

Re: [SLE] Gigabit ethernet on Intel D945GNTLKR mobo

Source: <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/SuSE/2005-08/0963.html>

From: Sid Boyce (*sboyce_at_blueyonder.co.uk*)

Date: 08/12/05

Date: Fri, 12 Aug 2005 19:47:59 +0100

To: florin@hum.math.cmu.edu

florin@hum.math.cmu.edu wrote:

> *On Thu, 11 Aug 2005, Sid Boyce wrote:*

>

>

>>> *This driver is not mentioned directly on Intel's pages about the
>>>D945GNT motherboard (they're afraid of Microsoft to say it loud,
>>>I suppose), but google will eventually dig it out.*

>>>

>>

>>*In my reply I mentioned I'd seen reference to it on the kernel mailing
>>list last week, a post from someone at Intel.*

>

>

> *Sid, I'm sorry I missed your reply. As far as I can tell, it didn't show
> up on this list. Can you please resend it, or at least send me a copy of
> it? Thank you.*

>

I just noticed my reply (sent to you separately) was for the AMD64 list, someone else having e1000 problems, so when I saw your post I wondered if you had missed mine somehow, just a case of crossed x86/x86_64 wires. This the first I've seen a hardware topic collision on separate lists.

>

>>> *I. It won't boot from a harddrive unless one of the partitions is marked
>>>as bootable (Windows style) in the partition table. The BIOS (tested the
>>>newest one - 1788) is quirky alltogether and many of the features are
>>>twisted or don't work as described in the documentation.
>>>Why in the world would somebody make the BIOS read the partition table?*

>>>

>>

>>*I always thought a partition had to be made bootable in order to be able
>>to boot from it. I've always done that since the days when we used Minix
>> bootlace and shoelace to boot Linux. You'd also note that on any Linux
>>install of any flavour, partitioning the drive takes care of that.*

>

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> *My point here is that its not the job of the BIOS to read the partition*
> *table and decide if a partition is bootable or not. This is the job of the*
> *boot loader. There are so many useful things that only the BIOS can do*
> *and it doesn't, so why waste EPROM space for stuff like that and impose*
> *some stupid un-necessary (and un-documented) rules.*
>
> *Thank you,*
> *Florin*
>
>
>

True. I'll be glad when we can ditch the manufacturer's BIOS entirely, it doesn't do much for Linux and it's a pain. I needed to update the BIOS on my x86_64 laptop, no floppy, tried freebios which only supports a limited set of chipsets, win98-boot.img, freedos, wine and cxoffice which all failed to do the job, so I got out a 10G spare drive, bunged it in, restored XP (took forever and a good thing I didn't throw the CD's in with the weekly rubbish collection), flashed the BIOS, original HD in and back with Linux.

Regards
Sid.

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Specialist
Microsoft Windows Free Zone - Linux used for all Computing Tasks
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