

Re: Zip 100 parallel + Fedora [newbie warning]

Source: <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/comp.os.linux.hardware/2004-01/0326.html>

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Date: 01/09/04

Date: Fri, 09 Jan 2004 05:53:41 -0500

On Fri, 09 Jan 2004 10:04:50 +0000, Tom Cumming wrote:

> *Thanks everyone – clearly I am going to have to learn a lot more
> about Linux before attempting this! Never mind. :)*

It sounds far, far more complicated than it is. There are no 'drivers' in linux, instead you have 'modules'. Each module does one specific thing. So, in order to achieve what you want, you need to chain multiple modules.

The modules are not external but typically come pre-built with the kernel.

In your case, you need a module to talk to the drive hanging off the parallel port, and then you need a second module to tell the system how to talk to the first module. It makes sense to do it this way. The first module simply speaks the often proprietary language of the device, and translates to a universal language. The second module then takes that, and makes it look like the computer is talking to a hard drive.

Thus, all sorts of things look like hard drives – USB cameras, parport cdroms, etc. It makes things simple in the long run.

You can then mount the device like any other drive.

There is a huge learning curve at first – it seems like everything you get into requires you to learn ten other things first. But the beauty is that once you learn it, the process remains the same, only the names of the first module change.

So, when the time comes to mount your USB camera, you will use the exact same technique, just change the name of the modules..... No learning curve there anymore.

Far, far, far, FAR easier than the cacophony of windows, where you have to download a driver from a website, then wade through an installer, and if something breaks, you're screwed. (I know whereof I speak, my Windows installation 'destabilized' itself over the holidays. After 3 days of work, I've thrown up my hands and started over. Never had that happen with any linux.....)

-Kamus

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(_)\"(_) | Usenet posting`
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