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Abstract

The Release Notes provide high-level coverage of the improvements and additions that have been implemented in Red Hat Enterprise Linux 9.0 Beta and document known problems in this release, as well as notable bug fixes, Technology Previews, deprecated functionality, and other details.
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RHEL BETA RELEASE

Red Hat provides Red Hat Enterprise Linux Beta access to all subscribed Red Hat accounts. The purpose of Beta access is to:

- Provide an opportunity to customers to test major features and capabilities prior to the general availability release and provide feedback or report issues.

- Provide Beta product documentation as a preview. Beta product documentation is under development and is subject to substantial change.

Note that Red Hat does not support the usage of RHEL Beta releases in production use cases. For more information, see What does Beta mean in Red Hat Enterprise Linux and can I upgrade a RHEL Beta installation to a General Availability (GA) release?
MAKING OPEN SOURCE MORE INCLUSIVE

Red Hat is committed to replacing problematic language in our code, documentation, and web properties. We are beginning with these four terms: master, slave, blacklist, and whitelist. Because of the enormity of this endeavor, these changes will be implemented gradually over several upcoming releases. For more details, see our CTO Chris Wright’s message.
PROVIDING FEEDBACK ON RED HAT DOCUMENTATION

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- For submitting more complex feedback, create a Bugzilla ticket:
  1. Go to the Bugzilla website.
  2. As the Component, use Documentation.
  3. Fill in the Description field with your suggestion for improvement. Include a link to the relevant part(s) of documentation.
  4. Click Submit Bug.
CHAPTER 1. OVERVIEW

1.1. MAJOR CHANGES IN RHEL 9.0 BETA

Security
OpenSSL is now provided in version 3.0.0-0.beta2, which adds a provider concept, a new versioning scheme, an improved HTTP(S) client, support for new protocols, formats, and algorithms, and many other improvements.

The system-wide cryptographic policies have been adjusted to provide up-to-date secure defaults.

OpenSSH is distributed in version 8.6p1, which provides many enhancements, bug fixes, and security improvements as compared to version 8.0p1, which is distributed in RHEL 8.5.

SELinux performance has been substantially improved, including time to load SELinux policy into the kernel, memory overhead, and other parameters. For additional information, see the Improving the performance and space efficiency of SELinux blog post.

The scap-security-guide packages are provided in version 0.1.57, which introduces substantial changes over the versions provided in RHEL 8.


Use of SHA-1 is restricted in the DEFAULT crypto policy. With the exception of HMAC and DNSSec usage, SHA-1 is no longer allowed in TLS, DTLS, SSH, IKEv2 and Kerberos protocols.

Cyrus SASL now uses GDBM instead of Berkeley DB, and the Network Security Services (NSS) libraries no longer support the DBM file format for the trust database.

Support for disabling SELinux through the SELINUX=disabled option in the /etc/selinux/config file has been removed from the kernel. When you disable SELinux only through /etc/selinux/config, the system starts with SELinux enabled but with no policy loaded. If your scenario requires disabling SELinux, add the selinux=0 parameter to your kernel command line.

See the Security section in the Considerations in adopting RHEL 9 for more information about security-related major differences between RHEL 9 and RHEL 8.

Networking
The WireGuard VPN technology is now available as an unsupported Technology Preview.

The teamd service and the libteam library are deprecated. As a replacement, configure a bond instead of a network team.

The iptables-nft and ipset are deprecated. These packages include utilities, such as iptables, ip6tables, ebtables and arptables. Use the nftables framework to configure firewall rules.

You can use the new MultiPath TCP daemon (mptcpd) to configure MultiPath TCP (MPTCP) endpoints without using the iproute2 utility.

The network-scripts package has been removed. Use NetworkManager to configure network connections.

By default, NetworkManager now uses the key files to store new connection profiles. Note that the ifcfg format is still supported.
For more information about the features introduced in this release and changes in the existing functionality, see Section 4.8, "Networking".

**Dynamic programming languages, web and database servers**

RHEL 9.0 Beta provides the following dynamic programming languages:

- Node.js 16
- Perl 5.32
- PHP 8.0
- Python 3.9
- Ruby 3.0

RHEL 9.0 Beta includes the following version control systems:

- Git 2.31
- Subversion 1.14

The following web servers are distributed with RHEL 9.0 Beta:

- Apache HTTP Server 2.4
- nginx 1.20

The following proxy caching servers are available:

- Varnish Cache 6.5
- Squid 5.1

RHEL 9.0 Beta offers the following database servers:

- MariaDB 10.5
- MySQL 8.0
- PostgreSQL 13
- Redis 6.2

See Section 4.12, "Dynamic programming languages, web and database servers" for more information.

**Compilers and development tools**

**Updated compiler toolsets**

The following compiler toolsets are available with RHEL 9.0 Beta:

- LLVM Toolset 12.0.1
- Rust Toolset 1.54.0
- Go Toolset 1.16.6

**Updated system toolchain**

The following system toolchain components are available with RHEL 9.0 Beta:
• GCC 11.2
• glibc 2.34
• binutils 2.35

Updated performance tools and debuggers
The following performance tools and debuggers are available with RHEL 9.0 Beta:

• GDB 10.2
• Valgrind 3.17.0
• SystemTap 4.5
• Dyninst 11.0.0
• elfutils 0.185

Java tools
The following Java tools are available with RHEL 9.0 Beta:

• Maven 3.6
• Ant 1.10

See Section 4.13, “Compilers and development tools” for more information.

Virtualization
The QEMU emulator is now built using the Clang compiler. This enables the RHEL 9 KVM hypervisor to use a number of advanced security and debugging features. One of these features is SafeStack, which makes virtual machines (VMs) hosted on RHEL 9 significantly more secure against attacks based on Return-Oriented Programming (ROP).

For more information about virtualization features introduced in this release, see Section 4.18, “Virtualization”.

1.2. RED HAT CUSTOMER PORTAL LABS

Red Hat Customer Portal Labs is a set of tools in a section of the Customer Portal available at https://access.redhat.com/labs/. The applications in Red Hat Customer Portal Labs can help you improve performance, quickly troubleshoot issues, identify security problems, and quickly deploy and configure complex applications. Some of the most popular applications are:

• Registration Assistant
• Product Life Cycle Checker
• Kickstart Generator
• Kickstart Converter
• Red Hat Enterprise Linux Upgrade Helper
• Red Hat Satellite Upgrade Helper
• Red Hat Code Browser
1.3. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Information regarding the Red Hat Enterprise Linux life cycle is provided in the Red Hat Enterprise Linux Life Cycle document.

- Major differences between RHEL 8 and RHEL 9, including removed functionality, are documented in Considerations in adopting RHEL 9.

- The Red Hat Insights service, which enables you to proactively identify, examine, and resolve known technical issues, is now available with all RHEL subscriptions. For instructions on how to install the Red Hat Insights client and register your system to the service, see the Red Hat Insights Get Started page.
CHAPTER 2. ARCHITECTURES

Red Hat Enterprise Linux 9.0 Beta is distributed with the kernel version 5.14, which provides support for the following architectures:

- AMD and Intel 64-bit architectures (x86-64-v2)
- The 64-bit ARM architecture (ARMv8.0-A)
- IBM Power Systems, Little Endian (POWER9)
- 64-bit IBM Z (z14)

Make sure you purchase the appropriate subscription for each architecture. For more information, see Get Started with Red Hat Enterprise Linux - additional architectures.
CHAPTER 3. DISTRIBUTION OF CONTENT IN RHEL 9

3.1. INSTALLATION

Red Hat Enterprise Linux 9 is installed using ISO images. Two types of ISO image are available for the AMD64, Intel 64-bit, 64-bit ARM, IBM Power Systems, and IBM Z architectures:

- **Installation ISO**: A full installation image that contains the BaseOS and AppStream repositories and allows you to complete the installation without additional repositories. On the Red Hat Customer Portal Downloads page, the Installation ISO is referred to as Binary DVD.

  NOTE

  The Installation ISO image is in multiple GB size, and as a result, it might not fit on optical media formats. A USB key or USB hard drive is recommended when using the Installation ISO image to create bootable installation media. You can also use the Image Builder tool to create customized RHEL images. For more information about Image Builder, see the Composing a customized RHEL system image document.

- **Boot ISO**: A minimal boot ISO image that is used to boot into the installation program. This option requires access to the BaseOS and AppStream repositories to install software packages. The repositories are part of the Installation ISO image. You can also register to Red Hat CDN or Satellite during the installation to use the latest BaseOS and AppStream content from Red Hat CDN or Satellite.

See the Performing a standard RHEL installation document for instructions on downloading ISO images, creating installation media, and completing a RHEL installation. For automated Kickstart installations and other advanced topics, see the Performing an advanced RHEL installation document.

3.2. REPOSITORIES

Red Hat Enterprise Linux 9 is distributed through two main repositories:

- BaseOS
- AppStream

Both repositories are required for a basic RHEL installation, and are available with all RHEL subscriptions.

Content in the BaseOS repository is intended to provide the core set of the underlying OS functionality that provides the foundation for all installations. This content is available in the RPM format and is subject to support terms similar to those in previous releases of RHEL.

Content in the AppStream repository includes additional user-space applications, runtime languages, and databases in support of the varied workloads and use cases.

In addition, the CodeReady Linux Builder repository is available with all RHEL subscriptions. It provides additional packages for use by developers. Packages included in the CodeReady Linux Builder repository are unsupported.

3.3. APPLICATION STREAMS
Multiple versions of user-space components are delivered as Application Streams and updated more frequently than the core operating system packages. This provides greater flexibility to customize RHEL without impacting the underlying stability of the platform or specific deployments.

Application Streams are available in the familiar RPM format, as an extension to the RPM format called modules, as Software Collections, or as Flatpaks.

Each Application Stream component has a given life cycle, either the same as RHEL 9 or shorter.

RHEL 9 improves the Application Streams experience by providing initial Application Stream versions that can be installed as RPM packages using the traditional `yum install` command.

Some additional Application Stream versions will be distributed as modules with a shorter life cycle in future minor RHEL 9 releases.

Modules are collections of packages representing a logical unit: an application, a language stack, a database, or a set of tools. These packages are built, tested, and released together. Detailed module commands are described in the Managing software with the DNF tool document.

Content that needs rapid updating, such as alternate compilers and container tools, is available in rolling streams that will not provide alternative versions in parallel. Rolling streams may be packaged as RPMs or modules.

**NOTE**

Application Streams versions and formats distributed in RHEL 9.0 Beta might differ from versions and formats provided at the time of general availability of RHEL 9.0.

### 3.4. PACKAGE MANAGEMENT WITH YUM/DNF

Throughout this document, YUM and DNF can be used interchangeably.

In Red Hat Enterprise Linux 9, software installation is ensured by DNF. Red Hat continues to support the usage of the `yum` term for consistency with previous major versions of RHEL. If you type `dnf` instead of `yum`, the command works as expected because both are aliases for compatibility.

Although RHEL 8 and RHEL 9 are based on DNF, they are compatible with YUM used in RHEL 7.

For more information, see Managing software with the DNF tool.
CHAPTER 4. NEW FEATURES

This part describes new features and major enhancements introduced in Red Hat Enterprise Linux 9.0 Beta.

4.1. INSTALLER AND IMAGE CREATION

Smart card authentication for sudo and SSH from the web console

Previously, it was not possible to use smart card authentication to obtain sudo privileges or use SSH in the web console. With this update, Identity Management users can use a smart card to gain sudo privileges or to connect to a different host with SSH.

NOTE

It is only possible to use one smart card to authenticate and gain sudo privileges. Using a separate smart card for sudo is not supported.

(JIRA:RHELPLAN-95126)

Anaconda supports the rhsm command for machine provisioning via Kickstart installations for satellite

Previously, machine provisioning was dependent on a custom %post script for Kickstart installation on Red Hat Satellite. This %post script imports the custom satellite self-signed certificate, registers the machine, attaches a subscription and installs packages residing in repositories.

With RHEL 9, satellite support has been added via rhsm command for machine provisioning. You can now use this rhsm command for all provisioning tasks such as registering the system, attaching RHEL subscriptions, and installing from a satellite instance using the rhsm kickstart command.

(BZ#1951709)

Licensing, system, and user setting configuration screens have been disabled post standard installation

Previously, RHEL users were configuring Licensing, System (Subscription manager), and User Settings prior to gnome-initial-setup and login screens. With this update, the initial setup screens have been disabled by default to improve user experience.

If you must run the initial setup for user creation or license display, install the following packages based on the requirements.

1. Install initial setup packages.

   # yum install initial-setup initial-setup-gui

2. Enable initial setup while next reboot of the system.

   # systemctl enable initial-setup

3. Reboot the system to view initial setup.

For kickstart installations, add initial-setup-gui to the packages section and enable the initial-setup service.
Anaconda activates network automatically for interactive installations

Previously, when performing an interactive installation without having the network activated by kickstart or boot options, users had to activate the network manually in the network spoke. With this update, Anaconda activates the network automatically, without requiring users to visit the network spoke and activate it manually.

NOTE

This update does not change the installation experience for kickstart installations and installations using the `ip=` boot option.

Image Builder now supports filesystem configuration

With this enhancement, you can specify custom filesystem configuration in your blueprints and you can create images with the desired disk layout. As a result, by having non-default layouts, you can benefit from security benchmarks, consistency with existing setups, performance, and protection against out-of-disk errors.

To customize the filesystem configuration in your blueprint, set the following customization:

```
[[customizations.filesystem]]
mountpoint = "MOUNTPOINT"
size = MINIMUM-PARTITION-SIZE
```

New options to Lock root account and Allow root SSH login with password

Following new options have been added on the root password configuration screen:

- Lock root account: Use this option to lock the root access to the machine.
- Allow root SSH login with password: Use this option to enable password-based SSH root logins.

To enable password-based SSH root logins, add the following line to the kickstart file during the kickstart installation method.

```
%post
echo "PermitRootLogin yes" > /etc/ssh/sshd_config.d/01-permitrootlogin.conf
%end
```

Image Builder now supports cross-version image building
With this enhancement, you can use Image Builder to create images of multiple RHEL minor releases that are different from the host, such as RHEL 8.4 and RHEL 8.5. As a result, you can avoid maintaining multiple Image Builder instances.

(BZ#2019003)

Image Builder now supports creating bootable installer images

With this enhancement, you can use Image Builder to create bootable ISO images that consist of a tarball file, which contains a root file system. As a result, you can use the bootable ISO image to install the tarball file system to a bare metal system.

(BZ#2019318)

4.2. RHEL FOR EDGE

rpm-ostree rebased to version v2021.5

The rpm-ostree package has been upgraded to version v2021.5, which provides multiple bug fixes and enhancements. Notable changes include:

- Kernel arguments can now be updated in an idempotent way, by using the new `--append-if-missing` and `--delete-if-present` kargs flags.

- The Count Me feature from DNF is now fully disabled by default in all repo queries and will only be triggered by the corresponding `rpm-ostree-countme.timer` and `rpm-ostree-countme.service` units. See `countme`.

- The post-processing logic can now process the `user.ima` IMA extended attribute. When an `xattr` extended attribute is found, the system automatically translates it to `security.ima` in the final OSTree package content.

- The `treefile` file has a new `repo-packages` field. You can use it to pin a set of packages to a specific repository.

(BZ#1961324)

OSTree rebased to version v2021.2

The OSTree package has been upgraded to version v2021.2, which provides multiple bug fixes and enhancements. Notable changes include:

- New APIs for writing files, used in the new ostree-rs-ext project, to improve imports from tarballs.

- The rofiles-fuse command now handles `xattrs` extended attributes. Note: The rofiles-fuse is considered deprecated, see #2281.

- Improvements to the introspection API and testing.

(BZ#1961254)

4.3. SUBSCRIPTION MANAGEMENT

Merged system purpose commands under subscription-manager syspurpose

Previously, there were two different commands to set system purpose attributes; syspurpose and
subscription-manager. To unify all the system purpose attributes under one module, all the addons, role, service-level, and usage commands from subscription-manager have been moved to the new submodule, subscription-manager syspurpose.

Existing subscription-manager commands outside the new submodule are deprecated. The separate package (python3-syspurpose) that provides the syspurpose command line tool has been removed in RHEL 9.

This update provides a consistent way to view, set, and update all system purpose attributes using a single command of subscription-manager; this replaces all the existing system purpose commands with their equivalent versions available as a new subcommand. For example, subscription-manager role --set SystemRole becomes subscription-manager syspurpose role --set SystemRole and so on.

For complete information about the new commands, options, and other attributes, see the SYSPURPOSE OPTIONS section in the subscription-manager man page.

(BZ#1898563)

4.4. SOFTWARE MANAGEMENT

New RPM plugin notifies fapolicyd about changes during RPM transactions

This update of the rpm packages introduces a new RPM plugin that integrates the fapolicyd framework with the RPM database. The plugin notifies fapolicyd about installed and changed files during an RPM transaction. As a result, fapolicyd now supports integrity checking.

Note that the RPM plugin replaces the YUM plugin because its functionality is not limited to YUM transactions but covers also changes by RPM.

(BZ#1942549)

libmodulemd rebased to version 2.13.0

The libmodulemd packages have been rebased to version 2.13.0, which provides the following notable changes over the previous version:

- Added support for delisting demodularized packages from a module.
- Added support for validating modulemd-packager-v3 documents with a new --type option of the modulemd-validator tool.
- Fortified parsing integers.
- Fixed various modulemd-validator issues.

(BZ#1984403)

RPM rebased to version 4.16

RPM packages have been rebased to version 4.16, which provides the following notable changes:

- New SPEC features, most notably:
  - Fast macro-based dependency generators
  - The %generate_buildrequires section that allows for generating dynamic build dependencies
- Meta (unordered) dependencies
- Native version comparison in expressions
- Caret version operator, opposite of tilde
- `%elif`, `%elifos` and `%elifarch` statements
- Optional automatic patch and source numbering
- `%autopatch` now accepts patch ranges
- `%patchlist` and `%sourcelist` sections

- The rpm database is now based on the sqlite library. Read-only support for Berkeley DB databases has been retained for migration and query purposes.
- A new rpm-plugin-audit plug-in for issuing audit log events on transactions, previously built into RPM itself
- Increased parallelism in package builds
- Enforced UTF-8 validation of header data at build-time

(JIRA:RHELPLAN-70122)

rpm now supports the EdDSA public key algorithm

With this enhancement, the rpm command supports signing keys using the EdDSA public key algorithm. As a result, signing keys generated using EdDSA can now be used for signing and verifying packages.

