



Version 8.2 Release Notes

February 27, 2014
General Availability

The following release notes are intended to provide details on major features and changes added to **Storix System Backup Administrator (SBAdmin)** Version 8.2. Users unfamiliar with SBAdmin should consult the **Storix System Backup Administrator User Guide** for full product details.

New Features and Enhancements

1. Shared NFS Server

SBAdmin v8.2 provides the ability to utilize a NFS share for backup storage, and configure the share as a NFS server to be used by multiple clients. Clients will mount the NFS share locally during a backup or restore, thereby minimizing network traffic. The share must be mountable read-write by the client and the administrator. No SBAdmin software is required on the NFS server, and the configuration of the exported share and security of the NFS server is the sole responsibility of the user. NFS version 2, 3, and 4 are supported.

Client name substitution, **using %C notation**, is supported with shared NFS servers. When using %C notation, the parent directory of the %C directory must be mountable by the administrator. For example, if the NFS share is defined as `/backups/client/%C`, then the `/backups/client` directory must be mountable by the administrator.

The Shared NFS Server feature is only available on **Network Edition**, and deprecates the **SBNFS** (NFS local system backup device) when used by Network Edition clients. While SBNFS devices are deprecated in SBAdmin v8.2, they may still be used if configured prior to upgrading. **Workstation Edition** licenses will continue to use SBNFS devices as they were introduced in SBAdmin v8.1.

Configuration of the **Shared NFS Server** is similar to the following:

A screenshot of the "Shared NFS Server" configuration dialog box. At the top, there is a text field for "NFS Server Name" with the value "myNFSserver" and a dropdown arrow. Below this is a red header bar labeled "Server/Share Configuration". Under this header, there are four fields: "NFS Server IP Address" with the value "192.168.1.126", "NFS Version 4" with radio buttons for "Yes" and "No" (where "No" is selected), and "NFS Share (directory)" with the value "/backups". Below these is another red header bar labeled "Mount Options (-o type options)". Under this header, there are two fields: "Client Mount Options" with the value "retry=1" and "Admin Mount Options" with the value "retry=1". At the bottom of the dialog, there are two buttons: "Add/Change" and "Remove", and a red "X" button on the right.

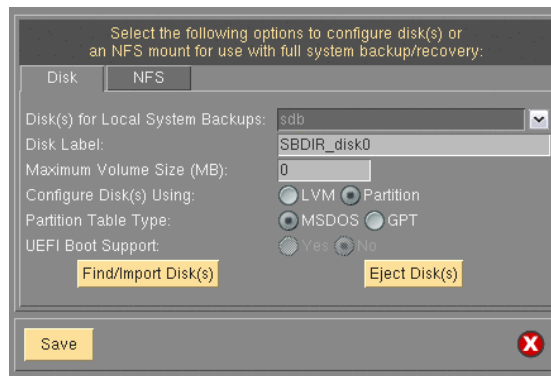
As first introduced in SBAdmin v8.1, you may perform system recovery by mounting the NFS share locally on the restore client. Again, no SBAdmin software is required to be installed on the NFS server, and the configuration of the NFS server is the sole responsibility of the user. Refer to the *SBAdmin System Installation Guides* for further details.

2. Multiple Local System Backup Disks

The SBAAdmin Local System Backup Disk (**SBDIR**) is a disk dedicated for performing system backups locally to the backup client. This disk is often bootable and will provide access to the recovery menus and system backups from a single media. The disk must be configured by SBAAdmin so that it may be recognized at the time of recovery. Prior to SBAAdmin v8.2, only a single SBDIR device per host was supported. New with SBAAdmin v8.2, is the ability to configure and manage multiple local system backup disks.

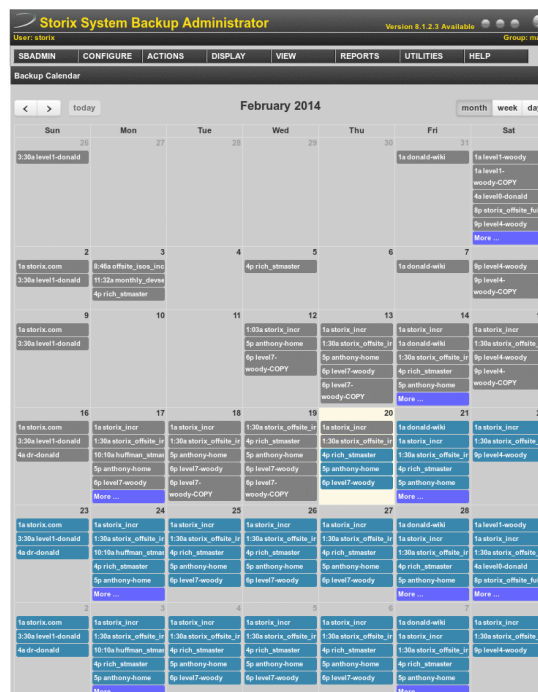
This feature was designed around the idea that users may want to use multiple disks (i.e. USB disks) in a backup rotation scheme. When configuring the system backup disk, users will be able to assign a “label” to the disk so that it is distinguishable when viewing reports in the application.

