



September, 2013

Dear Customer,

RE: Intel® Rapid Storage Technology enterprise (RSTe) 3.8.0.1111 Product Version (PV) Release Package

Intel is committed to providing useful tools to our customers designing with our latest products. The RSTe 3.8.0.1111 package will allow customers to release and support their Intel® C600 series chipset based platforms. This package provides the production version of the Microsoft Windows\* drivers to support the Intel® C600/C200 series chipset family of products. These drivers will provide support for drives configured in a RAID volume as well as "Pass-through" drives (on both controllers).

**NOTE: The Intel® C600 series chipset SCU PHY's maximum speed is limited to 3 Gbs. Platform BIOS must be updated with the latest Pre-OS images contained in this release package.**

Included in this release is the Beta support for Intel® Grantley platforms with the Intel® C620 series chipset. The Intel® C620 series chipset has two AHCI Controllers. The Beta drivers included in this package, for the sATA AHCI controller is not WHQL'ed. That PV release for full support of the Intel® C620 series chipset is planned for RSTe 4.0.

Intel® RSTe 3.8.0.1111 driver supports the installation of and/or the upgrade to Windows\* 8, Windows\* 8.1, Windows\* Server 2012 and Windows\* Server 2012 R2. The package contains two RSTe 3.8 drivers; one strictly for running on legacy supported Windows\* operating systems while the other supports Windows\* 8/8.1/Server 2012/Server 2012 R2. As a result, please notice that there are multiple sets of F6 directories. The installation executable is already configured to install the proper version.

With the release of Windows\* 8, Windows\* 8.1, Windows\* Server 2012 and Windows\* Server 2012 R2, Microsoft included an inbox driver to support the Intel® C600 series chipset's AHCI Controller when configured in RAID mode. These drivers are not RSTe drivers and are intended to support customers whom may not have the F6 drivers readily available when the OS is being installed. The drivers are ONLY intended to be installed to a single pass-through drive. They are NOT intended to be installed to a RAID volume. Once the OS has been installed, immediately install the RSTe 3.8 package, and then use the RSTe GUI to create and manage the RAID volumes.

**NOTE: When running in a configuration where the system drive will be connected to the Intel® C600 series chipset's AHCI Controller, and that controller is configured for RAID mode,**

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\* Other brands and names may be claimed as the property of others.

DO NOT use the inbox drivers (included with the Windows\* 8, Windows\* 8.1, Windows\* Server 2012 and Windows\* Server 2012 R2 ISO images) for installing these OS's to a RAID volume. Use the F6 drivers provided with each release. If those F6 drivers are not available use the inbox drivers **only** to install to a **single drive**.

**NOTE:** With the release of Windows\* 8.1/Server 2012 R2, Microsoft has included a third party vendors inbox driver that includes support for the Device ID reserved for Intel's RSTe AHCI/SATA RAID mode driver. The inclusion of these reserved ID's within the (third party) inbox driver may prevent customer from being able to use the RSTe driver to install (or updated to) the latest Microsoft's OSes.

For new installations, the attached devices will not show up, prompting the use of the F6 load driver option. During the loading of the RSTe driver, Windows will make the determination that the existing (third party) inbox drive is the better, more appropriate driver to use and will install that driver. Windows does not install the RSTe driver. This results in no drives showing up, so the OS cannot be installed.

For upgrades on platforms that are running Windows\* 8.0/Server 2012 with RSTe, running the OS upgrade process will result in the (third party) inbox driver over writing the RSTe driver, rendering the system unbootable and unrecoverable. The systems that are impacted will contain the following Subsystem IDs (as part of their Device ID identification):

11B61734, 28228086, 72708086, 04811014, 04851014, 047D1014, 201019E5, 201219E5, 201319E5, 201519E5, 201619E5, 201B19E5, 201D19E5, 201F19E5, 306E1054

This Intel® RSTe 3.8.0.1111 release package introduces a few new features. Please review the release notes for additional information.

**NOTE:** Due to the two driver configuration in this release, upgrading to Windows\* 8/8.1/Server 2012/Server 2012 will require the following steps to be taken:

1. Run the install executable to upgrade the RSTe driver to 3.5, 3.6, 3.7, 3.8
2. Perform the Windows\* 8/8.1/Server 2012/Server 2012 R2 upgrade process
3. Upon successful upgrade, the installation executable must be re-run.

Please refer to the included documentation for sightings reports, installation instructions and release notes.

Sincerely,  
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