Configuring an IBM X-Architecture compute node's settings for optimal boot times

Prerequisites:

- One IBM Flex System Enterprise Chassis

- One IBM X-Architecture compute node installed in the chassis

Background:

Most current operating systems can operate in both Legacy (BIOS) and UEFI (Unified Extensible Firmware Interface) mode. By default, IBM X-Architecture compute nodes are enabled to concurrently support both modes, which can increase the overall system boot time.

Unless you have a need to operate in Legacy mode, consider setting up your compute node to operate in UEFI-only mode, which provide many benefits. These benefits are described in the whitepaper *Introducing UEFI-Compliant Firmware*, which is available at this location

http://www.ibm.com/support/entry/portal/docdisplay?lndocid=MIGR-5089627

To reduce the overall boot system boot time, you should set the UEFI system boot mode to match the mode supported by the operating system that is installed on the compute node. For example, if the operating system requires legacy mode, make sure that you set the mode to Legacy only. If the operating system supports UEFI, make sure that you set the boot mode to UEFI only.

The whitepaper provides additional information about options that you can choose to improve overall system boot time.

Steps:

Complete the following steps to set the system boot mode for an X-Architecture compute node:
1. Start the X-Architecture compute node.
2. At the UEFI splash screen, press F1 to enter the Setup utility.
3. Select **Boot Manager** and press enter.
4. Select **Boot Modes** and press enter. You might need to scroll down to find the Boot Modes selection.
5. Exit the Setup utility and continue booting the system.

You can also use the IBM Advanced Settings Utility (ASU) to change the System Boot Mode and other UEFI settings. Refer to the *Configuring an IBM X-Architecture compute node's settings using IBM Advanced Settings Utility (ASU)* quick start guide for additional information about using ASU.