

# VSI TCP/IP Services for OpenVMS V6.0-30

## Release Notes

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**Operating Systems:** VSI OpenVMS Alpha V8.4-2L1 or higher  
VSI OpenVMS IA-64 V8.4-2L1 or higher  
VSI OpenVMS x86-64 V9.2-2 or higher

**Software Versions:** VSI TCP/IP Services for OpenVMS Alpha V6.0-30  
VSI TCP/IP Services for OpenVMS IA-64 V6.0-30  
VSI TCP/IP Services for OpenVMS x86-64 V6.0-30

## VSI TCP/IP Services for OpenVMS V6.0-30 Release Notes



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# 1. Introduction

VMS Software, Inc. (VSI) is pleased to introduce VSI TCP/IP Services for OpenVMS Alpha V6.0-30, VSI TCP/IP Services for OpenVMS Integrity V6.0-30, and VSI TCP/IP Services for OpenVMS x86-64 V6.0-30 (referred to as VSI TCP/IP Services V6.0 later on in this document).

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## Important

VSI TCP/IP Services for OpenVMS V6.0-30 contains important security updates. VSI strongly recommends that all users install this version.

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VSI TCP/IP Services V6.0 is the VSI implementation of the TCP/IP networking protocol suite and internet services for OpenVMS Alpha, OpenVMS IA-64, and OpenVMS x86-64 systems respectively. VSI TCP/IP Services V6.0 provides a comprehensive suite of functions and applications that support industry-standard protocols for heterogeneous network communications and resource sharing.

For detailed information on running the TCPIP\$CONFIG configuration procedure, refer to the [VSI TCP/IP Services for OpenVMS V6.0 Installation and Configuration \[https://docs.vmssoftware.com/vsi-tcpip-services-v6-for-openvms-installation-and-configuration/\]](https://docs.vmssoftware.com/vsi-tcpip-services-v6-for-openvms-installation-and-configuration/) manual.

For more information about VSI TCP/IP Services, refer to the [VSI TCP/IP Services for OpenVMS V6.0 Management \[https://docs.vmssoftware.com/vsi-tcpip-services-for-openvms-6-management/\]](https://docs.vmssoftware.com/vsi-tcpip-services-for-openvms-6-management/) manual and [VSI TCP/IP Services for OpenVMS V6.0 User's Guide \[https://docs.vmssoftware.com/vsi-tcpip-services-for-openvms-user-s-guide-60/\]](https://docs.vmssoftware.com/vsi-tcpip-services-for-openvms-user-s-guide-60/).

If you encounter any issues with VSI TCP/IP Services V6.0, report them to VSI support.

## 2. Prerequisites

VSI TCP/IP Services for OpenVMS Alpha V6.0-30 can be installed on an Alpha system running VSI OpenVMS Alpha V8.4-2L1 or VSI OpenVMS Alpha V8.4-2L2.

VSI TCP/IP Services for OpenVMS IA-64 V6.0-30 can be installed on an IA-64 system running VSI OpenVMS IA-64 V8.4-2L1 or VSI OpenVMS IA-64 V8.4-2L3.

VSI TCP/IP Services for OpenVMS x86-64 V6.0-30 can be installed on an x86-64 system running VSI OpenVMS x86-64 V9.2-2 or higher. VSI recommends that you upgrade to the latest version of OpenVMS x86-64, including the applicable ECO update kits.

VSI SSL3 V3.0-7 or later must be installed on the system on which you are planning to install VSI TCP/IP Services for OpenVMS V6.0-30.

## 3. Available Services

The following services are available in VSI TCP/IP Services V6.0:

- BIND
- DHCP Client
- FTP

- FTPS
- Finger
- failSAFE IP
- IMAP (not yet available on x86-64, applies to IA-64 and Alpha only)
- LBROKER
- LPR/LPD
- NFS
- NTP v4
- POP
- Remote (R) Commands
- SMTP
- SNMP
- Socket API
- Telnet (except Kerberos authentication)
- XDM

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## Important

VSI TCP/IP Services V6.0 kits *do not* include an SSH component. However, if you need to use SSH in your environment, VSI recommends that you use the latest available version of VSI OpenSSH (available at <https://products.vmssoftware.com/openssh>).

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## 4. Changes to Automatic Configuration of TCP/IP Services

Automatic configuration of TCP/IP services via SYS\$STARTUP:TCPIP\$STARTUP.COM no longer enables Telnet. If you wish to run Telnet on a freshly installed system, you must configure it manually using SYS\$MANAGER:TCPIP\$CONFIG.COM.

## 5. Known Issues and Limitations

This section lists the known issues and limitations in this release.

