is first associated to a blade it will cycle through the PNUOS several times to run utilities that configure the WWPNs, MAC Addresses, Firmware, etc. On the final boot cycle the BIOS will be programmed according to the attached Boot Policy (See following section for discussion). During an initial "bringup" before an OS is installed the blades will stop at the "No boot device found" screen. At this point the adapter Option ROM is loaded and you can query the FC ports on the adapter to extract information about the upstream SAN devices. If everything is properly configured you will see the FC target/s and LUN/s configured in the Boot Policy. In Capitola (UCSM 2.0) a new utility, "lunlist" was added. This little utility is very useful when investigating SAN Boot problems and will be the focus of this article.

3.2 Exploring the M81KR/1280 subshell – Working Example

The following is an example from a Service Profile booting on a blade when the zoning, LUN masking, and Boot Policies are all correct but there is no OS on the LUN. This results in this unfortunately all too common prompt:



1. Connect to the adapter chassis/slot/card:

phx2-dc-ucs-A# connect adapter 2/5/1

2. Open rlogin session to M81KR interface:

adapter 2/5/1 # connect

3. Attach to the Fabric Link Services:

```
adapter 2/5/1 (top):1# attach-fls
```

- 4. Query vNIC interfaces to get device numbering:
 - Trivia the "lif" is actually the vntag number given to the interface on this adapter.

```
adapter 2/5/1 (fls):1# vnic

---- --- --- ---- -----

vnic ecpu type state lif

---- --- --- ---- -----

9 1 fc active 5

10 2 fc active 6
```

- 5. Have the interfaces logged into the target?
 - In this case yes they have, "PLOGI" indicates success.

```
adapter 2/5/1 (fls):2# lunmap 9
lunmapid: 0 port cnt: 1
 lif id: 6
  PORTNAME
                 NODENAME
                                           PLOGI
                                LUN
  Y
adapter 2/5/1 (fls):3# lunmap 10
lunmapid: 0 port cnt: 1
 lif id: 7
  PORTNAME
                 NODENAME
                                LUN
                                           PLOGI
  Y
```

- 6. Get port login information for each interface target PWWN and FCID:
 - You may need the FCID later, but again, success, if it had failed the "FID" field would be all 0's.

```
adapter 2/5/1 (fls):4# login 9

lifid: 6

ID PORTNAME NODENAME FID

0: 50:0a:09:83:8d:53:43:54

adapter 2/5/1 (fls):5# login 10

lifid: 7
```

ΙD PORTNAME

7. Use "lunlist" to view FC port database – Nameserver response, LUNID and Target information.

```
adapter 2/5/1 (fls):1# lunlist 9
vnic : 9 lifid: 6
 - FLOGI State : flogi est (fc id 0x03000f)
 - PLOGI Sessions
    - WWNN 50:0a:09:83:8d:53:43:54 WWPN 50:0a:09:83:8d:53:43:54 fc id 0xac0600
       - LUN's configured (SCSI Type, Version, Vendor, Serial No.)
          LUN ID : 0x00000000000000 (0x0, 0x4, NETAPP , doatd4iJHIeA)
      - REPORT LUNs Query Response
          LUN ID : 0x000000000000000
          LUN ID : 0x00010000000000
          LUN ID : 0x00020000000000
          LUN ID : 0x00030000000000
          LUN ID : 0x00040000000000
          LUN ID : 0x00050000000000
          LUN ID : 0x000600000000000
          LUN ID : 0x00070000000000
          LUN ID : 0x000f0000000000
          LUN ID : 0x001000000000000
          LUN ID : 0x00110000000000
          LUN ID : 0x00120000000000
 - Nameserver Query Response
    - WWPN : 50:0a:09:83:8d:53:43:54
adapter 2/5/1 (fls):2# lunlist 10
vnic : 10 lifid: 7
 - FLOGI State : flogi est (fc id 0x23000c)
 - PLOGI Sessions
    - WWNN 50:0a:09:83:9d:53:43:54 WWPN 50:0a:09:83:9d:53:43:54 fc id 0xe60011
       - LUN's configured (SCSI Type, Version, Vendor, Serial No.)
          LUN ID : 0x000000000000000 (0x0, 0x4, NETAPP , doatd4iJHIeA)
       - REPORT LUNs Query Response
          LUN ID : 0x0000000000000000
          LUN ID : 0x00010000000000
          LUN ID : 0x00020000000000
          LUN ID : 0x00030000000000
          LUN ID : 0x00040000000000
          LUN ID : 0x00050000000000
          LUN ID : 0x000600000000000
          LUN ID : 0x00070000000000
          LUN ID : 0x000f0000000000
          LUN ID : 0x00100000000000
          LUN ID : 0x00110000000000
          LUN ID : 0x001200000000000
  - Nameserver Query Response
    - WWPN : 50:0a:09:83:9d:53:43:54
```

3.3 "lunlist" Breakdown

In this section we will break down the components of the "lunlist" command. Only one vnic will be broken down since they should both be the same. It is possible they could be different; this in itself tells you something. Also, some Active/Passive arrays will refuse SCSI enquiries on the passive path to the secondary vHBA, in which case you will see "access failure" on lines 6 and 7.

