

Re: pay for linux conexant modem drivers???

Source: <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/alt.os.linux.suse/2003-09/1121.html>

From: Big Daddy (*NoWay_at_NoBusiness.com*)

Date: 09/15/03

Date: Mon, 15 Sep 2003 04:47:40 -0400

Jeff Breitner wrote:

>> *i recently got a mail from the linuxant (winmodem conexant drivers
>> for linux) and here is an excerpt:
>>
>> "Because the scope of the project has grown beyond the capacity of a
>> single volunteer and legal issues prevent us from using a classic
>> open-source development model, the modem drivers are now available in
>> two editions:
>
> Well there you go, that explains why they need to charge for the
> product. They had to shell out money in order to write the drivers you
> want. Do you think they should just pay their money so you can use
> someone else's crummy Windows hardware?*

Not everything is free in Linux. Distros pay for licenses of various components in order to enhance your Linux experience. Thus is why the download version of a distro is nowhere near as complete.

>> *who in their right mind i this day and age d/l a driver that only
>> supports 14.4 kbps????? i think most linux users who have winmodems
>> like me will either go buy a new external modem, get broadband (if
>> they can) or move off linux all together. or of course maybe some
>> sort of crack or serial number will surface will surface....
>> then how exactly will these people be making their money?
>>
>
> You're probably correct. I don't see them doing this to make money, I
> see them doing this in order to cover the costs of them making a
> seriously needed contribution to the Linux movement. Let's face it,
> there's a lot of Conexant softmodems out there and this is a helpful
> addition. but I'm sure Conexant bent them over and told them that they
> couldn't distribute this without paying royalties or licensing. I can
> see where this would be a nice alternative route to follow as opposed to
> being SUED.*

One should know better than to bother with a Winmodem piece of crap in Linux anyway.

Re: pay for linux conexant modem drivers???

>> *and who ever thought of PAYING for a DRIVER???* *i bought their product*
>> *right?? why should the windows driver be free and i should pay for a*
>> *full functioning linux one???*
>>
>>
>
> *You pay for a driver whether it's bundled into the product costs or you*
> *purchase the driver separately. And if you don't pay, that doesn't mean*
> *someone else hasn't paid for you. This stuff costs money, and even*
> *though Linux is free, someone has had to feed those programmers. I*
> *don't see pizza places tossing pizzas out onto the sidewalk under the*
> *'GPL'.*

Well said. Whoever said that you *_don't_* pay for drivers? You just don't pay for updates. Most hardware companies assume that if you're downloading a driver, you've already bought the right because you simply must have the hardware to use the driver.