

Re: Failing to get wireless card working on Toshiba + Suse

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From: John Scudder (jscudder_at_verizon.net)

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Jeremy Russell wrote:

> *On Wed, 31 Aug 2005 12:02:49 -0700, Perfect Reign*

> *<theperfectreign@yahoo.com> wrote:*

>

>

>>*On Wed, 31 Aug 2005 19:18:44 +0100, someone posing as Jeremy Russell*

>>*pretended that someone gave a rat's ass and spewed out:*

>>

>>

>>

>>>>*You can get 9.3 here: <http://www.opensuse.org/index.php/Download>*

>>>>

>>>>*Thanks – downloading now ...*

>>>>

>>>>

> *I tried the download route; that failed for unknown reasons, so I*

> *bought a copy of Suse 9.3 Professional. I'm still suffering*

> *intermittently from wireless issues. I installed the software from*

> *the DVD, which seemed to be going fine – it recognised my wireless*

> *card, connected to the Novell site, downloaded updates, all as*

> *expected. Once the install was over and Linux had rebooted, all*

> *wireless connectivity had gone again :(*

>

> *I reinstalled from the DVD and this time, the wireless card wouldn't*

> *permit a connection even during the installation. This time, I called*

> *Suse support and was advised that the installation support didn't*

> *cover wireless networking.*

>

> *Accordingly, I tried once more – restarted a fresh install, got an*

> *update connection again, and after a reboot, got stuck without a*

> *connection once more. Suse support were more forthcoming this time –*

> *I was advised to download a couple of rpm files from the Suse FTP*

> *site, which I've duly done. When I try to install both the advised*

> *packages, the 'rpm' utility reports that both patches are already*

> *installed.*

>

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- > *Suse support have now advised me to repeat the installation (this must*
- > *be like the 5th time) and NOT to download updates during the install.*
- > *I did try this – the connection didn't work during the install again –*
- > *therefore I've given up for a while.*
- >
- > *Should I be concerned that I was told not to download the latest*
- > *patches, do you think? This won't be a production system, just one*
- > *for me to play around with, therefore security is not a major issue.*
- >
- > *More importantly, can anyone shed any light on why my wireless card*
- > *(standard Toshiba Satellite M30 with Intel PRO/Wireless 2200BG built*
- > *in) might be intermittently working? This is a dual boot, WinXP*
- > *system and the card itself is faultless under Windows.*
- >
- > *Thanks,*
- >
- > *Jeremy*

For wireless support you may need the 'ndiswrapper' package (included with SuSE 9.3) and the Windows driver CD. Below are the directions for installing your wireless card. I don't remember where I found the information, but it worked for me with my Toshiba and a Linksys card:

- > * *Click on the "Install and Remove Software" icon on the right pane of YaST*
- > * *On the left side of next window, near the top, is a label called "Filter:" and a dropdown box box.*
- > * *Select "Search" in the dropdown box.*
- > * *In the search field below that, type in "ndis" (without the quotes) and click on the Search button.*
- > * *Voila! There are two items listed in the right pane. Make sure the package called ndiswrapper is checked.*
- > * *Now, back in the search field, enter "wireless" and click on the Search button.*
- > * *Make sure the package in the right pane called "wireless tools" is checked*
- > * *Click on the Accept button in the lower right hand corner.*
- > *Become SU*
- > * *You can create a new folder just like you do in Windows, right-click in the folder...*
- > * *Copy the windows driver (both the *.inf and the *.sys) into the new folder.*
- >
- > * *At the prompt, type*
- >
- > *ndiswrapper -i <drivername>.inf*
- >
- > *where <drivername> is the name of the *.inf file.*
- >
- > *Next, check the status of the loaded driver.*
- >
- > *Type the command*
- >
- > *ndiswrapper -l*
- >
- > *You should see something to the effect:*
- >
- > *Installed ndis drivers:*
- > *<filename> hardware present*
- >