Note that, however signing keys using EdDSA are now supported, RSA continues to be the default public key algorithm in GnuPG.

(BZ#1962234)

4.5. SHELLS AND COMMAND-LINE TOOLS

powerpc-utils rebased to version 1.3.9

powerpc-utils package has been upgraded to version 1.3.9. Notable bug fixes and enhancements include:

- Increased the log size to 1 MB in drmgr.
- Fixed the HCIND array size at the boot time.
- Implemented autoconnect-slaves on HNV connections in hcnmgr.
- Improved the HNV bond list connections in hcnmgr.
- Use hexdump from util-linux in hcnmgr.
- The hcn-init.service starts with the NetworkManager.
- Fixed OF to logical FC lookup for multipath in ofpathname.
- Fixed OF to logical lookup with partitions in ofpathname.
- Fixed bootlist for multipath devices with greater than 5 paths.
- Added missing substring extraction of `devpart` in `l2of_vd()` of `ofpathname`.
- Introduced `lpamumascore`.
- Fixed the remove by `index operation` in `drmgr`.
- Moved the definition of `SYS_PATH` from `l2of_vs()` to `l2of_scsi()` in `ofpathname`.
- Added `-x` option to enhance the security in `partstat`.
- Fixed `nroff` warnings and errors in `lparsstat` man page.
- Implemented NUMA-based LMB removal in `drmgr`.
- Fixed `ofpathname` race with `udev` rename in `hcnmgr`.
- Use `NetworkManager nmcli` to check bonding interface status in `hcnmgr`.
- Use `NetworkManager nmcli` to clean the bond interface at the boot time when HNV does not exist.

(BZ#1873868)

**ppc64-diag rebased to version 2.7.7**

`ppc64-diag` package has been upgraded to version 2.7.7. Notable bug fixes and enhancements include:

- Improved unit test cases.
- Added the UUID property in `sysvpd`.
- `rtas_errd` service does not run in the Linux containers.
- The obsolete logging options are no longer available in the `systemd` service files.

(BZ#1869567)

### 4.6. INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

**s-nail replaces mailx**

The `s-nail` mail processing system has replaced the `mailx` utility. The `s-nail` utility is compatible with `mailx` and adds numerous new features. The `mailx` package is no longer maintained in the upstream.

(BZ#1940863)

**mod_security_crs rebased to version 3.3**

`mod_security_crs` has been upgraded to version 3.3. Notable bug fixes and enhancements include:

- Introduced `libinjection`.
- Blocked backup files ending with `~` in filenames.
- Added new LDAP injection and HTTP splitting rules.
- Added .swp to restricted extensions.
- Added Common Attack Pattern Enumeration and Classification (CAPEC) tags for attack classification.
- Added support to detect Nuclei, WFuzz and ffuf vulnerability scanners.
- Improved variable to lowercase (modsec3 behavior fix)
- Added support to detect Unix RCE bypass techniques via uninitialized variables, string concatenations, and globbing patterns.
- Removed outdated rule tags WASCTC, OWASP_TOP_10, OWASP_AppSensor/RE1, and OWASP_CRS/FOO/BAR. OWASP_CRS and attack-type are still included in the mod_security_crs package.
- The format of crs-setup.conf variable tx.allowed_request_content_type has been changed to be in line with the other variables. In case, the variable is overridden, please see the example in crs-setup.conf file for the new separator.

(BZ#1947962)

chrony rebased to version 4.1

chrony has been updated to version 4.1. Notable bug fixes and enhancements include:

- Added support for Network Time Security (NTS) authentication. For more information, see Overview of Network Time Security (NTS) in chrony.
- By default, the Authenticated Network Time Protocol (NTP) sources are trusted over non-authenticated NTP sources. Add the autselectmode ignore argument in the chrony.conf file to restore the original behavior.
- Support for authentication with RIPEMD keys - RMD128, RMD160, RMD256, RMD320 is no longer available.
- Support for long non-standard MACs in NTPv4 packets is no longer available. If you are using chrony 2.x, non-MD5/SHA1 keys, you need to configure chrony with the version 3 option.

(BZ#1961131)

4.7. SECURITY

OpenSSL now includes providers

The OpenSSL toolkit in version 3.0.0-0.beta2, which is included in RHEL 9 Beta, added the concept of providers. Providers are collections of algorithms, and you can choose different providers for different applications. OpenSSL currently includes the following providers: base, default, FIPS, legacy, and null.

By default, if the openssl.cnf configuration file does not contain a specific provider, OpenSSL loads and activates the default provider, which includes commonly used algorithms such as RSA, DSA, DH, CAMELLIA, SHA-1, and SHA-2.

When the FIPS flag is set in the kernel, OpenSSL automatically loads the FIPS provider and uses only FIPS-approved algorithms. As a result, you do not have to manually switch OpenSSL to FIPS mode.
To change to a different provider on the system level, edit the `openssl.cnf` configuration file. For example, if your scenario requires using the `legacy` provider, uncomment the corresponding section.

WARNING: Explicitly activating a provider overrides the implicit activation of the default provider and may make the system remotely inaccessible, for example by the OpenSSH suite.

For information on the algorithms included in each provider, see the relevant man pages. For example, the `OSSL_PROVIDER-legacy(7)` man page for the `legacy` provider.

(BZ#201029)

**System-wide crypto-policies are now more secure**

With this update, the system-wide cryptographic policies have been adjusted to provide up-to-date secure defaults:

- Disabled TLS 1.0, TLS 1.1, DTLS 1.0, RC4, Camellia, DSA, 3DES, and FFDHE-1024 in all policies.
- Increased minimum RSA key size and minimum Diffie-Hellman parameter size in LEGACY.
- Disabled TLS and SSH algorithms using SHA-1, with an exception of SHA-1 usage in Hash-based Message Authentication Codes (HMACs). SHA-1 is also allowed for DNSSEC in the DEFAULT and LEGACY policy levels.

If your scenario requires enabling some of the disabled algorithms and ciphers, use policy modifiers or customize the policy.

(BZ#1937651)

**RHEL System Roles now support VPN management**

Previously, it was difficult to set up secure and properly configured IPsec tunneling and virtual private networking (VPN) solutions on Linux. With this enhancement, you can use the VPN RHEL System Role to set up and configure VPN tunnels for host-to-host and mesh connections more easily across large numbers of hosts. As a result, you have a consistent and stable configuration interface for VPN and IPsec tunneling configuration within the RHEL System Roles project.

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**WARNING**

The VPN System Role does not work correctly with the `ansible-core 2.11` package that is provided in RHEL 9.0 Beta. For more information, see Some RHEL System Roles do not work with the `ansible-core 2.11` package.

(BZ#2019341)

**OpenSSL provided in version 3.0.0-0.beta2**

RHEL 9 Beta provides `openssl` packages in upstream version 3.0.0-0.beta2, which includes many improvements and bug fixes over the previous version. The most notable changes include:

- Added the new Provider concept. Providers are collections of algorithms, and you can choose different providers for different applications.
- Introduced the new versioning scheme in the following format: `<major>..<minor>..<patch>`.

- Added support for the Certificate Management Protocol (CMP, RFC 4210), the Certificate Request Message Format (CRMF), and HTTP transfer (RFC 6712).

- Introduced an HTTP(S) client that supports GET and POST, redirection, plain and ASN.1-encoded contents, proxies, and timeouts.

- Added new Key Derivation Function API (EVP_KDF) and Message Authentication Code API (EVP_MAC).

- Added support for Linux Kernel TLS (KTLS) through compiling with the `enable-ktls` configuration option.

- Added CAdES-BES signature verification support.

- Added CAdES-BES signature scheme and attributes support (RFC 5126) to CMS API.

- Added support for new algorithms, for example:
  - KDF algorithms "SINGLE STEP" and "SSH".
  - MAC algorithms "GMAC" and "KMAC".
  - KEM algorithm "RSASVE".
  - Cipher algorithm "AES-SIV"

- Added AuthEnvelopedData content type structure (RFC 5083) using AES_GCM.

- The default algorithms for PKCS #12 creation with the `PKCS12_create()` function changed to more modern PBKDF2 and AES-based algorithms.

- Added a new generic trace API.

(BZ#1903209)

**GnuTLS provided in version 3.7.2**

In RHEL 9 Beta, the `gnutls` packages are provided in upstream version 3.7.2. This provides many improvements and bug fixes over previous versions, most notably:

- Fixed timing of the early data (zero round trip data, 0-RTT) exchange.

- The `certutil` tool no longer inherits the CRL (Certificate Revocation List) distribution point from the certificate authority (CA) when signing a certificate signing request (CSR).

(BZ#1966479)

**OpenSSH distributed in 8.6p1**

RHEL 9 Beta includes `OpenSSH` in version 8.6p1. This version provides many enhancements and bug fixes over `OpenSSH` version 8.0p1, which is distributed in RHEL 8.5, most notably:

**New Features**

- The LogVerbose configuration directive that allows forcing maximum debug logging by file/function/line pattern lists.
Client address-based rate-limiting with the new `sshd_config` `PerSourceMaxStartups`, and `PerSourceNetBlockSize` directives. This provides finer control than the global `MaxStartups` limit.

The `HostbasedAcceptedAlgorithms` keyword now filters based on the signature algorithm instead of filtering by key type.

The `Include sshd_config` keyword in the `sshd` daemon that allows including additional configuration files by using `glob` patterns.

Support for Universal 2nd Factor (U2F) hardware authenticators specified by the FIDO Alliance. U2F/FIDO are open standards for inexpensive two-factor authentication hardware that are widely used for website authentication. In OpenSSH, FIDO devices are supported by new public key types `ecdsa-sk` and `ed25519-sk` and by the corresponding certificate types.

Support for FIDO keys that require a PIN for each use. You can generate these keys by using `ssh-keygen` with the new `verify-required` option. When a PIN-required key is used, the user will be prompted for a PIN to complete the signature operation.

The `authorized_keys` file now supports a new `verify-required` option. This option requires FIDO signatures to assert token verification of the user’s presence before making the signature. The FIDO protocol supports multiple methods for user verification, OpenSSH currently supports only PIN verification.

Added support for verifying FIDO `webauthn` signatures. `webauthn` is a standard for using FIDO keys in web browsers. These signatures are a slightly different format to plain FIDO signatures and therefore require explicit support.

**Bug fixes**

- Clarified semantics of the `ClientAliveCountMax=0` keyword. Now, it entirely disables connection killing instead of the previous behavior of instantly killing the connection after the first liveness test regardless of its success.

**Security**

- Fixed an exploitable integer overflow bug in the private key parsing code for the XMSS key type. This key type is still experimental and support for it is not compiled by default. No user-facing autoconf option exists in portable OpenSSH to enable it.

- Added protection for private keys at rest in RAM against speculation and memory side-channel attacks like Spectre, Meltdown and Rambleed. This release encrypts private keys when they are not in use with a symmetric key that is derived from a relatively large “prekey” consisting of random data (currently 16 KB).

*(BZ#1952957)*

**OpenSSL random bit generator now supports CPACF**

This release of the `openssl` packages introduces support for the CP Assist for Cryptographic Functions (CPACF) in the OpenSSL NIST SP800-90A-compliant AES-based deterministic random bit generator (DRBG).

*(BZ#1871147)*

**cyrus-sasl now uses GDBM instead of Berkeley DB**

The `cyrus-sasl` package is now built without the `libdb` dependency, and the `sasldb` plugin uses the
GDBM database format instead of Berkeley DB. To migrate your existing Simple Authentication and Security Layer (SASL) databases stored in the old Berkeley DB format, use the `cyrusbdb2current` tool with the following syntax:

```
cyrusbdb2current <sasldb_path> <new_path>
```

(BZ#1947971)

`openssl-spkac` can now create SPKAC files signed with SHA-1 and SHA-256

The `openssl-spkac` utility can now create Netscape signed public key and challenge (SPKAC) files signed with hashes different than MD5. You can now create and verify also SPKAC files signed with SHA-1 and SHA-256 hashes.

(BZ#1970388)

`p11-kit` rebased to version 0.24

The `p11-kit` package has been rebased to the 0.24 version, which provides multiple bug fixes and enhancements. Notably, the subdirectory for storing distrusted Certificate Authorities has been renamed to `blocklist`.

(BZ#1966680)

`nettle` rebased to 3.7.3

The `nettle` package has been rebased to the 3.7.3 version, which provides multiple bug fixes and enhancements. Notable changes are following:

- Supports new algorithms and modes, for example, **Ed448**, **SHAKE256**, **AES-XTS**, **SIV-CMAC**.
- Supports architecture-specific optimizations for existing algorithms.

(BZ#1986712)

SELinux policy in RHEL 9 is up-to-date with the current kernel

The SELinux policy includes new permissions, classes, and capabilities that are also part of the kernel. Therefore, SELinux can utilize the full potential provided by the kernel. Specifically, SELinux has better granularity for granting permissions, which has subsequent security benefits. This also enables running systems with the MLS SELinux policy because the MLS policy would prevent some systems from starting if the system contained permissions unknown to the policy.

(BZ#1941810, BZ#1954145)

Notable changes in `scap-security-guide`

RHEL 9 Beta includes the `scap-security-guide` packages in version 0.1.57. This version introduces the following major changes over the version available in RHEL 8:

- The `*-cpe-dictionary.xml`, `*-cpe-oval.xml`, `*-ocil.xml`, `*-oval.xml`, and `*-xccdf.xml` SCAP component files have been removed to avoid data duplication and to reduce the package size.
- Removed the Legacy SCAP 1.2 source data streams.
- Removed the Bash Profile Remediation scripts to encourage safer practices. The preferred way to remediate a hardening profile is to use the `oscap xccdf eval --remediate` command that executes only the needed remediations.
Includes only RHEL 9 content. If you need to scan systems with different versions of RHEL, use the packages that are provided for the scanned systems.

(OSCAP Anaconda Add-on now supports a new add-on name)

With this enhancement, you can use the new com_redhat_oscap add-on name as opposed to the legacy org_fedora_oscap add-on name in the Kickstart file for the OSCAP Anaconda Add-on plugin. For example, the Kickstart section can be structured as follows:

```bash
%addon com_redhat_oscap
    content-type = scap-security-guide
%end
```

OSCAP Anaconda Add-on is currently compatible with the legacy add-on name, but support for the legacy add-on name will be removed in a future major RHEL version.

(sudo supports Python plugins)

With the sudo program version 1.9, which is included in RHEL 9-beta, you can write sudo plugins in Python. This makes it easier to enhance sudo to more precisely suit specific scenarios.

For additional information, see the sudo_plugin_python(8) man page.

(logrotate included in a separate rsyslog-logrotate package)

The logrotate config was separated from the main rsyslog package into the new rsyslog-logrotate package. This is useful in certain minimal environments, for example where log rotation is not needed, to prevent installing unnecessary dependencies.

(Clevis now supports SHA-256)

With this enhancement, the Clevis framework supports the SHA-256 algorithm as the default hash for JSON Web Key (JWK) thumbprints as recommended by RFC 7638. Because the older thumbprints (SHA-1) are still supported, you can still decrypt the previously encrypted data.

(4.8. NETWORKING)

The diag modules are now available in the kernel

The diag modules are now included with the kernel image. With this update, the diag modules no longer need to be dynamically loaded when the ss command is used. This allows better debugging of networking issues regardless of the customer policy on kernel modules. Modules included in the kernel:

```bash
CONFIG_INET_DIAG
CONFIG_INET_RAW_DIAG
CONFIG_INET_TCP_DIAG
CONFIG_INET_UDP_DIAG
```
**Changed behavior in firewalld when transmitting packets between zones**

In zone-based firewalls, packets enter only one zone. Implicit packet transmission is the concept violation and can allow traffic or services unexpectedly. In Red Hat Enterprise Linux 9 the firewalld service no longer allows implicit packet transmission between two different zones.

For more information about this change, see Changed behavior in firewalld when transmitting packets between zones Knowledge Article.

**(BZ#2029211)**

**Making Nmstate more inclusive**

Red Hat is committed to using conscious language. See details about this initiative in Making open source more inclusive. Therefore the slave term in the nmstate API has been replaced by the term port.

**(BZ#1969941)**

**The nmstate API now supports OVS-DPDK**

This enhancement adds the schema for the Open vSwitch (OVS) Data Plane Development Kit (DPDK) to the nmstate API. As a result, you can use nmstate to configure OVS devices with DPDK ports.

**(BZ#2003976)**

**The nmstate API now supports VLAN and QoS ID in SR-IOV virtual functions**

This update enhances the nmstate API with support for local area network (VLAN) and quality of service (QoS) in single root I/O virtualization (SR-IOV) virtual functions. As a result, you can use nmstate to configure these features.

**(BZ#2004006)**

**The hostapd package has been added to RHEL 8.6**

With this release, RHEL provides the hostapd package. However, Red Hat supports hostapd only to set up a RHEL host as an 802.1X authenticator in Ethernet networks. Other scenarios, such as Wi-Fi access points or authenticators in Wi-Fi networks, are not supported.

**(BZ#2016946)**

**NetworkManager allows to change queue_id of bond port**

NetworkManager ports in a bond now supports the queue_id parameter. Assuming eth1 is a port of bond interface, you can enable queue_id for a bond port with:

```
# nmcli connection modify eth1 bond-port.queue-id 1
# nmcli connection up eth1
```
Any network interface that needs to use this option should configure it with multiple calls until proper priorities are set for all interfaces. For more information, see /usr/share/docs/kernel-doc-<version>/Documentation/networking/bonding.rst file that is provided by the kernel-doc package.

