

Re: [SLE] Hard drive limitations

Source: <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/SuSE/2004-10/3978.html>

From: Greg Freemyer (greg.freemyer_at_gmail.com)

Date: 10/31/04

Date: Sun, 31 Oct 2004 09:54:11 -0500

To: suse-linux-e@suse.com

On Sun, 31 Oct 2004 16:21:37 +0200, Anders Johansson <andjoh@rydsbo.net> wrote:

> *On Sunday, 31 October 2004 15.13, Dylan wrote:*

>

>

>> *On Sunday 31 Oct 2004 14:57 pm, James Knott wrote:*

>>> *Synthetic Cartoonz wrote:*

>>>> *Stupid question time. I could not find anything related in the FAQ*

>>>> *or the hardware database online.*

>>>>

>>>> *Is the 128G (or 137G if you count like a hard drive manufacturer)*

>>>> *ATA hard drive limitation a problem with the interface hardware or*

>>>> *the software driver?*

>>>>

>>>> *So, if I get a 250G hard drive can I expect SuSE 9.2 to be able to*

>>>> *use all of it?*

>>>>

>>>> *On the assumption this is an interface problem is there a list of*

>>>> *supported ATA interfaces/chipsets that SuSE 9.2 can use?*

>>>>

>>> *That's a hard limit, unless the interface changes to include more than*

>>> *28 sector address bits.*

>>

>> *If this is the case, how can manufacturers justify producing "250MB" IDE*

>> *ATA drives?*

>

> *I have no problems with a parallel ATA 160GB drive, is this 128GB limit for*

> *serial ATA?*

>

It is a ATA limit with both drivers and controller chips.

From what I have seen, if you have a ATA-100 controller, you will be limited to 128/137 GB.

If you have a ATA-133 controller/drivers, you can see all of larger drives.

I have tried several different ATA-133 controllers, linux has supported them all. (Even older versions like SuSE 8.0).

SuSE: Re: [SLE] Hard drive limitations

Windows 2K needs extra drivers loaded. :)

FYI: I saw a dos-booted system that claimed to see a full 250GB SATA drive. As soon as the drive usage went past 128/137 GB, the drive "crashed". I was just observing, so I did not have the chance to test anything, but I suspect something in the dos driver wrapped and the filesystem became corrupted.

Greg

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Greg Freemyer

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Also check the archives at <http://lists.suse.com>
Please read the FAQs: suse-linux-e-faq@suse.com