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- > *At the terminal prompt, enter the command:*
- >
- > *modprobe ndiswrapper*
- >
- > ** When YaST starts, click on Network Devices*
- > ** In the right pane of YaST, click on Network Card*
- > ** Click on the Configure button (your card might not show in the list...no biggie)*
- > ** In device type, select wireless*
- > ** In configuration name, enter wlan0 (or whatever iwconfig gave you above...)*
- > ** Hardware configuration name, module name can be left blank. options should be left blank.*
- > ** If you are using a not using a PCMCIA or USB card, you can skip to the next point. If you are using*
- > *a PCMCIA, then check the box at the bottom labeled PCMCIA. A few of the config options will disappear,*
- > *and the config name will change to bus_pcmcia (or something similar). Just change it back to wlan0 (or*
- > *whatever iwconfig told you). Other than that, the installation proceeds the same as normal cards. I*
- > *presume for a USB card that it is the same, but I do not have one to test.*
- > ** Click on next to go to the next page of configuration.*
- > ** Most wireless networks are set up to assign an IP address dynamically and I assume yours is that way.*
- > ** Click Next to go to the next page.*
- > ** This is the page where you enter your wireless network settings. Enter your ID and key and any other*
- > *settings you need to specify. I am still running a simple 128-bit WEP enabled 802.11b so I used a Shared*
- > *Key Authentication mode in Managed Mode and entered my key using Hexadecimal. If you use WPA, refer*
- > *to*
- > *WPA wiki for details on setting this up.*
- > ** Click next to close out the configuration of your card.*
- >
- > ** Click on System Icon in YaST.*
- > ** On the right pane, click on that ugly icon labelled "/etc/sysconfig Editor". This is the closest thing*
- > *Linux has to Windows registry as far as I can tell...sorry for the comparion but not sorry for calling*
- > *the label ugly! How about just "System Configuration" instead?!?!?*
- >
- > ** On the left pane of the window, expand the selection to System | Kernel.*
- > ** Now, click on the item labelled, MODULES_LOADED_ON_BOOT*
- > ** In the right pane, enter "ndiswrapper" (again, without quotes) and click Finish.*
- >
- > ** Now that you are a superuser, you are going to use a cool utility called Midnight Commander to edit the*
- > *wlan0 configuration file. I found it by reading that big manual that comes with Suse. It is a throwback to*
- > *the days of edit in DOS, but I like it!*
- > ** To start Midnight Commander, type "mc" at the command line. It is a blue file explorer-like utility.*
- > ** You can user your mouse to double-click to the directory /etc/sysconfig/network This is where your*
- > *network configuration files are at. To do that, first double click on /etc, then scroll down and double-*
- > *click on /sysconfig and finally /network*
- > ** Select the file called (something like) ifcg-wlan-wlan0 (it might be named differently but the important*
- > *thing is that it has the wlan0 part!*
- > ** Once selected, click on edit in the menu at the bottom of the screen.*
- > ** Scroll through the file and you will notice that the settings match up to what you were viewing in the*
- > *good old /etc/sysconfig Editor in Yast.*
- > ** Now add the following two lines to the top of the file:*
- >
- > *DHCLIENT_MODIFY_RESOLVE_CONF='yes'*
- > *DHCLIENT_SET_DEFAULT_ROUTE='yes'*
- >

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- > * *Note the use of single quotes above around yes. Also note that these new settings will be viewable in the*
- > */etc/sysconfig Editor in Yast! Not that you will want to change them...*
- > * *Click on the Save item on the menu item to exit the editor. Now go back to the /etc folder.. To do that,*
- > *double-click on the symbol /.. at the top left of midnight commander. This is basically saying, go up one*
- > *level in the directory tree.*
- > * *Once in /etc, scroll down to the file resolve.conf and open it for editing.*
- > * *Place the following two lines at the top of the file (it is probably empty right now)*
- >
- > *Search <you ISP DNS IP>*
- > *nameserver 192.168.0.1*
- >
- > *Where <your ISP DNS IP> is your Internet Service Provider's Domain Name Server IP addresses and*
- > *192.168.0.1 is the ACTUAL IP address of your router. Most routers are set up to default to this*
- > *or 192.168.1.1. Check your router and use the proper default IP address!*
- >
- > * *Click on save and then exit out of midnight commander. Close the terminal. You are done!*
- >