(BZ#1949127)

4.9. KERNEL

RHEL 9 Beta kernels signed with trusted SecureBoot certificates

Previously, RHEL Beta releases required users to enroll a separate Beta public key using the Machine Owner Key (MOK) facility. Starting with RHEL 9 Beta, kernels are signed with trusted SecureBoot certificates, hence users no longer need to enroll a separate Beta public key to use the beta versions on systems having UEFI Secure Boot enabled.

(BZ#2002499)

cgroup-v2 enabled by default in RHEL 9

The control groups version 2 (cgroup-v2) feature implements a single hierarchy model that simplifies the management of control groups. Also, it ensures that a process can only be a member of a single control group at a time. Deep integration with systemd improves the end-user experience when configuring resource control on a RHEL system.

Development of new features is mostly done for cgroup-v2, which has some features that are missing in cgroup-v1. Similarly, cgroup-v1 contains some legacy features that are missing in cgroup-v2. Also, the control interfaces are different. Therefore, third party software with direct dependency on cgroup-v1 may not run properly in the cgroup-v2 environment.

To use cgroup-v1, you need to add the following parameters to the kernel command-line:

```
systemd.unified_cgroup_hierarchy=0
systemd.legacy_systemd_cgroup_controller
```

NOTE

Both cgroup-v1 and cgroup-v2 are fully enabled in the kernel. There is no default control group version from the kernel point of view, and is decided by systemd to mount at startup.

(BZ#1953515)

Kernel changes potentially affecting third party kernel modules

Linux distributions with a kernel version prior to 5.9 supported exporting GPL functions as non-GPL functions. As a result, users could link proprietary functions to GPL kernel functions through the shim mechanism. With this release, the RHEL kernel incorporates upstream changes that enhance the ability of RHEL to enforce GPL by rebuffing shim.

IMPORTANT

Partners and independent software vendors (ISVs) should test their kernel modules with an early version of RHEL 9 to ensure their compliance with GPL.

(BZ#1960556)
The 64-bit ARM architecture has a 4 KB page size in RHEL 9

Red Hat has selected a 4 KB page size of physical memory for the 64-bit ARM architecture in Red Hat Enterprise Linux 9. This size pairs well with the workloads and memory amounts present on the majority of ARM-based systems. To employ large page sizes efficiently, use the huge pages option to address a greater amount of memory or workloads with large data sets.

For more information about huge pages see Monitoring and Managing System Status and Performance.

(BZ#1978382)

**perf-top now can sort by a certain column**

With this update to the perf-top system profiling tool, you can sort samples by an arbitrary event column. Previously, the events were sorted by the first column in case multiple events in a group were sampled. To sort the samples, use the --group-sort-idx command-line option and press a number key to sort the table by the matching data column. Note that column numbering starts from 0.

(BZ#1851933)

**New package: jigawatts**

Checkpoint/Restore In Userspace (CRIU) is a Linux utility that allows checkpointing and restoring of processes. The jigawatts package contains a Java library, which aims to improve the usability of CRIU mechanisms from Java applications.

(BZ#1972029)

**The trace-cmd reset command has new behavior**

Previously, the trace-cmd reset command disabled several settings of the ftrace framework that were enabled by default. Most notably being the tracing_on, trace_clock, set_event_pid, and tracing_max_latency configurations. The new behavior of trace-cmd reset is to reset the mentioned configurations to their default values.

(BZ#1933980)

**A new crashkernel.default file for kdump memory allocation**

A new implementation of the crashkernel.default file is now available on the RHEL 9 version of kdump.

The crashkernel.default file is shipped with each kernel and it contains the default crash kernel value for the corresponding kernel build. The default value is used by kdump to control the default crash kernel memory value of each kernel. The value forms a good reference for kdump memory reservation. Using this value as the base to estimate the required memory, you can configure the desired crashkernel=value.

As a result, this improves the memory allocation for kdump when a system has less than 4 GB available memory.

Note that the crashkernel=auto option in the boot command line is no longer supported on RHEL 9 and later releases.

For more information, see the /usr/share/doc/kexec-tools/crashkernel-howto.txt file.

(BZ#1942398)

**The kernel-rt source tree has been updated to RHEL 9.0 tree**
The **kernel-rt** sources have been updated to use the latest Red Hat Enterprise Linux kernel source tree. The real-time patch set has also been updated to the latest upstream version, v5.14-rt15. These updates provide a number of bug fixes and enhancements.

(BZ#1891873)

**Core scheduling is supported in RHEL 9**

With the core scheduling functionality users can prevent tasks that should not trust each other from sharing the same CPU core. Likewise, users can define groups of tasks that can share a CPU core.

These groups can be specified:

- To improve security by mitigating some cross-Symmetric Multithreading (SMT) attacks
- To isolate tasks that need a whole core. For example for tasks in real-time environments, or for tasks that rely on specific processor features such as Single Instruction, Multiple Data (SIMD) processing

For more information, see Core Scheduling.

(JIRA:RHELPLAN-100497)

**Support for CPU hotplug in the hv_24x7 and hv_gpci PMUs**

With this update, PMU counters correctly react to the hot-plugging of a CPU. As a result, if a hv_gpci event counter is running on a CPU that gets disabled, the counting redirects to another CPU.

(BZ#1844416)

**Metrics for POWERPC hv_24x7 nest events are now available**

Metrics for POWERPC hv_24x7 nest events are now available for perf. By aggregating multiple events, these metrics provide a better understanding of the values obtained from perf counters and how effectively the CPU is able to process the workload.

(BZ#1780258)

**The IRDMA driver has been introduced in RHEL 9**

The IRDMA driver enables RDMA functionality on RDMA-capable Intel® network devices. Devices supported by this driver are:

- Intel® Ethernet Controller E810
- Intel® Ethernet Network Adapter X722

RHEL 9 delivers updated Intel® Ethernet Protocol Driver for RDMA (IRDMA) for the X722 Internet Wide-area RDMA Protocol (iWARP) device. RHEL 9 also introduces a new E810 device that supports iWARP and RDMA over Converged Ethernet (RoCEv2). The IRDMA module replaces the legacy i40iw module for X722 and extends the Application Binary Interface (ABI) defined for i40iw. The change is backward compatible with legacy X722 RDMA-Core provider (libi40iw).

- The X722 device supports only iWARP and a more limited set of configuration parameters.
- The E810 device supports the following set of RDMA and congestion management features:
  - iWARP and RoCEv2 RDMA transports
Priority Flow Control (PFC)  
Explicit Congestion Notification (ECN)  
(BZ#1874195)

4.10. FILE SYSTEMS AND STORAGE

Options in Samba utilities have been renamed and removed for a consistent user experience

The Samba utilities have been improved to provide a consistent command-line interface. These improvements include renamed and removed options. Therefore, to avoid problems after the update, review your scripts that use Samba utilities, and update them, if necessary.

Samba 4.15 introduces the following changes to the Samba utilities:

- Previously, Samba command-line utilities silently ignored unknown options. To prevent unexpected behavior, the utilities now consistently reject unknown options.
- Several command-line options now have a corresponding `smb.conf` variable to control their default value. See the man pages of the utilities to identify if a command-line option has an `smb.conf` variable name.
- By default, Samba utilities now log to standard error (`stderr`). Use the `--debug-stdout` option to change this behavior.
- The `--client-protection=off|sign|encrypt` option has been added to the common parser.
- The following options have been renamed in all utilities:
  - `--kerberos` to `--use-kerberos=required|desired|off`
  - `--krb5-ccache` to `--use-krb5-ccache=CCACHE`
  - `--scope` to `--netbios-scope=SCOPE`
  - `--use-ccache` to `--use-winbind-ccache`
- The following options have been removed from all utilities:
  - `-e` and `--encrypt`
  - `-C` removed from `--use-winbind-ccache`
  - `-i` removed from `--netbios-scope`
  - `-S` and `--signing`
- To avoid duplicate options, certain options have been removed or renamed from the following utilities:
  - `ndrdump`: `-l` is no longer available for `--load-dso`
  - `net`: `-l` is no longer available for `--long`
  - `sharesec`: `-V` is no longer available for `--viewsddl`
smbcquotas: --user has been renamed to --quota-user
nmbsd: --log-stdout has been renamed to --debug-stdout
smbd: --log-stdout has been renamed to --debug-stdout
winbindd: --log-stdout has been renamed to --debug-stdout

(BZ#2065646)

4.11. HIGH AVAILABILITY AND CLUSTERS

The resource-stickiness resource meta-attribute now defaults to 1 instead of 0 for newly-created clusters

Previously, the default value for the resource-stickiness resource meta-attribute had a default value of 0 for newly-created clusters. This meta-attribute now defaults to 1.

With a stickiness of 0, a cluster may move resources as needed to balance resources across nodes. This may result in resources moving when unrelated resources start or stop. With a positive stickiness, resources have a preference to stay where they are, and move only if other circumstances outweigh the stickiness. This may result in newly-added nodes not getting any resources assigned to them without administrator intervention. Both approaches have potentially unexpected behavior, but most users prefer having some stickiness. The default value for this meta-attribute has been changed to 1 to reflect this preference.

Only newly-created clusters are affected by this change, so the behavior does not change for existing clusters. Users who prefer the old behavior for their cluster can delete the resource-stickiness entry from resource defaults.

(BZ#1850145)

New LVM volume group flag to control autoactivation

LVM volume groups now support a setautoactivation flag which controls whether logical volumes that you create from a volume group will be automatically activated on startup. When creating a volume group that will be managed by Pacemaker in a cluster, set this flag to n with the vgcreate --setautoactivation n command for the volume group to prevent possible data corruption. If you have an existing volume group used in a Pacemaker cluster, set the flag with vgchange --setautoactivation n.

(BZ#1899214)

New pcs resource status display commands

The pcs resource status and the pcs stonith status commands now support the following options:

- You can display the status of resources configured on a specific node with the pcs resource status node=node_id command and the pcs stonith status node=node_id command. You can use these commands to display the status of resources on both cluster and remote nodes.

- You can display the status of a single resource with the pcs resource status resource_id and the pcs stonith status resource_id commands.

- You can display the status of all resources with a specified tag with the pcs resource status tag_id and the pcs stonith status tag_id commands.

(BZ#1290830, BZ#1285269)
New reduced output display option for pcs resource safe-disable command

The pcs resource safe-disable and pcs resource disable --safe commands print a lengthy simulation result after an error report. You can now specify the --brief option for those commands to print errors only. The error report now always contains resource IDs of affected resources.

(BZ#1909901)

New pcs command to update SCSI fencing device without causing restart of all other resources

Updating a SCSI fencing device with the pcs stonith update command causes a restart of all resources running on the same node where the stonith resource was running. The new pcs stonith update-scsi-devices command allows you to update SCSI devices without causing a restart of other cluster resources.

(BZ#1872378)

Ability to configure watchdog-only SBD for fencing on subset of cluster nodes

Previously, to use a watchdog-only SBD configuration, all nodes in the cluster had to use SBD. That prevented using SBD in a cluster where some nodes support it but other nodes (often remote nodes) required some other form of fencing. Users can now configure a watchdog-only SBD setup using the new fence_watchdog agent, which allows cluster configurations where only some nodes use watchdog-only SBD for fencing and other nodes use other fencing types. A cluster may only have a single such device, and it must be named watchdog.

(BZ#1443666)

Local mode version of pcs cluster setup command is now fully supported

By default, the pcs cluster setup command automatically synchronizes all configuration files to the cluster nodes. The pcs cluster setup command now fully supports the --corosync-conf option. Specifying this option switches the command to local mode. In this mode, the pcs command-line interface creates a corosync.conf file and saves it to a specified file on the local node only, without communicating with any other node. This allows you to create a corosync.conf file in a script and handle that file by means of the script.

(BZ#2008558)

Automatic removal of location constraint following resource move

When you execute the pcs resource move command, this adds a constraint to the resource to prevent it from running on the node on which it is currently running. By default, the location constraint that the command creates is automatically removed once the resource has been moved. This does not necessarily move the resources back to the original node; where the resources can run at that point depends on how you have configured your resources initially. If you would like to move a resource and leave the resulting constraint in place, use the pcs resource move-with-contraint command.

(BZ#2008575)

pcs now accepts Promoted and Unpromoted as role names

The pcs command-line interface now accepts Promoted and Unpromoted anywhere roles are specified in Pacemaker configuration. These role names are the functional equivalent of the Master and Slave Pacemaker roles in previous RHEL releases, and these are the role names that are visible in configuration displays and help pages.

(BZ#2009455)
4.12. DYNAMIC PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES, WEB AND DATABASE SERVERS

Python in RHEL 9

Python 3.9 is the default Python implementation in RHEL 9. Python 3.9 is distributed in a non-modular python3 RPM package in the BaseOS repository and usually installed by default. Python 3.9 will be supported for the whole life cycle of RHEL 9.

Additional versions of Python 3 will be distributed as RPM packages with a shorter life cycle through the AppStream repository and will be installable in parallel.

The python command (/usr/bin/python), as well as other Python-related commands such as pip, are available in the unversioned form and point to the default Python 3.9 version.

Python 2 is not distributed with RHEL 9.

For more information about Python in RHEL 9, see Introduction to Python.

(BZ#1941595, JIRA:RHELPLAN-80598)

Node.js 16 available in RHEL 9

RHEL 9 provides version 16 of Node.js, a software development platform for building fast and scalable network applications in the JavaScript programming language.

Notable changes in Node.js 16 over Node.js 14 include:

- The V8 engine has been upgraded to version 9.2.
- The npm package manager has been upgraded to version 7.20.3.
- A new Timers Promises API provides an alternative set of timer functions that return Promise objects.
- Node.js now provides a new experimental Web Streams API.
- Node.js is now compatible with OpenSSL 3.0.

Node.js 16 is the initial version of this Application Stream, which you can install easily as an RPM package. Additional Node.js versions will be provided as modules with a shorter life cycle in future minor releases of RHEL 9.

(BZ#1953491)

RHEL 9 provides Ruby 3.0

RHEL 9 is distributed with Ruby 3.0.2, which provides a number of performance improvements, bug and security fixes, and new features over Ruby 2.7.

Notable enhancements include:

- Concurrency and parallelism features:
  - Ractor, an Actor-model abstraction that provides thread-safe parallel execution, is provided as an experimental feature.
- Fiber Scheduler has been introduced as an experimental feature. Fiber Scheduler intercepts blocking operations, which enables light-weight concurrency without changing existing code.

- Static analysis features:
  - The RBS language has been introduced which describes the structure of Ruby programs. The rbs gem has been added to parse type definitions written in RBS.
  - The TypeProf utility has been introduced which is a type analysis tool for Ruby code.

- Pattern matching with the case/in expression is no longer experimental.
- One-line pattern matching, which is an experimental feature, has been redesigned.
- Find pattern has been added as an experimental feature.

The following performance improvements have been implemented:

- Pasting long code to the Interactive Ruby Shell (IRB) is now significantly faster.
- The measure command has been added to IRB for time measurement.

Other notable changes include:

- Keyword arguments are now separated from other arguments.
- The default directory for user-installed gems is now $HOME/.local/share/gem/ unless the $HOME/.gem/ directory is already present.

Ruby 3.0 is the initial version of this Application Stream which you can install easily as an RPM package. Additional Ruby versions will be provided as modules with a shorter life cycle in future minor releases of RHEL 9.

(JIRA:RHELPLAN-80758)

RHEL 9 introduces Perl 5.32

RHEL 9 includes Perl 5.32, which provides a number of bug fixes and enhancements over version 5.30 available in RHEL 8.

Notable enhancement include:

- Perl now supports unicode version 13.0.
- The qr qoute-like operator has been enhanced.
- The POSIX::mblen(), mbtowc, and wctomb functions now work on shift state locales and are thread-safe on C99 and above compilers when executed on a platform that has locale thread-safety; the length parameters are now optional.
- The new experimental isa infix operator tests whether a given object is an instance of a given class or a class derived from it.
- Alpha assertions are no longer experimental.
- Script runs are no longer experimental.
- Feature checks are now faster.
- Perl can now dump compiled patterns before optimization.

Perl 5.32 is the initial version of this Application Stream, which you can install easily as an RPM package. Additional Perl versions will be provided as modules with a shorter life cycle in future minor releases of RHEL 9.

(JIRA:RHELPLAN-80759)

RHEL 9 introduces PHP 8.0

RHEL 9 is distributed with PHP 8.0, which provides a number of bug fixes and enhancements over version 7.4 available in RHEL 8.

Notable enhancements include:

- New named arguments are order-independent and self-documented, and enable you to specify only required parameters.
- New attributes enable you to use structured metadata with PHP’s native syntax.
- New union types enable you to use native union type declarations that are validated at runtime instead of PHPDoc annotations for a combination of types.
- Internal functions now more consistently raise an Error exception instead of warnings if parameter validation fails.
- The Just-In-Time compilation has improved the performance.
- The Xdebug debugging and productivity extension for PHP has been updated to version 3. This version introduces major changes in functionality and configuration compared to Xdebug 2.

PHP 8.0 is the initial version of this Application Stream, which you can install easily as an RPM package. Additional PHP versions will be provided as modules with a shorter life cycle in future minor releases of RHEL 9.

For more information, see Using the PHP scripting language.

(BZ#1949319)

RHEL 9 provides Git 2.31 and Git LFS 2.13

RHEL 9 is distributed with Git 2.31 which provides a number of enhancements and performance improvements over version 2.27 available in RHEL 8. Notable changes include:

- The git status command now reports the status of sparse checkout.
- You can now use the --add-file option with the git archive command to include untracked files in a snapshot from a tree-ish identifier.
- You can use the clone.defaultremotename configuration variable to customize a nickname of the source remote repository.
- You can configure the maximum length of output file names created by the git format-patch command. Previously, the length limit was 64 bytes.
- Support for the deprecated PCRE1 library has been removed.
Additionally, the **Git Large File Storage (LFS)** extension version 2.13 is now available. Enhancements over version 2.11 distributed in RHEL 8 include:

- **Git LFS** now supports SHA-256 repositories.
- **Git LFS** now supports the **socks5h** protocol.
- A new `--worktree` option is available for the **git-lfs install** and **git-lfs uninstall** commands.
- A new `--above` parameter is available for the **git-lfs migrate import** command.