NOTES:

- Output from "REPORT LUNs" only lists the first 16 LUNs returned by the target query.
- Output from "Nameserver query response" only lists the first 16 targets returned by the Nameserver
- However The Palo adapter syslog will contain log entries for all ports returned by the Nameserver and all LUNs returned by the target query.
- Also, if the LUN is provisioned and for some reason the Palo boot driver is not able to access it (example : passive path), syslog will show inquiry data for the LUN and the SCSI error status returned from the target when adapter tried to access it.

This section shows all FDISC sessions. The Palo FC boot driver will login only to those target ports that are configured in the lunmap table, which is defined by the primary and secondary targets in the Boot Policy.

```
>>
12 - FLOGI State : flogi est (fc_id 0x03000f)
13 - PLOGI Sessions
14 - WWNN 50:0a:09:83:8d:53:43:54 WWPN 50:0a:09:83:8d:53:43:54 fc_id 0xac0600
<=</pre>
```

The next lines are the response given by the target when the LUN configured in the Boot Policy is queried, if successful the peripheral type, Vendor, and serial number are returned. In this case it the Boot policy is configured for LUN 0, the query was successful.

>>
15 - LUN's configured (SCSI Type, Version, Vendor, Serial No.)
16 LUN ID : 0x0000000000000 (0x0, 0x4, NETAPP , doatd4iJHIeA)
<=</pre>

```
The LUNID and WWPN in the previous sections are from the Service Profile Boot Policy which can be viewed from the CLI and compared:
```

```
17 phx2-dc-ucsprod-B# sh server boot-order 2/5 detail | grep -a 5 SAN
18
           SAN Image:
19
               Type: Primary
20
               VHBA: vHBA-A
21
22
               SAN Image Path:
23
                   Type: Primary
24
                   LUN: 0
25
                   WWN: 50:0A:09:83:8D:53:43:54
26
27
               Type: Secondary
28
               VHBA: vHBA-B
```

```
29

30 SAN Image Path:

31 Type: Primary

32 LUN: 0

33 WWN: 50:0A:09:83:9D:53:43:54
```

This next section is where the first 16 LUNs returned by the target are listed; any LUNs beyond 16 will be recorded in the syslog. This initiator has 12 LUNs mapped to it on the Array.

```
=>
34
         - REPORT LUNs Query Response
35
             LUN ID : 0x000000000000000
36
             LUN ID : 0x00010000000000
37
             LUN ID : 0x000200000000000
             LUN ID : 0x00030000000000
38
39
             LUN ID : 0x00040000000000
40
             LUN ID : 0x00050000000000
             LUN ID : 0x00060000000000
41
42
             LUN ID : 0x00070000000000
43
             LUN ID : 0x000f0000000000
44
             LUN ID : 0x00100000000000
45
             LUN ID : 0x00110000000000
46
             LUN ID : 0x00120000000000
<=
```

This section returns the targets available for login. If it is empty - check your zoning!

```
>>
47 - Nameserver Query Response
48 - WWPN : 50:0a:09:83:8d:53:43:54
<=</pre>
```

Secondary vHBA => in this case it is configured identically and the NetApp array is responding to SCSI inquiries on the alternate path.

```
=>
49 adapter 2/5/1 (fls):2# lunlist 10
50 vnic : 10 lifid: 7
51
    - FLOGI State : flogi est (fc id 0x23000c)
     - PLOGI Sessions
52
        - WWNN 50:0a:09:83:9d:53:43:54 WWPN 50:0a:09:83:9d:53:43:54 fc id 0xe60011
53
          - LUN's configured (SCSI Type, Version, Vendor, Serial No.)
54
55
             LUN ID : 0x000000000000000 (0x0, 0x4, NETAPP , doatd4iJHIeA)
          - REPORT LUNs Query Response
56
57
             LUN ID : 0x0000000000000000
58
             LUN ID : 0x00010000000000
59
             LUN ID : 0x00020000000000
60
             LUN ID : 0x00030000000000
             LUN ID : 0x00040000000000
61
62
             LUN ID : 0x00050000000000
63
             LUN ID : 0x00060000000000
64
             LUN ID : 0x00070000000000
65
             LUN ID : 0x000f0000000000
66
             LUN ID : 0x001000000000000
67
             LUN ID : 0x00110000000000
68
             LUN ID : 0x00120000000000
69
     - Nameserver Query Response
       - WWPN : 50:0a:09:83:9d:53:43:54
70
```

We start with the most common cases and the easiest for a UCS Admin to fix, and then move on to issues with the SAN switches and Storage.

It is worth mentioning again here – The most common reason for a failure to BFS after a successful OS install is a misconfigured Boot Policy. Using the "Principle of Least Astonishment and Most Likely Error" should lead you to immediately double check the Boot Policy before stating to dig around in the Palo subshell.

4.1 Boot Policy Issues

4.1.1 Wrong Boot Target in the Policy (typo)

No one has ever done this right? Of course not, but just in case, lunlist makes it really easy to check. Configured vs. Actual Boot Order is a strong hint and can point you there, but lunlist will confirm it.

