Parallels® Server 3.0 Release Notes

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1. KEY FEATURES

Parallels® Server 3.0 is a powerful and easy-to-use cross-platform virtualization solution that enables small and medium-sized businesses (SMBs) and enterprise departments to effectively reduce the costs and complexity of their IT infrastructures.

Built on Parallels' award-winning hypervisor-based virtualization technology, Parallels Server enables organizations to:

- Effectively consolidate server resources
- Standardize server hardware platforms
- Simplify software testing and development
- Optimize server and application availability
- Streamline server and application deployment, maintenance, and management

Being a hardware-ready client-server solution, Parallels Server seamlessly integrates into an existing IT infrastructure and optimizes its performance by taking full advantage of:

- Intel VT-x and AMD-V hardware-assisted acceleration
- 64-bit primary and guest platform support
- 4-way guest SMP support
- 8 GB guest memory support
- Command line and scripting support

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2. BUGFIXES AND IMPROVEMENTS IN PARALLELS SERVER 3.0 (BUILD 2217)

- Inability to install Parallels Tools in Windows Server 2003 SP1 (English version) - fixed.
- Host computer reboot after starting a 64-bit Linux virtual machine - fixed.

- Kernel panic in Mac OS X Server Leopard v.10.5.6 guest operating system - fixed.

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3. BUGFIXES AND IMPROVEMENTS IN PARALLELS SERVER 3.0 (BUILD 2173)

- Kernel panic when playing sound inside a Mac OS X VM with two virtual CPUs - fixed.
- Non-responsive mouse and keyboard during the installation of Mac OS X Server guest OS - fixed.
- Crash on boot from hard disk drive after exiting PXE boot (from Acronis PXE server) - fixed.
- PANIC @38.3 (access to monitor space) when booting Mac OS X VM with 8 GB RAM - fixed.
- Cannot delete the VM folder via prlctl after starting or stopping the VM - fixed.
- The dispatcher service stops responding when stopping or shutting down a VM if one of the running VMs is in invalid state - fixed.
- Parallels Management Console crashes after closing it on certain Mac OS X hosts - fixed.
- Unable to switch between VMs being in full screen from Mac OS X Dock - fixed.

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4. WHAT'S NEW IN PARALLELS SERVER 3.0 (BUILD 2150)

Virtualization Engine

- Guest Mac OS X Server support
- 8 GB guest memory support
- 64-bit primary and guest OSes support
- 4-way guest SMP support

Virtual Devices

- Intel i945 chipset emulation
- Up to 2 TB virtual disks support
- Up to 10 network cards support
- Remote virtual CD/DVD
- DMG images support in primary Mac OS X
- ACPI Shutdown/Sleep support
- PXE boot
- SCSI support

Server Infrastructure and User interface

- Separate installer for Parallels Management Console included
- Separate installer for Parallels SDK included
- Parallels Python SDK included
- Parallels command line tool included
- Parallels Automatic Updater

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5. KNOWN ISSUES

- Installation of Windows XP SP2 x32 guest OS in non-express mode is slow.
- Installation of Windows 2000 guest OS in SMP mode is slow.
- Windows XP x32 guest OS may hang after the first restart during the installation. After a manual restart, the installation will continue and complete successfully.
- Binary file transmission via serial port between two Windows XP SP2 virtual machines does not work at 115200 baudrate.
- "Invalid time in clock: check and reset the date!" message in FreeBSD guest's dmesg output after the guest OS is started.
- FreeBSD 7.0 guest OS hangs after issuing zzz(8) command at guest OS.
- 4-CPU FreeBSD 7.0 VM may hang on the starting stage.
- FreeBSD 7.0 cannot be installed on a SCSI HDD.
- RHEL 5.1 cannot be installed on a SCSI HDD.
- Windows Vista x86_64 finds two compatible SCSI drivers during installation on a SCSI HDD, but only the *inst.inf driver is needed for the installation.
- Guest OS requests "Installation Disk #1 (SCSIadapter)" when installing SCSI drivers from "drivers.fdd". It is required to point the guest OS to the A:\ drive to continue the installation.
- "Too much work for irq4" message appears at dmesg while writing to /dev/ttyS0 from a Linux guest OS.
- NumLock/CapsLock/ScrollLock Keys state are not saved/restored on Mac OS X host.
- ACPI shutdown doesn't work for Mac OS X guest OS.
- The quality of sound in Mac OS X guest OS is moderate.