IBM Security

IBM Guardium Data Encryption

RELEASE TAXONOMY FOR LINUX/AIX/WINDOWS

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GDE Release Taxonomy

	Version Release V.0.0.0	Major Release V.R.0.0	Mod Release V.R.M.0	SSE Release V.R.M.F	Fixpack Release V.R.M.F
Release Cadence	36-48 Months	12-15 Months	As per need	1 Month	As required
Major New Features Architecture Changes	X				
New Features Component Changes	X	X	X	X	
Support for new OS Versions (major/minor/kernel)	X	X	X	X	
New Kernel Updates	X	X	X	X	X
Hot Fixes	X	X	X	X	X

NOTE:
All above mentioned release will be available to all IBM GDE Customers.

IBM Release & Version conventions for GDE

Numbering convention	Release Type	Tests performed by IBM	Support period
V.0.0.0	Version Release	- Product download experience - Installation of product - New feature validation - Regression of Existing features - Migration Testing - X-Force Security Testing (Pen-Testing)	3 (Standard) + 2 (Extended) years of support
V.R.0.0	Major Release	- Product download experience - Installation of product - New feature validation - Regression of Existing features - Migration Testing - X-Force Security Testing (Pen-Testing)	3 (Standard) + 2 (Extended) years of support
V.R.M.0	Mod Release	- Product download experience - Installation of product - New feature validation - Migration Testing	3 (Standard) + 2 (Extended) years of support
V.R.M.F	SSE Release (No Enabler software update)	- Product download experience - Installation of product	Supported till 3 + 2 years of support from last V.R.M Release
V.R.M.F	Fixpack Release (No Enabler software update)	- Product download experience	Supported till 3 + 2 years of support from last V.R.M Release

GDE with respect to Thales e-Security Release Taxonomy

Thales Release	IBM Release	Timeframe for IBM Support w.r.t Thales Release	Comments
Major release (V1)	Next Version, Major, Mod or SSE Release (V.0.0.0)	30-45 days of Thales release	Contains major features and Architecture changes
Service pack (V1.1)	Next Version, Major, Mod or SSE Release (V.R.0.0)	30-45 days of Thales release	Contains new features and component changes
Cumulative Patch (V1.1.1)	SSE or FP Release (V.R.M.0)	5-7 days of Thales release	Support for new OS versions and some enhancements
Monthly Patch (V1.1.1.1)	SSE or FP Release (V.R.M.F)	5-7 days of Thales release	Support for changes to support major bug fixes or enhancements.
Hot Fix (V1.1.1.1)	FP Release or Hot fix directly from Thales (V.R.M.F)	Immediately	If change contains only agent changes resulting from security patches to kernel then agent will be available immediately

NOTE: IBM release is applicable to release of Data Security Manager (DSM), Vormetric Transparent Encryption (VTE), Vormetric Tokenization Server (VTS), Vormetric Teradata Protection (VPTD) and Vormetric Application Encryption (VAE) under IBM brand of Guardium Data Encryption (GDE)

GDE RHEL Linux Release Taxonomy

Linux Release	TeS Release	TeS release timeframe w.r.t. Linux Release	IBM Release	IBM release timeframe w.r.t TeS Release	Cumulative Timeframe	Comments
Major release (i.e. RHEL 7)	Next major or service pack, or cumulative patch release	20 business-days of GA of Linux major release	Next Version, Major, Mod or SSE Release	30-45 days of Thales release	50-65 business-days of GA of Linux major release	Major OS releases typically include significant kernel enhancements, new features and file systems.
Minor/Service pack, Update or Point Release (i.e. RHEL 6.6)	Next major or service pack, or cumulative patch release	20 business-days of GA of Linux service pack, update	Next Version, Major, Mod or SSE Release	30-45 days of Thales release	50-65 business-days of GA of Linux service pack, update	OS Service pack or update releases don't include significant new features but on occasion break kernel binary compatibility.
Critical Kernel Security Patch	Next major or service pack, or cumulative patch release	4 business days of GA of Linux kernel security patch	FP Release	0-7 days of Thales release	4-11 business days of GA of Linux kernel security patch	In exceptional cases, when more than 4 days are required, Thales will inform customers of the planned release date.

NOTE:

1. IBM GDE is supported by Thales e-Security. All limitations and conditions by Thales e-Security will still apply to IBM GDE.
2. A VTE patch will be released for Linux critical Kernel Security updates that resolve CVEs/vulnerabilities with a score > 7 (critical severity). The VTE patch will be available 4-7 business days after the GA of the Linux kernel security patch.
3. With every new VTE release only the latest 2 major release versions of Linux will be supported. For example, VTE 6.0 will support RHEL 6 and 7. The last VTE v5.x service pack release will continue to support RHEL 5 for 2 years after VTE 6.0 release as per IBM release conventions.
4. Linux security patches rarely break compatibility. These patches can be applied by the customer without having to upgrade VTE software. In rare situations when there are kernel patches that break compatibility, IBM will provide a corresponding patch immediately after Thales patch that will be compatible with the Linux kernel patch.
5. Some major OS functionality may not be supported in a IBM FP/SSE release. They will be called out and planned for in the next IBM major or minor release.