### 5.1. Clock Synchronization With NTP Server

An issue has been identified in the current NTP implementation where configuring the minpoll parameter to a value of 8 or higher may cause the local clock to gradually lose synchronization with the

NTP server. In some cases, this results in an increased time drift or a broadening of the synchronization interval relative to the server's reference clock. This behavior is under investigation, and users are advised to use lower minpoll values to maintain accurate synchronization.

## 5.2. Error Messages After Upgrading From TCP/IP V5.7 With SSH Enabled

After upgrading from TCP/IP V5.7 to TCP/IP V6.0 without first disabling SSH (as detailed in *Section 7, "Upgrading From TCPI/IP Services V5.7"*), users may encounter the following error messages upon starting the stack:

```
%TCPIP-S-STARTDONE, TCPIP$TELNET startup completed
%TCPIP-E-STARTFAIL, failed to start SSH
-TCP/IP-E-NOSERVREC, cannot find SSH service database record
%TCPIP-E-STARTFAIL, failed to start SSH_CLIENT
-TCP/IP-E-NOSERVREC, cannot find SSH_CLIENT service database record
%TCPIP-S-STARTDONE, TCP/IP Services startup completed at 5-MAY-2025 21:24:34.75
```

These error messages can be safely ignored. Alternatively, you can get rid of them by entering the following commands:

```
$ TCPIP SET CONFIG ENABLE NOSERVICE SSH
$ TCPIP SET CONFIG ENABLE NOSERVICE SSH_CLIENT
```

## 5.3. TCPTRACE Utility Not Supported on x86-64

The TCPTRACE utility is not currently supported for x86-64 releases of VSI TCP/IP. VSI suggests using the TCPDUMP utility, as it provides comparable functionality and is supported on all architectures (Alpha, IA-64, and x86-64).

## 5.4. VSI FTP Service Might Not Connect Correctly in Virtual Environments With NAT Enabled

If the FTP service does *not* work after it has been started, switch to passive mode with the following command:

```
FTP> SET PASSIVE ON
Passive is ON
```

In passive mode, the FTP client always initiates a data connection. This is useful in virtual machine environments when there is network address translation (NAT) in your network.

To run this command automatically when you invoke FTP, put it into SYSS\$LOGIN:FTPINIT.INI. For the full description of the **SET PASSIVE** command, refer to the relevant section in the [VSI TCP/IP Services for OpenVMS V6.0 User's Guide](https://docs.vmssoftware.com/vsi-tcpip-services-for-openvms-user-s-guide-60/#d0e6058) [https://docs.vmssoftware.com/vsi-tcpip-services-for-openvms-user-s-guide-60/#d0e6058].

## 5.5. Running DHCP Client and failSAFE IP Are Not Compatible on the Same NIC

In VSI TCP/IP Services V6.0, the DHCP client and failSAFE IP cannot be activated for the same NIC, because both DHCP client and failSAFE IP manage the address assignment of a NIC. You must select one or the other.

## 5.6. NTPDATE No Longer Supported

NTPDATE is no longer supported and will be removed from an upcoming release of VSI TCP/IP Services V6.0. To perform the equivalent of NTPDATE, run NTPD as follows:

```
$ ntpd := $TCPIP$NTP
$ ntpd "-G" -q
```

## 5.7. TCPIP\$BIND\_CONF.TEMPLATE\_FORWARD Requires Adjustment in Environments Not Supporting DNSSEC

The forwarders' addresses and the DNSSEC validation are set up in the following lines in the SYSS\$SPECIFIC:[TCPIP\$BIND]TCPIP\$BIND\_CONF.TEMPLATE\_FORWARD template file:

```
//Specifies the IP addresses to be used for forwarding.
//The default is the empty list (no forwarding).
forwarders {
    8.8.8.8;
    8.8.4.4;
};

dnssec-validation auto; //Enable DNSSEC validation.
                        //Note dnssec-enable also needs to be set to
                        //yes to be effective. The default is yes.
```

However, if forwarders are changed to DNS servers that do not support DNSSEC or have it disabled, DNS lookup replies will be discarded when the DNSSEC validation fails.

To avoid this, comment out the following line:

```
dnssec-validation auto
```

## 5.8. NFS Client Issues

### 5.8.1. File Attribute Issues in Stress Testing

Occasionally, the attributes of a file just written from a client under stress testing are briefly inconsistent with the server's copy, despite having been properly stored on the server.

### 5.8.2. SS\$\_BADIRECTORY Error When Deleting a File

The error SS\$\_BADIRECTORY is occasionally returned when deleting a file.

This error can be safely ignored.

### 5.8.3. Recommending an Extended Timeout Value

The default timeout value of 1 second is problematic. It is recommended that a larger timeout value is used (5 seconds).