(BZ#1956345, BZ#1952517)

**Subversion 1.14 in RHEL 9**

RHEL 9 is distributed with **Subversion 1.14**. **Subversion 1.14** is the initial version of this Application Stream, which you can install easily as an RPM package. Additional **Subversion** versions will be provided as modules with a shorter life cycle in future minor releases of RHEL 9.

(JIRA:RHELPLAN-82578)

**Notable changes in the Apache HTTP Server**

RHEL 9.0 Beta provides version 2.4.48 of the Apache HTTP Server. Notable changes over version 2.4.37 distributed with RHEL 8 include:

- **Apache HTTP Server Control Interface (apachectl)**:
  - The **systemctl** pager is now disabled for **apachectl status** output.
  - The **apachectl** command now fails instead of giving a warning if you pass additional arguments.
  - The **apachectl graceful-stop** command now returns immediately.
  - The **apachectl configtest** command now executes the **httpd -t** command without changing the SELinux context.
  - The **apachectl(8)** man page in RHEL now fully documents differences from upstream **apachectl**.

- **Apache eXtenSion tool (apxs)**:
  - The **/usr/bin/apxs** command no longer uses or exposes compiler optimisation flags as applied when building the **httpd** package. You can now use the **/usr/lib64/httpd/build/vendor-apxs** command to apply the same compiler flags as used to build **httpd**. To use the **vendor-apxs** command, you must install the **redhat-rpm-config** package first.

- **Apache modules**:
  - The **mod_lua** module is now provided in a separate package.

- **Configuration syntax changes**:
  - In the deprecated **Allow** directive provided by the **mod_access_compat** module, a comment (the `#` character) now triggers a syntax error instead of being silently ignored.

- **Other changes**:
• Kernel thread IDs are now used directly in error log messages, making them both accurate and more concise.

• Many minor enhancements and bug fixes.

• A number of new interfaces are available to module authors.

There are no backwards-incompatible changes to the httpd module API since RHEL 8.

Apache HTTP Server 2.4 is the initial version of this Application Stream, which you can install easily as an RPM package.

For more information, see Setting up the Apache HTTP web server.

(JIRA:RHELPLAN-68364, BZ#1931976, JIRA:RHELPLAN-80725)

nginx 1.20 available in RHEL 9

RHEL 9 includes the nginx 1.20 web and proxy server. This release provides a number of bug fixes, security fixes, new features and enhancements over version 1.18.

New features:

• nginx now supports client SSL certificate validation with Online Certificate Status Protocol (OCSP).

• nginx now supports cache clearing based on the minimum amount of free space. This support is implemented as the min_free parameter of the proxy_cache_path directive.

• A new ngx_stream_set_module module has been added, which enables you to set a value for a variable.

Enhanced directives:

• Multiple new directives are now available, such as ssl_conf_command and ssl_reject_handshake.

• The proxy_cookie_flags directive now supports variables.

Improved support for HTTP/2:

• The ngx_http_v2 module now includes the lingering_close, lingering_time, lingering_timeout directives.

• Handling connections in HTTP/2 has been aligned with HTTP/1.x. From nginx 1.20, use the keepalive_timeout and keepalive_requests directives instead of the removed http2_recv_timeout, http2_idle_timeout, and http2_max_requests directives.

nginx 1.20 is the initial version of this Application Stream, which you can install easily as an RPM package. Additional nginx versions will be provided as modules with a shorter life cycle in future minor releases of RHEL 9.

For more information, see Setting up and configuring NGINX.

(BZ#1953639)

Varnish Cache 6.5 in RHEL 9
RHEL 9 includes **Varnish Cache 6.5**, a high-performance HTTP reverse proxy. This release provides a number of bug fixes and enhancements over version 6.0 available in RHEL 8.

**Varnish Cache 6** is the initial version of this Application Stream, which you can install easily as an RPM package.

(BZ#1984185)

**RHEL 9 introduces Squid 5**

RHEL 9 is distributed with **Squid 5.1**, a high-performance proxy caching server for web clients, supporting FTP, Gopher, and HTTP data objects. This release provides a number of bug fixes, security fixes, new features, and enhancements over version 4 available in RHEL 8.

New features:

- **Squid** improves responsibility by using the Happy Eyeballs (HE) algorithm.
  - **Squid** now uses a received IP address as soon request forwarding requires it instead of waiting for all of the potential forwarding destinations to be fully resolved.
  - New directives are now available: `happy_eyeballs_connect_gap`, `happy_eyeballs_connect_limit`, and `happy_eyeballs_connect_timeout` directives.
  - The `dns_v4_first` directive has been removed.

- **Squid** now uses the **CDN-Loop** header as a source for loop detection in Content Delivery Networks (CDN).

- **Squid** introduces peering support for SSL bumping.

- A new Internet Content Adaptation Protocol (ICAP) trailers feature is available, which enables ICAP agents to reliably send message metadata after the message body.

Changes to configuration options:

- The `mark_client_packet` configuration option has replaced `clientside_mark`.

- The `shared_transient_entries_limit` configuration option has replaced `collapsed_forwarding_shared_entries_limit`.

**Squid 5** is the initial version of this Application Stream, which you can install easily as an RPM package.

For more information, see [Configuring the Squid caching proxy server](#).

(BZ#1990517)

**MariaDB 10.5 in RHEL 9**

RHEL 9 provides **MariaDB 10.5**. **MariaDB 10.5** is the initial version of this Application Stream, which you can install easily as an RPM package. Additional MariaDB versions will be provided as modules with a shorter life cycle in future minor releases of RHEL 9.

For more information, see [Using MariaDB](#).

(BZ#1971248)

**RHEL 9 includes MySQL 8.0**
RHEL 9 is distributed with MySQL 8.0. MySQL 8.0 is the initial version of this Application Stream, which you can install easily as an RPM package.

(JIRA:RHELPLAN-78673)

**RHEL 9 provides PostgreSQL 13**

PostgreSQL 13 is available with RHEL 9. PostgreSQL 13 is the initial version of this Application Stream, which you can install easily as an RPM package. Additional PostgreSQL versions will be provided as modules with a shorter life cycle in future minor releases of RHEL 9.

For more information, see Using PostgreSQL.

(JIRA:RHELPLAN-78675)

**Redis 6.2 in RHEL 9**

RHEL 9 is distributed with Redis 6.2, which provides a number of bug and security fixes and enhancements over version 6.0 available in RHEL 8.

Notably, Redis server configuration files are now located in a dedicated directory: `/etc/redis/redis.conf` and `/etc/redis/sentinel.conf`. In the RHEL 8 version, the location of these files was `/etc/redis.conf` and `/etc/redis-sentinel.conf` respectively.

Redis 6 is the initial version of this Application Stream, which you can install easily as an RPM package. Additional Redis versions will be provided as modules with a shorter life cycle in future minor releases of RHEL 9.

(BZ#1959756)

### 4.13. COMPILERS AND DEVELOPMENT TOOLS

**GCC 11.2 is available**

RHEL 9 Beta is distributed with GCC version 11.2. Notable bug fixes and enhancements include:

**General improvements**

- GCC now defaults to the DWARF Version 5 debugging format.
- Column numbers shown in diagnostics represent real column numbers by default and respect multicolumn characters.
- The straight-line code vectorizer considers the whole function when vectorizing.
- A series of conditional expressions that compare the same variable can be transformed into a switch statement if each of them contains a comparison expression.
- Interprocedural optimization improvements:
  - A new IPA-modref pass, controlled by the `-fipa-modref` option, tracks side effects of function calls and improves the precision of points-to analysis.
  - The identical code folding pass, controlled by the `-fipa-icf` option, was significantly improved to increase the number of unified functions and reduce compile-time memory use.
- Link-time optimization improvements:
Memory allocation during linking was improved to reduce peak memory use.

- Using a new `GCC_EXTRA_DIAGNOSTIC_OUTPUT` environment variable in IDEs, you can request machine-readable “fix-it hints” without adjusting build flags.

**Language-specific improvements**

**C family**

- C and C++ compilers support non-rectangular loop nests in OpenMP constructs and the allocator routines of the OpenMP 5.0 specification.

  - Attributes:
    - The new `no_stack_protector` attribute marks functions that should not be instrumented with stack protection (`-fstack-protector`).
    - The improved `malloc` attribute can be used to identify allocator and deallocator API pairs.

  - New warnings:
    - `-Wsizeof-array-div`, enabled by the `-Wall` option, warns about divisions of two `sizeof` operators when the first one is applied to an array and the divisor does not equal the size of the array element.
    - `-Wstringop-overread`, enabled by default, warns about calls to string functions that try to read past the end of the arrays passed to them as arguments.

  - Enhanced warnings:
    - `-Wfree-nonheap-object` detects more instances of calls to deallocation functions with pointers not returned from a dynamic memory allocation function.
    - `-Wmaybe-uninitialized` diagnoses the passing of pointers and references to uninitialized memory to functions that take `const`-qualified arguments.
    - `-Wuninitialized` detects reads from uninitialized dynamically allocated memory.

**C**

- Several new features from the upcoming C2X revision of the ISO C standard are supported with the `-std=c2x` and `-std=gnu2x` options. For example:
  - The `standard` attribute is supported.
  - The `__has_c_attribute` preprocessor operator is supported.
  - Labels may appear before declarations and at the end of a compound statement.

**C++**

- The default mode is changed to `-std=gnu++17`.

- The C++ library `libstdc++` has improved C++17 support now.

- Several new C++20 features are implemented. Note that C++20 support is experimental. For more information about the features, see C++20 Language Features.
The C++ front end has experimental support for some of the upcoming C++23 draft features.

New warnings:

- `-Wctad-maybe-unsupported`, disabled by default, warns about performing class template argument deduction on a type with no deduction guides.

- `-Wrange-loop-construct`, enabled by `-Wall`, warns when a range-based for loop is creating unnecessary and resource inefficient copies.

- `-Wmismatched-new-delete`, enabled by `-Wall`, warns about calls to operator delete with pointers returned from mismatched forms of operator new or from other mismatched allocation functions.

- `-Wvexing-parse`, enabled by default, warns about the most vexing parse rule: the cases when a declaration looks like a variable definition, but the C++ language requires it to be interpreted as a function declaration.

Architecture-specific improvements

The 64-bit ARM architecture

- The Armv8-R architecture is supported through the `-march=armv8-r` option.

- GCC can autovectorize operations performing addition, subtraction, multiplication, and the accumulate and subtract variants on complex numbers.

AMD and Intel 64-bit architectures

- The following Intel CPUs are supported: Sapphire Rapids, Alder Lake, and Rocket Lake.

- New ISA extension support for Intel AVX-VNNI is added. The `-mavxvnni` compiler switch controls the AVX-VNNI intrinsics.

- AMD CPUs based on the znver3 core are supported with the new `-march=znver3` option.

- Three microarchitecture levels defined in the x86-64 psABI supplement are supported with the new `-march=x86-64-v2`, `-march=x86-64-v3`, and `-march=x86-64-v4` options.

GCC defaults to IBM z14

RHEL 9 Beta is distributed with GCC 11.2 that defaults to the IBM z14 processor.

GCC defaults to IBM POWER9

RHEL 9 Beta is distributed with GCC 11.2 that defaults to the IBM POWER9 processor.

Link time optimization in GCC

Link time optimization (LTO) enables the compiler to perform various optimizations across all translation units of your program by using its intermediate representation at link time. For more information, see Link time optimization.
Updated performance tools and debuggers

The following performance tools and debuggers are available with RHEL 9.0 Beta:

- GDB 10.2
- Valgrind 3.17.0
- SystemTap 4.5
- Dyninst 11.0.0
- elfutils 0.185

DAWR functionality improved in GDB on IBM POWER10

RHEL 9 Beta is distributed with GDB 10.2 that provides improved DAWR functionality. New hardware watchpoint capabilities are enabled for GDB on the IBM POWER10 processors. For example, a new set of DAWR/DAWRX registers has been added.

GDB supports new prefixed instructions on IBM POWER10

GDB 10.2 fully supports the Power ISA 3.1 prefixed instructions on POWER10, which include eight-byte prefixed instructions. In RHEL 8.4, GDB only supported four-byte instructions.

Notable changes in LLVM Toolset 12.0.1

RHEL 9 Beta is distributed with LLVM Toolset 12.0.1. Notable changes include:

- The new compiler flag `-march=x86-64-v[234]` has been added.
- The compiler flag `-fasynchronous-unwind-tables` of the clang compiler is now the default on Linux AArch64/PowerPC.
- The clang compiler now supports the C++20 likelihood attributes `[[likely]]` and `[[unlikely]]`.
- The new function attribute `tune-cpu` has been added. It allows microarchitectural optimizations to be applied independently from the `target-cpu` attribute or TargetMachine CPU.
- The new sanitizer `-fsanitize=unsigned-shift-base` has been added to the integer sanitizer `-fsanitize=integer` to improve security.
- Code generation on PowerPC targets has been optimized.
- The WebAssembly backend is now enabled in LLVM. With this enhancement, you can generate WebAssembly binaries with LLVM and Clang.

For more information, see Using LLVM Toolset.
Notable changes in CMake 3.20.2

RHEL 9 Beta is distributed with CMake 3.20.2. To use CMake on a project that requires version 3.20.2 or less, use the command `cmake_minimum_required(version 3.20.2).

Notable changes include:

- C++23 compiler modes can now be specified by using the target properties `CXX_STANDARD`, `CUDA_STANDARD`, `OBJCXX_STANDARD`, or by using the `cxx_std_23` meta-feature of the compile features function.
- CUDA language support now allows the NVIDIA CUDA compiler to be a symbolic link.
- The Intel oneAPI NextGen LLVM compilers are now supported with the `IntelLLVM` compiler ID.
- CMake now facilitates cross compiling for Android by merging with the Android NDK's toolchain file.
- When running `cmake(1)` to generate a project build system, unknown command-line arguments starting with a hyphen are now rejected.

For further information on new features and deprecated functionalities, see the CMake Release Notes. (BZ#1957948)

Notable changes in Rust Toolset 1.54.0

RHEL 9 Beta is distributed with Rust Toolset 1.54.0. Notable changes include:

- The Rust standard library is now available for the `wasm32-unknown-unknown` target. With this enhancement, you can generate WebAssembly binaries, including newly stabilized intrinsics.
- It is now possible to use constant-value parameters to define generics. With this change, you can write functions completely generic over the values of any integer, boolean, or character type, and arrays generic over their element type as well as their length. Moreover, it is now possible to iterate items from an array by value using the new standard library's array type API `std::array::IntoIter`.
- Rust now includes the `IntoIterator` implementation for arrays. With this enhancement, you can use the `IntoIterator` trait to iterate over arrays by value and pass arrays to methods. However, `array.into_iter()` still iterates values by reference until the 2021 edition of Rust.
- The syntax for `or` patterns now allows nesting anywhere in the pattern. For example: `Pattern(1|2)` instead of `Pattern(1)|Pattern(2)`.
- Unicode identifiers can now contain all valid identifier characters as defined in the Unicode Standard Annex #31.
- Methods and trait implementations have been stabilized.

For more information, see Using Rust Toolset. (BZ#1947202)

Notable changes in Go Toolset 1.16.6

RHEL 9 Beta is distributed with Go Toolset 1.16.6. Notable changes include:
The `GO111MODULE` environment variable is now set to `on` by default. To revert this setting, change `GO111MODULE` to `auto`.

The Go linker now uses less resources and improves code robustness and maintainability. The change applies to all supported CPU architectures and operating systems.

With the new `embed` package you can access embedded files while compiling.

All functions of the `io/ioutil` package have been moved to the `io` and `os` packages. While you can still use `io/ioutil`, the `io` and `os` packages provide better definitions.

The Delve debugger has been rebased to 1.6.0 so that it supports Go Toolset 1.16.6.

For more information, see Using Go Toolset.

(BZ#1944737)

**Go FIPS mode is supported with OpenSSL 3**

You can now use the OpenSSL 3 library when in Go FIPS mode.

(BZ#1984110)

**Active Directory authentication for accessing SQL Server metrics in PCP**

With this update, a system administrator can configure `pmdamssql(1)` to connect securely to the SQL Server metrics using Active Directory (AD) authentication.

(BZ#1847808)

**Accessing remote hosts through a central pmproxy for the Vector data source in grafana-pcp**

In some environments, the network policy does not allow connections from the dashboard viewer’s browser to the monitored hosts directly. This update makes it possible to customize the `hostspec` in order to connect to a central `pmproxy`, which forwards the requests to the individual hosts.

(BZ#1845592)

**pcp rebased to 5.3.1**

The Performance Co-Pilot (PCP) package has been rebased to version 5.3.1. This release includes bug fixes, enhancements, and new features. The most notable changes include:

- Scalability improvements, which now support large number of hosts to have performance metrics centrally logged (`pmlogger` farms) and automatically monitored with performance rules (`pmie` farms).
- Supports the new `pcp-ss` tool for historical socket statistics.
- Improvements to the `pcp-htop` tool.
- Added extensions to the over-the-wire PCP protocol, which now support higher resolution timestamps.

(BZ#1957575)

**grafana-pcp rebased to version 3.1.0**
The `grafana-pcp` package has been rebased to version 3.1.0. The rebase provides following notable changes over previous version:

- Updated Performance Co-Pilot Vector Checklist dashboards to show new time series panel, display units in graphs, and update help texts.
- Added `pmproxy` URL and `hostspec` variables to Performance Co-Pilot Vector Host Overview and Performance Co-Pilot Checklist dashboards.
- Updated all dashboards to show `datasource` selection.
- Updated all dashboards as read only.
- Added compatibility with Grafana 8.

(BZ#1956385)

A new package: `ansible-pcp`

The `ansible-pcp` package contains roles for Performance Co-Pilot (PCP) and related software, such as Redis and Grafana, used to implement the metrics RHEL System Role.

(BZ#1957566)

`grafana` rebased to version 7.5.9

The `grafana` package has been rebased to version 7.5.9. This rebase provides following notable changes over previous version:

- Supports the beta version of the new time series panel visualization.
- Supports the beta version of the new Pie chart panel visualization.
- Added alert support for Grafana Loki. It is a log aggregation tool.
- Added support for multiple new query transformations.

