

Introducing HighPoint's Auto-Compile Linux Open Source Driver Package

Although pre-compiled driver packages or open source release can meet the needs of most Linux based applications, these methods lack the benefits of traditional device driver support. When the Linux OS kernel is upgraded, the installed driver will no longer function – customers must either wait for a binary driver package to be released from the manufacturer, or go about creating their own custom driver by compiling available source material. For a serious project or mission-critical computing environment, waiting is not a viable option – days or weeks may pass before an official driver is available.

However, preparing one's own driver using a source package requires more than just basic user knowledge, and is a multi-stage process. First, the user must obtain the source package from the device's manufacturer. Next, the user must prepare the Linux environment for compilation – this may require additional downloads from the Linux community or distribution pages. Once the system is ready, they must then re-compile and manually load the new driver.

HighPoint understands the concerns customers have with both of these methods; our Auto-Compiling driver feature offers the best of both worlds. It simplifies installation and upgrade procedures while minimizing downtime of the server environment.

Hands-Free Driver Compilation

Once the initial Auto-Compile driver is installed, manual updates are a thing of the past. The Auto-Compile driver will maintain itself, and seamlessly manage downloads and updates without the need for user intervention.

Automatically updates the driver in the Background

The HighPoint driver will automatically check for updates anytime the system is rebooted – e.g., a system reboot following a kernel update. If an update is deemed necessary, the driver will automatically link to our online database and download the appropriate release, then initiate the Auto-Compile feature and rebuild itself to support the new kernel.

Maintains your bootable volumes

Like a binary driver, the Auto-Compile package automatically configures the kernel to load the Linux driver on boot. If the system reboots into a kernel not supported by the existing driver, the Auto-Compile feature will instead boot the system to a previous stable kernel, download the required update, recompile, then boot into the new kernel.