GDE SUSE Linux Release Taxonomy

Linux Release	TeS Release	TeS release timeframe w.r.t. Linux Release	IBM Release	IBM release timeframe w.r.t TeS Release	Cumulative Timeframe	Comments
Major release (i.e. SLES 12)	Next major or service pack, or cumulative patch release	60-90 business-days of GA of Linux major release	Next Version, Major, Mod or SSE Release	30-45 days of Thales release	90-135 business-days of GA of Linux major release	Major OS releases typically include significant kernel enhancements, new features and file systems.
Service Pack, Update Release (i.e. SLES 11 SP3)	Next major or service pack, or cumulative patch release	30-60 business-days of GA of Linux service pack, update	Next Version, Major, Mod or SSE Release	30-45 days of Thales release	60-105 business-days of GA of Linux service pack, update	OS Service pack or update releases don’t include significant new features but on occasion break kernel binary compatibility.
Critical Kernel Security Patch	Next major or service pack, or cumulative patch release	20 business days of GA of Linux kernel security patch	FP Release	0-7 days of Thales release	20-27 business days of GA of Linux kernel security patch	In exceptional cases, when more than 4 days are required, Thales will inform customers of the planned release date.

NOTE:

1. IBM GDE is supported by Thales e-Security. All limitations and conditions by Thales e-Security will still apply to IBM GDE.
2. A VTE patch will be released for Linux critical Kernel Security updates that resolve CVEs/vulnerabilities with a score > 7 (critical severity). The VTE patch will be available 4-7 business days after the GA of the Linux kernel security patch.
3. With every new VTE release only the latest 2 major release versions of Linux will be supported. For example, VTE 6.0 will support SLES 11 and 12. The last VTE v5.x service pack release will continue to support SLES 10 for 2 years after VTE 6.0 release as per IBM release conventions.
4. Linux security patches rarely break compatibility. These patches can be applied by the customer without having to upgrade VTE software. In rare situations when there are kernel patches that break compatibility, IBM will provide a corresponding patch immediately after Thales patch that will be compatible with the Linux kernel patch.
5. Some major OS functionality may not be supported in a IBM FP/SSE release. They will be called out and planned for in the next IBM major or minor release.

GDE Ubuntu Linux (LTS) Release Taxonomy

Linux Release	TeS Release	TeS release timeframe w.r.t. Linux Release	IBM Release	IBM release timeframe w.r.t TeS Release	Cumulative Timeframe	Comments
Ubuntu LTS Major Release (i.e. Ubuntu 16.04)	Next major or service pack, or cumulative patch release	20 business-days of GA of Linux major release	Next Version, Major, Mod or SSE Release	30-45 days of Thales release	50-65 business-days of GA of Linux major release	Major OS releases typically include significant kernel enhancements, new features and file systems.
Ubuntu LTS Point Release (i.e. Ubuntu 16.04.1)	Next major or service pack, or cumulative patch release	20 business-days of GA of Linux service pack, update	Next Version, Major, Mod or SSE Release	30-45 days of Thales release	50-65 business-days of GA of Linux service pack, update	OS Service pack or update releases don't include significant new features but on occasion break kernel binary compatibility.
Critical Kernel Security Patch	Next major or service pack, or cumulative patch release	4 business days of GA of Linux kernel security patch	FP Release	0-7 days of Thales release	4-11 business days of GA of Linux kernel security patch	In exceptional cases, when more than 4 days are required, Thales will inform customers of the planned release date.

NOTE:

1. IBM GDE is supported by Thales e-Security. All limitations and conditions by Thales e-Security will still apply to IBM GDE.
2. A VTE patch will be released for Linux critical Kernel Security updates that resolve CVEs/vulnerabilities with a score > 7 (critical severity). The VTE patch will be available 4-7 business days after the GA of the Linux kernel security patch.
3. VTE will support the latest two major Ubuntu release versions at any given time. For example, once that Ubuntu 18.04 is released VTE will support Ubuntu release versions 18.04 and 16.04, and end support for Ubuntu 14.04.
4. Some major OS functionality may not be supported in a IBM FP/SSE release. They will be called out and planned for in the next IBM major or minor release.