For more information, see: What’s New in Grafana v7.4 and What’s New in Grafana v7.5.

(BZ#1956384)

`python-jsonpointer` rebased to version 2.0

The `python-jsonpointer` module has been updated to version 2.0.

Notable changes include:

- The Python versions 2.6 and 3.3 are deprecated.
- The `python-jsonpointer` module now automatically checks pointers for invalid escape sequences.
- You can now write pointers as arguments in the command line.
- Pointers can not be submitted in URL encoded format any more.

(BZ#1980256)

The new `pcp-ss` PCP utility is now available
The **pcp-ss** PCP utility reports socket statistics collected by the **pmdasockets(1)** PMDA. The command is compatible with many of the **ss** command line options and reporting formats. It also offers the advantages of local or remote monitoring in live mode and historical replay from a previously recorded PCP archive.

*(BZ#1981223)*

Java implementations in RHEL 9

The RHEL 9 AppStream repository includes:

- The **java-17-openjdk** packages, which provide the OpenJDK 17 Java Runtime Environment and the OpenJDK 17 Java Software Development Kit.

- The **java-11-openjdk** packages, which provide the OpenJDK 11 Java Runtime Environment and the OpenJDK 11 Java Software Development Kit.

- The **java-1.8.0-openjdk** packages, which provide the OpenJDK 8 Java Runtime Environment and the OpenJDK 8 Java Software Development Kit.

For more information, see [OpenJDK documentation](https://openjdk.java.net/).

*(BZ#2021262)*

Java tools in RHEL 9

The RHEL 9 AppStream repository includes the following Java tools:

- **Maven 3.6.3**, a software project management and comprehension tool.

- **Ant 1.10.9**, a Java library and command-line tool for compiling, assembling, testing, and running Java applications.

*Maven 3.6* and **Ant 1.10** are the initial versions of these Application Streams, which you can install easily as RPM packages.

*(BZ#1951482)*

**SWIG 4.0 available in the CRB repository**

The Simplified Wrapper and Interface Generator (SWIG) version 4.0 is available in the CodeReady Linux Builder (CRB) repository. In RHEL 9, you can install **SWIG** easily as an RPM package.

Note that packages included in the CodeReady Linux Builder repository are unsupported.

*(BZ#1943580)*

### 4.14. IDENTITY MANAGEMENT

Improved the SSSD debug logging by adding a unique identifier tag for each request

As SSSD processes requests asynchronously, it is not easy to follow log entries for individual requests in the backend logs, as messages from different requests are added to the same log file. To improve the readability of debug logs, a unique request identifier is now added to log messages in the form of **RID# <integer>**. This allows you to isolate logs pertaining to an individual request, and you can track requests from start to finish across log files from multiple SSSD components.
For example, the following sample output from an SSSD log file shows the unique identifiers RID#3 and RID#4 for two different requests:

(2021-07-26 18:26:37): [be@testidm.com] [dp_req_destructor] (0x0400): RID#3 Number of active DP request: 0
(2021-07-26 18:26:37): [be@testidm.com] [dp_req_reply_std] (0x1000): RID#3 DP Request AccountDomain #3: Returning [Internal Error]: 3,1432158301,GetAccountDomain() not supported
(2021-07-26 18:26:37): [be@testidm.com] [dp_attach_req] (0x0400): RID#4 DP Request Account #4: REQ_TRACE: New request. sssd.nss CID #1 Flags [0x0001].
(2021-07-26 18:26:37): [be@testidm.com] [dp_attach_req] (0x0400): RID#4 Number of active DP request: 1

(JIRA:RHELPLAN-92473)

**ansible-freeipa is now available in the AppStream repository with all dependencies**

Previously in RHEL 8, before installing the **ansible-freeipa** package, you first had to enable the Ansible repository and install the **ansible** package. In RHEL 9, you can install **ansible-freeipa** without any preliminary steps. Installing **ansible-freeipa** automatically installs **ansible-core** as a dependency. Both packages are available in the **rhel-9-for-x86_64-appstream-rpms** repository.

**ansible-freeipa** in RHEL 9 contains all the modules that it contained in RHEL 8.

(JIRA:RHELPLAN-100359)

**IdM now supports the automember and server Ansible modules**

With this update, the **ansible-freeipa** package contains the **ipaautomember** and **ipaserver** modules:

- Using the **ipaautomember** module, you can add, remove, and modify automember rules and conditions. As a result, future IdM users and hosts that meet the conditions will be assigned to IdM groups automatically.

- Using the **ipaserver** module, you can ensure various parameters of the presence or absence of a server in the IdM topology. You can also ensure that a replica is hidden or visible.

(JIRA:RHELPLAN-96640)

**Support for managing subID ranges is available in IdM**

With this update, you can manage ID subranges for users in Identity Management. You can use the **ipa** CLI tool or IdM WebUI interface to assign automatically configured subID ranges to a user, which might be useful in a containerized environment.

(BZ#1952028)

**Automatic private groups for AD users support centralized configuring**

You can now centrally define how compatible versions of SSSD on IdM clients manage private groups for users from trusted Active Directory domains. With this enhancement, you can now explicitly set the value for SSSD's **auto_private_groups** option for an ID range that handles AD users.

When the **auto_private_groups** option is not explicitly set, it uses a default value:

- For an **ipa-ad-trust-posix** ID range, the default value is **false**. SSSD always uses the **uidNumber** and **gidNumber** of the AD entry. A group with the **gidNumber** must exist in AD.
- For an `ipa-ad-trust` ID range, the default value is `true`. SSSD maps the `uidNumber` from the entry SID, the `gidNumber` is always set to the same value, and a private group is always mapped.

You can also set `auto_private_groups` to a third setting: `hybrid`. With this setting, SSSD maps a private group if the user entry has a GID equal to the UID but there is no group with this GID. If the UID and GID are different, a group with this GID number must exist.

This feature is useful for administrators that want to stop maintaining separate group objects for the user private groups, but also want to retain the existing user private groups.

(BZ#1957736)

**Customizable logging settings for BIND**

With this enhancement, you can now configure logging settings for the BIND DNS server component of an Identity Management server in the `/etc/named/ipa-logging-ext.conf` configuration file.

(BZ#1966101)

**Autodiscovery of IdM servers when retrieving an IdM keytab**

With this enhancement, you no longer need to specify an IdM server host name when retrieving a Kerberos keytab with the `ipa-getkeytab` command. If you do not specify a server host name, DNS discovery is used to find an IdM server. If no servers are found, the command falls back to the `host` value specified in the `/etc/ipa/default.conf` configuration file.

(BZ#1988383)

**samba rebased to version 4.15.4**

The `samba` packages have been upgraded to upstream version 4.15.4, which provides bug fixes and enhancements over the previous version:

- Options in Samba utilities have been renamed and removed for a consistent user experience
- Server multi-channel support is now enabled by default.
- The `SMB2_22`, `SMB2_24`, and `SMB3_10` dialects, which were only used by Windows technical previews, have been removed.

Back up the database files before starting Samba. When the `smbd`, `nmbd`, or `winbind` services start, Samba automatically updates its `tdb` database files. Note that Red Hat does not support downgrading `tdb` database files.

After updating Samba, verify the `/etc/samba/smb.conf` file using the `testparm` utility.

For further information about notable changes, read the [upstream release notes](https://www.samba.org/) before updating.

(BZ#2013578)

**The support for managing subID ranges is available in the shadow-utils**

Previously, `shadow-utils` configured the subID ranges automatically from the `/etc/subuid` and `/etc/subgid` files. With this update, the configuration of subID ranges is available in the `/etc/nsswitch.conf` file by setting a value in the `subid` field. For more information, see `man subuid` and `man subgid`. Also, with this update, an SSSD implementation of the `shadow-utils` plugin is available,
which provides the subID ranges from the IPA server. To use this functionality, add the `subid: sss` value to the `/etc/nsswitch.conf` file. This solution might be useful in the containerized environment to facilitate rootless containers.

Note that in case the `/etc/nsswitch.conf` file is configured by the `authselect` tool, you must follow the procedures described in the `authselect` documentation. When it is not the case, you can modify the `/etc/nsswitch.conf` file manually.

**(BZ#1859252)**

**SSSD now logs backtraces by default**

With this enhancement, SSSD now stores detailed debug logs in an in-memory buffer and appends them to log files when a failure occurs. By default, the following error levels trigger a backtrace:

- Level 0: fatal failures
- Level 1: critical failures
- Level 2: serious failures

You can modify this behavior for each SSSD process by setting the `debug_level` option in the corresponding section of the `sssd.conf` configuration file:

- If you set the debugging level to 0, only level 0 events trigger a backtrace.
- If you set the debugging level to 1, levels 0 and 1 trigger a backtrace.
- If you set the debugging level to 2 or higher, events at level 0 through 2 trigger a backtrace.

You can disable this feature per SSSD process by setting the `debug_backtrace_enabled` option to `false` in the corresponding section of `sssd.conf`:

```
[sssd]
debug_backtrace_enabled = true
debug_level=0
...

[nss]
debug_backtrace_enabled = false
...

[domain/idm.example.com]
debug_backtrace_enabled = true
debug_level=2
...
...
```

**(BZ#1949149)**

**Directory Server rebased to version 1.4.3.28**

The `389-ds-base` packages have been upgraded to upstream version 1.4.3, which provides a number of bug fixes and enhancements over the previous version:

- A potential deadlock in replicas has been fixed.
• The server no longer terminates unexpectedly when the `dnInterval` is set to 0.

• The performance of connection handling has been improved.

• Improved performance of `targetfilter` in access control instructions (ACI).

(BZ#2016014)

Directory Server now stores memory-mapped files of databases on a `tmpfs` file system

In Directory Server, the `nsslapd-db-home-directory` parameter defines the location of memory-mapped files of databases. This enhancement changes the default value of the parameter from `/var/lib/dirsrv/slapd-instance_name/db/` to `/tmp/shm/`. As a result, with the internal databases stored on a `tmpfs` file system, the performance of Directory Server increases.

(BZ#1780842)

4.15. DESKTOP

GNOME updated to version 40

The GNOME environment is now updated from GNOME 3.28 to GNOME 40 with many new features.

GNOME 40 includes a new and improved `Activities Overview` design. This gives the overview a more coherent look, and provides an improved experience for navigating the system and launching applications. Workspaces are now arranged horizontally, and the window overview and application grid are accessed vertically.

Other improvements to GNOME include:

• The performance and resource usage of GNOME has been significantly improved.

• The visual style, including the user interface, the icons, and the desktop, has been refreshed.

• GNOME applications no longer use the application menu, which was available from the top panel. The functionality is now located in a primary menu within the application window.

• The `Settings` application has been redesigned.

• Screen sharing and remote desktop sessions have been improved.

• If you use the proprietary NVIDIA drivers, you can now launch applications using the discrete GPU:
  a. Open the overview.
  b. Right-click the application icon in the dash.
  c. Select the `Launch on Discrete GPU` item in the menu.

• The `Power Off / Log Out` menu now includes the `Suspend` option and a new `Restart` option, which can reboot the system to the boot loader menu when you hold `Alt`.

• Flatpak applications now update automatically.

• You can now group application icons in the overview together into folders using drag and drop.

• The `Terminal` application now supports right-to-left and bi-directional text.
The Pointer Location accessibility feature now works in the Wayland session. When the feature is enabled, pressing Ctrl highlights the pointer location on the screen.

 GNOME shell extensions are now managed by the Extensions application, rather than Software. The Extensions application handles updating extensions, configuring extension preferences, and removing or disabling extensions.

 The notifications popover now includes a Do Not Disturb button. When the button enabled, notifications do not appear on the screen.

 System dialogs that require a password now have an option to reveal the password text by clicking the eye (І) icon.

 The Software application now automatically detects metered networks, such as mobile data networks. When the current network is metered, Software pauses updates in order to reduce data usage.

 Each connected display can now use a different refresh rate in the Wayland session.

 Fractional display scaling is available as an experimental option. It includes several preconfigured fractional ratios. To enable the experimental fractional scaling, add the scale-monitor-framebuffer value to the list of enabled experimental features:

```
$ dconf write \
 /org/gnome/mutter/experimental-features \n "["scale-monitor-framebuffer"]"
```

As a result, fractional scaling options are accessible on the Display panel in Settings.

For more details on the changes in GNOME, see versions 3.30 to 40.0 in Release Notes.

(PJIRA:RHELPLAN-101240)

**PipeWire is now the default audio service**

The Pipewire service now manages all audio output and input. Pipewire replaces the PulseAudio service in general use cases and the JACK service in professional use cases. The system now redirects audio from applications that use PulseAudio, JACK, or the ALSA framework into Pipewire.

Benefits of Pipewire over the previous solutions include:

- A unified solution for consumer and professional users
- A flexible, modular architecture
- High performance and low latency, similar to the JACK service
- Isolation between audio clients for better security

You no longer have to configure the JACK service for applications that use it. All JACK applications now work in the default RHEL configuration.

(PJIRA:RHELPLAN-101241)

**Power profiles are available in GNOME**
You can now switch between several power profiles in the Power panel of Settings in the GNOME environment. The power profiles optimize various system settings for the selected goal.

The following power profiles are available:

**Performance**
Optimizes for high system performance and reduces battery life. This profile is only available on certain selected system configurations.

**Balanced**
Provides standard system performance and power consumption. This is the default profile.

**Power Saver**
Increases battery life and reduces system performance. This profile activates automatically on low battery.

Your power profile configuration persists across system reboots.

The power profiles functionality is available from the power-profiles-daemon package, which is installed by default.

(JIRA:RHELPLAN-101242)

**Boot loader menu hidden by default**

The GRUB boot loader is now configured to hide the boot menu by default if RHEL is the only installed operating system and if the previous boot succeeded. This results in a smoother boot experience on such systems.

To access the boot menu, use one of the following options:

- Repeatedly press Esc after booting the system.
- Repeatedly press F8 after booting the system.
- Hold Shift during boot.

To disable this function and configure the boot loader menu to display by default, use the following command:

```
# grub2-editenv -unset menu_auto_hide
```

(JIRA:RHELPLAN-101245)

**Boot loader configuration files are unified across CPU architectures**

Configuration files for the GRUB boot loader are now stored in the /boot/grub2/ directory on all supported CPU architectures. The /boot/efi/EFI/redhat/grub.cfg file, which GRUB previously used on UEFI systems, is now a symbolic link to the /boot/grub2/grub.cfg file.

This change simplifies the layout of the GRUB configuration file, improves user experience, and provides the following notable benefits:

- You can boot the same installation with either EFI or legacy BIOS.
- You can use the same documentation and commands for all architectures.
- GRUB configuration tools are more robust, because they no longer rely on symbolic links and they do not have to handle platform-specific cases.
- The usage of the GRUB configuration files is aligned with images generated by CoreOS Assembler (COSA) and OSBuild.
- The usage of the GRUB configuration files is aligned with other Linux distributions.

(JIRA:RHELPLAN-101246)

**Language support is now provided by langpacks**

Support for various languages is now available from langpacks packages. You can customize the level of language support that you want to install using the following package names, where `code` is the short ISO code for the language, such as `es` for Spanish:

**langpacks-core-code**

Provides a basic language support, including:

- The `glibc` locale
- The default font
- The default input method if the language requires it

**langpacks-core-font-code**

Provides only the default font for the language.

**langpacks-code**

Provides the complete language support, including the following in addition to the basic language support:

- Translations
- Spell checker dictionaries
- Additional fonts

(JIRA:RHELPLAN-101247)

**Lightweight, single-application environment**

For graphical use cases that only present a single application, a lightweight user interface (UI) is now available.

You can start GNOME in a single-application session, also known as kiosk mode. In this session, GNOME displays only a full-screen window of an application that you have configured.

The single-application session is significantly less resource intensive than the standard GNOME session.

For more information, see [Restricting the session to a single application](#).

(JIRA:RHELPLAN-102552)

**4.16. THE WEB CONSOLE**

Kernel security patches without reboot in the web console
Kernel security patches without reboot in the web console

This web console update allows users to apply kernel security patches without forcing reboots by using the `kpatch` framework. Administrators can also automatically subscribe any future kernel to the live patching stream.

(JIRA:RHELPLAN-95056)

4.17. RED HAT ENTERPRISE LINUX SYSTEM ROLES

The networking System Role now supports OWE

Opportunistic Wireless Encryption (OWE) is a mode of opportunistic security for Wi-Fi networks that provides encryption of the wireless medium but no authentication, such as public hot spots. OWE uses encryption between Wi-Fi clients and access points, protecting them from sniffing attacks. With this enhancement, the `networking` RHEL System role supports OWE. As a result, administrators can now use the `networking` System Role to configure connections to Wi-Fi networks which use OWE.

(BZ#1993379)

The networking System Role now supports SAE

In Wi-Fi protected access version 3 (WPA3) networks, the simultaneous authentication of equals (SAE) method ensures that the encryption key is not transmitted. With this enhancement, the `networking` RHEL System role supports SAE. As a result, administrators can now use the `networking` System Role to configure connections to Wi-Fi networks which use WPA-SAE.

(BZ#1993311)

The Storage RHEL System Role now supports LVM VDO volumes

With this enhancement, you can use the Storage System Role to manage Logical Manager Volumes (LVM) Virtual Data Optimizer (VDO) volumes. The LVM filesystem manages VDO volumes and with this feature, it is now possible to compress and deduplicate on LVM volumes. As a result, VDO helps to optimize the usage of the storage volumes.

(BZ#1978488)

Support for volume sizes expressed as a percentage is available in the Storage System Role

This enhancement adds support to the Storage RHEL System Role to express LVM volume sizes as a percentage of the pool’s total size. You can specify the size of LVM volumes as a percentage of the pool/ VG size, e.g. 50% in addition to the human-readable size of the file system, for example, 10g, 50 GiB.