### 5.8.4. Stale File Reports in OPCOM With NFS Delete Requests

A stale file is occasionally reported by OPCOM, usually with an NFS client delete request. This problem is usually caused by the client performing the GET ATTRIBUTES operation after the deletion.

### 5.8.5. QIO Operations May Fail With Timeout Error

The QIO operations on the NFS client may fail with an unexpected TIMEOUT error when the operations on the server side take longer than expected.

One such situation may occur when VSI OpenVMS is running on a guest virtual machine and the NFS client sends server requests too frequently. The solution in this case would be to increase the timeout interval to a larger value, around 5 seconds.

The error may also occur when a large file is created on the server side via a CREATE operation that specifies the file size, and the target disk has the **Highwater Marking** feature enabled. To remedy this, there are two options:

- If the security of the disk data is *not* critical, the **Highwater Marking** feature can be disabled.
- If the security of the disk data *is* critical, the **Erase on Delete** feature should be used instead of **Highwater Marking**.

## 6. Resolved Issues

This section describes the issues that were fixed in this release. For information about the issues that were fixed in the previous release, refer to [VSI TCP/IP Services for OpenVMS V6.0-29A Release Notes](https://docs.vmssoftware.com/vsi-tcpip-services-for-openvms-6029a-release-notes/) [<https://docs.vmssoftware.com/vsi-tcpip-services-for-openvms-6029a-release-notes/>].

### 6.1. NFS Client Crashes While Connected to UNIX-likes

Previously, the NFS client connected to an NFS server running on a UNIX-like platform could crash when handling an RPC response payload larger than 64 KB. This issue has been resolved.

### 6.2. NFS Client Is Slow to Update Directory Listings

Previously, a file caching issue could cause the NFS client to reflect an updated directory listing after a **PURGE** command with a significant delay. In this release, the file caching behavior has been corrected to ensure that directory listings are updated without delay.

### 6.3. COMMIT Function Crashes NFS Client

Previously, the NFS client would occasionally crash while processing NFS COMMIT operations, due to unexpected input parameters being passed to the COMMIT function. In this release, the function properly validates all parameters.

### 6.4. Release Information Expanded

The command **TCPIP SHOW VERSIONS** and the **TCPIP\$VERSIONS** utility have been modified to include the maintenance release information in addition to the major and minor version numbers of the installed TCPIP kit.

### 6.5. Error in the Configuration File

Previously, the VSI TCP/IP SYSCONFIG parameter **SCTP:SCTP\_THREAD** was placed in the wrong section of the configuration file. This issue has been resolved in this release, and a new template configuration file has been included in the kit. VSI recommends that all customers update their

configuration using this new template configuration file. The file can be extracted via the following command:

```
$ LIBRARY /EXTRACT=SYSCONFIGTAB/OUT=TCPIP$ETC:SYSCONFIGTAB.TEMPLATE -  
SYS$LIBRARY:TCPIP$TEMPLATES.TLB
```

## 6.6. NFS Client Displays Outdated File Attributes

Previously, if the protection attributes of a file were updated on the NFS server or client, the client would fail to display the changes. This issue has been resolved, and the attributes are now displayed correctly.

## 7. Upgrading From TCPI/IP Services V5.7

Before upgrading from TCP/IP Services V5.7 to V6.0, you should make several adjustments to your V5.7 configuration by using the `SY$MANAGER:TCPIP$CONFIG.COM` script:

- If you are currently using the DHCP server, disable it. This facility is not yet implemented in VSI TCP/IP Services V6.0.
- If you are currently using the DHCP client, disable it. The DHCP client implementation in VSI TCP/IP Services V6.0 differs from that in V5.7. If you plan to enable the DHCP client after upgrading to V6.0, it will utilize the new configuration logic.
- If you are currently using the SSH client, disable it. The SSH client is now part of the VSI OpenSSH product, and is not included in VSI TCP/IP Services V6.0.
- If you are currently using the SSH server, disable it. The SSH server is now part of the VSI OpenSSH product, and is not included in VSI TCP/IP Services V6.0.

If you had been using the SSH server, you may notice a disabled service definition for SSH in your configuration. If you do not intend to upgrade to the VSI OpenSSH product, you can remove it. Otherwise, consult the release notes for VSI OpenSSH for details on the migration feature included in the product's installation procedure.

## A. Security Enhancements for VSI TCP/IP Services V6.0 FTPS

FTPS (FTP over SSL) allows for an encrypted data connection when using FTP. FTPS is run by using either the `FTP/SSL` or `COPY/FTP/SSL` command.