You can see in the output below that the reported target (line 19), does not match the configured target (line 14). This would be a pretty common error, putting in 44 instead of 54, pretty easy to do. We get an fc_id for the initiator, but of course it is null for the target. And since the Target never responded, no LUNs are returned either. This one is pretty straightforward, and easily resolved. No need to dig any further. We really didn't even need to open up an SSH shell because the very first thing we should always check upon failure is the Boot Policy.

Result: No Target login, No LUNs Reported



4.1.2 Wrong LUN ID in Boot Policy (case 1 – no extra LUNs mapped)

See 4.1.1 above

A common and easy to make mistake.

The configured LUN (line 16) doesn't match the reported LUN (line 18), but notice the target is now correct so line 14 matches line 20. Note that incorrect LUN Masking would look exactly the same but for a different reason, the Option ROM driver will be looking for the configured LUN and not find it so the boot will fail and the output will look the same. Also note that this is a simple case where only one LUN is mapped to the Initiator – see case 2 for a more realistic configuration. What if both LUN 0 and LUN 1 are mapped to the Initiator? We will see this in the next example.

Result: Successful Target login, LUN access failure



4.1.3 Wrong LUN ID in Boot Policy (case 2 – Many LUNs mapped)

This is a more realistic example and a bit more subtle since there are no obvious problems at the Option ROM. Both paths look good (vnic 10 was omitted for brevities sake), the Target is responding and the LUNs are returned. What is the problem? Look closely and you will spot the "error" – hint - compare line 10 with 12 and 13.



 \Rightarrow We need to look at the installation to understand what happened:

• The SAN is ok, we are seeing LUNs:

	VMware ESXi 4	.1.0 Installer (4.1.0-348481)		
		Select a Disk		
Storage De	vice		Capaci	ity
Local: Cisco	Virtual FDD∕HDD	(mpx.vmhba32:C0:T0:L1)	0.00	в
Remote: NETAPP NETAPP NETAPP NETAPP	LUN LUN LUN LUN	(naa.60a98000646f617464) [*1 (naa.60a98000646f6174643469) (naa.60a98000646f6174643469) (naa.60a98000646f6174643469)	10.00 10.00 10.00 10.00	GB GB GB GB
	[*] Co (F1) Details	ntains a VMFS partition (Esc) Cancel (Enter) Continue		

• But – we chose LUN 0 to install on and the Boot Policy is telling the adapter to boot from LUN 1!

	UMware ESXi 4.1.0 Installer (4.1.0-348481)	
	Disk Details	
Stora Local Cis Remot NET NET NET	Model/Vendor: NETAPP LUN Full Disk Name: naa.60a98000646f61746434694b2f593066 LUN ID: 0 Target ID: 0 Capacity: 10.00 GB Path: /vmfs/devices/disks/naa.60a98000646f6174 6434694b2f593066 Datastores: datastore1	ity B GB GB GB GB GB
	(F1) Continue	
	(F1) Details (Esc) Cancel (Enter) Continue	

So – This is either a mistake in the installation, or a bad Boot Policy, which it is depends on the situation. But it enforces the basic principle that at the Option ROM Driver level, there is no flexibility. The 3 elements of the device path defined in the Boot Policy; Controller (HBA), Target, and LUN, are explcit directives that define the int13h SCSI device to boot from. The bootstrap process expects to find an MBR there, if it doesn't, the boot will fail.

4.1.4 Wrong Boot Target in the Policy (Targets Reversed)

This scenario will look just like a typo in the Boot Policy. The Option ROM driver is looking for a specific ControllerID/Target#/LUN#, by reversing the targets the Target#/LUN# won't match up. If this were an Active/Active Array it might actually work since both Target ports will be presenting the same LUN and will respond to SCSI Inquiries.

4.2 LUN Masking is wrong

For this example we use a valid Boot Policy but modify the LUN Masking on the Array.

We need to be a bit careful here as Storage Arrays manage LUN Masking differently - example 1 on the blog "<u>JeffSaidSo</u>" is using Xiotech and is returning different results. In these examples we are using a NetApp FAS 3210. Data ONTAP LUN Masking is done through igroups and is "all or nothing". When no LUN is mapped to an igroup, the Array will return null when queried for a LUN by the initiator in the igroup.

4.2.1 No LUNs Mapped

```
2
      TrainBravoESX01 (FCP) (ostype: vmware):
3
        20:00:04:ff:0c:00:00:0d (logged in on: 0c)
4
          20:00:08:ff:0c:01:00:0d (logged in on: vtic)
5
6
7 phx2-dc-3120a> lun show -m
8 LUN path
                              Mapped to LUN ID Protocol
9
  _____
10/vol/AlphaESX01/lun.1TrainAlphaESX010FCP11/vol/AlphaESX02/lun.1TrainAlphaESX020FCP12/vol/BravoESX01/lun.1TrainBravoESX010FCP13/vol/BravoESX02/lun.1TrainBravoESX020FCP
14
15phx2-dc-3120a>lun unmap /vol/BravoESX01/lun.1TrainBravoESX01
16
17 phx2-dc-3120a> lun show -m
                                    Mapped to LUN ID Protocol
18 LUN path
19 -----
20/vol/AlphaESX01/lun.1TrainAlphaESX010FCP21/vol/AlphaESX02/lun.1TrainAlphaESX020FCP22/vol/BravoESX02/lun.1TrainBravoESX020FCP
23
24 phx2-dc-3120a> igroup show TrainBravoESX01
25 TrainBravoESX01 (FCP) (ostype: vmware):
     20:00:04:ff:0c:00:00:0d (logged in on: 0c)
26
27
         20:00:08:ff:0c:01:00:0d (logged in on: vtic)
```