Also, a new “Eject SBDIR” operation was added. This will put the disk in a state that will allow for safe removal from the system (i.e. USB disk), and provide the capability of configuring a new disk. After a disk has been ejected, it may be imported onto any client and used to store system backups.



3. Backup Job Calendar

New in SBAAdmin v8.2 is a **Backup Job Calendar** that will display upcoming scheduled backup jobs and previously run backup jobs. The calendar includes *Monthly*, *Weekly*, and *Daily* views. Viewing the backup job calendar is only available with the **SBAAdmin Web Interface**.



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4. Auto-Terminate Stalled Backups

SBAAdmin v8.2 has added a new application preference that defines the number of minutes to wait before considering a backup job as stalled and to **automatically kill the backup**. This new preference will prevent backup jobs from waiting indefinitely if the network or storage (i.e. stale NFS mount) becomes unresponsive. This preference applies to all backup storage types except tape.

The timeout is initiated after pre-backup processing completes and data begins to write to storage. A backup is considered to have stalled when no progress in writing backup data has been made for the length of the timeout. The default is to *wait forever*. However, a warning message will be sent to the configured **Primary Notification** preference when a backup has stalled for 15 minutes.

5. Btrfs Filesystem Support

Support for the Btrfs filesystem on Linux has been added. Btrfs is a copy-on-write filesystem and is gaining popularity among many Linux users and distributions. The support will include performing a backup of a system that uses Btrfs as well as migrating filesystems to Btrfs during system recovery. Btrfs subvolumes will also be recreated during system recovery.

Note that when performing a backup that includes a Btrfs filesystem, the data in regular subvolumes will be *included* but the data in snapshot subvolumes will be *automatically excluded*. The snapshot data is excluded because the snapshot subvolume cannot be properly recreated at the time of recovery.

Additional Changes and Enhancements

1. Support for TSM API v7.1 – Tivoli Storage Manager (TSM) API v7.1 has been validated for support by SBAAdmin v8.2 for Linux x86_64, IBM PowerLinux, and Solaris SPARC. TSM API v7.1 for AIX is not supported.
2. NFS System Backup Device – As mentioned in Shared NFS Feature announcement, the NFS System Backup Device (SBNFS) has been deprecated for Network Edition clients. For those clients that used SBNFS prior to upgrading, you may continue to use the SBNFS device but are encouraged to migrate to the Shared NFS server. No changes to using a NFS share have been made to Workstation Edition.
3. Local System Backup Disk Device – When configuring a local system backup disk (SBDIR) prior to v8.2, an entry in the filesystem definition file (i.e. /etc/fstab) was created. This will no longer be the case. Any time the backup filesystem on the device is needed it will be imported and mounted automatically by the application. Also, the disk will always be in a state safe for physical removal following a backup or data restore operation.
4. Shutdown Backup Queue – Jobs will no longer be added to a backup queue if the queue is in a shutdown state. This includes scheduled and on-demand backup jobs. If a job fails to be added to a backup queue because it is shutdown, notification will be sent to the configured alternate notification method.

License Requirements

Updating to SBAAdmin v8.2 requires a Version 8 license key. Users that currently have a Version 8 key may upgrade at no cost using the same key provided that the maintenance contract for the key is current. Users without a Version 8 license key should select the following link to check eligibility for the Version 8 upgrade and to request a new license key: <http://www.storix.com/upgrade-software>. Refer to the **Support and Upgrade** section below if you are not currently eligible.

Evaluation (Trial) License

If you do not have a license for SBAAdmin, you may install a free 30-day evaluation key. To download the trial software, go to <http://www.storix.com/download>. Installation instructions are provided. No license key will be required, and the software will be fully functional for 30 days. You may contact Storix Sales at 877-STORIX1 (877-786-7491) to request a new trial license key if a previously installed trial has expired.

If, during or after the trial period, you have obtained a Version 8 license key, you may enter it using the **File→Software License** option from the SBAdmin menu. Your permanent license will be applied and you may continue to use the software without needing to change your previous configuration.

Backward Compatibility

SBAdmin v8.2 is fully compatible with all backups and boot media created with prior versions. However, it is recommended that you have a backup of all systems with your current version prior to updating.

Support & Upgrade*

Storix provides an *Annual Software Maintenance Contract*, which includes full support, maintenance and upgrades to future versions for each SBAdmin system. One (1) year software maintenance and support is included for all new licenses.

It is Storix policy to support past releases for a minimum of 6 months following a new version or release. Therefore, support for Version 8.1 will end on **August 30, 2014**.

It is necessary to install SBAdmin 8.2 onto **all clients and servers** previously configured when upgrading a **Network Edition** or a **TSM Edition** environment. When updating the administrator, you are prompted to update clients and servers also. If clients and servers have not already been updated, you should answer “yes” to do so. If any clients are not updated because they are unavailable, you will need to update them later before performing any backups of that client.

* Terms of support are subject to change without notice.