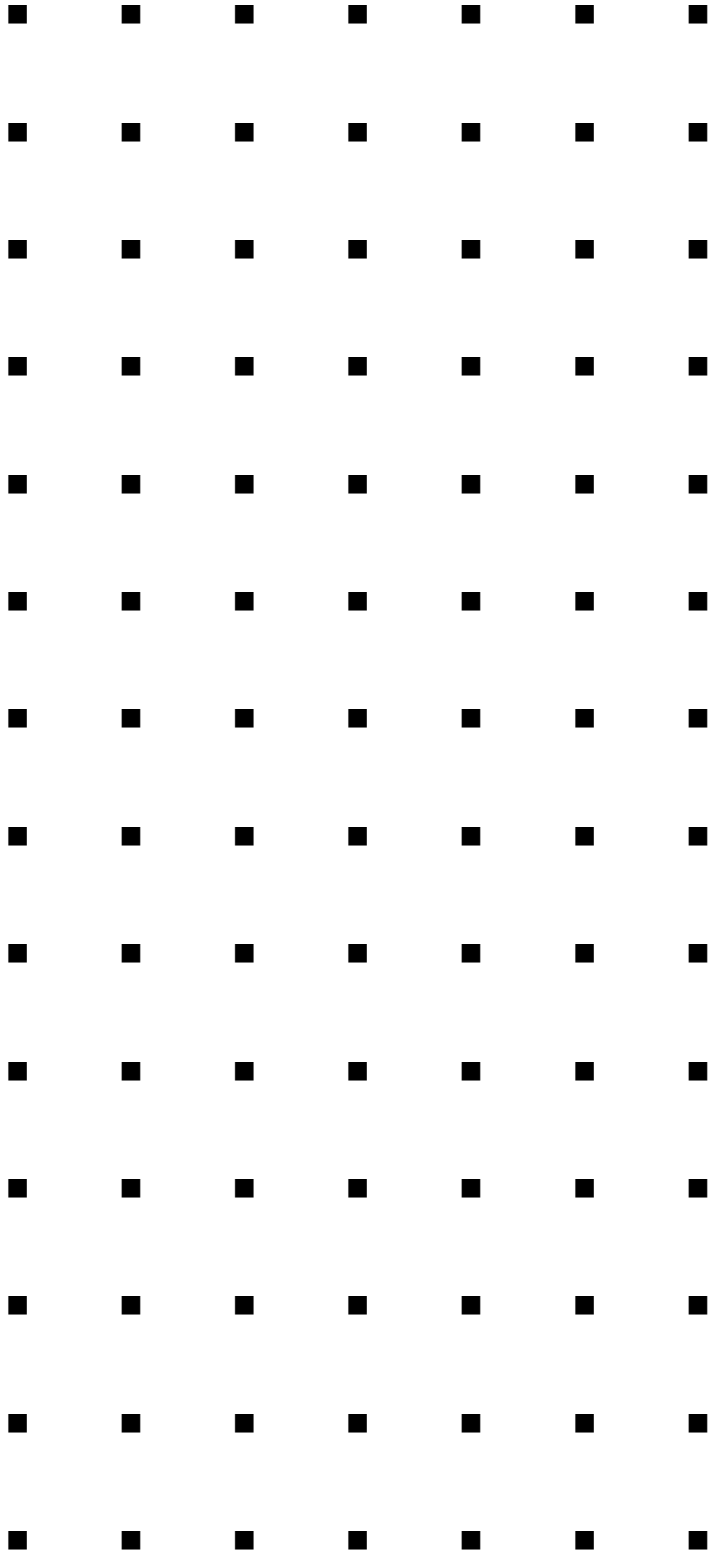


8480E Disk Array Controller



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Congratulations for your purchase of the Disk Array Controller.

This User's Guide describes how to install and use the LSI 8480E Disk Array Controller (External SAS HDD) correctly and safely. Read the guide thoroughly before handling it.

Also refer to this manual when you want to know how to use the Disk Array Controller or if some malfunction occurs. Keep the manual handy for future reference. We recommend you carefully read the "Notes on Use" section before handling the disk array controller.

For more information on the server in which the disk array controller is installed, refer to the Server User's Guide.

Keep this User's Guide handy for quick reference.
Be sure to read this section carefully.



NOTES ON USE - Always read the Notes -

The following includes information necessary for proper and safe operation of the product.

SAFETY INDICATIONS

In the User's Guide, "WARNING" or "CAUTION" is used to indicate a degree of danger. These terms are defined as follows:



WARNING







Indicates a hazard that may result in death or serious personal injury.



CAUTION





Indicates a hazard that may cause minor personal injury, including burns, or property damage.

Precautions against hazards are presented with the following symbols. The individual symbols are defined as follows:



	Attention	This symbol indicates a hazard. An image in the symbol illustrates the hazard type.	(Example)  Precaution against electric shock
	Prohibited Action	This symbol indicates prohibited actions. An image in the symbol illustrates a particular prohibited action.	(Example)  Prohibition of disassembly
	Mandatory Action	This symbol indicates mandatory actions. An image in the symbol illustrates a mandatory action to avoid a particular hazard.	(Example)  Unplug the power cord!

Symbols Used in This Manual and Warning Labels



Cautions

	Indicates a general notice or warning that cannot be specifically identified.
	Indicates that improper use may cause an electric shock.
	Indicates that improper use may cause a personal injury.
	Indicates that improper use may cause fumes or fire.

Prohibited Actions

	Indicates a general prohibited action that cannot be specifically identified.
	Do not disassemble, repair, or modify the server. Doing so may cause an electric shock or fire.






Mandatory Action

	Unplug the power cord of the server. Not doing so may cause an electric shock or fire.
	Indicates a mandatory action that cannot be specifically identified. Make sure to follow the instruction.

Safety Notes

Read the notes described below carefully to understand them, these will enable you to safely use your product. See "Safety Indications" described earlier for the descriptions of symbols.

General

 WARNING	
	<p>Do not use the product for services involving human lives or requiring high reliability.</p> <p>The product is not intended to be used with or control facilities or devices concerning human lives, including medical devices, nuclear facilities and devices, aeronautics and space devices, transportation facilities and devices; and facilities and devices requiring high reliability. NEC assumes no liability for any accident resulting in personal injury, death, or property damage if the Disk Expansion Unit has been used in the above conditions.</p>
 	<p>Do not use the product if you are aware of any suspect smoke, odour, or noise.</p> <p>If smoke, odour, or noise is present, immediately switch off the unit and disconnect the power plug from the outlet. Contact your sales agent. Using the product in such conditions may cause a fire.</p>
	<p>Keep needles or metal objects away from the server.</p> <p>Do not insert needles or metal objects into the ventilation holes or cartridge slot of the server. Doing so may cause an electric shock.</p>

⚠ CAUTION**Keep water or foreign matter away from the server.**

Do not let any form of liquid (water etc.) or foreign matter (e.g., pins or paper clips) enter the server. Failure to follow this warning may cause an electric shock, a fire, or a failure of the server. When such things accidentally enter the server, immediately turn off the power and disconnect the power plug from the AC outlet. Do not disassemble the server. Contact your service representative.

Power Supply and Power Cord Use

CAUTION



Disconnect the power cord(s) before installing or removing the product in/from the server.

Make sure to power off the server and disconnect the power cord(s) from the power outlet before installing/removing the product in/from the server, or connecting with the peripheral devices. All voltage is removed only when the power cords are unplugged.



Always observe the following to prevent an electric shock or fire that could be caused by a damaged cord.

- Do not stretch the cord harness.
- Do not pinch the power cord.
- Do not bend the power cord.
- Keep chemicals away from the power cord.
- Do not twist the power cord.
- Do not place any object on the power cord.
- Do not bundle power cords.
- Do not alter, modify, or repair the power cord.
- Do not secure the power cord with staples or equivalents.
- Do not use a damaged power cord. (Replace a damaged power cord with a new one of the same specifications. Ask your sales agent for replacement.)



Do not hold the power plug if your hands are wet.

Do not disconnect/connect the plug while your hands are wet. Failure to follow this warning may cause an electric shock.



Do not pull the cable when disconnecting the power cord.

When disconnecting the power cord from the server, hold the plug and pull it straight out. Pulling the cord out by the cable portion could damage the cable to result in an electrical shock hazard or a fire.



Installation, Relocation, Storage, and Connection

CAUTION



Do not connect any interface cable when the power cord of the Disk Expansion Unit is plugged to a power source.



Make sure to power off the server and unplug the power cord from a power outlet before connecting/disconnecting the interface cable. If the server is off-powered but its power cord is plugged to a power source, touching the cable may cause an electric shock or a fire may result from a short circuit. Also, connect/disconnect the interface cable after turning off the power of the destination.



Do not use any unauthorized interface cable.

Use only interface cables authorized by NEC and locate a proper device and connector before connecting a cable. Using an unauthorized cable or connecting a cable to an improper destination may cause a short circuit, resulting in a fire. Also, observe the following notes on using and connecting an interface cable.

- Do not step on the cable.
- Do not place any object on the cable.
- Do not use the server with loose cable connections.
- Do not use any damaged cable connector.

Make sure the cable is securely locked with the relevant screws.

⚠ CAUTION**Do not use or store the product in the place where corrosive gases exist.**

Make sure not to locate or use the server in the place where corrosive gases (sulphur dioxide, hydrogen sulphide, nitrogen dioxide, chlorine, ammonia, ozone, etc) exist.



Also, do not set it in the environment where the air (or dust) includes components accelerating corrosion (ex. sulphur, sodium chloride) or conductive metals. There is a risk of a fire due to corrosion and/or short-circuits of an internal printed board.

**Avoid installation in extreme temperature conditions.**

Immediately after the server is powered off, its internal components such as hard disk drives are very hot. Let the installed components fully cool down before installing/removing anything.

Cleaning and Working with the Product

WARNING



Do not disassemble, repair, or alter the server.

Do not attempt to disassemble, repair, or alter the product in any occasion other than those described in this User's Guide. Failure to follow this instruction may cause an electric shock or fire as well as malfunctions of the product.



Disconnect the power plug before accessing inside the server.

Make sure to power off the server and disconnect the power plug from the AC outlet before accessing inside the server. Touching any internal device of the server when its power cord connected to a power source may cause an electric shock even if the server is off-powered.







CAUTION



Make sure to complete installation.

Always connect the DC cable and/or interface cable firmly. An incompletely connected cable may cause a contact failure, resulting in smoke or fire.

During Operation

 CAUTION	
 	<p>Avoid contact with the server during thunderstorms.</p> <p>Disconnect the power plug from the outlet when a thunderstorm is approaching. If the thunderstorm begins before you can disconnect the power plug, do not touch any part of the server containing the product. Failure to follow this warning may cause an electric shock.</p>
 	<p>Keep animals away from the server.</p>
	<p>Do not use a cellular phone or a pager around the server.</p> <p>Turn off cellular phones or pagers near the server containing the product. Radio interference may cause malfunctions of the server.</p>

This Manual

The guide is intended for persons who are familiar with operating systems, including Windows, and fundamental operations of general-purpose I/O devices, including the keyboard and mouse.

Text Conventions

The following conventions are used throughout this User's Guide. For safety symbols, see "SAFETY INDICATIONS" provided earlier.



Notice

Items to be observed or points to be noted when operating the product.



Check

Items to be checked when operating the product.



Tips

Information useful or convenient for you.

In the Package

Check the contents in the package.

The package contains various accessories, as well as the product itself. Check with the packing list and make sure you have everything and that individual components are not damaged. If you find any missing or damaged components, contact your sales agent.

Third Party Transfer

Make sure to provide this manual along with the product to a third party.



Notice

About data on the hard disk

Be sure to take appropriate measures not to leak important data (e.g., customers' information or companies' management information) on the removed hard disk to any third parties.

Data seems to be erased when you empty "Recycle Bin" of Windows or execute the "format" command of the operating system. However, the actual data remains written on the hard disk. Data not erased completely may be restored by special software and used for unexpected purposes.

It is strongly recommended that the software or service (both available at stores) for data erasure should be used in order to avoid the trouble explained above. For details on data erasure, ask your sales representative.

NEC assumes no liability for data leakage if the product is transferred to third party without erasing the data.

To transfer or sell any software application that comes with the product to a third party, the following requirements must be satisfied:

- Transfer all the provided software applications, and keep no backup copies.
- Uninstall software applications before transferring the product.

Disposal

Dispose of the product according to all national laws and regulations.



It is the user's responsibility to completely erase or modify all the data stored in storage device such as hard disk, backup data cartridge, floppy disk, or any other media (CD-R/CD-RW) so that the data cannot be restored.

Data Backup

We recommend you make a back-up copy of your valuable data on a regular basis in order to avoid severe data loss in the event of shocks, thermal changes, or operator mistakes.


Transportation

To transport the product, remove the product from the server and put it in the shipping materials along with accessories according to Chapter 1.

Abbreviations

Formal title	Abbreviation
Disk Array Controller (External SAS HDD) User's Guide	this manual
Disk Array Controller (External SAS HDD)	disk array controller or card
Additional DAC Battery	additional battery
MegaRAID Storage Manager™	MSM
Operation System	OS
Hard disk drive	HDD

Contents

	NOTES ON USE - Always read the Notes -	2
	Symbols Used in This Manual and Warning Labels	3
	Cautions.....	3
	Prohibited Actions	3
	Mandatory Action	3
	Safety Notes	4
	General	4
	Power Supply and Power Cord Use.....	6
	Installation, Relocation, Storage, and Connection.....	7
	During Operation	10
	This Manual	11
	Text Conventions	11
	In the Package.....	11
	Third Party Transfer	12
	Disposal	13
	Data Backup	13
	Transportation.....	13
	Abbreviations	13
	Contents	14
	Chapter 1 Overview	1
	1. Notes on Use - Always Follow These Notes -	1
	1-1. Installation of MSM	1
	1-2. Preventive Maintenance by Consistency Check.....	1
	2. Specifications.....	2
	3. Disk Array Controller Features.....	3
	Disk array controller features.....	3
	4. Names and Functions of Sections	4
	5. Hardware Setup.....	6
	5-1. Prepare for setup.....	7
	5-2. Installing Additional Battery	8
	5-3. Installing the Disk Array Controller	9
	5-4. Connecting the SAS Cable	11
	Chapter 2 RAID	13
	1. Overview of RAID	13
	1-1. What is RAID (Redundant Array of Inexpensive Disks)?	13
	1-2. RAID Levels	14
	1-3. Disk Group	15
	1-4. Virtual Disk	16
	1-5. Parity	16
	1-6. Hot-Swap.....	16
	1-7. Hot-Spare Disk	17
	2. RAID Levels Supported	18
	2-1. RAID Levels Characteristics.....	18
	2-2. RAID0	18
	2-3. RAID1	18
	2-4. RAID5	19
	2-5. Spanning of RAID1	20
	2-6. Spanning of RAID5.....	20
	Chapter 3 Disk Array Controller Features	21
	1. Rebuild.....	21
	1-1. Manual Rebuild	21
	1-2. Auto Rebuild	21
	2. Patrol Read.....	23
	3. Consistency Check	23
	4. Background Initialize.....	24

5. Reconstruction.....	25
5-1. Removed physical drive	25
5-2. Migration only	25
5-3. Migration with addition.....	25
Chapter 4 Creating a Virtual Disk.....	27
1. Before Using WebBIOS	27
1-1. Supported Functions	27
1-2. Notes on Creating a Virtual Drive.....	28
2. Using WebBIOS.....	29
2-1. Starting WebBIOS	29
2-2. Main Menu.....	30
2-3. Adapter Properties.....	32
2-4. Scan Devices	36
2-5. Virtual Disks.....	37
2-6. Physical Drives.....	38
2-7. Configuration Wizard.....	39
2-8. Adapter Selection	39
2-9. Physical View / Logical View	39
2-10. Events.....	39
2-11. Exit.....	40
3. Configuring a Virtual Disk	41
3-1. Configuration Wizard.....	41
3-2. Configure SPAN	49
3-3. Parameters for the VD Definition	54
4. Operating the Various Features.....	55
4-1. Check Consistency.....	55
4-2. Manual Rebuild	57
4-3. Setting Hot Spare Disk	60
4-4. Reconstruction	63
Chapter 5 Operation and Maintenance	66
1. Maintenance Service	66
2. Preventive Maintenance	66
2-1. Data Backup.....	66
2-2. Preventive Maintenance by Consistency Check.....	66
3. Maintenance	67
3-1. Configuration on Disk (COD) Feature	67
3-2. Rebuild Feature.....	67
4. Replacing the Disk Array Controller.....	68
5. Troubleshooting	69

Chapter 1 Overview

Read this chapter first if you are using the disk array controller for the first time.