(BZ#1984583)

Support for configuring multiple elasticsearch hosts in one elasticsearch output dictionary

Previously, the `server_host` parameter used to take a string value for a single host. This enhancement adjusts it to the underlying `rsyslog omelasticsearch`’s specification, so it now also takes a list of strings to support multiple hosts. Consequently, it is adjusted to hosts, following the underlying `rsyslog omelasticsearch`’s specification. As a result, users can configure multiple `elasticsearch` hosts in one `elasticsearch` output dictionary.

(BZ#1986460)

The SSHD RHEL System Role now supports non-exclusive configuration snippets
With this feature, you can configure SSHD through different roles and playbooks without rewriting the previous configurations by using namespaces. Namespaces are similar to a drop-in directory, and define non-exclusive configuration snippets for SSHD. As a result, you can use the SSHD RHEL System Role from a different role, if you need to configure only a small part of the configuration and not the entire configuration file.

(BZ#1978752)

Network Time Security (NTS) option added to the timesync RHEL System Role

The **NTS** option was added to the Timesync RHEL System Role to enable **NTS** on client servers. NTS is a new security mechanism specified for Network Time Protocol (NTP). NTS can secure synchronization of NTP clients without client-specific configuration and can scale to large numbers of clients. The **NTS** option is supported only with the **chrony** NTP provider in version 4.0 and later.

(BZ#1978753)

4.18. VIRTUALIZATION

QEMU uses Clang

The QEMU emulator is now built using the Clang compiler. This enables the RHEL 9 KVM hypervisor to use a number of advanced security and debugging features, and makes future feature development more efficient.

(BZ#1940132)

SafeStack for virtual machines

In RHEL 9 on AMD64 and Intel 64 hardware (x86_64), the QEMU emulator can use SafeStack, an enhanced compiler-based stack protection feature. SafeStack reduces the ability of an attacker to exploit a stack-based buffer overflow to change return pointers in the stack and create Return-Oriented Programming (ROP) attacks. As a result, virtual machines hosted on RHEL 9 are significantly more secure against ROP-based vulnerabilities.

(BZ#1939509)

qemu-kvm now supports additional machine types

In RHEL 9, the following machine types are now supported by the **qemu-kvm** virtualization system:

- On the Intel 64 and AMD64 (x86_64) architecture:
  - pc-i440fx-rhel7.6.0 RHEL 7.6.0 PC (i440FX + PIIX, 1996) (default)
  - pc RHEL 7.6.0 PC (i440FX + PIIX, 1996) (alias of pc-i440fx-rhel7.6.0)
  - q35 RHEL-8.5.0 PC (Q35 + ICH9, 2009) (alias of pc-q35-rhel8.5.0)
  - pc-q35-rhel8.5.0 RHEL-8.5.0 PC (Q35 + ICH9, 2009)
  - pc-q35-rhel8.4.0 RHEL-8.4.0 PC (Q35 + ICH9, 2009)
  - pc-q35-rhel8.3.0 RHEL-8.3.0 PC (Q35 + ICH9, 2009)
  - pc-q35-rhel8.2.0 RHEL-8.2.0 PC (Q35 + ICH9, 2009)
  - pc-q35-rhel8.1.0 RHEL-8.1.0 PC (Q35 + ICH9, 2009)
- pc-q35-rhel8.0.0 RHEL-8.0.0 PC (Q35 + ICH9, 2009)
- pc-q35-rhel7.6.0 RHEL-7.6.0 PC (Q35 + ICH9, 2009)

- On the IBM Z (s390x) architecture:
  - s390-ccw-virtio-rhel7.6.0 VirtIO-ccw based S390 machine rhel7.6.0
  - s390-ccw-virtio-rhel8.2.0 VirtIO-ccw based S390 machine rhel8.2.0
  - s390-ccw-virtio-rhel8.4.0 VirtIO-ccw based S390 machine rhel8.4.0
  - s390-ccw-virtio-rhel8.5.0 VirtIO-ccw based S390 machine rhel8.5.0 (default)
  - s390-ccw-virtio VirtIO-ccw based S390 machine rhel8.5.0 (alias of s390-ccw-virtio-rhel8.5.0)

Additionally, all machine types based on RHEL 7.5.0 or earlier are now unsupported.

(JIRA:RHELPLAN-75866)

**Mediated devices are now supported by virtualization CLIs on IBM Z**

Using `virt-install` or `virt-xml`, you can now attach mediated devices to your virtual machines (VMs), such as vfio-ap and vfio-ccw. This for example enables more flexible management of DASD storage devices and cryptographic coprocessors on IBM Z hosts. In addition, using `virt-install`, you can create a VM that uses an existing DASD mediated device as its primary disk. For instructions to do so, see the Configuring and Managing Virtualization in RHEL 9 guide.

(BZ#1995131)

### 4.19. RHEL IN CLOUD ENVIRONMENTS

**WALinuxAgent rebased to 2.3.0.2**

The Windows Azure Linux Agent (WALinuxAgent) has been upgraded to upstream version 2.3.0.2, which introduces a number of bug fixes and enhancement. Most notably:

- Support for has been added RequiredFeatures and GoalStateAggregateStatus APIs.
- Fallback locations for extension manifests have been added.
- Missing calls to `str.format()` have been added when creating exceptions.

(BZ#1972101)

**RHEL on Azure now supports MANA**

RHEL 9 virtual machines running on Microsoft Azure can now use the Microsoft Azure Network Adapter (MANA).

(BZ#1957818)

### 4.20. CONTAINERS

Podman now supports secure short names
Short-name aliases for images can now be configured in the `registries.conf` file in the `[aliases]` table. The short-names modes are:

- **Enforcing**: If no matching alias is found during the image pull, Podman prompts the user to choose one of the unqualified-search registries. If the selected image is pulled successfully, Podman automatically records a new short-name alias in the `$HOME/.cache/containers/short-name-aliases.conf` file (rootless user) and in the `/var/cache/containers/short-name-aliases.conf` (root user). If the user cannot be prompted (for example, stdin or stdout are not a TTY), Podman fails. Note that the `short-name-aliases.conf` file has precedence over `registries.conf` file if both specify the same alias.

- **Permissive**: Similar to enforcing mode, but Podman does not fail if the user cannot be prompted. Instead, Podman searches in all unqualified-search registries in the given order. Note that no alias is recorded.

Example:

```
unqualified-search-registries=["registry.fedoraproject.org", "quay.io"]

[aliases]

"fedora"="registry.fedoraproject.org/fedora"
```

(JIRA:RHELPLAN-74542)

**The containers-common package is now available**

The `containers-common` package has been added to the `container-tools:latest` module. The `containers-common` package contains common configuration files and documentation for the container tools ecosystem, such as Podman, Buildah and Skopeo.

(JIRA:RHELPLAN-77549)

**Changes in the container-tools module**

The `container-tools` module contains the Podman, Buildah, Skopeo, and runc tools. The rolling stream, represented by the `container-tools:rhel8` stream in RHEL 8, is named `container-tools:latest` in RHEL 9. Similarly to RHEL 8, stable versions of container tools are going to be available in numbered streams (for example, 3.0).

For more information about the Container Tools Application Stream, see Container Tools AppStream - Content Availability.

(JIRA:RHELPLAN-73678)

**Updating container images with new packages**

For instance, to update the `registry.access.redhat.com/rhel9-beta` container image with the latest packages, use the following commands:

```
$ podman run -it registry.access.redhat.com/rhel9-beta
$ yum update -y & & rm -rf /var/cache/yum
```

To install a particular `<package>` enter:

```
$ yum install <package>
```
For more information, see Adding software to a running UBI container.

Note that for RHEL 9 Beta, updating or installing new packages in the image requires that you are running on an entitled host. You can use the Red Hat Enterprise Linux Developer Subscription for Individuals to gain access to entitled repositories at no-cost.

For more information, see No-cost Red Hat Enterprise Linux Individual Developer Subscription: FAQs.

(JIRA:RHELPLAN-84168)

The podman-py package is now available

The podman-py package has been added to the container-tools:3.0 stable module stream and the container-tools:latest module. The podman-py package is a library of bindings to use the RESTful API of Podman.

(BZ#1975462)

Control groups version 2 is now available

The previous version of control groups, cgroups version 1 (cgroups v1) caused performance problems with a variety of applications. The latest release of control groups, cgroups version 2 (cgroups v2) enables system administrators to limit resources for any application without causing performance problems.

This new version of control groups, cgroups v2, can be enabled in RHEL 8 and is enabled by default in RHEL 9.

(JIRA:RHELPLAN-73697)

The container-tools meta-package is now available

The container-tools RPM meta-package includes Podman, Buildah, Skopeo, CRIU, Udica, and all required libraries, is available in RHEL 9. The stable streams are not available on RHEL 9. To receive stable access to Podman, Buildah, Skopeo, and others, use the RHEL EUS subscription.

To install the container-tools meta-package:

1. Disable and remove the container-tools module:

   ```
   $ sudo dnf module disable container-tools
   $ sudo dnf module remove container-tools
   ```

2. Install the container-tools meta-package:

   ```
   $ sudo dnf install container-tools
   ```

(BZ#2000871)
CHAPTER 5. BUG FIXES

This part describes bugs fixed in Red Hat Enterprise Linux 9.0 Beta that have a significant impact on users.

5.1. INSTALLER AND IMAGE CREATION

The automatic partitioning can be scheduled in Anaconda

Previously, during automatic partitioning on LVM type disks, the installer tried to create a partition for an LVM PV on each selected disk. If these disks already had partitioning layout, the schedule of the automatic partitioning could have failed with the error message.

With this update, the problem has been fixed. Now you can schedule the automatic partitioning in the installer.

(BZ#1642391)

RHEL installer failed to start when InfiniBand network interfaces were configured using installer boot options

Previously, when you configured InfiniBand network interfaces at an early stage of RHEL installation using installer boot options (for example, downloaded installer image using PXE server), the installer failed to activate the network interfaces.

This issue occurred because the RHEL NetworkManager failed to recognize the network interfaces in InfiniBand mode, and instead configured Ethernet connections for the interfaces.

As a result, connection activation failed, and if the connectivity over the InfiniBand interface was required at an early stage, RHEL installer failed to start the installation.

With this release, the installer successfully activates the InfiniBand network interfaces that you configure at an early stage of RHEL installation using installer boot options, and the installation completes successfully.

(BZ#1890009)

Configuring a wireless network using Anaconda GUI is fixed

Previously, configuring the wireless network while using Anaconda graphical user interface (GUI) caused the installation to crash.

With this update, the problem has been fixed. You can configure the wireless network during the installation while using Anaconda GUI.

(BZ#1847681)

Anaconda now shows a dialog for ldl or unformatted DASD disks in text mode

Previously, during an installation in text mode, Anaconda failed to show a dialog for Linux disk layout (ldl) or unformatted Direct-Access Storage Device (DASD) disks. As a result, users were unable to utilize those disks for the installation.

With this update, in text mode Anaconda recognizes ldl and unformatted DASD disks and shows a dialog where users can format them properly for the future utilization for the installation.

(BZ#1874394)
--leavebootorder no longer changes boot order

Previously, using --leavebootorder for the bootloader kickstart command did not work correctly on UEFI systems and changed the boot order. This caused the installer to add RHEL at the top of the list of installed systems in the UEFI boot menu.

This update fixes the problem and using --leavebootorder no longer changes the boot order in the boot loader. --leavebootorder is now supported on RHEL for UEFI systems.

(BZ#2025953)

Anaconda sets a static hostname before running the %post scripts

Previously, when Anaconda was setting the installer environment host name to the value from the kickstart configuration (network --hostname), it used to set a transient hostname. Some of the actions performed during %post script run, for example network device activation, were causing the host name reset to a value obtained by reverse dns.

With this update, Anaconda now sets a static hostname of the installer environment to be stable during the run of kickstart %post scripts.

(BZ#2009403)

5.2. SUBSCRIPTION MANAGEMENT

virt-who now works correctly with Hyper-V hosts

Previously, when using virt-who to set up RHEL 9 virtual machines (VMs) on a Hyper-V hypervisor, virt-who did not properly communicate with the hypervisor, and the setup failed. This was because of a deprecated encryption method in the openssl package.

With this update, the virt-who authentication mode for Hyper-V has been modified, and setting up RHEL 9 VMs on Hyper-V using virt-who now works correctly. Note that this also requires the hypervisor to use basic authentication mode. To enable this mode, use the following commands:

```
winrm set winrm/config/service/auth '@{Basic="true"}';
winrm set winrm/config/service '@{AllowUnencrypted="true"}';
```

(BZ#2008215)

5.3. SHELLS AND COMMAND-LINE TOOLS

openCryptoki rebased to version 3.16.0

The openCryptoki package has been upgraded to version 3.16.0. Notable bug fixes and enhancements include:

- Improved the protected-key option and support for the attribute-bound keys in EP11 core processor.
- Improved the import and export of secure key objects in the cycle-count-accurate (CCA) processor.

(BZ#1869533)

opal-prd rebased to version 6.7.1
The opal-prd package has been upgraded to version 6.7.1. Notable bug fixes and enhancements include:

- Fixed xscom error logging issues caused due to xscom OPAL call.
- Fixed possible deadlock with the DEBUG build.
- Fallback to full_reboot if fast-reboot fails in core/platform.
- Fixed next_ungarded_primary in core/cpu.
- Improved rate limit timer requests and the timer state in Self-Boot Engine (SBE).

(BZ#1869560)

lsvpd rebased to version 1.7.22

The lsvpd package has been upgraded to version 1.7.22. Notable bug fixes and enhancements include:

- Added the UUID property in sysvpd.
- Improved the NVMe firmware version.
- Fixed PCI device manufacturer parsing logic.
- Added recommends clause to the lsvpd configuration file.

(BZ#1869564)

Red Hat Enterprise Linux 9 delivers an up-to-date modulemd-tools package

Previously, it was not possible to upgrade the modulemd-tools package from RHEL version 8 to version 9. The package is now upgraded to a new upstream version 0.9.

(BZ#1946984)

libservicelog rebased to version 1.1.19

libservicelog has been upgraded to version 1.1.19. Notable bug fixes and enhancements include:

- Fixed output alignment issue.
- Fixed segfault on servicelog_open() failure.

(BZ#1869568)

5.4. SECURITY

kdump no longer crashes due to SELinux permissions

The kdump crash recovery service requires additional SELinux permissions to start correctly. In previous versions, therefore, SELinux prevented kdump from working, kdump reported that it is not operational, and Access Vector Cache (AVC) denials were audited. In this version, the required permissions were added to selinux-policy and as a result, kdump works correctly and no AVC denial is audited.

(BZ#1932752)

The usbguard-selinux package is no longer dependent on usbguard
Previously, the `usbguard-selinux` package was dependent on the `usbguard` package. This, in combination with other dependencies of these packages, led to file conflicts when installing `usbguard`. As a consequence, this prevented the installation of `usbguard` on certain systems. With this version, `usbguard-selinux` no longer depends on `usbguard`, and as a result, `yum` can install `usbguard` correctly.

(BZ#1986785)

`dnf install` and `dnf update` now work with `fapolicyd` in SELinux

The `fapolicyd-selinux` package, which contains SELinux rules for fapolicyd, did not contain permissions to watch all files and directories. As a consequence, the `fapolicyd-dnf-plugin` did not work correctly, causing any `dnf install` and `dnf update` commands to make the system stop responding indefinitely. In this version, the permissions to watch any file type were added to `fapolicyd-selinux`. As a result, the `fapolicyd-dnf-plugin` works correctly and the commands `dnf install` and `dnf update` are operational.

(BZ#1932225)

5.5. NETWORKING

Wifi and 802.1x Ethernet connections profiles are now connecting properly

Previously, many Wifi and 802.1x Ethernet connections profiles were not able to connect. This bug is now fixed. All the profiles are now connecting properly. Profiles that use legacy cryptographic algorithms still work but you need to manually enable the OpenSSL legacy provider. This is required, for example, when you use DES with MS-CHAPv2 and RC4 with TKIP.

(BZ#1975718)

5.6. KERNEL

The `makedumpfile` utility now works as expected on a 52-bit virtual address on a 64-bit ARM architecture

Previously, the `makedumpfile` utility failed to create dump files on a 52-bit kernel virtual address on a 64-bit ARM architecture. As a consequence, the capture kernel failed to generate the `vmcore` image in the event of a kernel crash.

This update fixes the problem. As a result, `makedumpfile` can now generate `vmcore` files on a 52-bit virtual address on a 64-bit ARM architecture.

(BZ#1922023)

5.7. HIGH AVAILABILITY AND CLUSTERS

Pacemaker attribute manager correctly determines remote node attributes, preventing unfencing loops

Previously, Pacemaker’s controller on a node might be elected the Designated Controller (DC) before its attribute manager learned an already-active remote node is remote. When this occurred, the node’s scheduler would not see any of the remote node’s node attributes. If the cluster used unfencing, this could result in an unfencing loop. With the fix, the attribute manager can now learn a remote node is remote by means of additional events, including the initial attribute sync at start-up. As a result, no unfencing loop occurs, regardless of which node is elected DC.

(BZ#1975388)
5.8. COMPILERS AND DEVELOPMENT TOOLS

-Wsequence-point warning behavior fixed

Previously, when the -Wsequence-point warning option tried to warn about very long expressions, it could cause quadratic behavior and therefore significantly longer compilation time. With this update, -Wsequence-point doesn’t attempt to warn about extremely large expressions and as a result, doesn’t increase compilation time.

(BZ#1481850)

5.9. IDENTITY MANAGEMENT

Running sudo commands no longer exports the KRB5CCNAME environment variable

Previously, after running sudo commands, the environment variable KRB5CCNAME pointed to the Kerberos credential cache of the original user, which might not be accessible to the target user. As a result Kerberos related operations might fail as this cache is not accessible. With this update, running sudo commands no longer sets the KRB5CCNAME environment variable and the target user can use their default Kerberos credential cache.

(BZ#1879869)

SSSD correctly evaluates the default setting for the Kerberos keytab name in /etc/krb5.conf

Previously, if you defined a non-standard location for your krb5.keytab file, SSSD did not use this location and used the default /etc/krb5.keytab location instead. As a result, when you tried to log into the system, the login failed as the /etc/krb5.keytab contained no entries.

