May, 2016

Dear Customer,
Intel® Rapid Storage Technology enterprise (RSTe) 4.5.4.1031 Hot Fix PV Release Package.

The RSTe 4.5.4.1031 Hot Fix PV package is the production release to support the Intel® C600/C610/C620/C220 and C230 series chipset based platforms. These are WHQL'ed drivers and support both RAID configured and "Pass-through" drives.

The release of this 4.5.4.1031 Hot Fix PV package addresses an issue where the Windows operating system may not resume from Hibernate (S4) when both a disk and an ODD device is connected to the SATA controller when it is set to "AHCI" mode in the BIOS.

The Intel® RSTe 4.5.4.1031 Hot Fix production drivers supports the installation of Windows* 8.1, Windows* Server 2012 and Windows* Server 2012 R2 and introduces support for Windows* 10. This package contains two sets of RSTe 4.5.4.1031 drivers; one set of drivers for Windows* 7 based operating systems and the second set of drivers supports Windows* 8.1/Server 2012/Server 2012 R2/Windows* 10. As a result, please notice that there are multiple sets of F6 directories. The installation executable is already configured to install the proper version.

As of release 4.3.0.1223, support for Windows* 8 (not Windows* 8.1) has been removed. For customers who encounter critical driver issues on Windows* 8, Hot Fix driver support will be built off of the RSTe 4.2 driver baseline

To upgrade from an older supported OS (i.e. Windows* 7) to Windows* 10, it is strongly recommended to first upgrade to the RSTe 4.5.4.1031 Hot Fix PV package prior to performing the OS upgrade. At a minimum, to support a Windows* 10 upgrade, the RSTe driver must be upgraded to 4.2.0.1143 PV kit prior to performing the OS upgrade. The last required step, after the Windows* 10 upgrade is complete, is to reinstall RSTe 4.5.4.1031 Hot Fix PV package. This is important because the Windows* 10 inbox driver used is not RSTe.

NOTE: On platforms that contain Intel® C230 series chipset SKUs supporting 8 ports, it is important to note that the Microsoft RAID inbox driver does not support configurations with 8 ports. As a result, attempting to use the inbox driver to install the OS may result in a failure to install the OS.

RSTe does not support upgrading from Windows* Server2003 and Windows* Server 2008 to Windows* 10 client.

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With the release of Windows[*] 8, Windows* 8.1, Windows* Server 2012 and Windows* Server 2012 R2, Microsoft included an inbox driver to support the Intel® C600/C610/C620/C220 and C230 series chipset's AHCI Controller when configured in RAID mode. This driver is not an RSTe driver and is intended to support customers who may not have access to the F6 drivers when the OS is being installed. The inbox driver is ONLY intended to be installed to a **single pass-through drive**. They are NOT intended to be installed to a RAID volume. Once the OS has been installed, immediately install the RSTe 4.5.4.1031 PV package, and then use the RSTe GUI to create and manage the RAID volumes.

> **NOTE**: When running in a configuration where the system boot drive is connected to the Intel® C600/C610/C620/C220 and C230 series chipset's AHCI Controller, and that controller is configured for RIAD mode, **DO NOT** use the inbox drivers (included with the Windows* 8.1, Windows* Server 2012, Windows* Server 2012 R2, and Windows* 10 ISO images) for installing these OS's to a RAID volume. Use the F6 drivers provided with each release. If those F6 drivers are not available use the inbox driver to install to a **single pass-through drive**.

> **NOTE**: Intel does not recommend upgrading from Windows* 7 to Windows* 8 on the AHCI Controller if the system Volume is on a RAID Volume greater than 2TB. The Windows* 8 installer uses the inbox drive (MSM 8.2) does not support RAID Volumes that are greater than 2TB.

Please note that RSTe no longer includes a driver to support Windows Vista and Windows Server 2003. For platforms that need to support these operating systems, continue using the RSTe 4.1.0.1047 PV kit.

Please refer to the included documentation for sightings reports, installation instructions and release notes.

Sincerely,
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