This chapter describes the notes you should always follow while you use the disk array controller, the features of the disk array controller, and the hardware setup.

1. Notes on Use - Always Follow These Notes -

Follow the notes described below to allow you to use the disk array controller safely.

1-1. Installation of MSM

Install the MegaRAID Storage Manager™ (called MSM hereafter), management utility which manages the disk array controller on OS. The installation of MSM allows you to perform the following operations:

- Events and errors occurred on array system can be registered in the event log and used effectively for troubleshooting and diagnosis.
- MSM event information can be monitored by using NEC ESMPRO.
- Manual rebuild and Consistency Check can be executed.

For more information on the installation of MSM, refer to the MegaRAID Storage Manager™ online manual.

1-2. Preventive Maintenance by Consistency Check

Routine Consistency Check is recommended as a preventive maintenance against subsequent defects of hard disk drives (called HDDs hereafter). This feature allows subsequent defects of HDDs to be found and repaired as soon as possible.

For the detailed features of Consistency Check, see "Chapter 3 Features of Disk Array Controller".

The recommended checking interval is once per week. Depending on the operating status of your system, the checking interval should be at least once per month.



Check

To utilize the Consistency Check, MSM must be installed.

2. Specifications

Item	Specification	Remarks
Number of SAS connectors	2 external channels	4 ports per a channel
Cache size	256 MB	
PCI bus	Conforming to PCI Express 1.0A	
PCI connector	PCI Express (x8)	66 MHz
Maximum PCI bus transfer rate	2.5 Gigabits/lane	
Device interface	SAS available	
Maximum data transfer rate	300 MB/sec	
RAID level	0, 1, or 5	
Maximum number of disk array controllers installed in server	4	
Maximum number of connectable HDDs	24	12 HDDs connected per channel
Maximum number of logical drives	40	
Outer dimension	181 (width) x 254 (depth) x 22 (height) mm	
Weight	About 0.23 kg	
Operating voltage	3.3V/12V	
Power consumption (max.)	18.36W	3.3V/2.45A 12V/0.834A
Operating environment	Temperature: 10°C to 35°C Humidity: 20% to 80%	Without condensation

3. Disk Array Controller Features

The disk array controller is equipped with two channels (4 ports per a channel) of interface connectors conforming to SAS. The data transfer rate per port is up to 300 MB/sec. The disk array controller realizes high performance.

The disk array controller can be connected to an additional battery backup unit to operate in the WriteBack mode, which can further improve the access performance.

Disk array controller features

- Data transfer rate of up to 300 MB/sec
- Installation of 256MB DDR-II
- Up to 24 SAS HDDs connectable per board (12 HDDs connectable per channel)
- Supports RAID levels 0, 1, 5, spanning of RAID1, and spanning of RAID5
- Supports operation in WriteBack mode when connecting an additional battery
- Supports report monitoring by NEC ESMPRO
- Automatic detection of faulty drive
- Supports the hot-swap replacement of failed HDD (without shutting down the system).



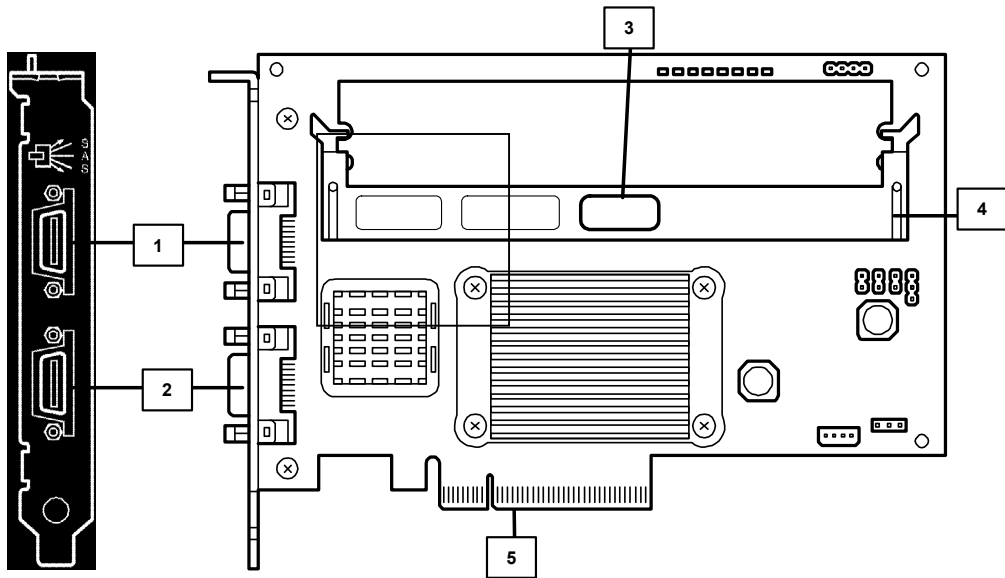
Notice

The disk array controller does not support the PCI hot plug feature.

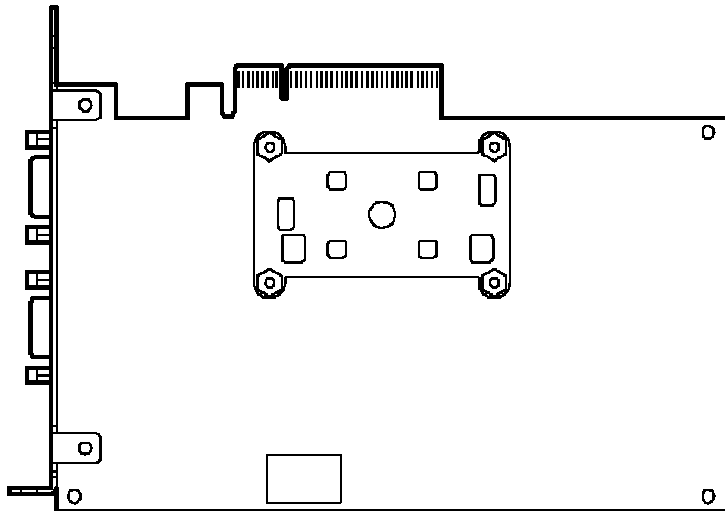
4. Names and Functions of Sections

This section describes the sections on the disk array controller.

(Front view)



(Rear view)



1 Channel A (Ports 0 - 3)
These channels allow the disk array controller to be connected to SAS devices.

2 Channel B (Ports 4 - 7)
These channels allow the disk array controller to be connected to SAS devices.

3 HW label
Indicates the management revision of the disk array controller.



4 Memory connector
Used to connect a memory module or additional battery.

5 PCI connector (PCI Express)
The connector allows the disk array controller to be connected to a PCI slot (PCI Express) in the server.

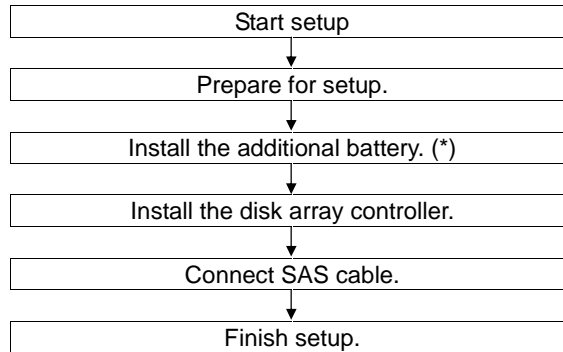
5. Hardware Setup

Install the disk array controller in a server as described in the following procedure.



Check

Before the installation, always refer to the Server User's Guide. The job flow varies depending on the server type or system configuration. Check the server type and system configuration before the installation to conduct correctly the setup.



(*) This step is not required if the additional battery is not installed.

5-1. Prepare for setup



Notice

Note the following before the setup.

- Some limitation may be imposed to the installation on the PCI slot (PCI Express) depending on the type of the server. Before the installation, check the limitation following the Server User's Guide.
- HDDs to be connected to the disk array controller should have the same specification. Contact your service representative for HDDs which can be connected to the disk array controller.
- Coexistence with other PCI boards (including disk array controller, mirroring board, and SCSI controller) may be limited. Before using the disk array controller together with other PCI boards, ask your service representative whether the disk array controller can coexist with the other PCI boards.

1. Exit from all applications and shutdown the OS.
2. Press the POWER switch on the server to power off the server.
3. Pull out all the power cords connected to the power unit of the server.
4. Remove the side cover on the server as described in the Server User's Guide.



Check

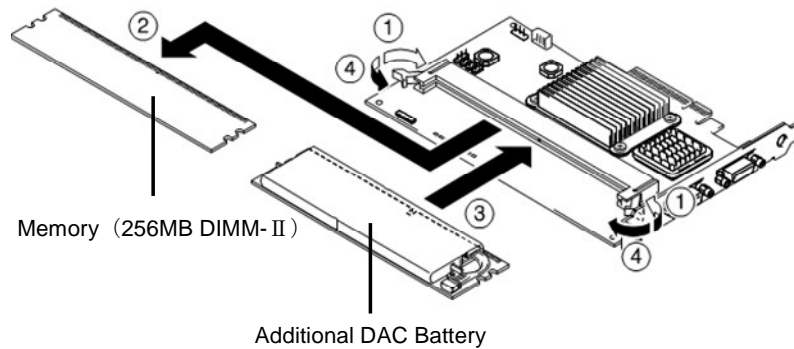
For the installation or removal of the side cover and other components on the server, refer to the Server User's Guide.

5-2. Installing Additional Battery

To use the additional battery, remove the memory module from the disk array controller, and install the additional battery instead.

Open the lever fixing the memory module.

1. Remove the memory module.
2. Insert the additional battery into the slot securely.
3. Close the lever opened in Step 1 to fix the battery.



Notice

For detailed installation procedure of additional battery, refer to the Additional Battery User's Guide.



Tips

To replace the additional battery with the memory module, take the same procedure as above.

5-3. Installing the Disk Array Controller

Confirm the position of the PCI slot (PCI Express) in which you wish to install the disk array controller and remove the corresponding additional slot cover.



Notice

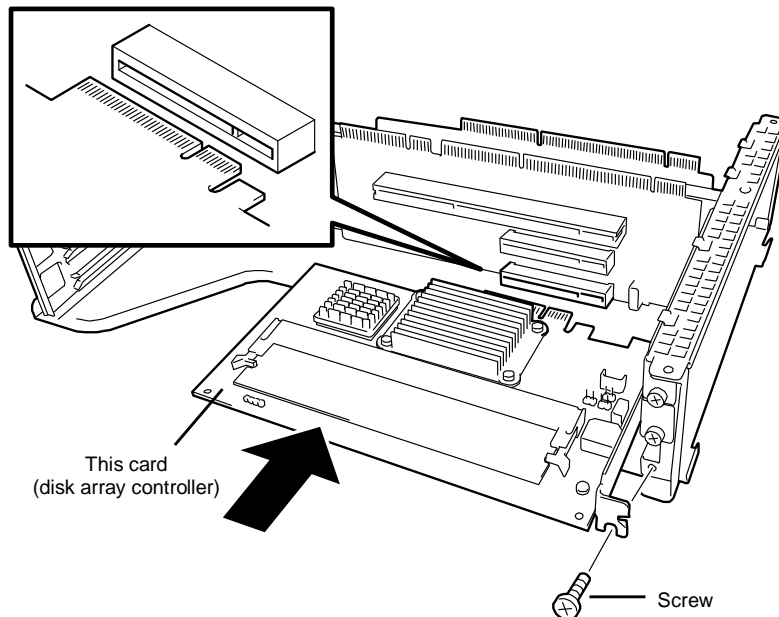
- Store the removed additional slot cover carefully. Keep the removed screw, it will be used to install the disk array controller.
- The disk array controller does not support the PCI hot-plug feature. Before installing or removing the disk array controller from the server, always power off the server and pull out the power cord from the receptacle.



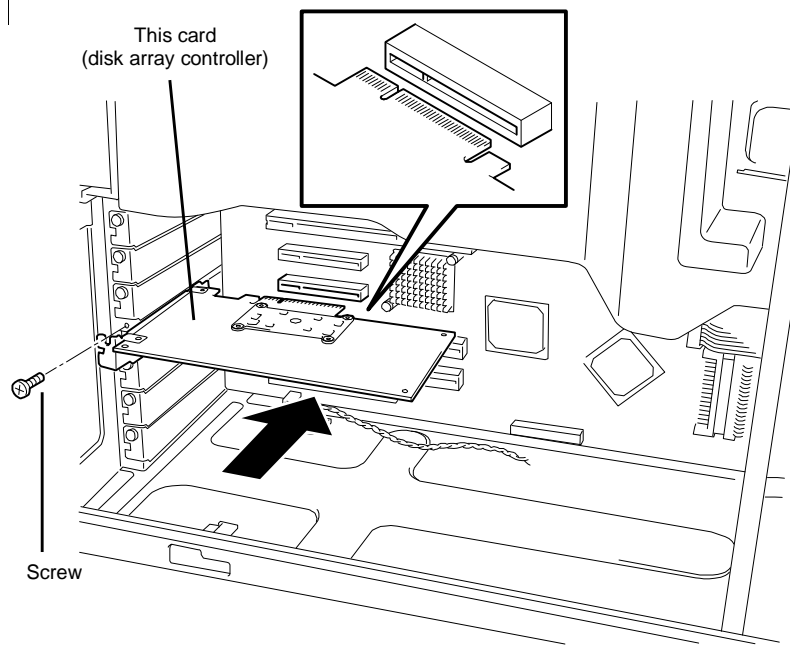
Check

Some limitations may be imposed to the installation on the PCI slot depending on the type of the server. Before the installation, check the limitations in the Server User's Guide.

1. Insert the disk array controller into the PCI slot (PCI Express) securely and fix it. To fix the disk array controller with screws, use the screw removed when the additional slot cover is removed.



Example: Rack-mount Model Server



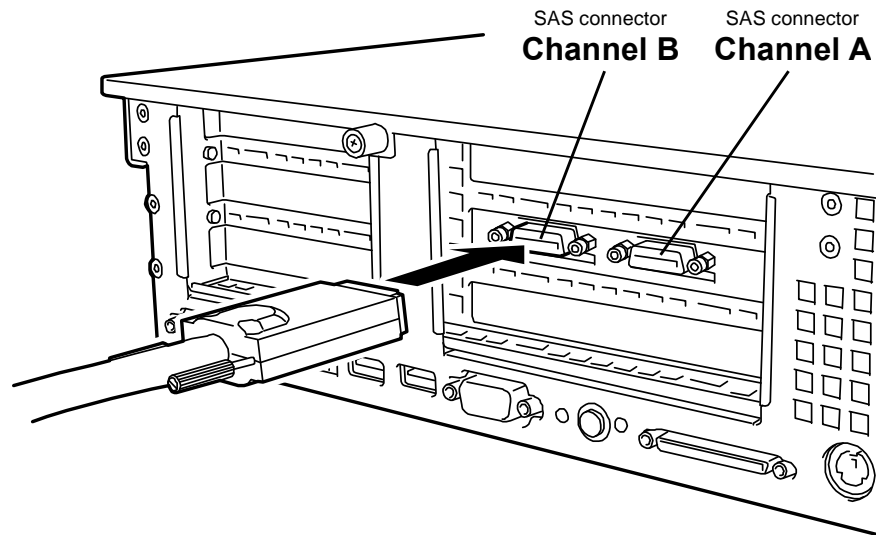
Example: Tower Model Server



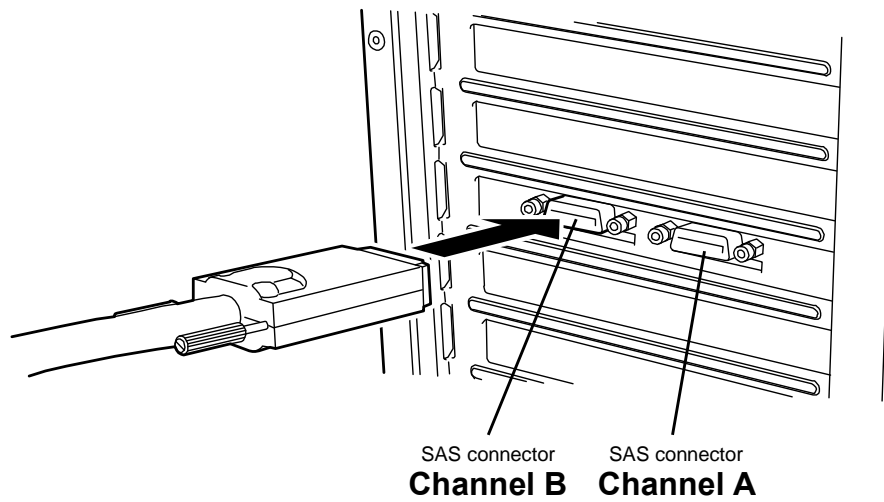
When the disk array controller cannot be easily inserted into the PCI slot (PCI Express), pull out it once and insert it again. Note that the disk array controller may be damaged if excess force is applied to it.

