

Re: SATA software RAID-inkernel vs hardware

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To: FreeBSD-ISP <freebsd-isp@freebsd.org>

Marcin Jessa wrote:

- > *Hi guys.*
- >
- > *I need to set up a server with two RAID1 SATA drives to do mirroring.*
- > *I was wondering if there was any point in using software RAID*
- > *controllers like FastTrak S150 TX4.*
- > *I've found some info available for Linux and people say kernel raid is*
- > *as good as any BIOS raid. Would that be true for FreeBSD as well?*
- > *Also using a PCI card for the disc drives in place of the built in SATA*
- > *interface may degrade performance, since the built in SATA is probably*
- > *on a different PCI bus to plug in cards.*

AFAIK built-in RAIDs on cheap mainboard are on the same bus, as plug in PCI cards sharing same IRQ. Some manufacturers are explaining this in manuals.

Few months ago I was testing built-in SATA RAID on older ASUS board (with Silicon Image onboard SATA RAID). BIOS RAID was unstable and I was not able to found why. Then I setup gmirror which was OK.

But all was just home testing, never used in production.

- > *So what would you guys suggest? Keep the card or go for inkernel*
- > *implementation?*
- >
- > *Marcin.*

So my suggest is real HW RAID card (if you have money), or gmirror, but not onboard "pseudo raids".

Miroslav Lachman

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