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Technical Service Bulletin TSB-2026-001

V Series NVMe Drive Detection Issue on coreboot v0.9.4

Issue Date	March 2, 2026
Last Updated	March 2, 2026
Version	1.0.0
Severity	MEDIUM
Affected Products	Protectli V1210, V1211, V1410
Affected Firmware	coreboot v0.9.4
Affected Components	M.2 NVMe Drives (select models)
Status	WORKAROUND AVAILABLE | FIX IN DEVELOPMENT

Changelog

Version	Date	Changes
1.0.0	March 2, 2026	Initial release

Executive Summary

While using coreboot v0.9.4 on V Series Vaults (V1210, V1211, and V1410), many previously-detected NVMe drives may no longer be detected by the system. Affected drives will not appear as a boot target and cannot be selected as an installation destination when reinstalling an operating system. Currently, this issue has not been seen with the V1610, and we are unaware of any drives that exhibit this behavior with v0.9.4 on the V1610.

No data loss occurs as a result of this issue. The drive and its contents remain intact. Flashing back to coreboot v0.9.3 restores full drive visibility and functionality.

A permanent firmware fix is currently in development. In the meantime, the recommended workaround is to remain on or revert to coreboot v0.9.3. Addtionally, older versions of coreboot prior to v0.9.3 are also unaffected by the issue.

Affected Systems

Hardware

- **Models:** Protectli V1210, V1211, V1410
- **Affected Firmware:** coreboot v0.9.4
- **Scope:** Units running coreboot v0.9.4 with one of the affected NVMe drives installed

Known Affected NVMe Drives

The following NVMe drives have been confirmed to exhibit this issue on coreboot v0.9.4. This list may not be exhaustive — other drives may also be affected.

Drive	Model Number	Source
Transcend 220S	TS512GMTE220S	Customer reported
Samsung 980 Pro	MZ-V8P1T0C/IT	Customer reported / Protectli tested
Samsung MZFLV128HCGR-000MV	BXV75M0Q	Customer reported
Samsung 990 Pro	MZ-V9P1T0	Customer reported / Protectli tested
PNY CS1030 M.2	M280CS1030-250-RB	Customer reported
Samsung 960 EVO	—	Customer reported

> **Note:** If you are using an NVMe drive not listed above and experience this issue after updating to v0.9.4, please contact support so we can update this bulletin accordingly.

Problem Description

Technical Background

coreboot v0.9.4 introduced changes that affect how certain NVMe drives are initialized on V Series Vaults. As a result, select NVMe drives that functioned correctly under v0.9.3 (or older) are not recognized by the firmware under v0.9.4.

Symptoms

Users experiencing this issue may observe one or more of the following after updating to coreboot v0.9.4:

- **System fails to boot from NVMe:** The device does not boot from the NVMe drive as expected. Depending on the system configuration, it may automatically boot to another bootable device, be taken to a network boot option, or boot into the coreboot firmware menu
- **NVMe drive not visible in boot menu:** The affected drive does not appear as a selectable boot option

- **NVMe drive not visible during OS installation:** When attempting to reinstall an operating system, the affected drive does not appear as an available installation destination

What This Issue Does Not Cause

> **Important:** This issue does not cause data loss. The NVMe drive and all of its contents remain intact. The drive is not being erased or corrupted — it is simply not being detected by the firmware.

Workaround

If you are using one of the affected NVMe drives listed above, the recommended workaround is to revert to or remain on coreboot v0.9.3, which fully restores NVMe drive detection and normal operation. However, if you are using a drive confirmed to be compatible with v0.9.4, we encourage updating to v0.9.4 as it includes additional features and improvements that may be beneficial. Information on the changes introduced in v0.9.4 can be found in the coreboot version changes KB article.

If you are already running v0.9.4 without issues, you do not need to downgrade. The following drives have not been observed to exhibit this issue on v0.9.4 and are considered compatible with the current firmware:

- Protectli 256GB
- Kingston NV3 500GB (SNV3S500G)
- Kingston NV3 1TB (SNV3S/10000G)
- Kingston NV3 2TB (SNV3S/2000G)
- Kingston NV3 4TB (SNV3S/4000G)

How to Revert to v0.9.3

Firmware flashing is performed using **Flashli**, Protectli's firmware update utility. To revert to coreboot v0.9.3, an older version of Flashli (**v1.1.57**) must be used, as it contains the firmware files required for flashing to v0.9.3.

1. Download Flashli v1.1.57 from: https://github.com/protectli-root/protectli-firmware-updater/releases/tag/v1.1.57
2. Follow the instructions in the repository to flash coreboot v0.9.3 to your V Series Vault
3. For additional guidance, see the KB article: How to Use Flashli

> **Note:** In order to utilize Flashli, you will need to boot via a live USB environment (preferably Ubuntu 24.04) to perform the downgrade. Contact support if you need assistance with this process.

Permanent Resolution

Protectli is actively investigating the root cause and developing a firmware fix to be included in an upcoming coreboot release. This fix will restore full NVMe compatibility on v0.9.4 and later versions without requiring a

downgrade.

Customers will be notified through the following channels when an update is available:

- Email notification to registered customers
- Announcement on the Protectli website
- Updates via the Flashli GitHub repository

We recommend monitoring the Flashli GitHub repository to stay informed about upcoming firmware releases.

Impact on System Operation

- **Boot functionality:** Systems with an affected NVMe drive will fail to boot from that drive under v0.9.4
- **Data integrity:** No data corruption or loss has been observed. All data on the affected drive remains intact
- **Other storage:** eMMC and other storage interfaces are not affected by this issue
- **System stability:** No system crashes or instability are caused by this issue beyond the failure to detect the affected drive

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Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Will I lose data on my NVMe drive?

A: No. This issue does not cause any data loss. The drive and its contents remain fully intact. Reverting to v0.9.3 will restore access to the drive and all data on it.

Q: Does this affect all NVMe drives?

A: Not all NVMe drives are affected. Only certain models have been confirmed to exhibit this issue. A list of known affected drives is provided in this bulletin. If your drive is not listed and you are not experiencing issues, your drive is likely unaffected.

Q: Does this affect all V Series models?

A: This issue has been observed on the V1210, V1211, V1410. Other Protectli models are not affected, and we have **not** seen the issue occur on the V1610.

Q: Can I still use my Vault while waiting for the firmware fix?

A: Yes. If you are experiencing this issue, or plan to use a drive known to be affected, reverting to coreboot v0.9.3 fully resolves the issue and restores normal operation. If you are not experiencing any issues and are not using an affected drive, there is no need to downgrade.

Support and Contact Information

If you have questions about this issue, need assistance reverting firmware, or wish to report an affected NVMe drive not listed in this bulletin:

- **Email Support:** support@protectli.com
- **Support Portal:** Open a ticket through your Protectli account
- **Additional Contact Options:** https://protectli.com/contact/

Please report your experience even if the workaround resolves your issue, to help us track the scope of affected drives and ensure you receive notification when the firmware fix is available.

Document Information

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