

Dual rack mount ALIX 2



Quick Start Guide

Thank you for purchasing a dual rack mount ALIX 2 server.

Your package should contain:

- IRU rack mount server case
- Cover plate and hex screws for empty board slots
- Rack mounting screw set

Optional Extras

- 1 or 2 x slide rail kits to suit the ALIX 2-2 or ALIX 2-3 boards
 - 4 x wide and 2 x narrow aluminium strips, 1 locator strip, 4 x nylon spacers, 4 x M3 x12 screws, punched cover plate, 2 x hex screws, hex key, 2 x optional thumb screws
- 1 or 2 x ALIX 2-2 or ALIX 2-3 boards

Please read the following instructions to begin using your dual rack mount ALIX 2.

Things you will need

Tools

- Anti-static wrist strap
- 2mm hex key (supplied)
- Phillips head screwdriver
- Compact Flash card reader (optional)
- Null modem cable (optional)

Materials

If you don't have them already, you'll need:

- 1 or 2 x ALIX 2-2 or ALIX 2-3 boards
- Compact Flash Card (1 per board)
- miniPCI cards (optional) e.g. wireless adapter, VPN accelerator
- Power supply (1 per board)
- Operating system image

Instructions

Safety Note

The ALIX boards, like all electronic equipment, are sensitive to damage from static discharge. To avoid damage caused by static discharge, we strongly recommend that you use an anti-static wrist strap when handling the boards.

Step 1 Install the boards into the rack mount case (optional)

If your boards are not installed in the rack mount case, you may need to do the following:

1. Remove the five (5) screws from the top of the case and remove the top of the case.
2. Place the nylon spacers over the four standoffs in the base of the case.
3. Sandwich one (1) of the narrower aluminium strips between two (2) of the wider aluminium strips, ensuring that the holes are aligned.
4. For the set of strips that goes on the right hand side, place the locator strip on the top, with the bent end at the rear, pointing downwards.
5. Insert one M3 x12 screw through each set of holes in the assembled aluminium strips.
6. Place the screws into the standoffs, through the nylon spacer, ensuring that the channel created by the strips is toward the centre of the board slot, and tighten the screws.
7. Repeat for the other side.
8. Replace the top of the case and tighten the screws.
9. Remove the serial port screws from the board.
10. Locate the cover plate on the front of the board, ensuring it is the right way around (power hole closer to the bottom).
11. Reinsert the serial port screws loosely, to hold the cover plate onto the board.
12. Holding the cover plate by the top and bottom, slot the edges of the ALIX board into the channels in the slide rails.
13. [First time installation only] Loosen the right hand slide rail screws to allow the locator strip to slide back and forth.
14. [internal PSU only] Connect power plug to header on front right corner of board.
15. Slide the board into the case, ensuring that the cover plate sits flush against the case front.
16. Insert and tighten the cover plate screws.

Note: For easy access to the board, we recommend using the optional thumb screws. For infrequent access to the board, the hex screws provide a more secure option.

17. [First time installation only] Push on the rear of the locator strip with one hand while pushing on the right-hand end of the cover plate with the other hand so that the right-hand front edge of the ALIX board is hard up against the cover plate. While holding this pressure with one hand, tighten the slide rail screws to lock the locator strip in place. You should still be able to insert and remove the board by sliding, but the ports should not move when pushed. Replace the top of the case and tighten the screws.

Note: If the board seems tight, you can adjust the thickness of the centre (narrow) slide rail strip by disassembling the rails, attaching a piece of adhesive tape to the underside of the narrow rail and re-assembling the rails.

18. Tighten the serial port screws.

Step 2 Slide the board out from the case

To install the Compact Flash (CF) and/or miniPCI cards into the boards in the rack mount ALIX 2, you will need to slide the board out of the front of the case:

1. Disconnect power and all cables.

Note: The CF socket on this machine is not hot-swappable.

2. Using a hex key, remove the two hex head screws from the cover plate on the front of the case. If you are using the optional thumb screws, remove them by hand.
3. Holding the cover plate by the top and bottom, slide the board out of the case.

Note: You can insert a network cable into an ethernet port and use it as a handle instead.

Step 3 Configure and install a Compact Flash card

To use your rack mount ALIX 2, you will need to have a CF card with a suitable operating system installed in the CF socket on the board.

If your CF card does not already have an operating system installed, you can either mount the CF card in another machine (e.g. via a flash card reader or a CF to IDE adapter) and copy a boot image onto it, or network boot the board. The ALIX boards support many operating systems including BSD, Linux and a number of proprietary O/S's

Installation

Insert the CF card into the socket, label up. Ensure the CF card is fully engaged in the socket. The card should not extend past the edge of the board.

Removal

To remove the CF card from the board, grasp the CF card firmly between thumb and index finger and pull straight out, taking care not to lift or twist the card as this may damage the connector pins.

Step 4 Install the miniPCI card(s) (optional)

Insert your miniPCI card into the miniPCI slot at an angle of about 45° to the board. If you are installing a radio card, attach the u.fl end of the pigtailed connectors to the connectors on the wireless card. Ensure that the card is firmly seated in the slot and then lay it onto the board, pressing down until the locking tabs on either side of the card click into place.

Step 5 Slide the board back into the case

Before you can begin using your ALIX 2, you will need to slide the board back into the case.

1. Ensuring that the edges of the ALIX board are properly engaged in the slide rails, slide the board back into the case.
2. Replace the cover plate screws and tighten.

Note: For easy access to the board, we recommend using the optional thumb screws. For infrequent access to the board, the hex screws provide a more secure option.

Step 6 Connect to the serial console (optional)

If you want to configure your operating system via the console, you will need to connect to the serial port via a null modem cable.

Terminal emulator settings

ALIX board: 38400 baud, 8 bits, no parity, 1 stop bit, no flow control.

Step 7 Apply power

External PSU

Plug the power supply into the DC jack on the rack mount ALIX 2.

Internal PSU

Connect IEC cable to socket at rear of case and turn switch to on.

The board will go through its boot up cycle, which you can watch if you are connected to the serial console.

Your rack mount ALIX 2 is ready to use!

More information

For more detailed instructions on using your rack mount ALIX 2, please visit our website at www.yawarra.com.au and download the manufacturer's user guides for the boards.

Contact us

Please feel free to contact us if you have any queries regarding your rack mount ALIX 2.

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