On line 15 above we unmap the LUN from the igroup and reboot the blade, which of course fails to boot, but it is logged in to the igroup as you can see on lines 24-27.

The output below is exactly what we would expect. The Option ROM driver successfully connects to the target as configured in the Boot Policy, but when it queries for LUNs, it is returned a null value – no LUNs. So we get access failure on line 10, nothing reported under "REPORT LUNS" (line 11), but the Nameserver responds with a valid target matching the Boot Policy (line 13).

```
1 phx2-dc-ucsprod-B# connect adapter 1/6/1
2 adapter 1/6/1 # connect
3 adapter 1/6/1 (top):1# attach-fls
4 adapter 1/6/1 (fls):1# lunlist 9
5 vnic : 9 lifid: 6
6
  - FLOGI State : flogi est (fc id 0xac0e04)
7
   - PLOGI Sessions
8
     - WWNN 50:0a:09:83:8d:53:43:54 WWPN 50:0a:09:83:8d:53:43:54 fc id 0xac0600
9
         - LUN's configured (SCSI Type, Version, Vendor, Serial No.)
            LUN ID : 0x00000000000000 access failure
10
       - REPORT LUNs Query Response
11
   - Nameserver Query Response
12
13
      - WWPN : 50:0a:09:83:8d:53:43:54
14
15 adapter 1/6/1 (fls):2# lunlist 10
16 vnic : 10 lifid: 7
17 - FLOGI State : flogi est (fc_id 0xe6001c)
    - PLOGI Sessions
18
    - WWNN 50:0a:09:83:9d:53:43:54 WWPN 50:0a:09:83:9d:53:43:54 fc id 0xe60011
19
20
         - LUN's configured (SCSI Type, Version, Vendor, Serial No.)
21
            LUN ID : 0x00000000000000 access failure
22
        - REPORT LUNs Query Response
```

```
23 - Nameserver Query Response
24 - WWPN : 50:0a:09:83:9d:53:43:54
25
```

4.2.2 LUNs Mapped, no initiators in the igroup

What if we remove the initiators from the igroup but put the LUN back? The results are predictably the same. Successful response from the target but no LUNs returned. In this case lunlist isn't going to tell you exactly what is wrong with the LUN masking, but it does get you closer and let you blame the Storage Admin ⁽ⁱ⁾



4.3 Zone configuration is incorrect

If you were able to see the LUNs during the OS install but can't boot, you can check this possibility off of your list. If the zoning is incorrect on the switch you won't be getting any further, it is essentially the same as having

the cable unplugged. If you couldn't see any LUNs with the installer (and you have the correct drivers loaded), it isn't an Option ROM mapping issue, yet, you may still have a Boot Policy misconfiguration that gets revealed after fixing the zones. In this case you will get failures on both the Target login and LUN reporting.

4.4 Everything is correct but I still can't boot from the LUN

After going through all of the steps above, running every command you can think of and getting the SAN team mad at you for blaming everything on them, you still can't boot! The most likely root cause for this use case is an MBR placement problem (See 4.1.3 above). You are correctly defining the target and LUN in the Boot Policy, and installed the OS just fine, but the MBR was placed on LUN1 instead of LUN 0. It is possible that after the reboot the PCI devices got rearranged.... This is most common in Linux installations where you can choose the location for the MBR during install. But all bets are off with Windows....

5 Using UCSM GUI Tools

UCSM is a very full featured interface with many points of entry into the system and in many cases you will be better served by surfing through the GUI than diving into the CLI and subshells. The 2 most relevant tools for troubleshooting SAN Boot problems are "Boot Order Details", and "VIF Paths".

5.1 "Boot Order Details"

Is a real time view into the current status of the BIOS boot order configuration, rather than having to stop the boot process and enter a separate interface one can view the BIOS live. To prove this to yourself; observe it as a blade cycles you will see it transition several times - for example, during the PNUOS boot phase the "Actual Boot Order" will be a PXE boot from an internal IP interface. It can be accessed from 2 locations, the Equipment Tab – Blade Navigator, or the Service Profile Tab – "Server Details".

