

# IBM LTO-8 Firmware Version Q3A0 (FH) and Q3A1 (HH) Release Announcement

April 2024

## Preface

IBM LTO-8 firmware update Q3A0 for full-height (FH) and Q3A1 for half-height (HH) drives. These updates since versions Q384 (FH) and Q385 (HH) are intended, among other things, to increase overall reliability, improve tape handling, further reduce any possibility of error, and provide continued enhancements to diagnostic capabilities.

## Models Affected

This firmware affects all IBM LTO-8 FH and HH drives.

## Upgrade Considerations

All prior firmware versions can be upgraded to firmware version Q3A0 for FH and Q3A1 for HH drives.



### CAUTION:

To prevent data corruption, verify that all active backup and recovery jobs to the LTO drive are completed prior to performing the upgrade.

## Downgrades

Downgrades are not supported.

## Fixes That Affect All Drives

- Fix panic during ERP for MCP segment
- Read ERP improvements for offset written tracks
- Fix panic during ERP to write EOD segment
- Fix drive hang after memory error
- Fix drive panic condition during Locate to change partition
- Read ERP improvements
- Optimize tape tension control for better R/W performance

## Fixes That Affect Only Certain Drives

### Library Drives

- Fix condition where ADI library issued unload to LUN2 may hang when host prevents medium removal
- Race in [library] ethernet port link up when drive is idle may cause drive hang requiring power cycle

### FC Drives

- FC REC Task Retry Identifier checked when not supported
- Fix panic during performance read transfer failures on FC drives

## Downloads

Firmware update code IBM LTO-8 Q3A0 (FH) and Q3A1 (HH) is available for [download](#) for supported users with active software entitlement agreements.

Additional documentation on how to operate, configure, and support your NEO library is available at our [Knowledge Base](#).