

Delphix Release 6.0

Our 6.0 release was made available on January 22, 2020. This release is a massive step in fulfilling the vision of “Delphix everywhere,” adding support for Google Cloud. This release lays the foundation for supporting additional clouds and hypervisors. For example, we're currently working with select customers who need support for Oracle Cloud Infrastructure (OCI) and HyperV to validate those platforms.

The major changes in this release are architectural, namely the swap from illumos to Linux as the operating system. Normally, we wouldn't spend much time on the architecture in these announcement notes, but given the scope of the change, it's worth exploring. About two years ago, for a mixture of business, technical and community reasons, we decided to move our operating system to Linux. This is not a slight change, given how much of our product and company knowledge we've built on top of illumos. However, we're happy to announce that the first step in the journey is complete - not only are we shipping our first Linux-based release, but we've been able to achieve greater performance on similar tests *and* set ourselves up for success with future features. Notably, the development cycle to support new clouds, hypervisors and cloud instances will be much easier in the future. In a similar vein, we'll be able to leverage much of the work of the broader community, who have built solutions largely based on Linux. This is a notable point in the history of Delphix, but we'll feel the positive effects for years to come.

All new-engine deployments will be fully supported in this release. As feedback from customers is gathered, select customers will be invited to upgrade to the current product.

High-Level Update

Starting with this release, customers have the ability to deploy Delphix Engines in *Google Cloud*. Delphix Engines can be used with all currently supported masking and virtualization databases. As with AWS and Azure, we will provide information about specific supported instances in the release notes. As part of our ongoing strategy to improve upgrades, this release introduces functionality to improve the upgrade experience. Self upgrades will be possible at a later date after 6.0, including the ability to validate the upgrade (currently, this requires uploading a support bundle).

Technical Update

- **Masking NFS/CIFS Mount:** The masking engine has supported masking files via FTP/SFTP. In this release, we enable users to directly mount and mask a file system over NFS & CIFS. This should dramatically simplify the process of file masking. For example, it will be possible to mask files on AWS through mounting S3 buckets.
- **Enhanced Elastic Network Adapter (ENA) Support:** We will support networking on AWS instances with the Elastic Network Adapter (ENA). This offers users enhanced networking performance capabilities and more economical options. Notably, we will include the ability to scale the platform on the existing AWS R4 instance types.
- **Masking API Updates:** 6.0 introduces a variety of updates for existing endpoints. This release also introduces versioning for the masking API. With API versioning users may now specify a version of the API in their requests to access historical functionality.

Upgrading to 6.0

Upgrading to 6.0 will be an in-place upgrade like other Delphix releases. Users will need to engage the Delphix customer support team to upgrade to this release. We will start with new deploys first and then subsequently move to upgrades. If you have a customer who would like to get started with a new deployment now, please let us know!