# Release Notes: IBM Aspera High-Speed Transfer Server, High-Speed Transfer Endpoint, and Desktop Client, 4.4.4

Product released: March 14, 2024.
Release notes updated: March 27, 2024.

This release of IBM Aspera High-Speed Transfer Server (HSTS), High-Speed Transfer Endpoint (HSTE), and Desktop Client provides the new features, fixes, and other changes that are listed in the following sections. In particular, the Breaking changes section provides important information about modifications to the product that might require you to adjust your workflow, configuration, or usage. Additional sections cover system requirements and known problems.

## New features

Aspera #492 - Added support for Growing Files to work with a Cloud Storage destination.

Aspera #769 - Updated cryptographic library and FIPS module to use the latest validated module from OpenSSL 3.

Aspera #854 - Added support to specify and pass the unit sizes `-K`, `-M`, or `-G` to the `--support-resume` **async** option. For example, to specify megabytes use `--support-resume=xxxM` instead of using separate `-K`, `-M`, and `-G` units.

Aspera #1443 - Added support for requiring strong passwords for Node API access as the default option. It is enabled by default when creating Node API users as well.

Aspera #1751 - Improved file browsing cache so that when a **ascp** transfer occurs the browsing cache for the directory is updated instead of being invalidated

Aspera #1905 - Added statistics in the log files for storage I/O performance when using `pvcl_cloud` storage modules, such as Cloud Object Storage.

Aspera #1943 - Improved `pvcl_cloud` logging to generate more data for all logging modes (info and debug).

## Breaking changes

Aspera #2001 - On Windows, the port files directory defaults to stronger permissions, allowing only Administrator users to create port files for monitoring transfers with the Desktop GUI.

## Issues fixed in this release

Aspera #1445 - Resolved an issue where using Vlinks with multiple simultaneous **ascp** transfers fail to achieve differentiated rates for the transfers, despite using a mix of fair and low policies.

Aspera #2144 - Fixed an issue on Windows where **async** failed to move a file from the cache and ended with and access-denied error.

Aspera #2155 - Fixed an issue on Windows where Hot Folders fails with an access violation error.

Aspera #2188 - Resolved an issue where **async** transfers files multiple times when scan-interval is enabled.

Aspera #2206 - Fixed an issue where **async** and **ascp** failed to preserve the object lock for the retention period when the period was in the past.

Aspera #2222 - Resolved an issue where **async** is not detecting changes when continuous mode `--stat-cache` is being used.

Aspera #2331 - Fixed an issue where **async** is having discrepancies on the reports that come from different sources such as Node API and **async** activity.

Aspera #2399 - Fixed an issue where **async** doesn't stop from running after all object are synced.

## Other changes

Aspera #2421 - The `aclean` tool is deprecated from HSTS/HSTE 4.4.4. and will be removed in a future release. This tool can delete content of a specified directory and can filter files based on modified times. Works with local and cloud Storage Systems. For cloud systems, the paths must be specified with URL-based representation, for example, `azu://user:password@host/path` or `s3://user:password@host/path` where the URL portion must be percent encoded to account for any non-HTML-compliant characters. And for local storage, the paths can be full or relative paths, for example, `/c:/path/to/delete`. The directory that is specified is never deleted, only the children. The tool has an optional dry-run feature that allows testing without deleting and the results are printed to `stderr`.

Aspera #2572 - The Hadoop Distributed File System (HDFS) is discontinued from HSTS/HSTE 4.4.4. Service and documentation will be removed in a future release. An alternative workflow is available by using IBM Aspera faspio Gateway instead.

## System requirements

**Linux 64-bit:** RHEL 7, 8, 9. Ubuntu 22.04 LTS. Ubuntu 20.04 LTS. Ubuntu 18.04 LTS. SUSE Linux Enterprise Server (SLES) 12. Debian 10+. Kernel 3.10 or higher and Glibc 2.17+. Rocky Linux 8, 9. Amazon Linux 2. Amazon Linux 2023.

**PowerLinux:** RHEL 7,8,9. CentOS 7. Ubuntu 22.04 LTS. Ubuntu 20.04 LTS. Ubuntu 18.04 LTS. Your OS version must support little-endian (LE) ordering, and it must run on IBM Power hardware that supports LE ordering. Kernel: Linux 4.4.0-116-generic. Architecture: ppc64-le.

**zLinux:** Linux on z Systems s390, 64-bit. RHEL 7, 8, 9. SUSE Linux Enterprise Server (SLES) 12.

**Windows x86_64:** Windows Server 64-bit 2016, 2019, 2022. For client use only, you might also use Windows 10, 11 (64-bit).

**macOS 64-bit Intel:** 12 (Monterey), 13 (Ventura). **macOS ARMv8:** 12 (Monterey), 13 (Ventura).

## Product support

For online support, go to the IBM Aspera Support site at https://www.ibm.com/mysupport/. To open a support case, log in with your IBMid or set up a new IBMid account.