5-4. Connecting the SAS Cable

Connect the SAS cable to the SAS connector on the disk array controller. For the connection, see the figure below and the connection table. For the connection to the server, refer to the Server User's Guide.



Example: Rack-mount Model Server



Example: Tower Model Server



Port numbers are predefined according to the physical location of HDD. When connecting the disk array controller to the server with the SAS cable, check if the cable connector is appropriate to the port number. Connecting an incorrect cable may cause a malfunction of the device. Refer to the Server User's Guide for the server port numbers.

Chapter 2 RAID

This chapter describes the RAID features which the disk array controller supports.

1. Overview of RAID

1-1. What is RAID (Redundant Array of Inexpensive Disks)?

RAID is an abbreviation for "Redundant Array of Inexpensive Disks". The RAID technology allows several hard disk drives (HDDs) to be handled collectively.

RAID can configure several HDDs (at least 2) as a single array (disk group) to operate the HDDs effectively. This ensures higher performance than a single HDD of a large capacity.

This disk array controller has a feature to divide a single disk group into several logical drives (up to 40 virtual disks). The host computer recognizes these virtual disks as if it were a single HDD, and can access in parallel several HDDs configuring a disk group.

Some RAID levels can recover data from remaining data and parity by using a rebuild feature if an error occurs in a single HDD. This ensures a high system reliability.

1-2. RAID Levels

There are several RAID levels on the market, and the disk array controller support the following ones: RAID 0, RAID 1, and RAID 5.

The number of HDDs required to create a disk group varies depending on the RAID level as shown in the table below.

RAID level	Number of required HDDs	
	Min.	Max.
RAID 0	1	24
RAID 1	2	2
RAID 5	3	24
Spanning of RAID 1	4	4
Spanning of RAID 5	6	24



Tips

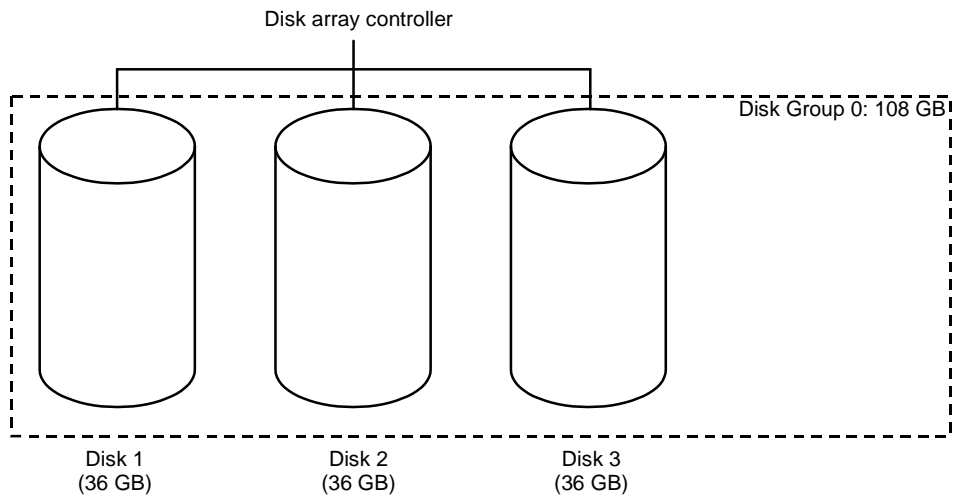
For more information on the RAID levels, see "2. RAID Levels" described later in this chapter.

1-3. Disk Group

A disk group consists of at least 2 HDDs.

Up to eight disk groups are permitted by the disk array controller when eight HDDs are installed in the server.

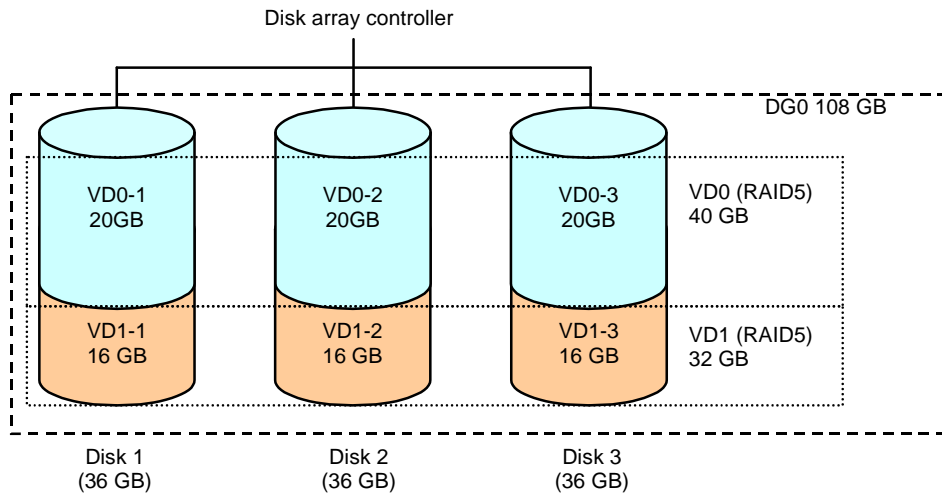
The figure below shows a sample configuration. The three HDDs are connected to the disk array controller, creating one disk group (DG).



1-4. Virtual Disk

Virtual disk is a logical drive defined in disk group. It is recognized as a physical drive by the OS. Up to 40 virtual disks are permitted by the disk array controller.

The figure below shows a sample configuration in which the disk array controller is connected with three HDDs, creating one disk group (DG). Two RAID5 virtual disks (VD) are defined in the DG.



1-5. Parity

Parity implies redundant data. A single set of redundant data is created from the data saved in more than one HDD.

The redundant data is used for data recovery when a HDD is defective.

1-6. Hot-Swap

The hot-swap feature enables a HDD to be removed (or replaced) under system operation.

1-7. Hot-Spare Disk

The hot-spare disk is prepared as an auxiliary HDD substituting for a defected HDD included in a logical drive which is configured at a redundant RAID level. When a HDD fault is detected, the system disconnects the HDD (turns it offline) and starts rebuild the data on the hot-spare disk.



Tips

To rebuild using hot-spare disks (standby rebuild), see "Chapter 3 Disk Array Controller Features".

2. RAID Levels Supported

This section details the RAID levels supported by the disk array controller.

2-1. RAID Levels Characteristics

The table below lists the characteristics of the RAID levels.

Level	Function	Redundancy	Characteristics
RAID0	Striping	No	Data read/write at the highest rate Largest capacity Capacity: (capacity of single HDD) × (number of HDDs)
RAID1	Mirroring	Yes	Two HDDs required Capacity: capacity of single HDD
RAID5	Striping of both data and redundant data	Yes	Three or more HDDs required Capacity: (capacity of single HDD) × ((number of HDDs) - 1)

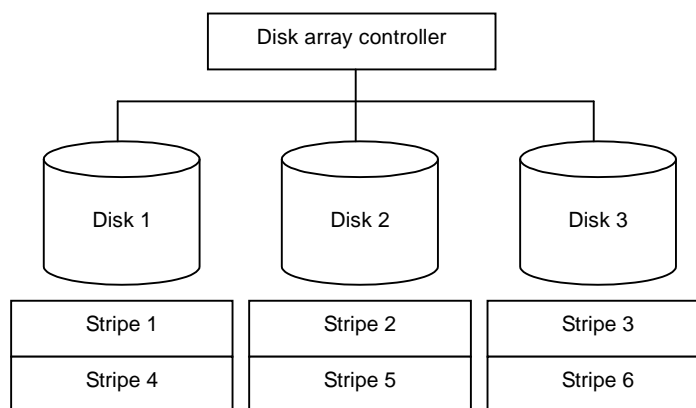
2-2. RAID0

In RAID 0, the data to be recorded is distributed to HDDs. This mode is called "striping".

In the figure below, data is recorded in stripe 1 (disk 1), stripe 2 (disk 2), and stripe 3 (disk 3)... in that order. Because RAID0 allows all the HDDs to be accessed collectively, it provides the best disk access performance.



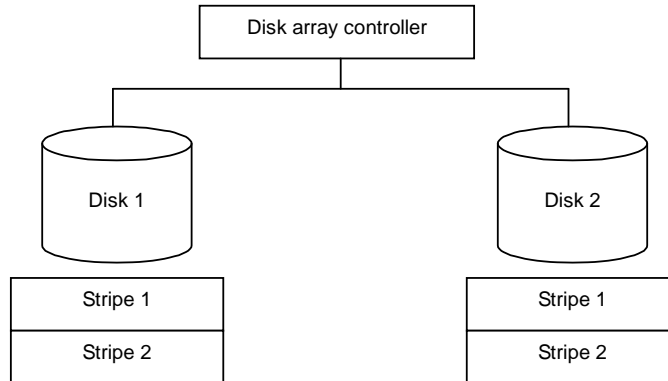
RAID 0 cannot have data redundancy. If a HDD is defective, the data saved in the HDD cannot be recovered.



2-3. RAID1

In the RAID1 level, data saved in a HDD is written to another HDD without change. The mode is called "mirroring".

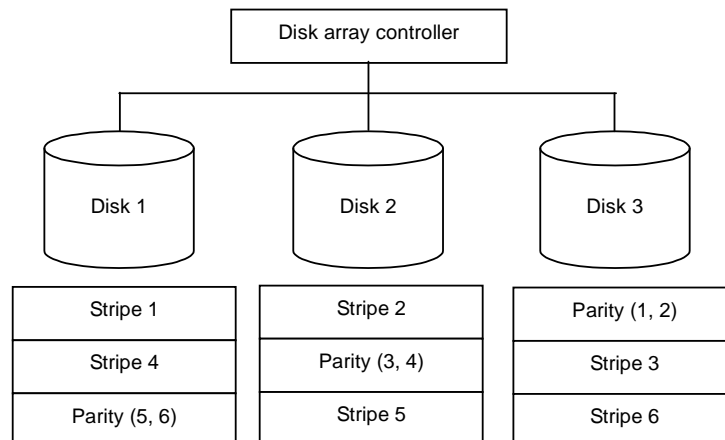
When data is written onto a single HDD, the same data is written onto another HDD. If either of the HDDs is defective, the other HDD containing the same data can substitute for the defective HDD, allowing the system can continue to operate without interruption.



2-4. RAID5

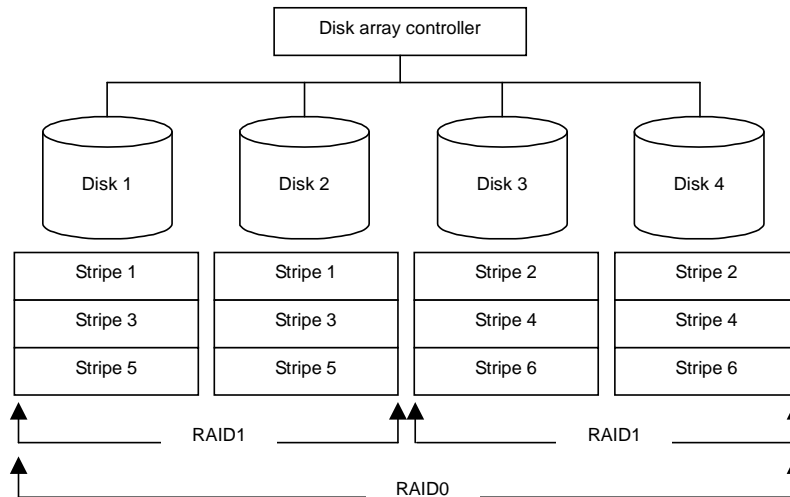
In RAID5, data is distributed to HDDs by striping and, at the same time, the parity (redundant data) is distributed to the HDDs. This mode is called "striping with distributed parity".

Each of stripe x , stripe $x+1$, and parity $(x, x+1)$ created from stripe x and stripe $x+1$ is written onto a specific HDD. Accordingly, the total capacity assigned to the parity is just the same as the capacity of a single HDD. If any one of the HDDs configuring a logical drive is defected, data is still available with no problems.



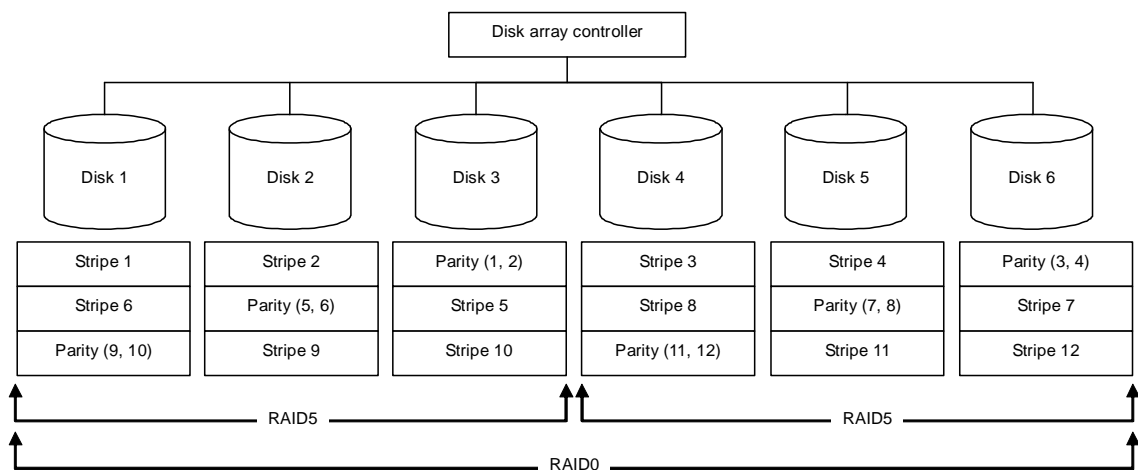
2-5. Spanning of RAID1

Data to be recorded is distributed to two HDDs in mirroring mode. Then, each mirrored data is written onto HDD by striping. Owing to this feature, the high disk access performance of RAID0 and, in addition, the high reliability of RAID1 can be achieved.



2-6. Spanning of RAID5

Data is distributed to HDDs by striping with distributed parity, and then written onto HDDs by striping. Owing to this feature, the high disk access performance of RAID0 and, in addition, the high reliability of RAID5 can be achieved.



Chapter 3 Disk Array Controller Features

This chapter describes the disk array controller features.

1. Rebuild

The rebuild feature can recover the data in a defective HDD. The rebuild can be applied to redundant virtual disks in the RAID1 or RAID5 level.

1-1. Manual Rebuild

The manual rebuild can be performed using MegaRAID Storage Manager™ (called MSM hereafter), the management utility of the disk array controller. Select a HDD and start the rebuild manually.

For the installation of MSM, refer to the online manual "Disk Array Controller (SAS) Software User Guide".

1-2. Auto Rebuild

The disk array controller automatically starts the rebuild without referring to any utility.

There are two different types of auto rebuild:

- Standby rebuild
Automatic rebuild by using hot-spare disks. In this configuration, the rebuild is performed automatically if a HDD assigned to a virtual disk is defective.
- Hot-swap rebuild
Automatic rebuild once the defective HDD has been hot-swapped with a functional one.



Note the following for the rebuild:

- The HDD used for rebuild should have the same capacity, rotation speed, and standard as the defective HDD.
- During rebuild, the processing rate is decreased.
- During rebuild, do not shutdown or reboot the server. If the server is shutdown by an unforeseen accident such as a power interruption, turn on the power again as soon as possible. The rebuild is automatically restarted.
- The interval between the removal of the defective HDD and the installation of a substitute HDD should be 90 sec or longer.
- If the hot-swap rebuild does not function, perform the manual rebuild.
- The following hard disk drive cannot be specified as a hot spare disk.
 - Hard disk drive with partitions
 - Hard disk drive used for another arrayPrepare another new hard disk drive or a formatted hard disk drive.

