

Re: Sony Vaio GRT Series.

Source: <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/comp.os.linux.networking/2003-09/1512.html>

From: Julian (bilbo_900_at_yahoo.com)

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I have almost the exact same laptop as you. I bought it about 3 weeks ago and I've been trying to get linux to work properly. From the sounds of it, I think we both might have different parts of the puzzle.

My main source of difficulty is getting the PCMCIA to work properly. It loads properly in the base kernel the come with rh9 but I can't get it to detect my wireless card (Orinoco Gold 802.11b). Its supposed to use the wavelan_cs driver but it doesn't seem to work. I originally thought it used the orinoco_cs driver but not according to the PROXIM site.

I fixed the usb and sound issues by going to a newer kernel. I've tried both the 2.4.21 and the 2.4.22 kernel. In both cases I was able to get the usb to work properly as well as the sound, but I have pcmcia problems. Since the CDROM somehow works through the same bus it stops working properly. I tried adding apic support to the kernel but that didn't help.

I'm pretty sure that if you upgrade your kernel, you'll fix the sound and USB. The question is how to fix the PCMCIA. Any info as to your successes/failures and your methods would be much appreciated. I'm determined to getting rh9 working on this laptop. I know it can be done, I'm just not sure how exactly.

Julian

Chris wrote:

> *I emailed the groups a little over a month ago. Here's the original*

> *link:*

>

>

> <http://groups.google.com/groups?hl=en&lr=&ie=UTF-8&threadm=89b6b185.0307020544.160d923a%40posting.g>

>

> *I wanted to give an update of what i've found (successes & failures)*

> *and see if anybody has any similar experiences on failures. When I*

> *get another free second I will post this information on*

> *linux-on-laptops.com.*

>

> *My main concern was that the integrated pci wireless lan would not be*

> a clean install & work correctly. I got it to work (i had to play
> around with this since i'd never done it before), it took me a couple
> tries and some research. I followed the following steps.
>
> Success: WLAN
>
> the mini-pci adapter is an intersil/harris prism2_pci. so i downloaded
> the wlan-ng sources. First time through I f*d it up. In the
> .Configure script I installed both the native and the other pci
> drivers. That was a no go, so i had to start over and second time
> through I just installed the native drivers. There are some other
> steps that I had to correct (like moving over the .config from the src
> tree) and other quickly fixable errors in compilation. I followed the
> readme, after i installed the sources i picked up at
>
> modprobe prism2_pci
> wlan-ctl commands in the readme document
>
> I do not have it setup to receive dhcp yet (manually hardcoding it
> works fine for me right now). I did not have to alter the /etc/wlan/
> scripts at all it picked up my ssid fine.
>
> Success: DUAL BOOT.
>
> Luckily my laptop had two partitions already from sony, and winxp was
> all on the first one, so i just whipped the second half during the
> linux install. I used Redhat 9, and I did not experience any problems
> during install.
>
> Success: DVD-R/CD-R.
>
> I have burnt a couple data CD's with out to much of a headache. Just
> drop a blank disk in the drive and a Burner window pops right up.
> Talking about awesome. Just like windows easy to use, but with a real
> os.
>
> Success: FIREWIRE
>
> It says it is working properly, I haven't had a need to test it yet.
>
> Success: DISPLAY
>
> x is running without a problem the display is 1400x1050 i believe, I
> am just using a generic laptop display. I couldn't find the specific
> lcd screen. This suits my needs. and the display is still brilliant
> on the 16in screen.
>
> Failure: SOUND
>
> This is pretty disappointing that this is not working, worst than that
> if it attempts to make a sound it locks the os & and i have to turn it

- > off. i'm thinking this is an IRQ problem but haven't been able to
- > trace it any further than that (and don't know what to look for). I
- > found 1 other article on the web where someone has a sony and is
- > experiencing the same problem however, they have not fixed it either?
- > so anybody have any ideas what to do? even playing the sound
- > detection locks up the box.
- >
- > *Failure: Battery Monitor*
- >
- > *I haven't had time to research this, but I do not see the power*
- > *battery monitor tool anywhere. On my Sony Vaio fx220 it was there*
- > *(redhat 7.2)? any ideas?*
- >
- > *Failure: USB*
- >
- > *On bootup I'm receiving a usb hci irq conflict error – I have no idea*
- > *what this is?? I can post a more exact error when I get in front of*
- > *the box, if someone would be interested in helping me resolve this?*
- >
- >
- > *Well I hope other people find my findings useful, and hopefully I will*
- > *be pointed in a resolvable direction for my outstanding failures.*
- >
- > *Thanks everyone,*
- >
- > *Chris*