

Re: MSI RS482M4-ILD (Radeon Xpress 200 chipset)

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Vladimir Florinski <vflorins@xxxxxxx> wrote:

That machine often gives some strange segfaults when trying to run KDE.
This happens both on the local console and when logging in with xdmcp.

It must be a KDE bug (and you shouldn't be using xdm anyway).

I have 30+ machines where KDE works without any problems at all. This is the only machine with those segfaults. My guess is that the driver, or rather the nvidia libraries are involved in the bug as that is the only thing that makes this machine differ from others.

I am aware that xdm logins send clear text passwords. However, this is on a secure net with trusted users and the network doesn't even have a connection to internet.

In my department, where I set hardware policies, use of opensource video drivers is strongly discouraged (with the exception of laptops, where Nvidia doesn't have a large presence).

Does this policy apply also to drivers for other peripherals like SCSI cards and network cards?

Opensource drivers are amateurish, of poor quality and performance, crash often, break on updates, and it's hard to get bugs fixed or receive help from developers.

If that is your experience it might explain your policy, but I have the opposite experience.

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Nvidia drivers are written by professionals, virtually never crash (and when there is a problem, it is easy to report to NVidia and the fix is usually available in the next update), and have excellent performance.

I agree that the drivers have very good performance. However, I find it much easier to report or even fix bugs myself in an opensource driver. With access to the driver source it is possible to add trace printouts to find out where t