2. Patrol Read

The patrol read is a read & verify test in the entire HDD area. It can be performed for all HDDs assigned to virtual disks and hot-spare disks.

The Patrol Read allows subsequent defects of HDDs to be detected and repaired.

For HDDs configuring redundant virtual disks or those assigned to hot-spare disks, error sectors detected during the Patrol Read can be repaired.



Notice

Note the following for the patrol read:

- The Patrol Read feature is factory-set to "Disabled".
- To use the Patrol Read, MSM must be installed.
- If the system is restarted, the Patrol Read is aborted. Once the system is restarted, the Patrol Read runs from the first step (top of the HDD).
- For the installation of MSM, refer to the online manual "Disk Array Controller (SAS) Software User Guide".

3. Consistency Check

The Consistency Check is used to check consistency among virtual drives. It is available for redundant virtual drives in the RAID1 or RAID5 level.

The Consistency Check can be performed through WebBIOS or MSM.

The Consistency Check performs a consistency check and can also repair some sector errors. It can also be used as a preventive maintenance.



Notice

Note the following for the Consistency Check:

- During the Consistency Check, the processing rate is decreased.
- If the system is restarted, the Consistency Check is aborted. However, the Consistency Check resumes after restart.
- For the installation of MSM, refer to the online manual "SAS Disk Array Controller (SAS) Software User Guide".

4. Background Initialize

The Background Initialize is automatically executed when the RAID5 virtual disk is created in a disk group composed of five or more HDDs.

The Background Initialize performs the parity generation processing to the area not initialized in the background. The processing is equivalent to that of Consistency Check.

However, the Background Initialize is not performed in the following cases.

- Full Initialize has already been executed and completed normally before executing Background Initialize.
(*) Full Initialize is a function to clear the entire area of a virtual disk with "0".
- Consistency Check has already been executed and completed normally before executing Background Initialize.
- Rebuild has already been executed and completed normally before executing Background Initialize.
- "Yes" is specified for "Disable BGI" in VD Definition.

The Background Initialize is executed again if any of the following cases occurred in the virtual disk on which the Background Initialize has completed.

- When the virtual disk is degraded or offline, you execute Make Online to HDD being in offline status, and the virtual disk becomes Optimal state.
- When you replace the disk array controller with the maintenance parts and others.
- When you execute Reconstruction to existing virtual disk to make RAID5 VD with five or more HDDs.



Note the following for Background Initialize:

- During Background Initialize, the processing rate is decreased.
- Background Initialize will resume a few minutes later if it is interrupted.

5. Reconstruction

The reconstruction feature is used to change the configuration and/or RAID level of existing virtual disk. Reconstruction usually includes three features, however, the disk array controller only supports "Migration with addition".

5-1. Removed physical drive

Unsupported.

5-2. Migration only

Unsupported.

5-3. Migration with addition

Use this feature to add HDDs to an existing virtual disk. On MSM, this feature is called as "Add Drive". The execution patterns are as shown below (α : Number of HDDs to be added).

Before execution		After execution		Description
RAID level	Number of HDDs	RAID level	Number of HDDs	
RAID0	x	RAID0	$x+\alpha$	Capacity increased: equivalent to α HDDs
RAID0	1	RAID1	2	Capacity remains unchanged.
RAID0	x	RAID5	$x+\alpha$	Capacity increased: equivalent to $\alpha-1$ HDDs
RAID1	2	RAID0	$2+\alpha$	Capacity increased: equivalent to $\alpha+1$ HDDs
RAID1	2	RAID5	$2+\alpha$	Capacity increased: equivalent to α HDDs
RAID5	x	RAID0	$x+\alpha$	Capacity increased: equivalent to $\alpha+1$ HDDs
RAID5	x	RAID5	$x+\alpha$	Capacity increased: equivalent to α HDDs

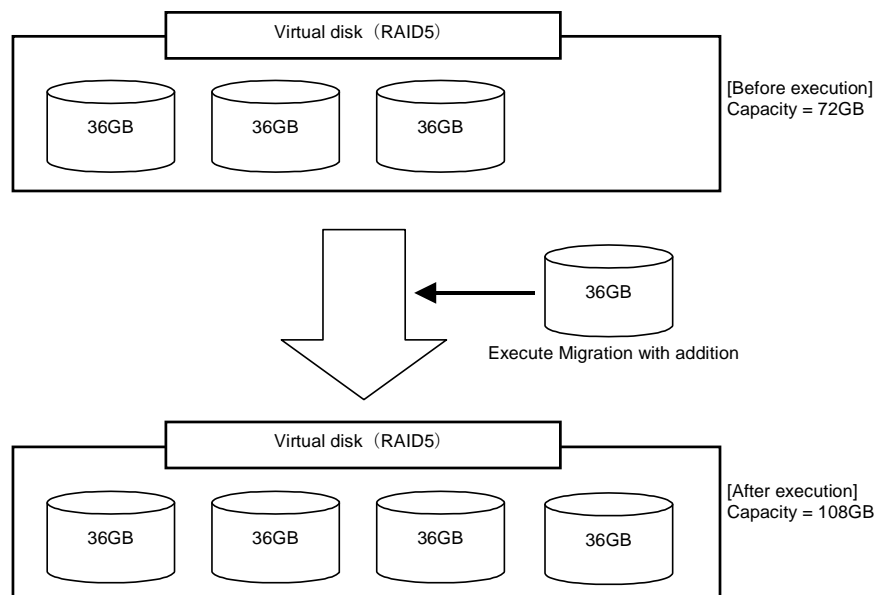


Note the following for the Reconstruction:

- Be sure to make a backup copy of the data and to perform a Consistency Check before starting Reconstruction.
- The Reconstruction is disabled in a configuration in which several virtual disks are defined in one disk group
- During Reconstruction, the processing rate is decreased.
- The Reconstruction is disabled for the degraded virtual disk. First execute Rebuild to recover the virtual disk, then execute Reconstruction.
- During Reconstruction, do not shutdown or reboot the server. If the server is shutdown by an unforeseen accident such as power interruption, turn on the power again as soon as possible. The Reconstruction is automatically restarted.
- In some configuration, Background Initialize may start automatically upon the completion of the reconstruction.

Ex: Migration with addition for RAID5 virtual disk

The figure below shows an example, in this case adding a single 36GB HDD to a RAID5 virtual disk configured with three 36GB HDDs.



Chapter 4 Creating a Virtual Disk

This section describes the configuration utility "WebBIOS".

1. Before Using WebBIOS

Read the following sections describing the supported functions and the recommended precautions before using "WebBIOS".

1-1. Supported Functions

- Indication of model name and capacity of hard disk drive (called HDD hereafter)
- Indication of HDD allocation status
- Creation of virtual disk
- Setting of RAID level
- Setting of Stripe Block size
- Setting of Read Policy/Write Policy/IO Policy
- Indication of configuration information and status of virtual disk
- Removal of virtual disk
- Clearing of configuration
- Execution of initialization
- Execution of Consistency Check
- Execution of manual rebuild
- Execution of reconstruction

1-2. Notes on Creating a Virtual Drive

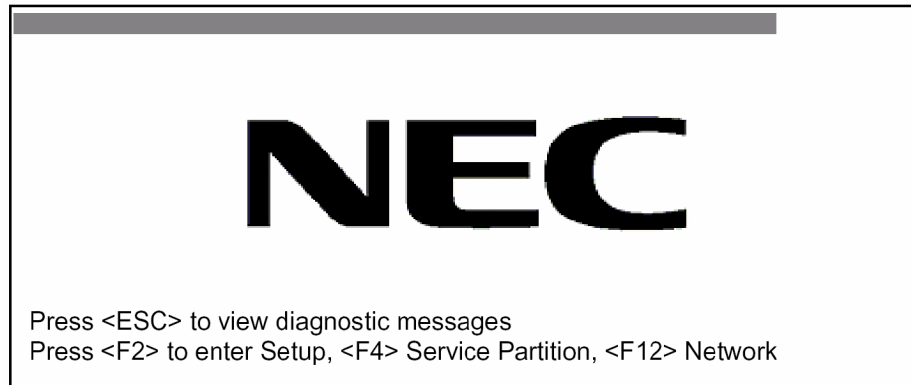
The HDDs configuring the disk group should have the same capacity and rotation speed.

- Be sure to execute a Consistency Check after creating a VD.
- When installing an OS in a VD under the disk array controller, create a VD dedicated to the OS installation.
- When selecting an option from a pull-down menu, you cannot use a mouse. Click on the option, and please use the up/down cursor keys and then press the Enter key to choose the option instead of using a mouse.
- Some NEC systems cannot use a mouse on WebBIOS. In that case, please use the keyboard instead of the mouse. Move the cursor on the screen using the TAB key and press Enter to select it. When you select a plural number of disks or disk groups for the spanning, hold the Shift key and press the up/down cursor.
- WebBIOS cannot be handled via the remote console functions of Diana Scope that your system may support.

2. Using WebBIOS

2-1. Starting WebBIOS

Press **Esc** when the screen shown below appears after powering on the server.



2. Press **Ctrl + H** on the POST screen to start WebBIOS.

POST screen image (with no virtual disk assigned)

LSI MegaRAID SAS - MFI BIOS Version XXXX (Build MMM DD, YYYY)
Copyright (c) 2005 LSI Logic Corporation

HA - X (Bus X Dev X) MegaRAID SAS 8408E X.X.X - XXXX
FW package: X.X.X - XXXX

0 Logical Drive(s) found on the host adapter.
0 Logical Drive(s) handled by BIOS.
Press <Ctrl> <H> for WebBIOS.



Notice

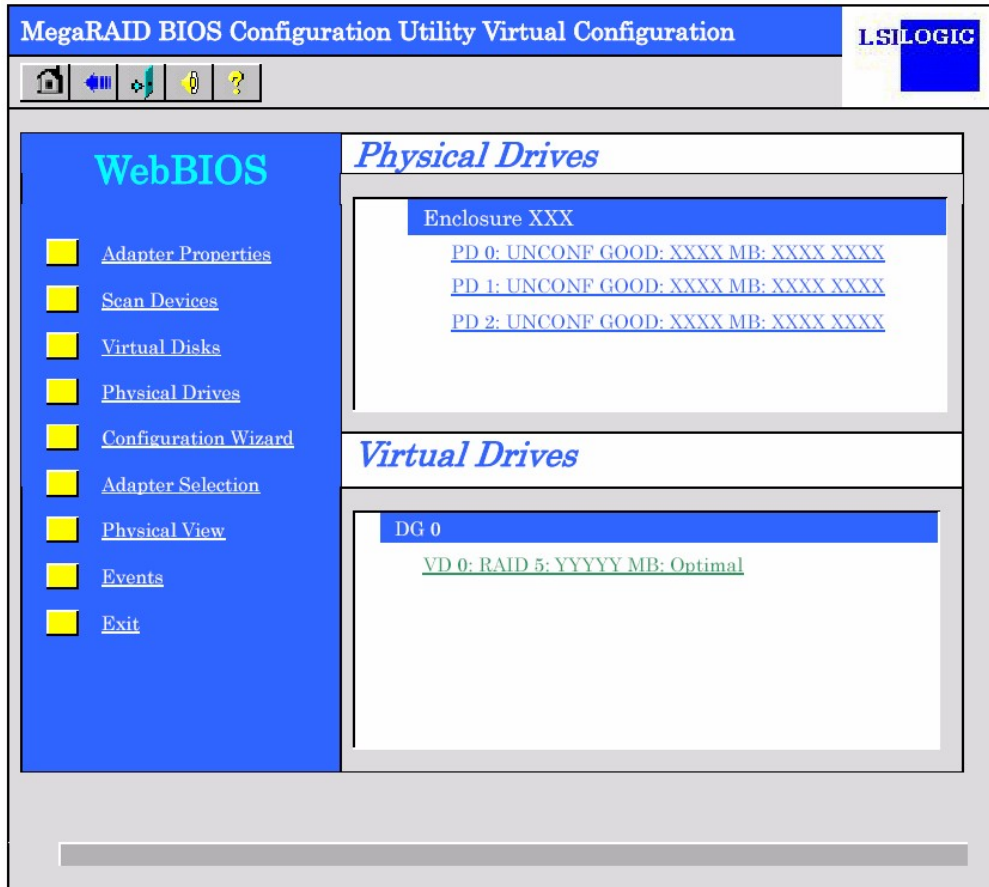
- Do not press unnecessary keys, such as **Pause** during POST.

2-2. Main Menu

Shown below is the [Adapter Selection] screen that appears first on WebBIOS. Select a controller to operate WebBIOS, and click [Start].

Adapter Selection					LSILOGIC
Adapter No.	Bus No	Device No	Type	Firmware Version	
0. <input type="checkbox"/>	XX	XX	MegaRAID SAS 8408E	X.XX.XX - XXXX	
1. <input type="checkbox"/>	XX	XX	MegaRAID SAS 8480E	X.XX.XX - XXXX	
<input type="button" value="Start"/>					

When the adapter is selected on [Adapter Selection], the WebBIOS Top Menu appears.



2-3. Adapter Properties

When you click [Adapter Properties] on The WebBIOS Top Menu, the configuration information for the disk array controller is displayed.

MegaRAID BIOS Configuration Utility Adapter Information		LSI LOGIC	
MegaRAID SAS 8408E			
Firmware Version X.XX.XX-XXXX		WebBIOS Version X.XX-XXX	
Sub Vendor ID	0x1000	Sub Device ID	0x1001
Host Interface	PCIE	Port Count	8
NVRAM Size	32 KB	Memory Size	256 MB
Firmware Time	XXX XX XXXX,XX:XX:XX	Serial Number	XXXXXXXX
Min Stripe Size	8 KB	Max Stripe Size	128K
Virtual Disk Count	XX	Physical Disk Count	XX
<input type="button" value="Next"/>			
<input type="button" value="Home"/>		<input type="button" value="Back"/>	

Click [Next] to see the detailed settings of this controller.

MegaRAID BIOS Configuration Utility Adapter Properties		LSI LOGIC	
Properties			
Battery Back Up	<u>Present</u>	Coercion Mode	None ▼
Set Factory Defaults	No ▼	PDF Interval	300
Cluster Mode	Disabled ▼	Alarm Control	Disabled ▼
Rebuild Rate	30	Int Throttle Cnt	16
Patrol Read Rate	30	Int Throttle Time	50
BGI Rate	30	Cache Flush Interval	4
CC Rate	30	Spinup Drive Count	2
Reconstruction Rate	30	Spinup Delay	6
Adapter BIOS	Enabled ▼	Stop On Error	Disabled ▼
Submit Reset			
Home		Back	

Default settings and their explanation

Item	Default	Description	Change
Battery Backup	Present None	Displays Properties of the additional battery. When the battery is installed: Present When the battery is not installed: None	–
Set Factory Defaults	[No] Yes	Restores factory defaults.	Permitted
Cluster Mode	Disabled	–	Prohibited
Rebuild Rate	30	Recommended value: 30	Permitted
Patrol Read Rate	30	Recommended value: 30	Permitted
BGI Rate	30	Recommended value: 30	Permitted
CC Rate	30	Recommended value: 30	Permitted
Reconstruction Rate	30	Recommended value: 30	Permitted
Adapter BIOS	[Enabled] Disabled	–	Prohibited
Coercion Mode	[None] 128MB-way 1GB-way	–	Prohibited
PDF Interval	300	–	Prohibited
Alarm Control	[Disabled] Enabled Silence	Disabled: Does not issue an alarm. Enabled: Issues an alarm. Silence: Disables an alarm.	Permitted
Int Throttle Cnt	16	–	Prohibited
Int Throttle Time	50	–	Prohibited
Cache Flush Interval	4	–	Prohibited
Spinup Drive Count	2	–	Prohibited
Spinup Delay	6	–	Prohibited
StopOnError	[Disabled] Enabled	–	Prohibited

How to change a setting value

On the [Adapter Properties] screen, change a parameter to the desired value, and then click [Submit] at the center of the screen to determine the new value.

The status of "Battery Backup" is indicated as "Present" when the optional battery is installed. Clicking [Present] opens the Battery Status screen shown below.