GDE Windows Release Taxonomy for VTE Agents

Windows Release	TeS Release	TeS release timeframe w.r.t. Linux Release	IBM Release	IBM release timeframe w.r.t TeS Release	Cumulative Timeframe	Comments
Major Release (i.e. WS 2008 R1-R2, WS 2016)	Next major or service pack, or cumulative patch release	60-90 Business days of GA of Windows major release	Next Version, Major, Mod or SSE Release	30-45 days of Thales release	90-135 business-days of GA of Windows major release	Major OS releases typically include significant kernel enhancements, new features and file systems.
Service Pack (i.e. WS 2008 SP1)	Next major or service pack, or cumulative patch release	30-60 business days of GA of Windows service pack, Update	Next Version, Major, Mod or SSE Release	30-45 days of Thales release	60-105 business-days of GA of Windows service pack, update	OS Service pack or update releases don't include significant new features but on occasion break kernel binary compatibility.
Security, Cumulative Patches	Thales e-Security patch release is not required for Windows security and cumulative patches.	NA	NA	NA	NA	Windows patches rarely break compatibility. These patches can be applied by the customer without having to upgrade Vormetric Transparent Encryption software

NOTE:

1. IBM GDE is supported by Thales e-Security. All limitations and conditions by Thales e-Security will still apply to IBM GDE.
2. Windows patches rarely break compatibility. These patches can be applied by the customer without having to upgrade VTE software. In rare situations when there are kernel patches that break compatibility, IBM will provide a corresponding patch immediately after Thales patch that will be compatible with the Windows kernel patch.
3. Some major OS functionality may not be supported in a IBM FP/SSE release. They will be called out and planned for in the next IBM major or minor release.

GDE AIX Release Taxonomy for VTE Agents

Unix Release	TeS Release	TeS release timeframe w.r.t. Linux Release	IBM Release	IBM release timeframe w.r.t TeS Release	Cumulative Timeframe	Comments
Major release (i.e. AIX 8.1)	Next major or service pack or cumulative patch release	90-180 days of GA of Unix major release	Next Version, Major, Mod or SSE Release	30-45 days of Thales release	120-225 days of GA of Unix major release	Major releases typically included significant kernel enhancements, new features, and file systems. All the functionality of the Unix major release will not be supported if it is aligned with Vormetric cumulative release.
Service pack, Technology level or update release (i.e., AIX 7.1 TL4)	Next major, service pack, or cumulative patch release	30-90 days of GA of Unix service pack or technology level release	Next Version, Major, Mod or SSE Release	30-45 days of Thales release	60-135 days of GA of Unix service pack or technology level release	Service pack, technology level, or update releases do not include significant new features but on occasion break kernel binary compatibility.
Kernel & security patches or Service pack for Technology level (i.e., AIX 7.1 TL4 SP4)	Vormetric Data Security Patch / hot fix release if necessary	10-30 days of GA of Unix kernel/security patch or AIX SP or technology level release	FP Release	Immediately	10-30 days of GA of Unix kernel/security patch or AIX SP or technology level release	Kernel patches or TL SP typically do not break compatibility. When they do, Vormetric addresses them with its own product patch.

NOTE:

1. IBM GDE is supported by Thales e-Security. IBM Version/Major release will take 30-45 days of Thales release. All limitations and conditions by Thales e-Security will still apply to IBM GDE.
2. AIX security patches rarely break compatibility. These e-Security patches can be applied by the customer without having to upgrade VTE software. In rare situations when there are kernel patches that break compatibility, IBM will provide a corresponding patch immediately after Thales patch that will be compatible with the kernel patch.
3. Some major OS functionality may not be supported in a IBM FP/SSE release. They will be called out and planned for in the next IBM major or minor release.

IBM GDE Disclaimers

- IBM Guardium Data Encryption (GDE) is OEM product developed by Thales e-Security.
- In most releases, IBM performs testing of the Thales e-Security product before releasing it to customer. This allows IBM to review the Thales software for :
  - Security Vulnerabilities (Zero day vulnerabilities)
  - Installation & deployment issues
  - Major product issues
- IBM generally receives the software product for testing and releasing from Thales e-Security within 30 days of Thales release to IBM (which may be after Thales releases it to the market).
- IBM endeavors to complete its assessment of Thales software within 45-60 days from the date of Thales e-Security to IBM. However, IBM may be delayed as a result of discoveries found during the testing or consolidation of multiple software components into a single IBM release.
- If IBM finds issues or security vulnerabilities in Thales release then the GDE release may be further delayed until issues have been resolved by Thales.
- The time-frames listed in this document are best-effort estimates and not a commitment and should not be interpreted as a service level agreement.

IBM Security

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Statement of Good Security Practices: IT system security involves protecting systems and information through prevention, detection and response to improper access from within and outside your enterprise. Improper access can result in information being altered, destroyed, misappropriated or misused or can result in damage to or misuse of your systems, including for use in attacks on others. No IT system or product should be considered completely secure and no single product, service or security measure can be completely effective in preventing improper use or access. IBM systems, products and services are designed to be part of a lawful, comprehensive security approach, which will necessarily involve additional operational procedures, and may require other systems, products or services to be most effective. IBM does not warrant that any systems, products or services are immune from, or will make your enterprise immune from, the malicious or illegal conduct of any party.

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