

Release notes for Personal Alpha Emulator.

Version 2.0.6 (13-Feb-2008):

Bug fixes:

- DEC3000 reboot problems.

Version 2.0.5 (01-Feb-2008):

Changes:

- A new version of the IDLE mechanism is available and it is advised to upgrade to this version.

Bug fixes:

- Fixed Memory Management Unit bug.

Version 1.2.2 (02-Oct-2007):

Changes:

- Memory size increased to 128MB.

Bug fixes:

- SRM auto_action and boot_dev bug fixed.

Version 1.2.1 (30-Aug-2007):

Bug fixes:

- Fixed initialization of the serial lines.
- Fixed setting of the baudrate.
- Reinitialized console after leaving the OS.

Version 1.2.0 (23-Aug-2007):

Changes:

- Extended SRM console support.
- Digital Unix/Tru64/OSF1 beta level support for versions 3.2C to 4.0G
- Changes to the configuration file:
 - The network adapters are renamed from ESA to ESA0.
 - The set_env SRM parameters settings are no longer needed. This functionality is provided with the new SRM console.
 - Start of the emulator and SRM console using the command power on

Bug fixes:

- Real SCSI disk support with Tru64.

Version 1.1.7 (24-Jul-2007):

Minor bug fixes.

Version 1.1.6 (23-Jul-2007):

Changes:

- Now not only time but also the date is logged

Version 1.1.3 (30-May-2007):

Changes:

- Emulator internal memory layout changed because to support some configurations.
- Putty release switched from 0.58 to 0.60

Bug fixes:

- Disk images not multiple of 512 bytes caused bug check. Now truncated.

Version 1.1.2 (11-May-2007):

Bug fixes:

- PAL IMB bug fixed.
- SRM variable bugs fixed.
- HWRPB bugs fixed.
- SCSI selection with the target id equal to the initiator id bug fixed.
- Some unimplemented SCSI messages implemented.
- Some unimplemented ISP1040 commands implemented.
- The NCR SCSI controller message handling bugs fixed.
- Problems accessing memory above 4GB.

Version 1.1.1 (27-Apr-2007):

Changes:

- A list of known disk geometries added. The list includes geometries for all supported disk image file sizes. This should fix some geometry related problems. NOTE: In this release the known vendor and product ids are still not passed to VMS. So VMS still displays some fake disk name. This will be fixed in the near future.
- Loaded but unspecified network interfaces are mapped to a dummy. Network interfaces specified but not found cause an error and stop the emulator.

Bug fixes:

- Removable devices sometimes do not see new medium.
- Sometimes CDROM read incorrect data.
- Various SRM bugs.

Version 1.1.0 (13-Apr-2007):

Changes:

- The disk subsystem has been generalized to support virtually any disk device supported by Windows. In particular this includes the DVDs. It also means that USB devices like memory sticks, CD/DVD drivers and external hard disks are supported. Write-once functionality is still not supported.

Bug fixes:

- CPU MULQ/V and MULL/V arithmetic trap bug fixed.
- CPU CVTTQ/SVI trap bug fixed.
- Emulator was reporting incorrect disk geometry: one sector too many. This caused failures reading/writing the last sector.

Version 1.0.21 (22-Feb-2007):

Changes:

- The terminal startup/shutdown is moved from the user interface to the emulator itself.

Bugs fixed:

- UI network problem: when there are two network adaptors of the same type, the UI may use the wrong one. As the result the emulator cannot start the network interface.
- UI network problem: promiscuous mode detection sometimes fails. The fixed version assumes that promiscuous mode is supported by wired cards and not supported by wireless cards.

Known problems:

- Deadlock in Windows Sockets when some Layered Socket Products (LSP) are installed. It manifests itself as a terminal emulator problem.
 - o This includes nVidia firewall, NOD32 antivirus and some malware.
 - o This is not an emulator problem, but the Windows Sockets/ LSP problem. Normally, uninstallation of the LSP product helps.
- o You can view the installed LSPs using the program LSP-Fix available at <http://www.cexx.org/lspfix.htm> for download.

Version 1.0.20 (16-Jan-2007):

Changes:

- The product is now free. The license checks are disabled.
- The product performance is now lower than it was. Please consider CHARON-AXP product family for higher performance.
- The installer product ID is changed to differ from that of CHARON-AXP project. This allows installing both products at the same time.
 - o IMPORTANT: Uninstall the previous version of Personal Alpha before installing this or later version.

Bugs fixed:

- SCSI bug fixes, disconnect-reconnect functionality added
- Serial line bugs: timeout and corrupted output.
- IDLE support fixed: sometimes the emulator hung when using IDLE.

Known bugs:

- Serial line characteristics are not passed correctly from VMS to the host serial line (COM port). This is important for hardware COM port mappings. Workaround: use the Windows command prompt "mode" command to set the COM port characteristics that match those used by VMS.
- Network boot is not implemented.
- In some cases the SRM console Ctrl-P/boot command combination does not work as expected. Workaround: stop the emulator and start it again with the new boot argument.

Version 1.0.17 (20-Nov-2006):

Minor bugs fixes.

Version 1.0.16 (02-Nov-2006):

Bugs fixed:

- Sometimes UI does not completely shutdown the console socket when it has

awaited the emulator to create the socket server. This prevents the terminal emulator connection. This bug was only noticed on SMP systems.

Version 1.0.15 (01-Nov-2006) :

Bugs fixed:

- When using two SCSI controllers at the same time, the interrupts were sometimes lost. This resulted in "disk offline, mount verification in progress" errors.

Version 1.0.14 (11-Oct-2006) :

Bugs fixed:

- Problems with certain VMS releases solved.

Version 1.0.13 (09-Oct-2006) :

Personal Alpha specific changes:

- All four disk drives in the UI are enabled for editing.

Changes merged from CHARON-AXP DEC3000

- Added support for early VMS versions starting with 6.1
- Multi-LUN support for SCSI devices.
- Removable and read-only disk support.

Bugs fixed:

- Read-only virtual disk image files did not mount read-only causing problems. Now read-only image files are exposed as CD's.
- UI showed only one network adaptor from the set of adaptors of the same type.
- Terminal emulator started too soon, so that the emulator had no time to create the socket. This led to the failure to connect. Delay inserted.
- The default PUTTY terminal emulator was not forced to stop by the user interface.

Version 1.0.12 (11-Sep-2006) :

Changes merged from CHARON-AXP:

- telnet serial line support has been split in two parts:
 - o "telnet" serial line - ASCII based connection to a telnet client
 - o "socket" serial line - RAW BINARY mode TCPIP connection

Version 1.0.11 (08-Sep-2006) :

Fixed bugs:

- MAC Address Bridge support added to the network user interface.

Version 1.0.10 (08-Sep-2006) :

Changes merged from CHARON-AXP project.