Tiger BRIDGE

Tiger Bridge 4.0 Release Notes

This document provides release information for Tiger Bridge version 4.0. It discusses new features in this release as well as fixed and unresolved known issues.

What's New in Version 4.0

Use Network Share as a Source

In addition to local volumes, version 4.0 allows you to add a SMB/NFS network share as a source and let Tiger Bridge replicate and archive data from it as well as reclaim space on it. For specific requirements and steps about adding a network share as a source, refer to the Tiger Bridge 4.0 Administration Guide.

Support for New Target Types

Tiger Bridge 4.0 adds support for the following targets:

- Google cloud storage
- Google Drive
- Coeus managed digital content library

For more details about requirements and steps about pairing a source with the above targets, refer to the Tiger Bridge 4.0 Administration Guide.

Support for Tape Targets in a Separate Release

Tiger Bridge 4.0 does not provide support for tape targets. An upcoming release of the product, designed exclusively for tape targets will provide all new functionality now available in version 4.0.

Improved Support for Versioning

With Tiger Bridge 4.0 you can restore a specific version of a replicated file on the source. Additionally, to help you cope with ransomware attacks for example, Tiger Bridge allows you to restore the contents of a whole folder to its state at a selected date and time. You can also monitor the size and number of versions on your target and delete obsolete versions.

For more information, refer to the Tiger Bridge 4.0 Administration Guide.

Undeleting Data from the Source

On all cloud targets with the exception of Google Cloud you can benefit from undeleting accidentally deleted files from your source. For more information, refer to the Tiger Bridge 4.0 Administration Guide.

Support for Amazon S3 Immutable Storage

You can configure Tiger Bridge 4.0 to replicate data to Amazon S3 buckets with enabled Object Lock. For specific prerequisites and setup procedures, refer to the Tiger Bridge 4.0 Administration Guide.

Synchronize Source and Target Through the Shell Extension

The shell extension of Tiger Bridge 4.0 allows you to synchronize the contents of source with that of its target and thus retrieve files missing from your source. You can execute the command for a selected folder only or recursively, for all its sub-folders as well. Missing data found on the target is restored on your source in the form of nearline or offline files, which you can retrieve manually or on demand.

For more information, refer to the Tiger Bridge 4.0 Administration Guide.

View Tiger Bridge Statistics in the Properties Dialog

With version 4.0 you can view Tiger Bridge statistics about a source or a folder on it not only in the Configuration, but also in the Bridge tab of the Properties dialog of a selected volume or folder.

Delayed File Operations Synchronization

With version 4.0 the time interval in the data replication policy also governs when file changes (a file is deleted or renamed) are synchronized on the target. This way if you delete or rename a file on the source, the copy on the target is deleted or renamed only after the replication policy time interval elapses.

Partial Write of Modified Replicated Files

Version 4.0 allows you to configure Tiger Bridge to operate in partial write mode. If enabled, should Tiger Bridge have to re-upload an already replicated file because it has been modified on the source, instead of re-uploading the whole file, it overwrites on the target just the parts of it, which have been modified.

You can configure Tiger Bridge to operate in partial write mode, following the instructions in the Tiger Bridge 4.0 Administration Guide. Keep in mind that while the setting is valid for all targets you have configured, currently, partial write mode is supported only on Backblaze B2 cloud storage and Amazon S3 object storage targets.

Disabling Progressive Retrieval of Data

By default, when retrieving a file from the target on demand i.e. when an application attempts to open its stub counterpart on the source, Tiger Bridge starts retrieving data from the offset requested by the application (with most application this is the beginning of the file) and consecutively retrieves the rest, unless you close the file before reaching its end. You can disable the progressive retrieval of data and configure Tiger Bridge to retrieve only the portion of the file, which is currently being read by the application as long as the respective application supports reading only portions of a file.

For more information, refer to the Tiger Bridge 4.0 Administration Guide.

Reclaim Space Based on File's Modification Time

By default, one of the parameters for replacing a replicated file with a stub file in order to reclaim space is for how long this file has not been accessed. To let you fine tune your workflow, version 4.0 allows you to change this parameter of the space reclaiming policy to the time interval for which a file has not been modified on the source.

For more information, refer to the Tiger Bridge 4.0 Administration Guide.

Upgrading to Tiger Bridge 4.0

To upgrade Tiger Bridge to this new version, you should simply run the installation of version 4.0 on the computer running Tiger Bridge. All configuration settings will be preserved after the upgrade.

Still, in order to ensure that all features of your license are kept after the upgrade, it is advisable to repeat the activation steps anew, following the procedures described in the Tiger Bridge Administration Guide.

New Known Issues

Retrieving Offline Files from Google Cloud

Unlike other cloud targets, offline files stored on a Google Cloud target are directly retrieved on the source when you attempt to open them or to manually rehydrate them.

Unresolved Known Issues

Exiting Manual Drive Mode in the Tape Management Application

Although there is a default timeout of 24 hours for automatically switching the drive mode from manual to auto if no activity is detected in the Tape Management application, in some cases this timeout is not taken into consideration and you will have to manually switch the drive mode.

Using Versioning Software on Azure Append/Page Blob

When using versioning on Microsoft Azure append or page blob as a target, you should keep in mind that the first version of each file is not kept and the second version overwrites it. From the second version onwards versioning works as expected on Azure append and page blobs.

A workaround to the problem is to introduce an insignificant change to the file after it has been initially replicated on the Azure append/page blob (such as an added interval at the end of a text document, for example) in order to trigger versioning for that file from that change onwards.