Boot Order Details	8 Boot Order Details
Configured Boot Order Actual Boot Order	Configured Boot Order Actual Boot Order
There may be a delay of a few minutes before the actual boot order is updated. Last Update: 2010-05-28T06:33:38	▲ Filter ⇒ Export ≥ Print Name Order vNIC/vHBA Type Lun ID WWN IP
👄 Export 😸 Print	CD-ROM 1
Name CD/DVD (1) Cisco Virtual CD/DVD 1.19 (1) Cisco Virtual CD/DVD 1.19 (2) NETAPP 500a098399fae 1e3:0000 (2) NETAPP 500a098389fae 1e3:0000 (3) Control (1) Control	SAN pr VHBA-1 primary SAN pr VHBA-1 primary SAN pr primary 0 SAN pr primary 0 SAN pr vHBA-0 secondary SAN se vHBA-0 secondary SAN primary 0 50:0A:09:83:89:FA:E1:E3
Boot Order Details Configured Boot Order Actual Boot Order There may be a delay of a few minutes before the actual boot order is updated. Last Update: 2010-06-01T12:42:48	When the discovered boot target matches the configured boot device, "actual" boot order will be correct. If there is a mismatch, incorrect boot target (typo), or the target is not found - LUN not mapped, zones not correct, etc, "Actual" will look like this.

There is a CLI Equivalent:

- What is the Boot Policy?
 - # sh server boot-order #/# detail
- What is the actual boot order currently configured in the BIOS?

sh server actual-boot-order #/#

5.2 VIF Paths

This gives a view into the currently mapped virtual interfaces and how they are pinned to northbound resources. It will quickly tell you if all of the instantiated virtual interfaces are correctly connected and the current status. It contains a wealth of information in a very compact format and really deserves its own detailed description, which is outside the scope of this document at the moment. I may go into this in more depth in another paper and those familiar with US Internals should have no trouble interpreting the output.

>> 🥪 Servers 🕨 5 Service Profiles	s 🕨 🎄 root 🕨 🎄	Sub-Organizations	🔸 💑 Training 🛌 😤	Sub-Organizations	ት 🎄 Group	Bravo 🕨 🚚 Service	Profile BravoESX	(01
General Storage Network iSCSI	/NICs Boot Orde	r Virtual Machines	Policies Server Deta	ils FSM VIF Path	is Faults	Events		
🛨 🖃 🔍 Filter 🖨 Export 📚	Print							
Name	Adapter Port	FEX Host Port	FEX Network Port	FI Server Port	VNIC	FI Uplink	Link State	₽
	2/2	right/6	right/2	B/1/2				
Virtual Circuit 15154						unpinned	Up	
Virtual Circuit 6958					VNIC1	B/1/19	Up	
Virtual Circuit 6960					VNIC3	B/1/20	Up	
Virtual Circuit 6962					VHBA-B	B/PortChannel 13	Up	
🖕 🗄	1/1	left/6	left/2	A/1/2				
Virtual Circuit 15153						unpinned	Up	
Virtual Circuit 6957					VNIC0	A/1/19	Up	
					VNIC2	A/1/20	Up	
Virtual Circuit 6961					VHBA-A	A/PortChannel 48	Up	

There is a CLI Equivalent:

- Display VNIC/VHBA logical names mapped to veth/vfc and status of pinning (same as VIF paths)
 - # sh service-profile circuit name <sp name>
 - # sh service-profile circuit server #/#

6 Appendix A - Trace the Path: Working outward from UCS to the Target

In the scenarios where you aren't seeing a Target or any LUNs which in lunlist look like Nameserver failures you may want to want to double check connectivity before rebooting, especially with large memory footprints since a reboot is costly time wise. After you double and triple check the Boot Policy you can use the following steps to verify that everything is correct within UCS first, then the switch, and finally the storage (this example is verifying the results in 4.1 above). Using the steps in 6.1 you can at least determine whether the problem is within the UCS itself.

6.1 Verify internal UCS Connections:

1. Find the vifs assigned to the adapter:

```
phx2-dc-ucsprod-B(nxos)# sh vifs int ethernet 1/1/6

Interface MAX-VIFS VIFS

Eth1/1/6 30 Veth6958, Veth6960, Veth15154,
```

2. FC adapter instances are assigned veths in a very high number range, typically 8000 and above:

```
phx2-dc-ucsprod-B(nxos)# sh vifs int veth15154

Interface MAX-VIFS VIFS

Veth15154 0 vfc6962,
```

3. Verify that the VSAN is correct and the interface is configured:

```
phx2-dc-ucsprod-B(nxos)# sh int vfc6962 brief
Interface Vsan Admin Admin Status SFP Oper Oper Port
Mode Trunk
Mode Vfc6962 43 F on trunking -- TF auto --
```

- Now query the UCS internal NPV flogi-table to find the FCID. Which you can use along with the WWPN to verify connectivity and zone configuration on the switch. In this case everything looks good on UCS. We move on to the FC Switch next.
 - NOTE: If at this point the vfc has failed to FLOGI into the Fabric Interconnect you know that the
 problem is within UCS. The most common reason for a failure at this step is an incorrect VSAN
 configured in the Service Profile, or the VSAN in the SAN configuration is wrong. Of course if it is an
 incorrect VSAN you shouldn't see any LUNs from the OS installer check both anyways.