With this update, SSSD now evaluates the default_keytab_name variable in the /etc/krb5.conf and uses the location specified by this variable. SSSD only uses the default /etc/krb5.keytab location if the default_keytab_name variable is not set.

(BZ#1737489)

Authenticating to Directory Server in FIPS mode with PBKDF2-hashed passwords now works as expected

When Directory Server runs in Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) mode, the PK11_ExtractKeyValue() function is not available. As a consequence, users with a password-based key derivation function 2 (PBKDF2) hashed password could not authenticate to the server when FIPS mode was enabled. With this update, Directory Server now uses the PK11_Decrypt() function to get the password hash data. As a result, authenticating to Directory Server in FIPS mode now works for users with PBKDF2-hashed passwords.

(BZ#2033398)

5.10. RED HAT ENTERPRISE LINUX SYSTEM ROLES

The networking System Role no longer fails to set a DNS search domain if IPv6 is disabled

Previously, the nm_connection_verify() function of the libnm library did not ignore the DNS search domain if the IPv6 protocol was disabled. As a consequence, when you used the network RHEL System Role and set dns_search together with ipv6_disabled: true, the System Role failed with the following error:
nm-connection-error-quark: ipv6.dns-search: this property is not allowed for 'method=ignore' (7)

With this update, the `nm_connection_verify()` function ignores the DNS search domain if IPv6 is disabled. As a consequence, you can use `dns_search` as expected, even if IPv6 is disabled.

(BZ#2041627)

**Postfix role README no longer uses plain role name**

Previously, the examples provided in the `/usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles/postfix/README.md` used the plain version of the role name, `postfix`, instead of using `rhel-system-roles.postfix`. Consequently, users would consult the documentation and incorrectly use the plain role name instead of Full Qualified Role Name (FQRN). This update fixes the issue, and the documentation contains examples with the FQRN, `rhel-system-roles.postfix`, enabling users to correctly write playbooks.

(BZ#1958964)

**Postfix RHEL System Role README.md no longer missing variables under the "Role Variables" section**

Previously, the Postfix RHEL system role variables, such as `postfix_check`, `postfix_backup`, `postfix_backup_multiple` were not available under the "Role Variables" section. Consequently, users were not able to consult the Postfix role documentation. This update adds role variable documentation to the Postfix README section. The role variables are documented and available for users in the `doc/usr/share/doc/rhel-system-roles/postfix/README.md` documentation provided by `rhel-system-roles`.

(BZ#1978734)

**Role tasks no longer change when running the same output**

Previously, several of the role tasks would report as `CHANGED` when running the same input once again, even if there were no changes. Consequently, the role was not acting idempotent. To fix the issue, perform the following actions:

- Check if configuration variables change before applying them. You can use the option `--check` for this verification.
- Do not add a `Last Modified: $date` header to the configuration file.

As a result, the role tasks are idempotent.

(BZ#1978760)

5.11. CONTAINERS

**UBI 9-Beta containers can run on RHEL 7 and 8 hosts**

Previously, the UBI 9-Beta container images had an incorrect seccomp profile set in the `containers-common` package. As a consequence, containers were not able to deal with certain system calls causing a failure. With this update, the problem has been fixed.

(BZ#2019901)
CHAPTER 6. TECHNOLOGY PREVIEWS

This part provides a list of all Technology Previews available in Red Hat Enterprise Linux 9.

For information on Red Hat scope of support for Technology Preview features, see Technology Preview Features Support Scope.

6.1. SHELLS AND COMMAND-LINE TOOLS

ReaR available on the 64-bit IBM Z architecture as a Technology Preview

Basic Relax and Recover (ReaR) functionality is now available on the 64-bit IBM Z architecture as a Technology Preview. You can create a ReaR rescue image on IBM Z only in the z/VM environment. Backing up and recovering logical partitions (LPARs) has not been tested.

The only output method currently available is Initial Program Load (IPL). IPL produces a kernel and an initial ramdisk (initrd) that can be used with the zIPL bootloader.

For more information, see Using a ReaR rescue image on the 64-bit IBM Z architecture.

(BZ#2046653)

6.2. NETWORKING

WireGuard VPN is available as a Technology Preview

WireGuard, which Red Hat provides as an unsupported Technology Preview, is a high-performance VPN solution that runs in the Linux kernel. It uses modern cryptography and is easier to configure than other VPN solutions. Additionally, the small code-basis of WireGuard reduces the surface for attacks and, therefore, improves the security.

For further details, see Setting up a WireGuard VPN.

(BZ#1613522)

KTLS available as a Technology Preview

RHEL provides Kernel Transport Layer Security (KTLS) as a Technology Preview. KTLS handles TLS records using the symmetric encryption or decryption algorithms in the kernel for the AES-GCM cipher. KTLS also provides the interface for offloading TLS record encryption to Network Interface Controllers (NICs) that support this functionality.

(BZ#1570255)

The systemd-resolved service is available as a Technology Preview

The systemd-resolved service provides name resolution to local applications. The service implements a caching and validating DNS stub resolver, an Link-Local Multicast Name Resolution (LLMNR), and Multicast DNS resolver and responder.

Note that systemd-resolved is an unsupported Technology Preview.

(BZ#2020529)

6.3. KERNEL


The Intel data streaming accelerator driver for kernel is available as a Technology Preview

The Intel data streaming accelerator driver (IDXD) for the kernel is currently available as a Technology Preview. It is an Intel CPU integrated accelerator and supports a shared work queue with process address space ID (pasid) submission and shared virtual memory (SVM).

(BZ#2030412)

SGX available as a Technology Preview

Software Guard Extensions (SGX) is an Intel® technology for protecting software code and data from disclosure and modification.

The RHEL kernel partially supports SGX v1 and v1.5. The version 1 enables platforms using the Flexible Launch Control mechanism to use the SGX technology.

(BZ#1874182)

6.4. FILE SYSTEMS AND STORAGE

DAX is now available for ext4 and XFS as a Technology Preview

In RHEL 9, the DAX file system is available as a Technology Preview. DAX provides a means for an application to directly map persistent memory into its address space. To use DAX, a system must have some form of persistent memory available, usually in the form of one or more Non-Volatile Dual In-line Memory Modules (NVDIMMs), and a file system that supports DAX must be created on the NVDIMM(s). Also, the file system must be mounted with the dax mount option. Then, an mmap of a file on the dax-mounted file system results in a direct mapping of storage into the application’s address space.

(BZ#1995338)

6.5. VIRTUALIZATION

AMD SEV and SEV-ES for KVM virtual machines

As a Technology Preview, RHEL 9 provides the Secure Encrypted Virtualization (SEV) feature for AMD EPYC host machines that use the KVM hypervisor. If enabled on a virtual machine (VM), SEV encrypts the VM’s memory to protect the VM from access by the host. This increases the security of the VM.

In addition, the enhanced Encrypted State version of SEV (SEV-ES) is also provided as Technology Preview. SEV-ES encrypts all CPU register contents when a VM stops running. This prevents the host from modifying the VM’s CPU registers or reading any information from them.

Note that SEV and SEV-ES work only on the 2nd generation of AMD EPYC CPUs (codenamed Rome) or later. Also note that RHEL 9 includes SEV and SEV-ES encryption, but not the SEV and SEV-ES security attestation.

(JIRA:RHELPLAN-65217)
CHAPTER 7. DEPRECATED FUNCTIONALITY

This part provides an overview of functionality that has been deprecated in Red Hat Enterprise Linux 9.

Deprecated functionality continues to be supported until the end of life of Red Hat Enterprise Linux 9. Deprecated functionality will likely not be supported in future major releases of this product and is not recommended for new deployments. For the most recent list of deprecated functionality within a particular major release, refer to the latest version of release documentation.

Deprecated hardware components are not recommended for new deployments on the current or future major releases. Hardware driver updates are limited to security and critical fixes only. Red Hat recommends replacing this hardware as soon as reasonably feasible.

A package can be deprecated and not recommended for further use. Under certain circumstances, a package can be removed from a product. Product documentation then identifies more recent packages that offer functionality similar, identical, or more advanced to the one deprecated, and provides further recommendations.

For information regarding functionality that is present in RHEL 8 but has been removed in RHEL 9, see Considerations in adopting RHEL 9.

7.1. INSTALLER AND IMAGE CREATION

Deprecated Kickstart commands

The following Kickstart commands have been deprecated:

- timezone --ntpservers
- timezone --nontp
- logging --level
- %packages --excludeWeakdeps
- %packages --instLangs
- %anaconda
- pwpolicy

Note that where only specific options are listed, the base command and its other options are still available and not deprecated. Using the deprecated commands in Kickstart files prints a warning in the logs. You can turn the deprecated command warnings into errors with the inst.ksstrict boot option.

(BZ#1899167)

7.2. SOFTWARE MANAGEMENT

The zchunk package has been deprecated

The zchunk package in the libsolv component has been deprecated. The zchunk package will not be distributed when RHEL 9 is generally available. Note that this will make no functional difference for dnf, microdnf, and packagekit.

(BZ#2021084)
7.3. SECURITY

Digest-MD5 in SASL is deprecated

The Digest-MD5 authentication mechanism in the Simple Authentication Security Layer (SASL) framework is deprecated, and it might be removed from the cyrus-sasl packages in a future major release.

(BZ#1995600)

OpenSSL deprecates MD2, MD4, MDC2, Whirlpool, RIPEMD160, Blowfish, CAST, DES, IDEA, RC2, RC4, RC5, SEED, and PBKDF1

The OpenSSL project has deprecated a set of cryptographic algorithms because they are insecure, uncommonly used, or both. Red Hat also discourages the use of those algorithms, and RHEL 9 provides them for migrating encrypted data to use new algorithms. Users must not depend on those algorithms for the security of their systems.

The implementations of the following algorithms have been moved to the legacy provider in OpenSSL: MD2, MD4, MDC2, Whirlpool, RIPEMD160, Blowfish, CAST, DES, IDEA, RC2, RC4, RC5, SEED, and PBKDF1.

See the /etc/pki/tls/openssl.cnf configuration file for instructions on how to load the legacy provider and enable support for the deprecated algorithms.

(BZ#1975836)

7.4. NETWORKING

ipset and iptables-nft have been deprecated

The ipset and iptables-nft packages have been deprecated in RHEL. The iptables-nft package contains different tools such as iptables, ip6tables, ebtables and arptables. These tools will no longer receive new features and using them for new deployments is not recommended. As a replacement, prefer using the nft command-line tool provided by the nftables package. Existing setups should migrate to nft if possible.

When you load the iptables, ip6tables, ebtables, arptables, nft_compat, or ipset module, the module logs the following warning to the /var/log/messages file:

Warning: <module_name> - this driver is not recommended for new deployments. It continues to be supported in this RHEL release, but it is likely to be removed in the next major release. Driver updates and fixes will be limited to critical issues. Please contact Red Hat Support for additional information.

For more information on migrating to nftables, see Migrating from iptables to nftables, as well as the iptables-translate(8) and ip6tables-translate(8) man pages.

(BZ#1945151)

Network teams are deprecated in RHEL 9

The teamd service and the libteam library are deprecated in Red Hat Enterprise Linux 9 and will be removed in the next major release. As a replacement, configure a bond instead of a network team.

For details about how to migrate a team to a bond, see Migrating a network team configuration to network bond.
NetworkManager stores new network configurations to `/etc/NetworkManager/system-connections/` in a key-file format

Previously, NetworkManager stored new network configurations to `/etc/sysconfig/network-scripts/` in the `ifcfg` format. Starting with RHEL 9.0, RHEL stores new network configurations at `/etc/NetworkManager/system-connections/` in a key-file format. The connections for which the configurations are stored to `/etc/sysconfig/network-scripts/` in the old format still work uninterrupted. Modifications in existing profiles continue updating the older files.

The WEP Wi-Fi connection method is deprecated

The insecure wired equivalent privacy (WEP) Wi-Fi connection method is deprecated in RHEL 8.6 and will be removed in RHEL 9.0. For secure Wi-Fi connections, use the Wi-Fi Protected Access 3 (WPA3) or WPA2 connection methods.

The unsupported `xt_u32` module is now deprecated

Using the unsupported `xt_u32` module, users of `iptables` can match arbitrary 32 bits in the packet header or payload. In RHEL 8.6, the `xt_u32` module is deprecated, and will be removed in RHEL 9.

If you use `xt_u32`, migrate to the `nftables` packet filtering framework. For example, first change your firewall to use `iptables` with native matches to incrementally replace individual rules, and later use the `iptables-translate` and accompanying utilities to migrate to `nftables`. If no native match exists in `nftables`, use the raw payload matching feature of `nftables`. For details, see the raw payload expression section in the `nft(8)` man page.

The unsupported `xt_u32` module is now deprecated

libdb has been deprecated

RHEL 8 and RHEL 9 currently provide Berkeley DB (`libdb`) version 5.3.28, which is distributed under the LGPLv2 license. The upstream Berkeley DB version 6 is available under the AGPLv3 license, which is more restrictive.

The `libdb` package is deprecated as of RHEL 9 and might not be available in future major RHEL releases.

In addition, cryptographic algorithms have been removed from `libdb` in RHEL 9 and multiple `libdb` dependencies have been removed from RHEL 9.

Users of `libdb` are advised to migrate to a different key-value database. For more information, see the Knowledgebase article Available replacements for the deprecated Berkeley DB (libdb) in RHEL.

The SSSD implicit files provider domain is disabled by default
The SSSD implicit files provider domain, which retrieves user information from local files such as /etc/shadow and group information from /etc/groups, is now disabled by default.

To retrieve user and group information from local files with SSSD:

1. Configure SSSD. Choose one of the following options:
   a. Explicitly configure a local domain with the id_provider=files option in the sssd.conf configuration file.
      
      [domain/local]
      id_provider=files
      ...
   
   b. Enable the files provider by setting enable_files_domain=true in the sssd.conf configuration file.
      
      [sssd]
      enable_files_domain = true

2. Configure the name services switch.

   # authselect enable-feature with-files-provider

(JIRA:RHELPLAN-100639)

**SHA-1 in OpenDNSSec is now deprecated**

OpenDNSSec supports exporting Digital Signatures and authentication records using the SHA-1 algorithm. The use of the SHA-1 algorithm is no longer supported. With the RHEL 9 release, SHA-1 in OpenDNSSec is deprecated and it might be removed in a future minor release. Additionally, OpenDNSSec support is limited to its integration with Red Hat Identity Management. OpenDNSSec is not supported standalone.

(BZ#1979521)

**7.7. RED HAT ENTERPRISE LINUX SYSTEM ROLES**

The networking System Role displays a deprecation warning when configuring teams on RHEL 9 nodes

The network teaming capabilities have been deprecated in RHEL 9. As a result, using the networking RHEL System Role on an RHEL 8 controller to configure a network team on RHEL 9 nodes, shows a warning about its deprecation.

(BZ#1999770)

The networking System Role displays a deprecation warning when configuring teams on RHEL 9 nodes

The network teaming capabilities have been deprecated in RHEL 9. As a result, using the networking RHEL System Role on an RHEL 8 controller to configure a network team on RHEL 9 nodes, shows a warning about its deprecation.

(BZ#2021685)
7.8. VIRTUALIZATION

SecureBoot image verification using SHA1-based signatures is deprecated

Performing SecureBoot image verification using SHA1-based signatures on UEFI (PE/COFF) executables has become deprecated. Instead, Red Hat recommends using signatures based on the SHA2 algorithm, or later.

(BZ#1935497)

virt-manager has been deprecated

The Virtual Machine Manager application, also known as virt-manager, has been deprecated. The RHEL web console, also known as Cockpit, is intended to become its replacement in a subsequent release. It is, therefore, recommended that you use the web console for managing virtualization in a GUI. Note, however, that some features available in virt-manager may not be yet available in the RHEL web console.

(JIRA:RHELPLAN-10304)

Creating internal snapshots of virtual machines has been deprecated

Due to their lack of optimization and stability, internal virtual machine snapshots are now deprecated. Instead, external snapshots are recommended for use.

(BZ#1621944)

The virtual floppy driver has become deprecated

The isa-fdc driver, which controls virtual floppy disk devices, is now deprecated, and will become unsupported in a future release of RHEL. Therefore, to ensure forward compatibility with migrated virtual machines (VMs), Red Hat discourages using floppy disk devices in VMs hosted on RHEL 9.

(BZ#1965079)

qcow2-v2 image format is deprecated

With RHEL 9, the qcow2-v2 format for virtual disk images has become deprecated, and will become unsupported in a future major release of RHEL. In addition, the RHEL 9 Image Builder cannot create disk images in the qcow2-v2 format.

Instead of qcow2-v2, Red Hat strongly recommends using qcow2-v3. To convert a qcow2-v2 image to a later format version, use the qemu-img amend command.

(BZ#1951814)

7.9. CONTAINERS

Running RHEL 9 containers on a RHEL 7 host is not supported

Running RHEL 9 containers on a RHEL 7 host is not supported. It might work, but it is not guaranteed.

For more information, see Red Hat Enterprise Linux Container Compatibility Matrix.

(JIRA:RHELPLAN-100087)

7.10. DEPRECATED PACKAGES
This section lists packages that have been deprecated and will probably not be included in a future major release of Red Hat Enterprise Linux.

For changes to packages between RHEL 8 and RHEL 9, see Changes to packages in the Considerations in adopting RHEL 9 document.

The following packages have been deprecated and remain supported until the end of life of RHEL 9:

- libdb
- mcpp
- python3-pytz
CHAPTER 8. KNOWN ISSUES

This part describes known issues in Red Hat Enterprise Linux 9.0 Beta.

8.1. INSTALLER AND IMAGE CREATION

The `reboot --kexec` and `inst.kexec` commands do not provide a predictable system state

Performing a RHEL installation with the `reboot --kexec` Kickstart command or the `inst.kexec` kernel boot parameters do not provide the same predictable system state as a full reboot. As a consequence, switching to the installed system without rebooting can produce unpredictable results.

Note that the `kexec` feature is deprecated and will be removed in a future release of Red Hat Enterprise Linux.

