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Proposal for FCP Initiator Identification during Persistent Reservations

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Problem

- **During initialization, AL_PA of initiator can change**
- **Has potential for allowing targets to misinterpret relationship with initiators if persistent reservations are present.**
- **Note that this can be covered up by reporting initialization events to managers of reservations, forcing reconfiguration verification, but this is time consuming and risky.**



Solution

- **During initialization and login, AL_PA relationships and WWN name relationships are known.**
- **FC-PLDA implies that those relationships are remembered so that device verification can be performed in the event of an initialization, allowing on-going commands to continue.**
- **Then it would make sense during the initialization process to examine the S_ID/D_ID relationship with the initiator port WWN and, if a persistent reservation or persistent reservation registration is active, adjust the AL_PA related to that reservation information so that the reservation is tied to old WWN.**



Other thoughts

- **Advantage is that you don't have to remake reservations every time a LIP occurs, even if the initiator AL_PA changes.**
- **Advantage is that it only requires one field to be adjusted in the target, and that field is adjusted only once and only if the FC-PLDA verification process is performed.**
- **Note that if the FC-PLDA verification process is performed and fails because the AL_PA changed, all commands will be terminated, the devices will mutually logout, and they will have to start up again. However, during this whole process, the persistent reservations are still valid. Very good.**
- **Propose this as addition to FCP-2, maybe SAM-2, SPC-2.**



Other thoughts, continued

- **The method for performing this function on a switch (FC-FLA compliant environment) must be determined.**