INTERFACE	VSAN	FCID	PORT NAME	NODE NAME	EXTERNAL INTERFACE
vfc6575	43	0xe60017	20:00:08:00:0b:01:00:0b	20:00:0c:00:0b:11:00:0f	San-po13
vfc6588	43	0xe6002b	20:00:08:00:0c:01:00:07	20:00:0c:00:0c:11:00:07	San-po13
vfc6760	43	0xe60029	20:00:08:ff:0c:01:00:07	20:00:0c:ff:0c:11:00:07	San-po13
vfc6764	43	0xe60027	20:00:08:ff:0c:01:00:06	20:00:0c:ff:0c:11:00:06	San-po13
vfc6920	43	0xe60020	20:00:08:ff:0c:01:00:0f	20:00:0c:ff:0c:11:00:0f	San-po13
vfc6926	43	0xe6001f	20:00:08:ff:0c:01:00:0e	20:00:0c:ff:0c:11:00:0e	San-pol3
vfc6944	43	0xe60028	20:00:08:ff:0c:01:00:04	20:00:0c:ff:0c:11:00:04	San-pol3
vfc6950	43	0xe6002a	20:00:08:ff:0c:01:00:05	20:00:0c:ff:0c:11:00:05	San-pol3
vfc6962	43	0xe6001c	20:00:08:ff:0c:01:00:0d	20:00:0c:ff:0c:11:00:0d	San-po13
vfc6968	43	0xe6001d	20:00:08:ff:0c:01:00:0c	20:00:0c:ff:0c:11:00:0c	San-po13
vfc6973	43	0xe60021	20:00:08:ff:0c:01:00:08	20:00:0c:ff:0c:11:00:08	San-pol3
vfc6979	43	0xe60022	20:00:08:ff:0c:01:00:09	20:00:0c:ff:0c:11:00:09	San-pol3
Total num phx2-dc-u	csproo	f flogi = d-B(nxos);	12. # sh npv flogi-table inte	erface vfc6962	
	VCAN	FCID	PORT NAME	NODE NAME	EXTERNAL
INTERFACE	VSAN				
SERVER INTERFACE	• 5AN				
SERVER INTERFACE vfc6962	43	0xe6001c	20:00:08:ff:0c:01:00:0d	20:00:0c:ff:0c:11:00:0d	San-po13

6.2 Verify MDS Configuration/Status

1. And we see that it is showing up in the FCNS database on the MDS - in the correct VSAN:

FCID	TYPE	 PWWN	(VENDOR)	FC4-TYPE:FEATURE
		E 0 . 0 . 0 0 . 0 2 . 0 d . E 2 . 4 2 . E 4		
Xe60011	IN NI	20.00.08.00.0b.01.00.0b	(Netapp)	scsi-fcp.
x = 6001 r	N	20.00.08.ff.0c.01.00.0d		SCSI-ICP.INIC IC-98
)xe6001d	N	20:00:08:ff:0c:01:00:0c		
)xe6001f	N	20:00:08:ff:0c:01:00:0e		
xe60020	N	20:00:08:ff:0c:01:00:0f		
xe60021	N	20:00:08:ff:0c:01:00:08		scsi-fcp fc-gs
xe60022	N	20:00:08:ff:0c:01:00:09		scsi-fcp fc-qs
xe60024	Ν	20:41:54:7f:ee:0a:9e:00		229
xe60025	Ν	20:dc:00:25:b5:0b:01:df		
xe60026	Ν	20:dc:00:25:b5:0b:01:ff		
xe60027	Ν	20:00:08:ff:0c:01:00:06		scsi-fcp:init
xe60028	Ν	20:00:08:ff:0c:01:00:04		-
xe60029	Ν	20:00:08:ff:0c:01:00:07		scsi-fcp:init
xe6002a	Ν	20:00:08:ff:0c:01:00:05		
xe6002b	N	20:00:08:00:0c:01:00:07		scsi-fcp fc-gs
xe6002c	Ν	24:0d:00:0d:ec:e2:85:80	(Cisco)	npv

2. A check of the active zoneset shows that the initiator, and the target, are zoned correctly, and logged in.

```
phx2-dc-9513-1# sh zoneset active
zoneset name UCS-Fabric-B vsan 43
<output removed for brevity>
zone name BravoESX01 vsan 43
 * fcid 0xe6001c [pwwn 20:00:08:ff:0c:01:00:0d]
 * fcid 0xe60011 [pwwn 50:0a:09:83:9d:53:43:54]
phx2-dc-9513-1#
```