(BZ#1697896)

Local Media installation source is not detected when booting the installation from a USB that is created using a third party tool

When booting the RHEL installation from a USB that is created using a third party tool, the installer fails to detect the `Local Media` installation source (only `Red Hat CDN` is detected).

This issue occurs because the default boot option `int.stage2=` attempts to search for `iso9660` image format. However, a third party tool might create an ISO image with a different format.

As a workaround, use either of the following solution:

- When booting the installation, click the Tab key to edit the kernel command line, and change the boot option `inst.stage2=` to `inst.repo=`.
- To create a bootable USB device on Windows, use Fedora Media Writer.
- When using a third party tool like Rufus to create a bootable USB device, first regenerate the RHEL ISO image on a Linux system, and then use the third party tool to create a bootable USB device.

For more information on the steps involved in performing any of the specified workaround, see, `Installation media is not auto detected during the installation of RHEL 8.3`.

(BZ#1877697)

The `auth` and `authconfig` Kickstart commands require the AppStream repository

The `authselect-compat` package is required by the `auth` and `authconfig` Kickstart commands during installation. Without this package, the installation fails if `auth` or `authconfig` are used. However, by design, the `authselect-compat` package is only available in the AppStream repository.

To work around this problem, verify that the BaseOS and AppStream repositories are available to the installer or use the `authselect` Kickstart command during installation.

(BZ#1640697)

The USB CD-ROM drive is not available as an installation source in Anaconda

Installation fails when the USB CD-ROM drive is the source for it and the Kickstart `ignoredisk --only-use=` command is specified. In this case, Anaconda cannot find and use this source disk.
To work around this problem, use the `harddrive --partition=sdX --dir=/` command to install from USB CD-ROM drive. As a result, the installation does not fail.

**(BZ#1914955)**

**Minimal RHEL installation no longer includes the s390utils-base package**

In RHEL 8.4 and later, the `s390utils-base` package is split into an `s390utils-core` package and an auxiliary `s390utils-base` package. Consequently, setting the RHEL installation to `minimal-environment` installs only the necessary `s390utils-core` package and not the auxiliary `s390utils-base` package. To work around this problem, manually install the `s390utils-base` package after completing the RHEL installation or explicitly install `s390utils-base` using a kickstart file.

**(BZ#1932480)**

**Hard drive partitioned installations with iso9660 filesystem fails**

You cannot install RHEL on systems where the hard drive is partitioned with the `iso9660` filesystem. This is due to the updated installation code that is set to ignore any hard disk containing a `iso9660` file system partition. This happens even when RHEL is installed without using a DVD.

To workaround this problem, add the following script in the kickstart file to format the disc before the installation starts.

Note: Before performing the workaround, backup the data available on the disk. The `wipefs` command formats all the existing data from the disk.

```plaintext
%pre
  wipefs -a /dev/sda
%end
```

As a result, installations work as expected without any errors.

**(BZ#1929105)**

**Anaconda fails to verify existence of an administrator user account**

While installing RHEL using a graphical user interface, Anaconda fails to verify if the administrator account has been created. As a consequence, users might install a system without any administrator user account.

To work around this problem, ensure you configure an administrator user account or the root password is set and the root account is unlocked. As a result, users can perform administrative tasks on the installed system.

**(BZ#2047713)**

**Anaconda fails to login iSCSI server using the no authentication method after unsuccessful CHAP authentication attempt**

When you add iSCSI discs using CHAP authentication and the login attempt fails due to incorrect credentials, a relogin attempt to the discs with the `no authentication` method fails. To workaround this problem, close the current session and login using the `no authentication` method.

**(BZ#1983602)**

**New XFS features prevent booting of PowerNV IBM POWER systems with firmware older than version 5.10**
PowerNV IBM POWER systems use a Linux kernel for firmware, and use Petitboot as a replacement for GRUB. This results in the firmware kernel mounting /boot and Petitboot reading the GRUB config and booting RHEL.

The RHEL 9 kernel introduces `bigtime=1` and `inobtcount=1` features to the XFS filesystem, which kernels with firmware older than version 5.10 do not understand.

To work around this problem, you can use another filesystem for /boot, for example ext4.

(BZ#1997832)

Installing RHEL from the boot menu using basic graphics mode from the Troubleshooting submenu fails

Installation process may fail to enter in the basic graphics mode on the hardware with an unsupported graphic card or due to any issue in the graphic driver that is preventing starting the graphical interface.

To work around this problem and boot the installer:

- Using the text user interface, use the `inst.text` boot option.
- Using the graphical user interface via VNC, use the `inst.vnc` option.

(BZ#1961092)

8.2. SHELLS AND COMMAND-LINE TOOLS

Renaming network interfaces using `ifcfg` files fails

On RHEL 9, the `initscripts` package is not installed by default. Consequently, renaming network interfaces using `ifcfg` files fails. To solve this problem, Red Hat recommends that you use `udev` rules or link files to rename interfaces. For further details, see Consistent network interface device naming and the `systemd.link(5)` man page.

If you cannot use one of the recommended solutions, install the `initscripts` package.

(BZ#20181112)

8.3. INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

`named` fails to start if the same writable zone file is used in multiple zones

BIND does not allow the same writable zone file in multiple zones. Consequently, if a configuration includes multiple zones which share a path to a file that can be modified by the `named` service, `named` fails to start. To work around this problem, use the `in-view` clause to share one zone between multiple views and make sure to use different paths for different zones. For example, include the view names in the path.

Note that writable zone files are typically used in zones with allowed dynamic updates, slave zones, or zones maintained by DNSSEC.

(BZ#1984982)

8.4. SECURITY
The OpenSSL TLS library does not detect if the PKCS#11 token supports creation of raw RSA or RSA-PSS signatures

The TLS-1.3 protocol requires the support for RSA-PSS signature. If the PKCS#11 token does not support raw RSA or RSA-PSS signatures, the server applications which use OpenSSL TLS library will fail to work with the RSA key if it is held by the PKCS#11 token. As a result, TLS communication will fail.

To work around this problem, configure server or client to use the TLS-1.2 version as the highest TLS protocol version available.

(BZ#1681178)

OpenSSL incorrectly handles PKCS #11 tokens that does not support raw RSA or RSA-PSS signatures

The OpenSSL library does not detect key-related capabilities of PKCS #11 tokens. Consequently, establishing a TLS connection fails when a signature is created with a token that does not support raw RSA or RSA-PSS signatures.

To work around the problem, add the following lines after the .include line at the end of the crypto_policy section in the /etc/pki/tls/openssl.cnf file:

```
MaxProtocol = TLSv1.2
```

As a result, a TLS connection can be established in the described scenario.

(BZ#1685470)

SELinux staff_u users can incorrectly switch to unconfined_r

When the secure_mode boolean is enabled, staff_u users can incorrectly switch to the unconfined_r role. As a consequence, staff_u users can perform privileged operations affecting the security of the system.

(BZ#2021529)

usbguard-notifier logs too many error messages to the Journal

The usbguard-notifier service does not have inter-process communication (IPC) permissions for connecting to the usbguard-daemon IPC interface. Consequently, usbguard-notifier fails to connect to the interface, and it writes a corresponding error message to the Journal. Because usbguard-notifier starts with the --wait option, which ensures that usbguard-notifier attempts to connect to the IPC interface each second after a connection failure, by default, the log contains an excessive amount of these messages soon.

To work around the problem, allow a user or a group under which usbguard-notifier is running to connect to the IPC interface. For example, the following error message contains the UID and GID values for the GNOME Display Manager (GDM):

```
IPC connection denied: uid=42 gid=42 pid=8382, where uid and gid 42 = gdm
```

To grant the missing permissions to the gdm user, use the usbguard command and restart the usbguard daemon:
# usbguard add-user gdm --group --devices listen
# systemctl restart usbguard

After granting the missing permissions, the error messages no longer appear in the log.
(BZ#2009226)

8.5. NETWORKING

An empty rd.znet option in the kernel command line causes the network configuration to fail

An rd.znet option without any arguments, such as net types or subchannels, in the kernel fails to configure networking. To work around this problem, either remove the rd.znet option from the command line completely or specify relevant net types, subchannels, and other relevant options. For more information about these options, see the dracut.cmdline(7) man page.
(BZ#1931284)

Failure to update the session key causes the connection to break

Kernel Transport Layer Security (kTLS) protocol does not support updating the session key, which is used by the symmetric cipher. Consequently, the user cannot update the key, which causes a connection break. To work around this problem, disable kTLS. As a result, with the workaround, it is possible to successfully update the session key.
(BZ#2013650)

8.6. KERNEL

modprobe fails to install some out-of-tree kernel modules

The /etc/depmod.d/dist.conf file provides a search order for the depmod utility. Based on the search order, depmod creates the modules.dep.bin file. This file lists module dependencies, which the modprobe utility uses for loading and unloading kernel modules and resolving module dependencies at the same time. Since /etc/depmod.d/dist.conf is missing due to some prior RHEL changes, modprobe cannot load some out-of-tree kernel modules. To work around this problem, provide a config file for your out-of-tree module, or install any out-of-tree kernel module in the /lib/modules/$(uname -r)/updates/ directory instead of the /lib/modules/$(uname -r)/extra/ directory.
(BZ#1985100)

RPM macros for building out-of-tree kernel module RPMs cause various problems

RPM macros for building out-of-tree kernel modules in RHEL 9 (including the %kernel_module_package) were broken due to several packaging changes in the kernel RPM.

The specific errors and their workarounds are detailed in Errors and workarounds when building out-of-tree kernel module RPMs using %kernel_module_package macros

As a result, it is possible to successfully build an out-of-tree kernel module RPM.
(BZ#1971748)

kdump fails to start on RHEL 9 kernel
The RHEL 9 kernel does not have the `crashkernel=auto` configured as default. Consequently, the kdump service fails to start by default.

To work around this problem, configure the `crashkernel=` option to the required value.

For example, to reserve 256 MB of memory using the `grubby` utility, execute:

```
grubby --args crashkernel=256M --update-kernel ALL
```

As a result, the RHEL 9 kernel starts kdump and uses the configured memory size value to dump the vmcore file.

(BZ#1894783)

Audio devices that use the Use Case Manager configuration are not detected or they do not function properly

A bug in the alsa-lib package causes that the internal Use Case Manager (UCM) identifier is not correctly parsed. Consequently, some audio devices that use the Use Case configuration are not detected or they do not function properly. The problem occurs more when the pipewire sound service is used.

(BZ#2015863)

kTLS does not support offloading of TLS 1.3 to NICs

Kernel Transport Layer Security (kTLS) does not support offloading of TLS 1.3 to NICs. Consequently, software encryption is used with TLS 1.3 even when the NICs support TLS offload. To work around this problem, disable TLS 1.3 if offload is required. As a result, you can offload only TLS 1.2. When TLS 1.3 is in use, there is lower performance, since TLS 1.3 cannot be offloaded.

(BZ#2000616)

8.7. FILE SYSTEMS AND STORAGE

System does not boot via iSCSI

The dependencies of the `iscsi-init.service` can create a deadlock that blocks running `iscsid` in an initramfs environment. Booting from iSCSI does not work because `iscsi-init` does not start and blocks `iscsid` from starting. As a consequence, no iSCSI sessions can be established in the initramfs.

To work around this problem, use the following steps:

1. Navigate to an initramfs emergency shell by adding `rd.break=initqueue` to the kernel command line in grub.
2. Verify if the `/etc/iscsi/initiatorname.iscsi` file exists. If it exists, `iscsi-init` is not required.
3. Manually start `iscsid` by executing the `/usr/sbin/iscsid` command as root.
4. Exit the shell, the system should continue to boot from iSCSI at this point.
5. Once the system has booted from iSCSI, edit the `/usr/lib/systemd/system/iscsi-init.service` file and add the "DefaultDependencies=no" in the [Unit] section. Do not use `systemctl edit` because it creates a new file in the `/etc/systemd` directory, while `dracut` will continue to the original one.
6. Rebuild the initramfs file by using the `dracut --rebuild` command as root.

You should now be able to successfully reboot using iSCSI

(BZ#2016482)

8.8. IDENTITY MANAGEMENT

Configuring a referral for a suffix fails in Directory Server

If you set a back-end referral in Directory Server, setting the state of the backend using the `dsconf <instance_name> backend suffix set --state referral` command fails with the following error:

```
Error: 103 - 9 - 53 - Server is unwilling to perform - [] - need to set nsslapd-referral before moving to referral state
```

As a consequence, configuring a referral for suffixes fail. To work around the problem:

1. Set the `nsslapd-referral` parameter manually:

   ```
   # ldapmodify -D "cn=Directory Manager" -W -H ldap://server.example.com
dn: cn=dc\3Dexample\2Cdc\3Dcom,cn=mapping tree,cn=config
   changetype: modify
   add: nsslapd-referral
   nsslapd-referral: ldap://remote_server:389/dc=example,dc=com
   ```

2. Set the back-end state:

   ```
   # dsconf <instance_name> backend suffix set --state referral
   ```

As a result, with the workaround, you can configure a referral for a suffix.

(BZ#2063140)

8.9. RED HAT ENTERPRISE LINUX SYSTEM ROLES

Some RHEL System Roles do not work with the `ansible-core 2.11` package

The RHEL 9 Beta release includes the `ansible-core 2.11` package. This is a version of Ansible that has only the core functionality. That means that the modules such as `firewalld`, and plugins such as `json_query`, among many others, are not available. As a consequence, the following system roles will not work in RHEL 9 Beta with the `ansible-core 2.11` package:

- `ha_cluster`
- `kdump`
- `logging`
- `selinux`
- `storage`
- `timesync`
Currently, there is no workaround available.

(JIRA:RHELPLAN-92523)

8.10. VIRTUALIZATION

RHEL 9 virtual machines cannot use DASD as virtio block storage on IBM Z

Currently, virtual machines (VMs) running RHEL 9 on IBM Z hardware are not able to use DASD storage devices attached with the virtio-blk driver. You should not upgrade your VMs to RHEL 9 Beta if you plan to use the described devices.

(BZ#2008401)

Hot-unplugging a mounted virtual disk sometimes causes the guest kernel to crash on IBM Z

Currently, when detaching a mounted disk from a running virtual machine (VM) on IBM Z hardware, the VM kernel crashes under the following conditions:

- The disk has been attached with target bus type `scsi` and is mounted inside the guest.
- After hot-unplugging the disk device, the corresponding SCSI controller is hot-unplugged as well.

When the kernel crashes, the VM automatically reboots. If you need to unplug the disk and controller fully, you can avoid the VM crashing by first shutting off the VM. In addition, remove the disk from the guest’s `fstab` file if present in order to boot gracefully next time.

(BZ#1997541)

Installing a virtual machine over https in some cases fails

Currently, the `virt-install` utility fails when attempting to install a guest operating system from an ISO source over a https connection - for example using `virt-install --cdrom https://example/path/to/image.iso`. Instead of creating a virtual machine (VM), the described operation terminates unexpectedly with an “internal error: process exited while connecting to monitor” message. To work around this problem, install `qemu-kvm-block-curl` on the host to enable https protocol support. Alternatively, use a different connection protocol or a different installation source.

(BZ#2014229)

8.11. RHEL IN CLOUD ENVIRONMENTS

RHEL 9 VMs on Azure sometimes lose network connection

Currently, RHEL 9 virtual machines running on the Microsoft Azure hypervisor have problems with the ordering cycle after rebooting. This may cause certain services to terminate unexpectedly, including NetworkManager, which may in turn cause network disconnections. To work around the issue, restart the VM or access the serial console and start the NetworkManager service.

(BZ#1998445)

Mouse is not usable in RHEL 9 VMs on XenServer 7 with console proxy
When running a RHEL 9 virtual machine (VM) on a XenServer 7 platform with a console proxy, it is not possible to use the mouse in the VM’s GUI. To work around this problem, disable the Wayland compositor protocol in the VM as follows:

1. Open the `/etc/gdm/custom.conf` file.
2. Uncomment the `WaylandEnable=false` line.
3. Save the file.

In addition, note that Red Hat does not support XenServer as a platform for running RHEL VMs, and discourages using XenServer with RHEL in production environments.

(BZ#2019593)

8.12. CONTAINERS

Container images signed with a Beta GPG key can not be pulled

Currently, when you try to pull RHEL 9 Beta container images, `podman` exits with the error message: **Error: Source image rejected: None of the signatures were accepted.** The images fail to be pulled due to current builds being configured to not trust the RHEL Beta GPG keys by default.

As a workaround, ensure that the Red Hat Beta GPG key is stored on your local system and update the existing trust scope with the `podman image trust set` command for the appropriate beta namespace.

If you do not have the Beta GPG key stored locally, you can pull it by running the following command:

```bash
```

To add the Beta GPG key as trusted to your namespace, use one of the following commands:

```bash
$ sudo podman image trust set -f /etc/pki/rpm-gpg/RPM-GPG-KEY-redhat-beta registry.access.redhat.com/namespace
```

and

```bash
$ sudo podman image trust set -f /etc/pki/rpm-gpg/RPM-GPG-KEY-redhat-beta registry.redhat.io/namespace
```

Replace `namespace` with `ubi9-beta` or `rhel9-beta`.

(BZ#2020026)

Running systemd within an older container image does not work

Running systemd within an older container image, for example, `centos:7`, does not work:

```bash
$ podman run --rm -ti centos:7 /usr/lib/systemd/systemd
Storing signatures
Failed to mount cgroup at /sys/fs/cgroup/systemd: Operation not permitted
[!!!!!] Failed to mount API filesystems, freezing.
```

To work around this problem, use the following commands:
# mkdir /sys/fs/cgroup/systemd
# mount none -t cgroup -o none,name=systemd /sys/fs/cgroup/systemd
# podman run --runtime /usr/bin/crun --annotation=run.oci.systemd.force_cgroup_v1=/sys/fs/cgroup -rm -ti centos:7 /usr/lib/systemd/systemd

(JIRA:RHELPLAN-96940)
Bugzilla and JIRA IDs are listed in this document for reference. Bugzilla bugs that are publicly accessible include a link to the ticket.

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APPENDIX B. REVISION HISTORY

0.0-1
Wed Nov 03, 2021, Lenka Špačková (lspackova@redhat.com)