MegaRAID BIOS Configuration Utility Battery Module		LSI LOGIC	
Battery Type: iBBU Voltage: XXXXX mV Current: X Temperature: 31 deg centigrade Status:		Design Info Mfg Name: LSIC10000B Mfg Date: MM/DD/YYYY Serial No: XXXX Design Capacity: 880mAh Design Voltage: 4800mV Device Name: 5806-2 Device Chemistry: NiMH	
Capacity Info FullCharge Capacity: 902mAh Remaining Capacity: XXXmAh		Properties Auto Learn Period (sec) XXXXXXXXXXXX Next Learn Time (sec) XXXXXXXXXXXX Learn Delay Interval (hrs) XXX <input type="button" value="Go"/>	
<input type="button" value="Home"/>		<input type="button" value="Back"/>	



Notice

You cannot change the values for "Auto Learn Period", "Next Learn Time", and "Learn Delay Interval".

2-4. Scan Devices

When you click [Scan Devices] on the WebBIOS top menu, the HDDs connected to the disk array controller are detected again. Use this feature when you have installed a new HDD while WebBIOS is running.

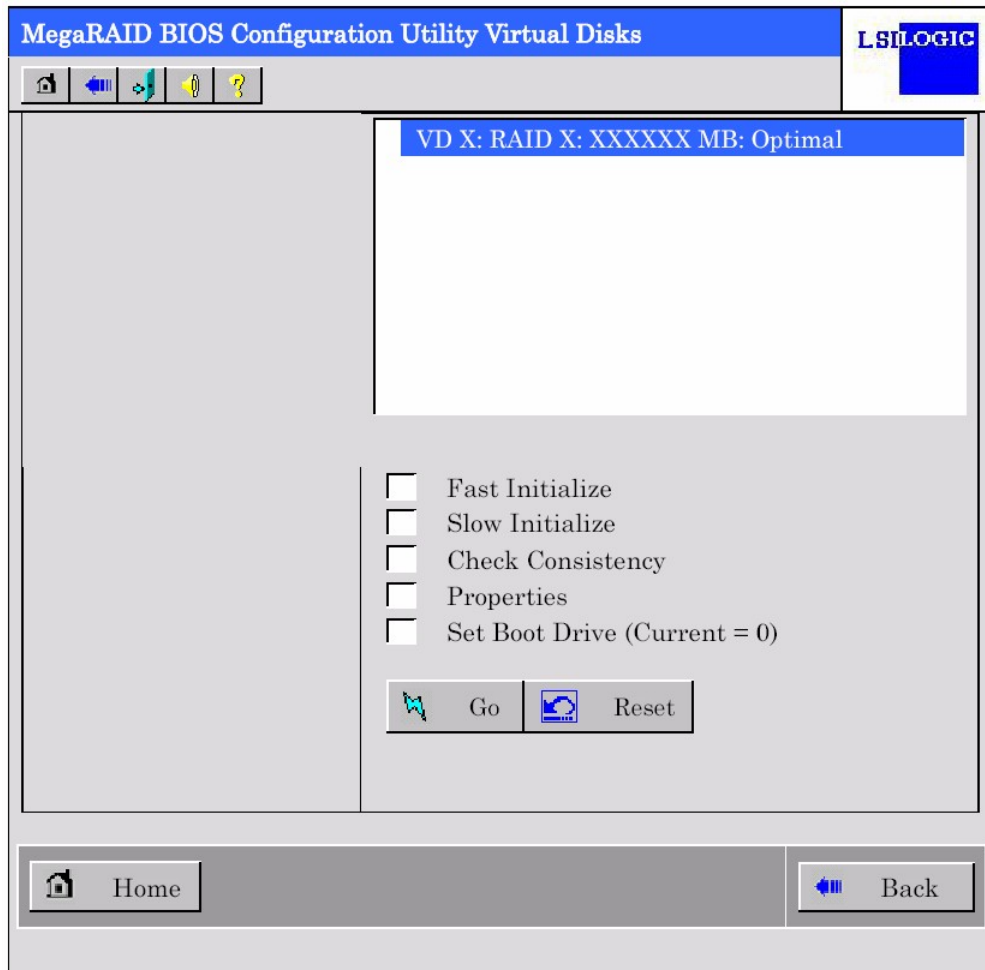


If the newly connected HDD contains other configuration information, [Foreign Configuration] screen shown below appears. To use the HDD as a new one, click [ClearForeignCfg] to clear the configuration information on the HDD.

MegaRAID BIOS Configuration Utility Foreign Configuration		LSI LOGIC
1 Foreign Config(s) Found. Want to Import?		
Select GUID	NEC ▼	
GuidPreview ClearForeignCfg Cancel		

2-5. Virtual Disks

When you click [Virtual Disks] on the WebBIOS top menu, the screen for operating the VD that has already been configured appears.

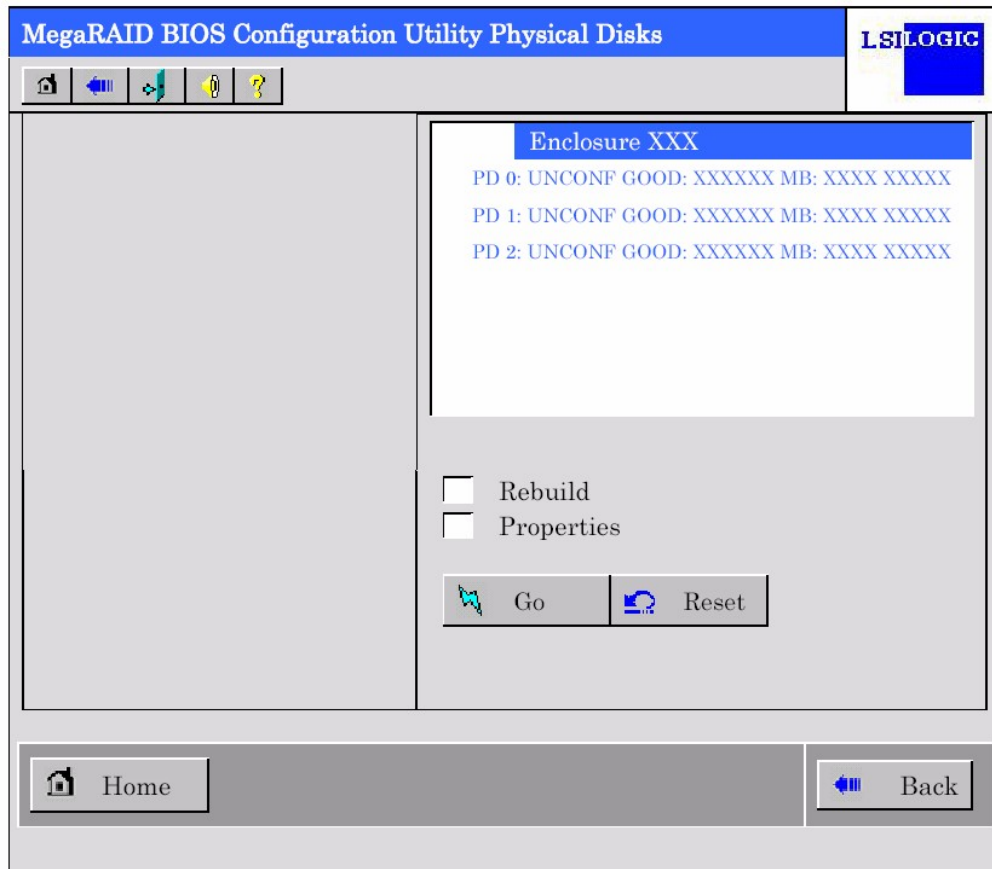


Notice

If no virtual disk exists, the upper right column of the screen will be blank.
Use this menu only when a virtual disk exists.

2-6. Physical Drives

When you click [Physical Disks] on the WebBIOS top menu, the screen for operating the physical drive (HDD) connected to the disk array controller.



If no physical disk exists, the upper right column of the screen will be blank. Use this menu only when a physical disk exists.

2-7. Configuration Wizard

Use this wizard to configure a RAID using the HDDs connected to the disk array controller. The detailed explanation of this feature is given in "Configuring Virtual Disk".

2-8. Adapter Selection

If several disk array controllers are installed in the server, you need to select an adapter controlled by WebBIOS to configure each adapter. Clicking [Adapter Selection] on the WebBIOS top menu opens the [Adapter Selection] screen again.

2-9. Physical View / Logical View

If the virtual disk has been configured using the disk array controller, DG (disk group) is displayed on The WebBIOS top menu. Clicking [Physical View] displays information for HDDs in DG. Clicking [Logical View] displays virtual disk in DG.

2-10. Events

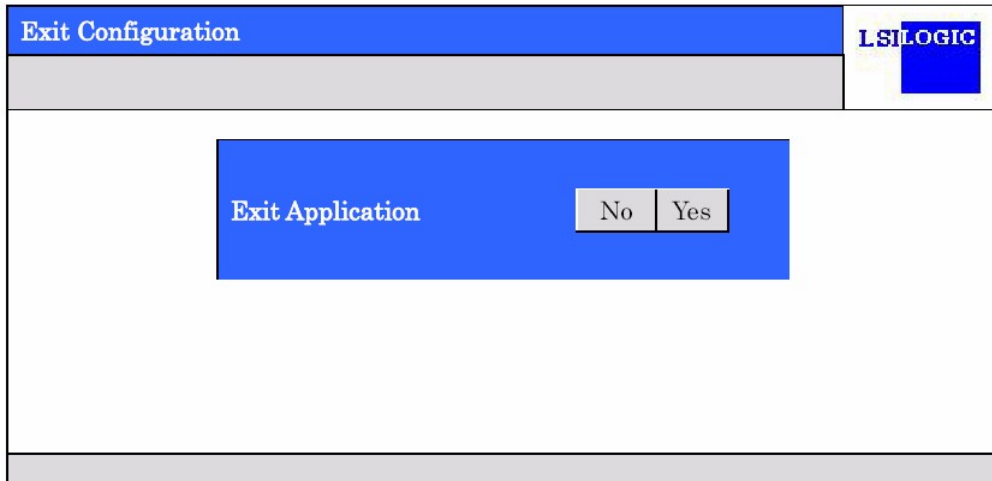
The Events screen is used to confirm the system events.



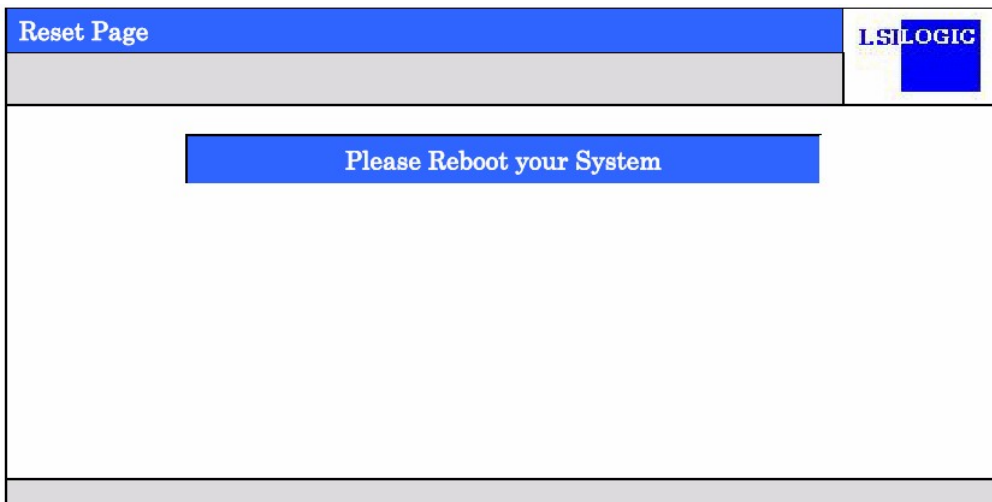
The disk array controller does not support the Events feature.

2-11. Exit

When you click [Exit] on the WebBIOS top menu, a confirmation screen to exit from WebBIOS is displayed. Click [Yes] to exit from WebBIOS.



The screen shown below appears when WebBIOS is terminated. Restart the server.



3. Configuring a Virtual Disk

This section describes the procedures for the configuration of a VD (virtual disk) using WebBIOS.

3-1. Configuration Wizard

When you click [Configuration Wizard] on the WebBIOS top menu, the screen shown below appears. Select the relevant operation, and click [Next] at the lower right of the screen.

MegaRAID BIOS Configuration Utility Configuration Wizard **LSILOGIC**

Configuration Wizard guides you through the steps for configuration the MegaRAID System easily and efficiently. The steps are as follows:

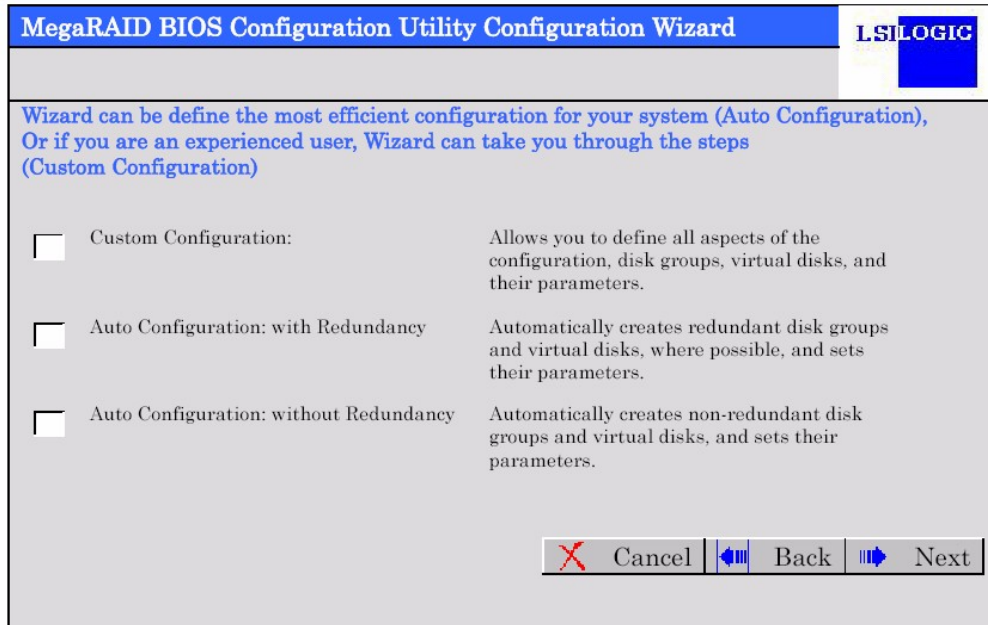
1. Array definitions	Group physical drives into arrays.
2. Virtual Disk definitions	Define virtual disks using those arrays.
3. Configuration Preview	Preview configuration before it is saved.

Please choose appropriate configuration type:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Clear Configuration	Allows you to clear existing configuration only.
<input type="checkbox"/>	New Configuration	Clears the existing configuration. If you have any existing data in the earlier defined drives, the data will be lost.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Add Configuration	Retains the old configuration and then adds new drives to the configuration. This is the safest operation as it does not result in any data loss.

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Clear Configuration | Allows you to clear the existing configuration. |
| New Configuration | Clears the existing configuration and creates a new VD. If you have any existing data in the virtual disk defined earlier, the data will be lost. |
| Add Configuration | Retains the old configuration and then adds the new virtual disk. |

When you select [New Configuration] or [Add Configuration], the screen shown below appears.



Custom Configuration: Allows you to define all aspects of the configuration, RAID level, size, and others.



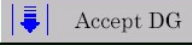
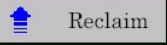



Auto Configuration with Redundancy: Automatically creates redundant virtual disk.

Auto Configuration without Redundancy: Automatically creates non-redundant virtual disk.

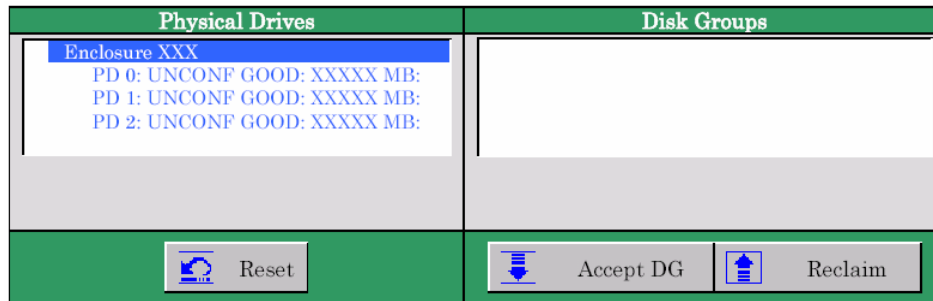


The disk array controller only supports "Custom Configuration".