6.3 Verify the Storage (Data ONTAP)

6.3.1 What are the Target WWPNs?

```
phx2-dc-3120a> fcp show adapters
Slot:
                         1a
Description:
                         Fibre Channel Target Adapter 1a (Dual-channel, QLogic CNA
8112 (8152) rev. 2)
                       Local
Adapter Type:
Status:
                        LINK NOT CONNECTED
                      50:0a:09:80:8d:53:43:54 (500a09808d534354)
<mark>50:0a:09:81:8d:53:43:54</mark> (500a09818d534354)
FC Nodename:
FC Portname:
Standby:
                         No
                         1b
Slot:
                        Fibre Channel Target Adapter 1b (Dual-channel, QLogic CNA
Description:
8112 (8152) rev. 2)
Adapter Type:
                        Local
                        LINK DISCONNECTED
Status:
                        50:0a:09:80:8d:53:43:54 (500a09808d534354)
FC Nodename:
FC Portname:
                         50:0a:09:82:8d:53:43:54 (500a09828d534354)
Standby:
                         No
Slot:
                         0c
Description:
                        Fibre Channel Target Adapter 0c (Dual-channel, QLogic 2432
(2462) rev. 2)
Adapter Type:
                        Local
Status:
                         ONLINE
                        50:0a:09:80:8d:53:43:54 (500a09808d534354)
FC Nodename:
FC Portname:
                         50:0a:09:83:8d:53:43:54 (500a09838d534354)
Standby:
                        No
                         0d
Slot:
Description:
                         Fibre Channel Target Adapter 0d (Dual-channel, QLogic 2432
(2462) rev. 2)
Adapter Type:
                        Local
                        LINK NOT CONNECTED
Status:
                        50:0a:09:80:8d:53:43:54 (500a09808d534354)
FC Nodename:
FC Portname:
                         50:0a:09:84:8d:53:43:54 (500a09848d534354)
Standby:
                         No
```

6.3.2 What initiators are logged in?

When we get all the way to the end of the "virtual cable" it is clear that the initiator, while connected all of the way through, is failing to login to the target and we are back to the boot policy. It is our fault after all, now we owe the SAN Admin lunch for blaming it on them in the first place \textcircled

```
Notice – no Target login, no initiator login on the array, but everything up to this point looks good.
phx2-dc-3120a> fcp show initiators
Initiators connected on adapter 1a:
        None connected.
Initiators connected on adapter 1b:
       None connected.
Initiators connected on adapter Oc:
Portname
                          Group
_____
                           ____
20:00:04:ff:0c:00:00:0c TrainBravoESX02; TrainBravo VMFS; TrainMountAll VMFS
20:00:04:ff:0c:00:00:05 TrainCharlieESX01; TrainMountAll VMFS
20:00:04:ff:0c:00:00:08 TrainDelta VMFS; TrainDeltaESX02
20:00:04:ff:0c:00:00 TrainDelta VMFS; TrainDeltaESX01
20:00:04:ff:0c:00:00:04 TrainCharlieESX02; TrainMountAll VMFS
20:00:04:ff:0c:00:00:0f TrainAlphaESX01; TrainAlpha VMFS; TrainMountAll VMFS
20:00:04:00:0b:00:00:0b
Initiators connected on adapter Od:
       None connected.
phx2-dc-3120a> igroup show TrainBravoESX01
    TrainBravoESX01 (FCP) (ostype: vmware):
        20:00:08:ff:0c:01:00:0d (not logged in)
        20:00:04:ff:0c:00:00:0d (not logged in)
So - everything is correct, after all of this work, we know what we knew already, we screwed up the Boot Policy!
```

7 Appendix B - Boot Policy Examples

I have included the Boot Policies I used if you are interested in setting these up yourself and don't want to go through the GUI to set up a bunch of them. You can simply modify for your targets and vHBA name and drop them into an SSH session.

7.1 Correct Example

```
scope org /
create boot-policy ValidPolicy
set descr "Example"
set reboot-on-update no
set enforce-vnic-name yes
create virtual-media read-only
set order 0
exit
create storage
create san-image primary
set vhba vHBA-A
create path primary
set wwn 50:0a:09:83:8d:53:43:54
set lun 1
exit
exit
create san-image secondary
set vhba vHBA-B
create path primary
set wwn 50:0a:09:83:9d:53:43:54
set lun 0
exit
exit
set order 2
exit
commit-buffer
top
```

7.2 Туро

```
scope org /
create boot-policy T-TargetTypo
set descr "Typo in the Boot Policy"
set reboot-on-update no
set enforce-vnic-name yes
create virtual-media read-only
set order 1
exit
create storage
create san-image primary
set vhba vHBA-A
create path primary
set wwn 50:0a:09:83:8d:53:43:44
set lun 0
exit
exit
create san-image secondary
set vhba vHBA-B
```

```
create path primary
set wwn 50:0a:09:83:9d:53:43:44
set lun 0
exit
exit
set order 2
commit-buffer
top
```

7.3 Wrong LUN

```
scope org /
create boot-policy T-WrongLUN
set descr "Wrong LUN for testing"
set reboot-on-update no
set enforce-vnic-name yes
create virtual-media read-only
set order 1
exit
create storage
create san-image primary
set vhba vHBA-A
create path primary
set wwn 50:0a:09:83:8d:53:43:54
set lun 1
exit
exit
create san-image secondary
set vhba vHBA-B
create path primary
set wwn 50:0a:09:83:9d:53:43:54
set lun 1
exit
exit
set order 2
exit
commit-buffer
top
```

