

Re: Cheap HVD SCSI cards for Suns ??

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Hello,

this was sent before directly to David, but of might be of interest.

The generic cards based on the chips 53C875 (single-channel) or 53C876 (dual-channel) should work. The support for the 53C875 and 53C876 is contained in the OBP of PCI based Sun systems, so you can even boot from the attached devices.

The same chips are used for single-ended and differential (HVD) SCSI, but the circuits behind these chip differ of cause.

The ability to boot from the card might not be required at all. It really depends on the devices you want to attach.

A Sun Autoloader L9 should work (very unlikely that you boot from tape), even a Sun A1000/D1000 might work without problems.

Sun offers one card based on the 53C875. That's the SYM8751SPE, which is a single-channel Ultra-Wide SCSI controller. The external port is 68-pin high-density (same connector as most systems like U1E, U2, U30, F280R use).

The other two cards are dual-channel, the SYM22801 and the SYM22802 that utilize the 53C876. The first one is SE (single-ended) Ultra-Wide SCSI. The second card is HVD (High Voltage Differential) SCSI. Both card have two external port which are VHDCI (smaller than the 68p-HD). The cable are not so common, while the ones with 68-p HD are even available at a local PC store.

Frederik:

If you don't care, which Tekram cards work in your Sun ? Devices attached to my DC-390F are only displayed at the OBP level, but not at the OS level (even after reconfiguration boot or devfsadm).

One last note. Cards based on the 53C895 require special firmware, they are not directly supported at the OS level.

Regards
Michael