Use this menu to define several physical drives (PD) as a disk group (DG).

MegaRAID BIOS Configuration Utility ConfigWizard - DG Definition		LSILOGIC
	Disk Group Definition: To add drives to a Disk Group, hold Control key while selecting Unconf Good drives and click on Accept DG, Drive addition can be undone by selecting the Reclaim button.	
Physical Drives	Disk Groups	
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"><p>Enclosure XXX</p><p>PD 0: UNCONF GOOD: XXXXX MB:</p><p>PD 1: UNCONF GOOD: XXXXX MB:</p><p>PD 2: UNCONF GOOD: XXXXX MB:</p></div>		
 Reset	 Accept DG  Reclaim	
 Cancel  Back  Next		

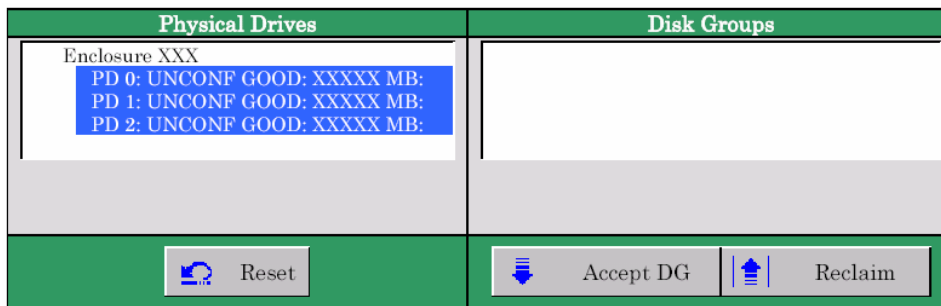
1. To add physical drives (HDD) to a Disk Group, hold the **Ctrl** key while selecting UNCONF GOOD drives.



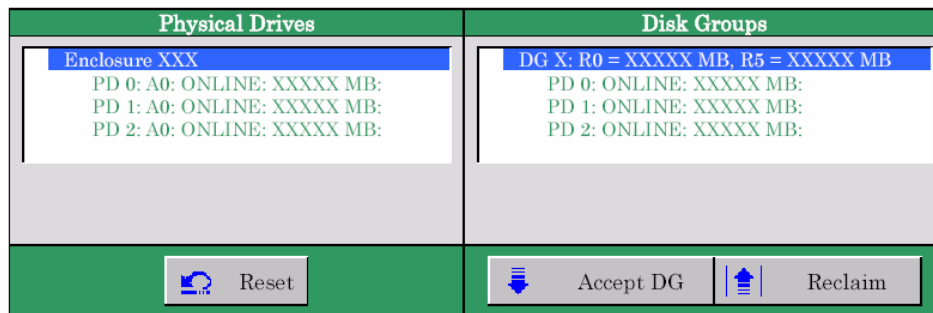
Notice

Some NEC systems cannot use the mouse; in that case, please use the keyboard instead. To add physical drives to a disk group, first move the cursor to the "Physical Drives" window with the **Tab** key and then hold **Shift** and press the up/down cursor.

2. Once the selection is complete, click [Accept DG] at the lower right of the screen.



3. A new DG is defined in the Disk Groups frame. Once the DG has been defined, click [Next] at the lower right of the screen.





Define the virtual disk (VD) in a DG that has been created in previous step. When a DG was defined, [VD Definition] screen is displayed. The defined DG is displayed in the Configuration column. The available RAID levels and the maximum size for the VD are also displayed.

MegaRAID BIOS Configuration Utility ConfigWizard – VD Definition		LSILOGIC
Virtual Disk 0		Configuration
RAID Level	RAID 5 ▼	DG 0 :R0 = XXXXX MB, R5 = XXXXX MB
Strip Size	64 KB ▼	
Access Policy	RW ▼	
Read Policy	Normal ▼	
Write Policy	WBack ▼	
IO Policy	Direct ▼	Disk Group n: RAID Level = Size Available
Disk Cache Policy	Unchanged ▼	
Disable BGI	No	
Select Size	<input type="text"/> MB	
<input type="button" value="Accept"/> <input type="button" value="Reset"/>		
		<input type="button" value="Cancel"/> <input type="button" value="Back"/> <input type="button" value="Next"/>

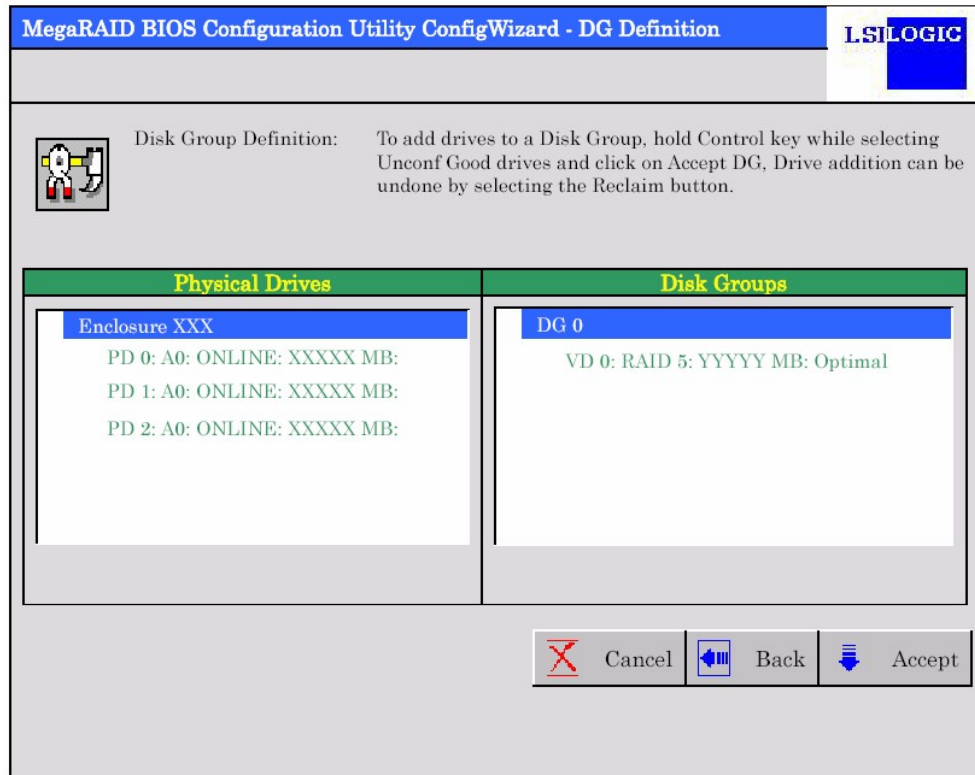
As an example, define a RAID5 VD of YYYYYY MB.

Specify the necessary parameters in Virtual Disk column.

4. Enter "YYYYYY" (the maximum size allowed for RAID5) in the "Select Size" field.
5. Click [Accept] at the lower center of the screen.

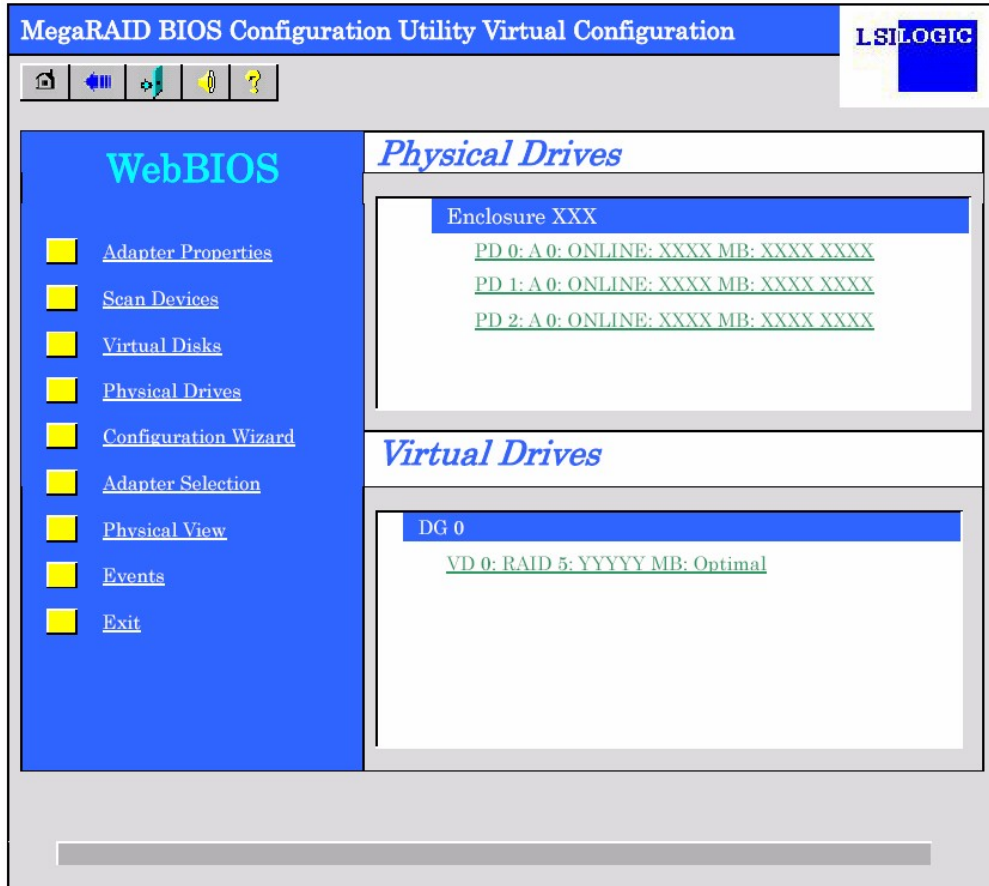
Virtual Disk 0		Configuration
RAID Level	RAID 5 ▼	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> DG 0 :R0 = XXXXX MB, R5 = YYYYY MB </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> Disk Group n: RAID Level = Size Available </div>
Strip Size	64 KB ▼	
Access Policy	RW ▼	
Read Policy	Normal ▼	
Write Policy	WBack ▼	
IO Policy	Direct ▼	
Disk Cache Policy	Unchanged ▼	
Disable BGI	No	
Select Size	YYYYY MB	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">  Accept  Reset </div>		

- A VD 0 is created in the DG 0 as shown in the screen below.



- Make sure that the VD has been created correctly, and click [Accept] at the lower right of the screen.
- The confirmation message "Save this Configuration?" appears. Click "Yes" to save the configuration.
- The confirmation message "Want to Initialize the New Virtual Disks?" appears. Select "Yes".
- The "Virtual Disks" operation screen is displayed. If no other operation is required, click [Home] at the lower left of the screen.

11. The WebBIOS top menu is displayed. The Virtual Disk you have created is displayed in the lower right frame of the screen.




3-2. Configure SPAN

The following describes the procedure to configure the spanning of RAID1 with four HDDs.

Click [Configuration Wizard] on the WebBIOS top menu to start Wizard.

MegaRAID BIOS Configuration Utility ConfigWizard - DG Definition

LSI LOGIC

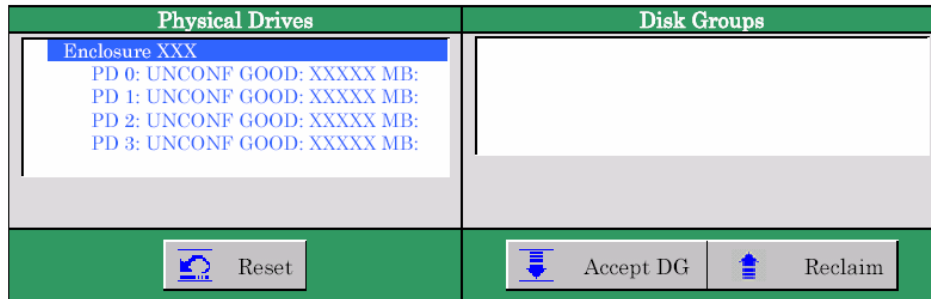
 Disk Group Definition: To add drives to a Disk Group, hold Control key while selecting Unconf Good drives and click on Accept DG. Drive addition can be undone by selecting the Reclaim button.

Physical Drives	Disk Groups
<p>Enclosure XXX</p> <p>PD 0: UNCONF GOOD: XXXXX MB: PD 1: UNCONF GOOD: XXXXX MB: PD 2: UNCONF GOOD: XXXXX MB: PD 3: UNCONF GOOD: XXXXX MB:</p>	

Reset Accept DG Reclaim

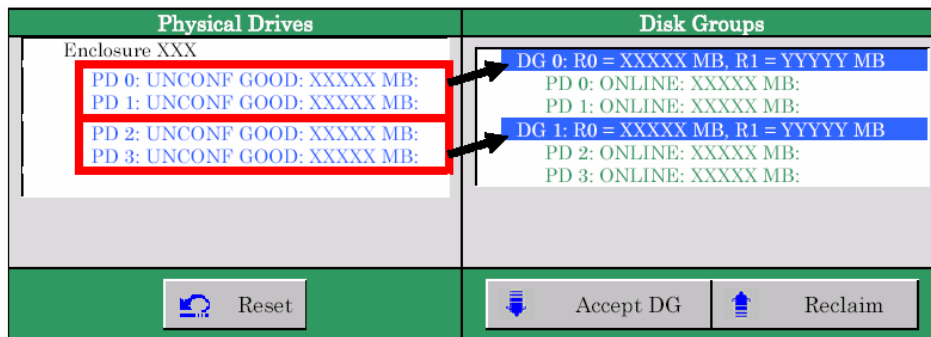
Cancel Back Next

- To add physical drives (HDD) to a Disk Group, hold the **Ctrl** key while selecting UNCONF GOOD drives. (In the example, two DGs will be configured and spanned.)

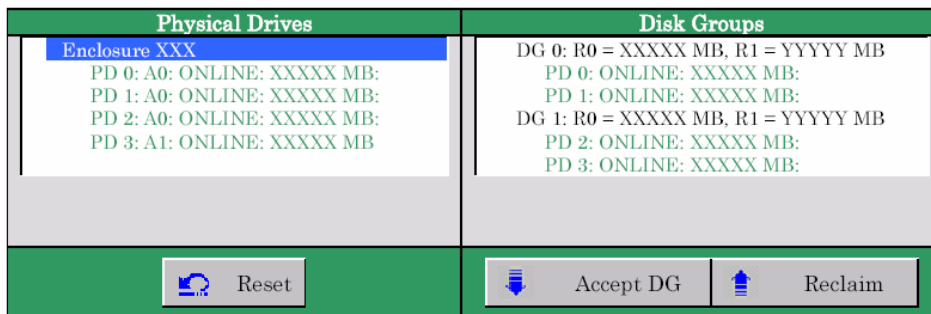


Some NEC systems cannot use the mouse; in that case, please use the keyboard instead. To add the physical drives to a disk group, first move the cursor to the "Physical Drives" window by the **Tab** key and then hold **Shift** and press the up/down cursor.

- Once your selection is complete, click [Accept DG] at the lower right of the screen.



- A new DG is defined in the Disk Groups frame. Once the DG has been defined, click [Next] at the lower right of the screen.



Configure the spanning of RAID1 using the DG that has been created in the previous step. When a DG has been defined, the [VD Definition] screen is displayed. The defined DG is displayed in the Configuration column. The available RAID levels and the maximum size for the VD are also displayed.

Virtual Disk 0		Configuration
RAID Level	RAID 0 ▼	DG 0 :R0 = XXXXX MB, R1 = YYYYY MB
Strip Size	64 KB ▼	DG 1 :R0 = XXXXX MB, R1 = YYYYY MB
Access Policy	RW ▼	
Read Policy	Normal ▼	
Write Policy	WBack ▼	
IO Policy	Direct ▼	Disk Group n: RAID Level = Size Available
Disk Cache Policy	Unchanged ▼	
Disable BGI	No	
Select Size	<input type="text"/> MB	
<input type="button" value="Accept"/> <input type="button" value="Reset"/>		
		<input type="button" value="Cancel"/> <input type="button" value="Back"/> <input type="button" value="Next"/>

4. Hold the **Ctrl** key and click the two DGs in the Configuration column to select.



Notice

Some NEC systems cannot use the mouse; in that case, please use the keyboard instead. To select the two DGs, first move the cursor to the Configuration column using the **Tab** key and then hold **Shift** and press the up/down cursor.