7.4 Reversed Paths

```
scope org /
create boot-policy T-RevPaths
set descr "Paths are swapped but valid"
set reboot-on-update no
set enforce-vnic-name yes
create virtual-media read-only
set order 1
exit
create storage
create san-image primary
set vhba vHBA-A
create path primary
set wwn 50:0a:09:83:9d:53:43:54
set lun 0
exit
exit
```

```
create san-image secondary
set vhba vHBA-B
create path primary
set wwn 50:0a:09:83:8d:53:43:54
set lun 0
exit
exit
set order 2
exit
commit-buffer
top
```

7.5 vHBA Name not enforced

```
scope org /
create boot-policy T-NoHBACheck
set descr "No check vHBA name wrong"
set reboot-on-update no
set enforce-vnic-name no
create virtual-media read-only
set order 0
exit
create storage
create san-image primary
set vhba vHBA-0
create path primary
set wwn 50:0a:09:83:8d:53:43:54
set lun 0
exit
exit
create san-image secondary
set vhba vHBA-1
create path primary
set wwn 50:0a:09:83:9d:53:43:54
set lun 0
exit
exit
set order 2
exit
commit-buffer
top
```

7.6 No HBA Check, Paths Reversed

```
scope org /
create boot-policy T-RPathNoChk
set descr "No check vHBA name wrong"
set reboot-on-update no
set enforce-vnic-name no
create virtual-media read-only
set order 0
exit
create storage
create san-image primary
set vhba vHBA-0
```

```
create path primary
set wwn 50:0a:09:83:9d:53:43:54
set lun 0
exit
exit
create san-image secondary
set vhba vHBA-1
create path primary
set wwn 50:0a:09:83:8d:53:43:54
set lun 0
exit
exit
set order 2
exit
commit-buffer
top
```

7.7 Reversed Paths

```
scope org /
create boot-policy T-RevPathswLUN
set descr "Paths are swapped but valid"
set reboot-on-update no
set enforce-vnic-name yes
create virtual-media read-only
set order 1
exit
create storage
create san-image primary
set vhba vHBA-A
create path primary
set wwn 50:0a:09:83:9d:53:43:54
set lun 10
exit
exit
create san-image secondary
set vhba vHBA-B
create path primary
set wwn 50:0a:09:83:8d:53:43:54
set lun 10
exit
exit
set order 2
exit
commit-buffer
top
```

I expect this list might grow.

8.1 Multi-Initiator Zones

When the target is in a zone with multiple initiators it looks like lunlist doesn't know how to properly report on the Nameserver information.

The Target is configured correctly, but the zone had 16 initiators in it, 5 of which were logged in. There were also 5 LUNs presented but only the first and the last ones showed up (lines 16,17, 29,30). Even worse, notice that the initiators and targets show up twice on Fabric B (lines 32-43)

```
adapter 1/5/1 (top):1# attach-fls
1
  adapter 1/5/1 (fls):1# vnic
2
3
  ____ ____
4
  vnic ecpu type state lif
5
  ____ ____
6
 9
      1
           fc active 6
 10 2
7
           fc
                active 7
  adapter 1/5/1 (fls):2# lunlist 9
8
  vnic : 9 lifid: 6
9
   - FLOGI State : flogi est (fc id 0x030002)
10
    - PLOGI Sessions
11
12
       - WWNN 50:0a:09:83:8d:53:43:54 WWPN 50:0a:09:83:8d:53:43:54 fc id 0xac0600
         - LUN's configured (SCSI Type, Version, Vendor, Serial No.)
13
             LUN ID : 0x00010000000000 access failure
14
         - REPORT LUNs Query Response
15
             LUN ID : 0x0000000000000000
16
17
             LUN ID : 0x001600000000000
18
    - Nameserver Query Response
19
       - WWPN : 50:0a:09:83:8d:53:43:54
20
21 adapter 1/5/1 (fls):3# lunlist 10
22 vnic : 10 lifid: 7
    - FLOGI State : flogi est (fc id 0x230004)
23
24
    - PLOGI Sessions
       - WWNN 50:0a:09:83:9d:53:43:54 WWPN 50:0a:09:83:9d:53:43:54 fc id 0xe60011
25
26
         - LUN's configured (SCSI Type, Version, Vendor, Serial No.)
             LUN ID : 0x00010000000000 access failure
27
         - REPORT LUNs Query Response
28
29
             LUN ID : 0x000000000000000
30
             LUN ID : 0x00160000000000
31
    - Nameserver Query Response
32
      - WWPN : 20:00:08:ff:0c:01:00:09
33
       - WWPN : 20:00:08:ff:0c:01:00:06
       - WWPN : 20:00:08:ff:0c:01:00:07
34
35
       - WWPN : 20:00:08:ff:0c:01:00:05
36
       - WWPN : 20:00:08:ff:0c:01:00:04
37
       - WWPN : 50:0a:09:83:9d:53:43:54
38
       - WWPN : 20:00:08:ff:0c:01:00:09
39
       - WWPN : 20:00:08:ff:0c:01:00:06
40
       - WWPN : 20:00:08:ff:0c:01:00:07
       - WWPN : 20:00:08:ff:0c:01:00:05
41
42
       - WWPN : 20:00:08:ff:0c:01:00:04
43
       - WWPN : 50:0a:09:83:9d:53:43:54
```