



## **VMware Driver Installation**

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This section describes VMware Driver Installation.

## Hardware and Software Requirements

Requirement	Description
Platforms	A server platform with an adapter card based on NVIDIA devices: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ConnectX®-6 Dx (EN) (firmware: fw-ConnectX6Dx)</li></ul>
Operating System	ESXi 8.x
Installer Privileges	The installation requires administrator privileges on the target machine.

## Installing NATIVE ESXi Driver for VMware vSphere

### Note

Please uninstall all previous driver packages prior to installing the new version.

To install the driver:

1. Log into the ESXi server with root permissions.
2. Install the driver.

```
#> esxcli software vib install -d <path>/<bundle_file>
```

Example:

```
#> esxcli software vib install -d /tmp/MLNX-NATIVE-ESX-ConnectX-4-5_4.16.8.8-10EM-650.0.0.4240417.zipesxcli
```

3. Reboot the machine.
4. Verify the driver was installed successfully.

```
esxcli software vib list | grep nmlx  
nmlx5-core 4.16.8.8-10EM.650.0.0.4240417 MEL PartnerSupported 2017-01-31  
nmlx5-rdma 4.16.8.8-10EM.650.0.0.4240417 MEL PartnerSupported 2017-01-31
```

### **Note**

After the installation process, all kernel modules are loaded automatically upon boot.

## Removing Earlier NVIDIA Drivers

### **Note**

Please unload the previously installed drivers before removing them.

To remove all the drivers:

1. Log into the ESXi server with root permissions.
2. List all the existing NATIVE ESXi driver modules. (See Step 4 in [Installing NATIVE ESXi Driver for VMware vSphere.](#))
3. Remove each module:

```
#> esxcli software vib remove -n nmlx5-rdma  
#> esxcli software vib remove -n nmlx5-core
```

### **Note**

To remove the modules, you must run the command in the same order as shown in the example above.

4. Reboot the server.

## Firmware Programming

1. Download the VMware bootable binary images v4.6.0 from the [Firmware Tools \(MFT\) site](#).

1. ESXi 6.5 File: mft-4.6.0.48-10EM-650.0.0.4598673.x86\_64.vib

2. MD5SUM: 0804cffe30913a7b4017445a0f0adbe1

2. Install the image according to the steps described in the [MFT User Manual](#).

### **Note**

The following procedure requires custom boot image downloading, mounting and booting from a USB device.

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