5. Specify the necessary parameters in the Virtual Disk column.
6. Enter YYYYY x 2 (multiply the maximum size of each DG by the number of DGs) in "Select Size" field.



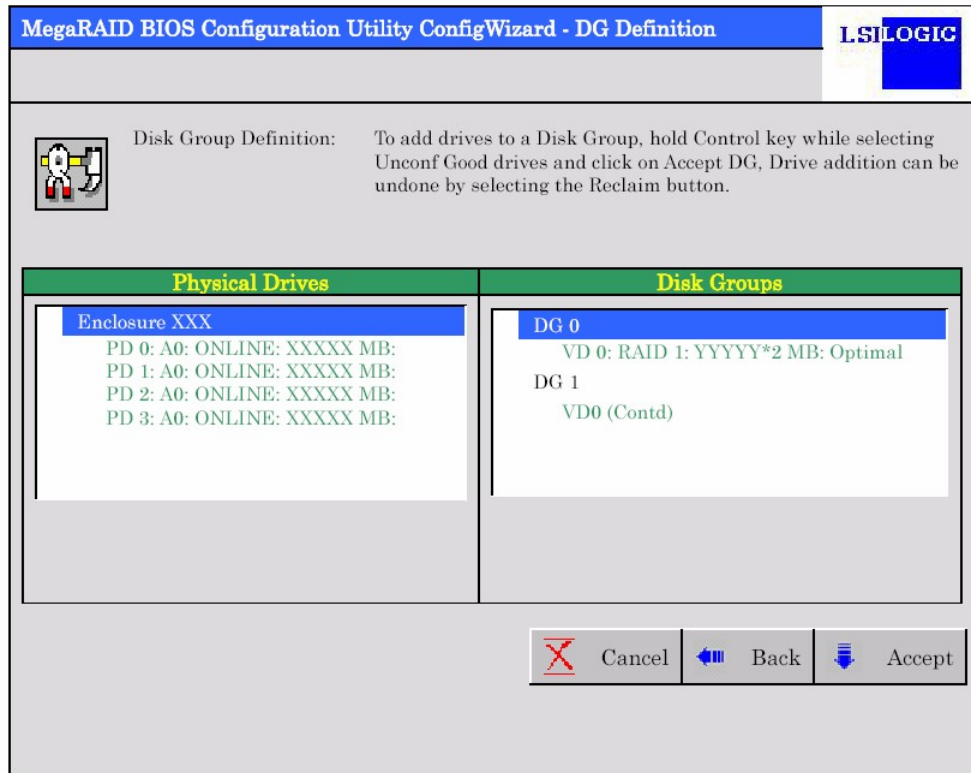
Notice

To enter the value of virtual disk size below, multiply "the maximum size of each DG allowed for the RAID level" by the number of DGs.

7. Click [Accept] at the lower center of the screen.

Virtual Disk 0		Configuration
RAID Level	<input type="text" value="RAID 1"/>	<p>DG 0 :R0 = XXXXX MB, R1 = YYYYY MB DG 1 :R0 = XXXXX MB, R1 = YYYYY MB</p> <p>Disk Group n: RAID Level = Size Available</p>
Strip Size	<input type="text" value="64 KB"/>	
Access Policy	<input type="text" value="RW"/>	
Read Policy	<input type="text" value="Normal"/>	
Write Policy	<input type="text" value="WBack"/>	
IO Policy	<input type="text" value="Direct"/>	
Disk Cache Policy	<input type="text" value="Unchanged"/>	
Disable BGI	<input type="text" value="No"/>	
Select Size	<input type="text" value="YYYYY * 2"/> MB	
<input type="button" value="Accept"/> <input type="button" value="Reset"/>		

8. A VD 0 is created in the DG 0 as shown in the [Preview] screen below.



9. Make sure that the VD has been created correctly, click [Accept] at the lower right of the screen.
10. The confirmation message "Save this Configuration?" appears. Click "Yes" to save the configuration.
11. The confirmation message "Want to Initialize the New Virtual Disks?" appears. Select "Yes".
12. The "Virtual Disks" operation screen is displayed. If no other operation is required, click [Home] at the lower left of the screen.
13. The WebBIOS top menu is displayed. The Virtual Disk you have created is displayed in the lower right frame of the screen.

3-3. Parameters for the VD Definition

Listed below are the parameters for the Configuration Wizard.

Item	Parameter	Remarks
RAID Level	RAID 0 / RAID 1 / RAID 5	
Strip Size	8 KB / 16 KB / 32 KB / 64 KB / 128 KB	Recommended value: 64KB
Access Policy	RW / Read Only / Blocked	Recommended value: RW
Read Policy	Normal / Ahead / Adaptive	Recommended value: Normal
Write Policy	WBack / WThru / BadBBU	WBack: WriteBack WThru: WriteThru BadBBU: Unavailable
IO Policy	Direct / Cached	Recommended value: Direct
Disk Cache Policy	Unchanged / Enable / Disable	Recommended value: Uncharged
Disable BGI	No / Yes	Specify whether to perform a Background Initialize once the VD has been created. Recommended value: No



Notice

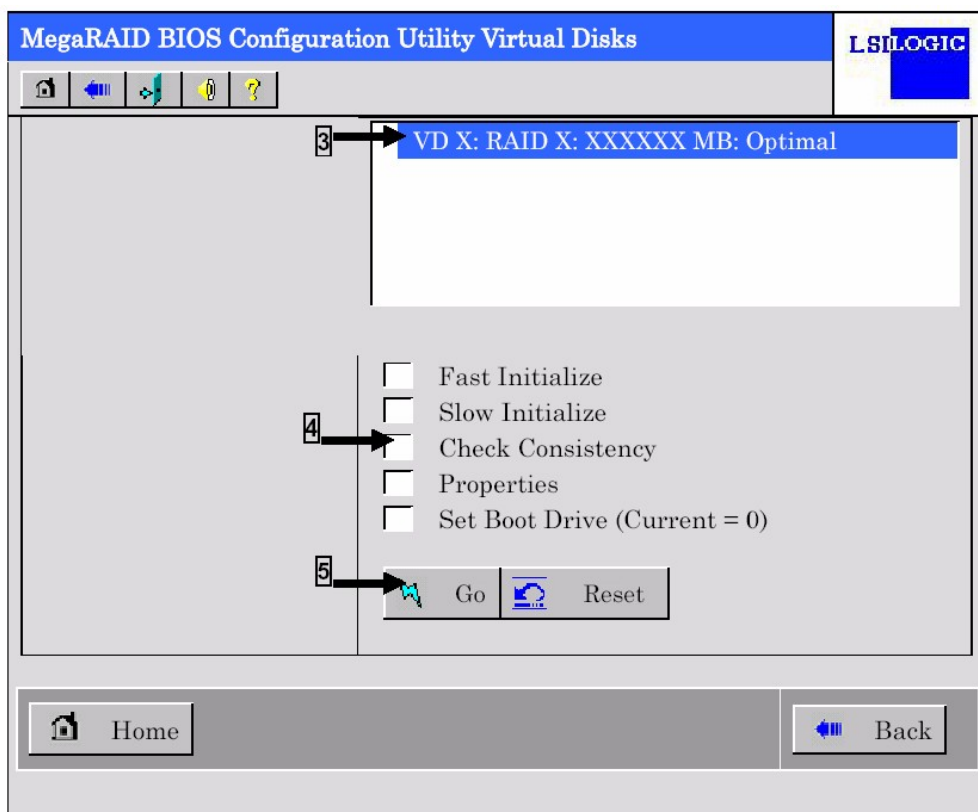
BGI (Back Ground Initialize) is available only for a RAID5 VD configured with five or more HDDs.

4. Operating the Various Features

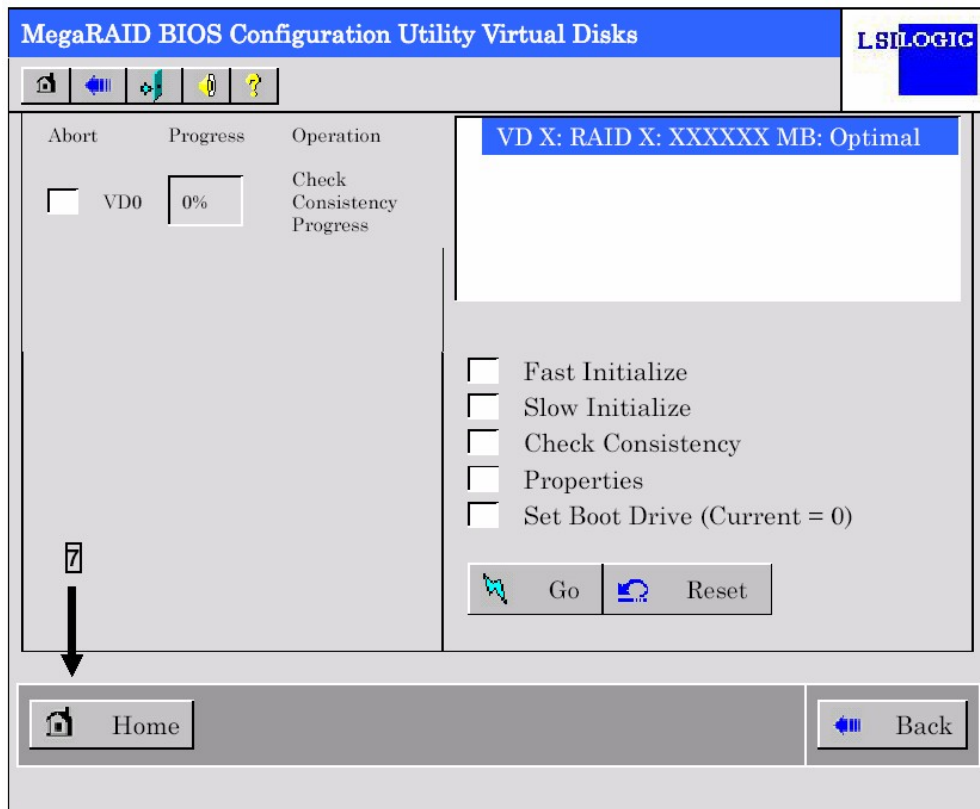
4-1. Check Consistency

Start WebBIOS.

1. Click [Virtual Disks] on the WebBIOS top menu.
2. Select a VD to perform the Check Consistency from the upper right frame of the Virtual Disks screen.
3. Click the checkmark column for the Check Consistency from the lower right frame of the Virtual Disks screen.
4. Make sure that the Check Consistency is checked, and click [Go].



5. The Check Consistency progress is displayed on the left frame of the Virtual Disks screen.
6. Click [Home] at the lower left of the Virtual Disks screen to return to the top menu.



Click [Home] while background tasks such as Consistency Check, Rebuild, or reconstruction are being executed. When the progress indication is displayed, the background task may process at a slower rate on some servers.

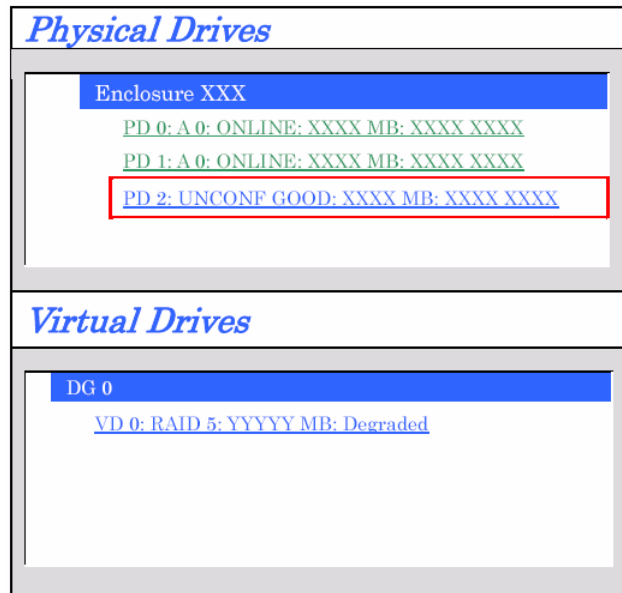
4-2. Manual Rebuild

Described below are procedures based on the following assertion:
One of the HDDs has failed in a RAID5 virtual disk configured with three HDDs.

Power off the server and replace the failed HDD with a new one. As the Auto Rebuild feature is disabled for non-hot-swap replacement, use the Manual Rebuild feature to recover the virtual disk as described below.

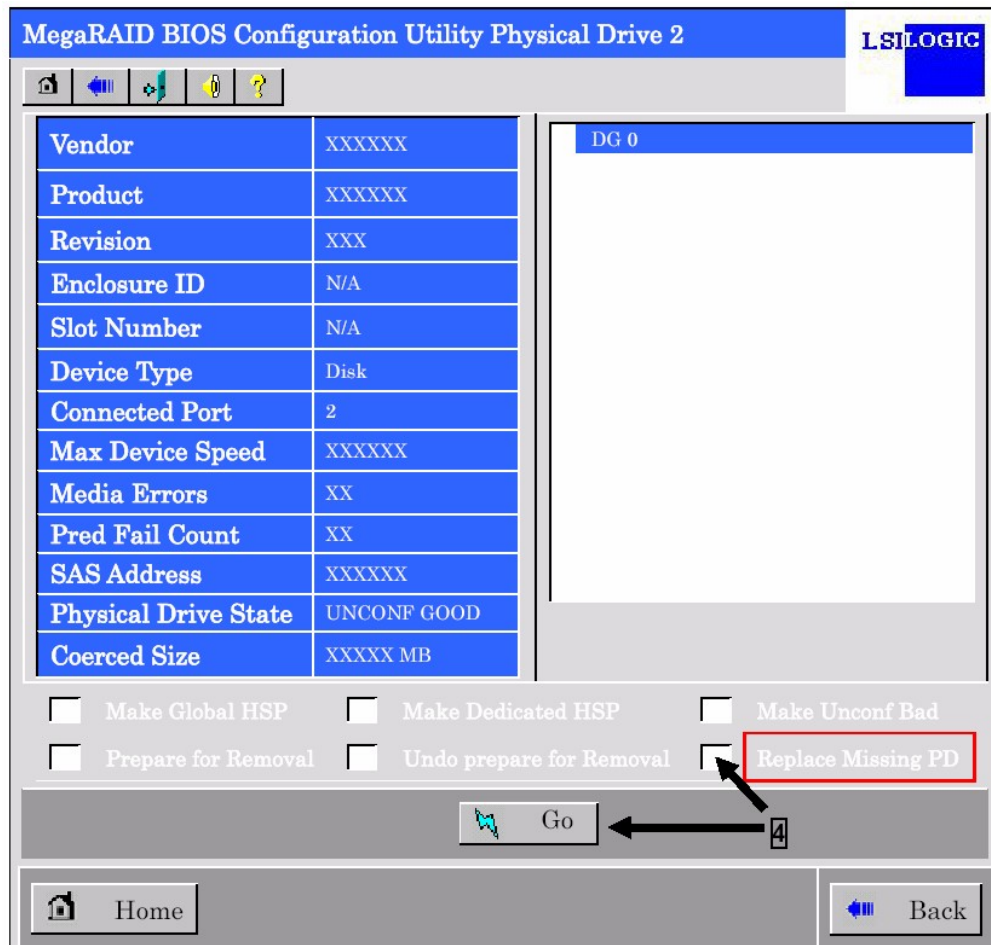
Start WebBIOS.

Make sure that the status for the replaced HDD is indicated as "UNCONF GOOD" in the right frame of the top menu.

