

HowTo

▫ How to configure network

LivEPICS uses DHCP to autoconfigure your network card's IP address, route tables and nameservers. If you are on the network with DHCP server then you shouldn't have any problem. Just boot LivEPICS and everything will work.

The only exception is proxy. If your ISP offers a proxy for web browsing, you will need to configure it manually, because it's not a part of DHCP response. Just start KDE and click the icon for Control center. Choose Internet & Networking menu and then Proxy. Click "manual proxy configuration" or something similar.

It could happen that you don't have any DHCP server. In this case, you have to configure your network manually, by using the following commands:

```
ifconfig eth0 123.123.123.123 netmask 255.255.255.0
route add default gateway 123.123.123.1
echo "nameserver 123.123.123.10" >> /etc/resolv.conf
```

Of course, you have to know your correct IP address, netmask, default gateway and nameserver, else you won't be able to make any connection to the Internet.

It's also possible to setup a Modem connection, just run kppp in KDE, it will start a wizard. The only one thing you should know is that your modem device is /dev/ttyS0 or /dev/tts/0 (both for COM1), or /dev/ttyS1 or /dev/tts/1 (for COM2), etc.

If you are using ADSL then you could try adsl-setup and adsl-start program. If you are using wireless connection, try iwconfig.

If nothing works for you, then you will need some special configuration (which I don't know, of course), or your hardware is not supported in Linux Kernel (there is not any module [driver] for Linux). In this case, just wait few weeks/months/years, or write your own driver for it :)

▫ How to save files on the floppy

Mount it manually, do the following:

```
mkdir -p /mnt/floppy # for the case the directory doesn't exist yet
mount /dev/floppy/0 /mnt/floppy
```

Everything you write to /mnt/floppy will be written to the floppy

Before ejecting the floppy, be sure to either unmount it by the command `umount /mnt/floppy` or simply reboot the computer. You must do one of this to unmount the floppy properly and save all cached data to it.

If you wish to replace your floppy by another one then just unmount the first one (`umount /mnt/floppy`), then eject the disc and insert another one, then do `mount /dev/floppy/0 /mnt/floppy`

All the commands I wrote have to be executed at the command line, or in terminal emulator (konsole, xterm, etc), or by using K-menu/Run command.

▫ **How to save/restore settings**

To save your settings, run "configsave" command with one argument - the storage location. So type for example configsave /mnt/sda1/LivEPICSconf.mo to save your configs in USB flash drive into LivEPICSconf.mo file. It will save all changed files from /root, /etc, /home and /var directories. Note that that network settings (assigned IP address, etc) won't be saved because they are not kept in any file.

To restore your previously saved backup, use "configrestore" command. You can also save settings to the root directory of your existing disk partition (for example to /mnt/hda1/LivEPICSconf.mo).

▫ **How to avoid hardware problems/hangups**

Sometimes it could happen that your computer just hangs during the startup or very soon after it. The most important is to read the last message on the screen and try to guess what kind of hardware-probing is causing problems.

Then you can use 'nopcmcia', 'noapm', 'nouseb', 'nohotplug' or 'acpi=off' boot parameters to avoid probing for specified hardware. The 'nohotplug' parameter is the most powerful one, almost all hardware probing will be disabled. You will need to load all modules [drivers] manually by using modprobe command.

▫ **What if Xwindow doesn't work as expected?**

LivEPICS starts in textmode as default, but does contain graphical Xwindow system. You can start it by using the following command after logging as root or guest:

```
startx
```

Xwindow with KDE or XFce will be started by using VESA driver for your graphics card, the higher available screen resolution will be 1024x768 at the maximum refresh rate of 75Hz. This is very safe option and should work on almost all computers. Nevertheless you may try to probe your hardware and find better (accelerated) driver by using

```
xconf # to reconfigure graphics driver automatically  
startx # to start xwindow after xconf
```

It can sometimes happen that xconf command configures LivEPICS to use higher screen resolution or refresh rate than the maximum one usable for your monitor. This usually causes a black screen after startx. At this moment try to hit Ctrl+Alt+Plus several times (Plus is at numeric keyboard). It will change screen resolution to some smaller value.