### A.1. Changes in Connection Behavior

With TCP/IP Services V5.7 and prior versions, if you use FTPS and the FTP server is not set up to run SSL by not having the proper certificate, the following messages will be displayed, and the connection will continue in plain text:

```
TCPIP$_FTP_SSLERR, SSL not enabled on server  
TCPIP$_FTP_SSLERR, Session will continue in plain text
```

See the following example:

```
$ ftp /ssl node1
```

```
220 node1.example.com FTP Server (Version 5.7) Ready.
Connected to node1.
500 AUTH command unsuccessful.
TCPIP$_FTP_SSLERR, SSL not enabled on server
TCPIP$_FTP_SSLERR, Session will continue in plain text
Name (node1:username):

$ copy /ftp /ssl /log node2"username password"::file.txt *.*
TCPIP$_FTP_SSLERR, SSL not enabled on server
TCPIP$_FTP_SSLERR, Session will continue in plain text

%TCPIP-S-FTP_COPIED, NODE2.EXAMPLE.COM"username
password"::file.txt copied to DISK:[USERNAME]FILE.TXT;7
(968408 bytes)
```

With VSI TCP/IP Services V6.0, if you use FTPS and the FTP server is not set up to run SSL, the connection will be terminated. See the following examples:

```
$ ftp /ssl node1
220 node1.example.com FTP Server (Version 5.7) Ready.
Connected to node1.
500 AUTH command unsuccessful.
%TCPIP-E-SSLERR, SSL not enabled on server

$ copy /ftp /ssl /log node2"username password"::file.txt *.*
%TCPIP-E-SSLERR, SSL not enabled on server
```

You must either connect to an SSL-enabled FTP server or reissue the command without the **/SSL** qualifier.

## A.2. Changes in Certificate Verification

VSI TCP/IP Services V5.7 and prior versions only check for certificate integrity and do not perform the full server certificate verification. Blindly using a self-signed certificate is not a secure practice.

In the following example, VSI TCP/IP Services V5.7 allows the connection to the FTP server without notifying about the self-signed certificate used by the server:

```
$ ftp /ssl node3
220 node3.example.com FTP Server (Version 5.7) Ready.
Connected to node3.
234 AUTH command successful.
200 PBSZ command successful.
200 PROT command successful.
Name (node3:username):

$ copy /ftp /ssl /log node3"username password"::file.txt *.*
%TCPIP-S-FTP_COPIED, node3"username password"::FILE.TXT;18 copied
to DISK$WORK:[USERNAME]FILE.TXT;19 (1476 bytes)
```

VSI TCP/IP Services V6.0 includes a check for a self-signed or expired server certificate and outputs the appropriate message if such certificates are encountered. You can use a self-signed certificate if you trust the certificate and accept to use it.

The following example shows the connection to the FTP server with a self-signed certificate using VSI TCP/IP Services V6.0:

```
$ ftp /ssl node4
```

```
220 node4.example.com FTP Server (Version 6.0) Ready.
Connected to node4.
234 AUTH command successful.
200 PBSZ command successful.
200 PROT command successful.
```

```
%TCPIP-F-SSLERR, self signed certificate
```

```
Country: US
State: MA
Locality: Boston
Organization: Certificate Company
Name: company.com
E-Mail: first.last@company.com
Valid from: 30-Apr-2021 22:57
Expires: 30-Apr-2022 22:57
```

If you trust the certificate, re-issue the command with the /TRUST qualifier.

```
$ copy /ftp /ssl node3"username password":file.txt *.*
%TCPIP-F-SSLERR, self signed certificate
```

```
Country: US
State: MA
Locality: Boston
Organization: Certificate Company
Name: company.com
E-Mail: first.last@company.com
Valid from: 30-Apr-2021 22:57
Expires: 30-Apr-2022 22:57
```

If you trust the certificate, re-issue the command with the /TRUST qualifier.

Add the **/TRUST** qualifier to the command to proceed with the FTPS connection as in the following example:

```
$ ftp /ssl /trust node4
220 node4.example.com FTP Server (Version 6.0) Ready.
Connected to node4.
234 AUTH command successful.
200 PBSZ command successful.
200 PROT command successful.
%TCPIP-I-SSLERR, self signed certificate
%TCPIP-I-SSLERR, TRUST specified; FTP/SSL continuing...
Name (node4:username):
```

```
$ copy /ftp /ssl /log /trust node4"username password":file.txt *.*
%TCPIP-I-SSLERR, self signed certificate
%TCPIP-I-SSLERR, TRUST specified; FTP/SSL continuing...
```

```
%TCPIP-S-FTP_COPIED, node4"username password":FILE.TXT;18 copied to
DISK:FILE.TXT;22 (1476 bytes)
```