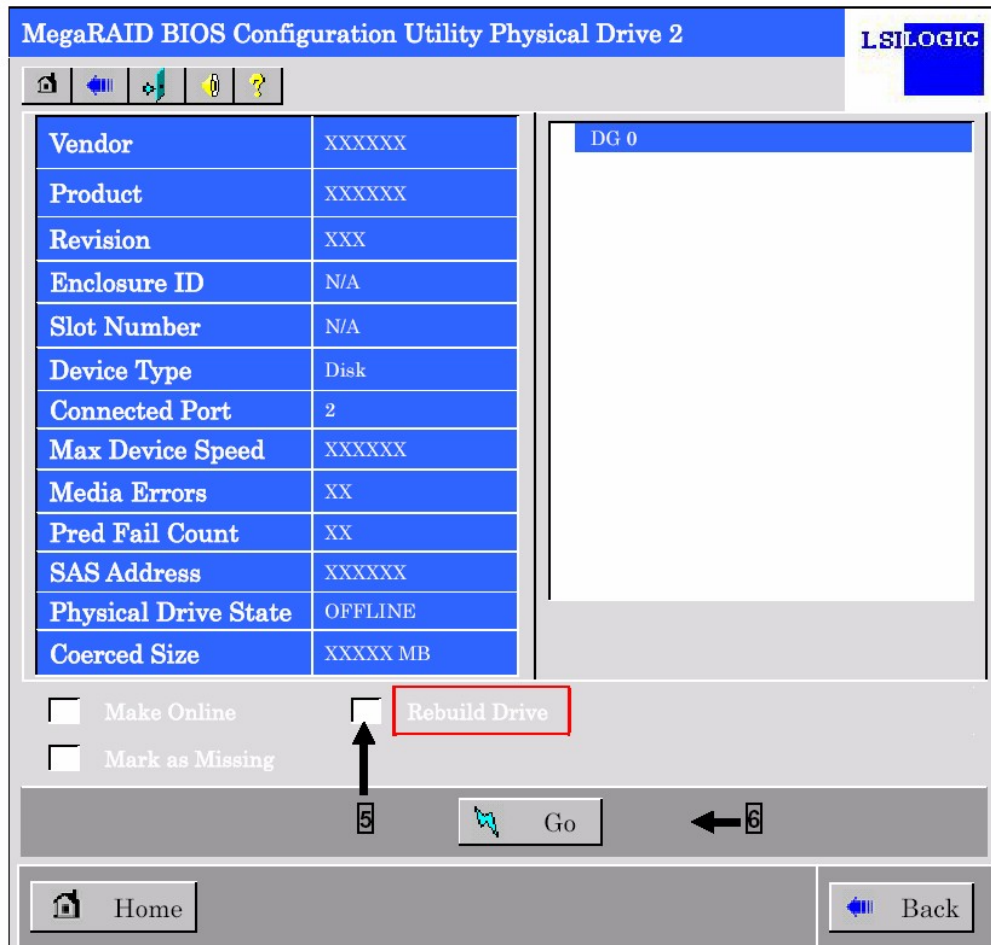


1. Select "PD2" (newly connected HDD) in [Physical Drives].

2. The properties for the Physical Drive are displayed.
3. Select "Replace Missing PD" on the lower right of the screen, and then click [Go] on the lower center of the screen.



4. The newly connected HDD is built in DG0. The status is indicated as "OFFLINE" because the drive has not been rebuilt.
5. Check the "Rebuild Drive" box at the lower center of the screen, and then click [Go].



6. When [Rebuild Progress] is displayed, click [Home] at the lower left of the screen to go back to the WebBIOS top menu.



Notice

Click [Home] while background tasks such as Consistency Check, Rebuild, or reconstruction are being executed. When the progress indication is displayed, the background task may process at a slower rate on some servers.

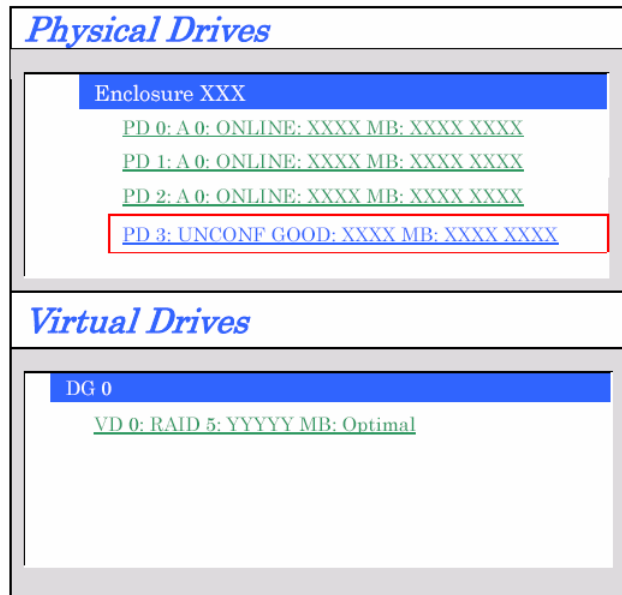
4-3. Setting Hot Spare Disk

Described below are procedures based on the following assertion:

Add a HDD to a RAID5 Virtual Disk configured with three HDDs and assign a newly added HDD as Hot Spare Disk.

Start WebBIOS.

Make sure that the status for the added HDD is indicated as "UNCONF GOOD" in the right frame of the top menu.



1. Select "PD3" (newly connected HDD) in [Physical Drives].
2. The properties for the Physical Drive are displayed.

3. Select [Make Global HSP] or [Make Dedicated HSP] on the lower right of the screen, and then click [Go] on the lower center of the screen.

Global HSP: Indicates the Hot Spare Disk available for all DGs.

Dedicated HSP: Indicates the Hot Spare Disk available only for the specific DG. You need to specify the target DG.

MegaRAID BIOS Configuration Utility Physical Drive 3

LSILOGIC

Vendor	XXXXXX
Product	XXXXXX
Revision	XXX
Enclosure ID	N/A
Slot Number	N/A
Device Type	Disk
Connected Port	3
Max Device Speed	XXXXXX
Media Errors	XX
Pred Fail Count	XX
SAS Address	XXXXXX
Physical Drive State	UNCONF GOOD
Coerced Size	XXXXX MB

DG 0

Make Global HSP Make Dedicated HSP Make Unconf Bad

Prepare for Removal Undo prepare for Removal Replace Missing PD

- The status for the newly connected HDD changes to "HOTSPARE".
- Click [Home] at the lower left of the screen to go back to the WebBIOS top menu.

MegaRAID BIOS Configuration Utility Physical Drive 3 LSILOGIC

Navigation icons: Home, Left Arrow, Right Arrow, Refresh, Help

Vendor	XXXXXX
Product	XXXXXX
Revision	XXX
Enclosure ID	N/A
Slot Number	N/A
Device Type	Disk
Connected Port	3
Max Device Speed	XXXXXX
Media Errors	XX
Pred Fail Count	XX
SAS Address	XXXXXX
Physical Drive State	HOTSPARE
Coerced Size	XXXXX MB

DG 0

Remove HOTSPARE

6 Go

Home Back

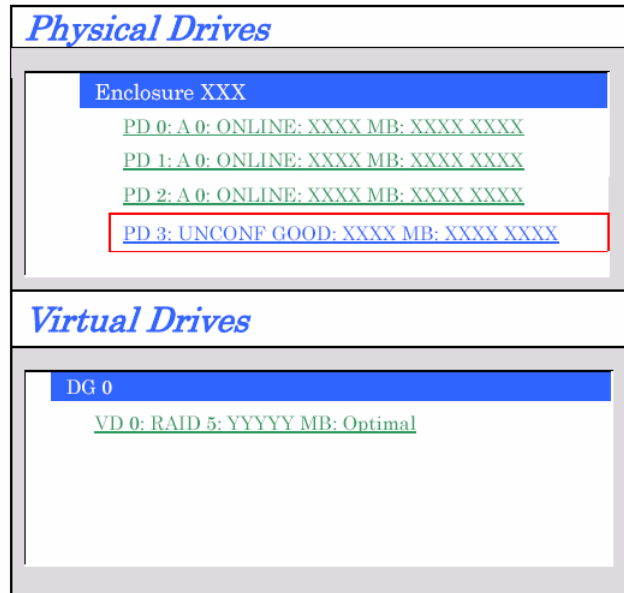
4-4. Reconstruction

Described below are procedures based on the following assertion:

Add a HDD to a RAID5 Virtual Disk configured with three HDDs to make a RAID5 Virtual Disk configured with four HDDs.

Start WebBIOS.

Make sure that the status for the added HDD is indicated as "UNCONF GOOD" in the right frame of the top menu.



1. Select "VD 0" (already been constructed) in [Virtual Drives].

- The Setting menu for the VD 0 is displayed.

MegaRAID BIOS Configuration Utility Virtual Disk 0 LSI LOGIC

Home Back ?

Properties

RAID Level: 0 State: Optimal

Size: XXXXXX MB Strip Size: XX KB

Policies

Access: RW Read: Normal

Disk Cache: Unchanged Write: WBack

Disable BGI: No I/O: Cached

Operations

Del Fast Slow CC

Remove physical drive

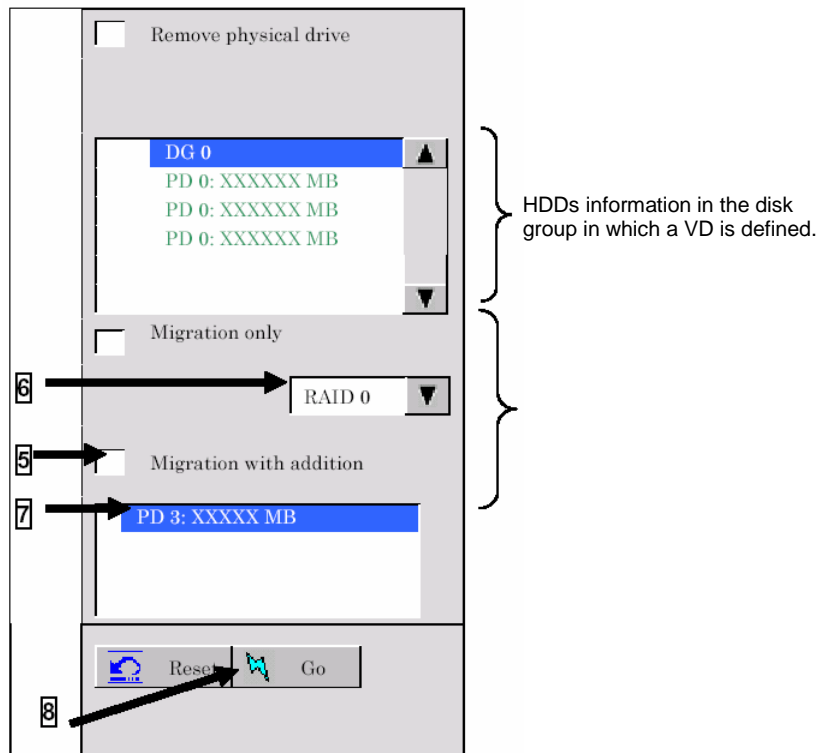
DG 0
PD 0: XXXXXX MB
PD 0: XXXXXX MB
PD 0: XXXXXX MB

Migration only
RAID 0

Migration with addition

PD 3: XXXXX MB

3. On the right of the screen, the items required for reconstruction are displayed.



4. Select "Migration with addition".
5. Specify the RAID level to be used after reconstruction.
6. Select the HDD you wish to add.
7. Click [Go] at the lower right of the screen.
8. The progress of reconstruction is displayed on the lower left of the screen. Click [Home] at the lower left of the screen to return to the WebBIOS top menu.



Notice

- The capacity of the Virtual Disk may be incorrectly displayed after reconstruction. In this case, perform a Scan Devices from the top menu.
- Click [Home] while background tasks such as Consistency Check, Rebuild, or reconstruction are being executed. When the progress indication is displayed, the background task may process at a slower rate on some servers.



Notice

You cannot use the mouse to select an option from a pull-down menu. Use the up/down cursor keys and then press the **Enter** key to choose the option.

Chapter 5 Operation and Maintenance

1. Maintenance Service

We recommend you contact Service Representative approved by NEC to order genuine spare parts or to perform any operations on your system..

2. Preventive Maintenance

2-1. Data Backup

We recommend you backup routinely the data located on the HDDs to prevent severe loss should an incident occur.

For more information on data backup, refer to the Server User's Guide.

2-2. Preventive Maintenance by Consistency Check

We recommend you perform a Consistency Check regularly as preventive maintenance against subsequent defects of HDDs, allowing them to be found and corrected as soon as possible.

For more information on the Consistency Check, see "Chapter 3 Disk Array Controller Features".

The recommended checking interval is once per week. Depending on the operating status of your system, the checking interval should be at least once per month.



Check

MSM must be installed to perform the Consistency Check.

3. Maintenance

The disk array controller supports the following maintenance features

- Configuration on Disk (COD) feature
- Rebuild feature
- Critical boot feature

3-1. Configuration on Disk (COD) Feature

The COD feature writes the configuration information into HDDs. This feature prevents the configuration information from being lost if the disk array controller is defective and requires replacement.

Once the disk array controller has been replaced, the COD feature can read the configuration information from the HDDs to operate the controller normally.



Check

The configuration information is not saved on the disk array controller but on the HDDs.

3-2. Rebuild Feature

The rebuild feature can recover the data that was stored in a defective HDD. This feature is available for redundant logical drives in the RAID1 and RAID5 levels.

See "Chapter 3 Disk Array Controller Features" for details.

4. Replacing the Disk Array Controller

Replace the disk array controller as described in the following procedure:



Check

For more information on the handling of the server, refer to the Server User's Guide.

⚠ CAUTION



Avoid installation in extreme temperature conditions.

Immediately after the server is powered off, its internal components such as hard disk drives are very hot. Let the installed components fully cool down before installing/removing any component.

Shutdown OS while the server is powered on, power off the server, and pull out the power cords from the receptacles.

1. If applicable, remove the side cover and other components from the server.
2. Remove the SAS cable from the disk array controller.



Notice

Before removing the SAS cables, check the port numbers of the SAS connectors on the disk array controller and those of the SAS cables to write down the connecting configuration.

3. Remove the screw fixing the disk array controller and remove the disk array controller from the server.



Notice

- If applicable, disconnect the additional battery from the disk array controller you remove following the instructions from the "Additional DAC Battery User's Guide".
- Always write down in which PCI slot the controller was installed.

4. Insert the replaced disk array controller into the same PCI slot (PCI Express) and fix it with the screw.
5. Connect all the relevant cables according to the information you noted down.
6. Install the components removed during step 2.
7. Connect the power cords and power on the server. Make sure that the server boots normally.

5. Troubleshooting

If the server equipped with the disk array controller does not operate normally or if some utilities are disabled, check the following situations.

If your problem is documented, take the corresponding appropriate action.

(1) The OS cannot be installed.

- ⊖ How were the virtual disks created?
 - Create virtual disks using WebBIOS.

(2) The OS does not boot.

- ⊖ Is the disk array controller securely inserted into the mating PCI slot?
 - If not, install the disk array controller correctly.
- ⊖ Is the disk array controller inserted into a PCI slot to which some installation limitation is imposed?
 - Check the PCI slot and controller limitations, and insert the controller into a correct slot.

If the OS is not recognized despite the above actions, the disk array controller may be defective. Contact your service representative.

- ⊖ Are all HDDs inserted to the end of the slot?
 - Install the HDDs in the slot correctly.
- ⊖ Are the SAS cables correctly connected to the disk array controller, HDDs and/or additional HDD cage?
 - Connect the cables correctly.

If the OS is not recognized despite the above actions, one or more HDDs may be defective. Contact your service representative.

(3) HDD failed

→ Contact your service representative.

(4) Rebuild cannot be executed.

θ Is the capacity of the replacement HDD identical to that of the failed one?

→ Use a disk having the same capacity as the defective HDD.

θ Is the system configured in RAID0?

→ Rebuild is not possible because the redundancy feature is not supported by RAID0. Replace the defected HDD and create a new virtual disk.

(5) Consistency Check is disabled.

θ Is the virtual disk degraded?

→ Replace the defective HDD and execute Rebuild.

θ Is the system configured in RAID0?

→ Consistency Check is not possible because the redundancy feature is not supported by RAID0. Replace the defected HDD and create a new virtual disk.

(6) The additional battery is not recognized, or the POST displays the message below.

The battery hardware is missing or malfunctioning, or the battery is unplugged. If you continue to boot the system, the battery-backed cache will not function. Please contact technical support for assistance.
Press 'D' to disable this warning (if your controller does not have a battery).

θ Is the cable correctly connected between the battery pack and DIMM?

→ Connect the cable correctly.

If the additional battery is still not recognized, it may be defective. Contact your service representative.

(6) The additional battery is not recognized, or the POST displays the message below.

Your battery is bad or missing, and you have VD's configured for write-back mode. Because the battery is not usable, these VD's will actually run in write-through mode until the battery is replaced.
The following VD's are affected : xx
Press any key to continue.

- 0 Is the cable correctly connected between the battery pack and DIMM?
 - Connect the cable correctly.
- 0 The charge level of the battery may be not sufficient.
 - Keep the system powered on for several hours to charge the battery and check to see if the message is still displayed.

If the additional battery is still not recognized, it may be defective or require replacement. Battery-life expectancy is about 2 years. Contact your service representative.

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