

# HPSA - Hewlett Packard Smart Array driver

This file describes the hpsa SCSI driver for HP Smart Array controllers. The hpsa driver is intended to supplant the cciss driver for newer Smart Array controllers. The hpsa driver is a SCSI driver, while the cciss driver is a "block" driver. Actually cciss is both a block driver (for logical drives) AND a SCSI driver (for tape drives). This "split-brained" design of the cciss driver is a source of excess complexity and eliminating that complexity is one of the reasons for hpsa to exist.

## Supported devices

- Smart Array P212
- Smart Array P410
- Smart Array P410i
- Smart Array P411
- Smart Array P812
- Smart Array P712m
- Smart Array P711m
- StorageWorks P1210m

Additionally, older Smart Arrays may work with the hpsa driver if the kernel boot parameter "hpsa\_allow\_any=1" is specified, however these are not tested nor supported by HP with this driver. For older Smart Arrays, the cciss driver should still be used.

The "hpsa\_simple\_mode=1" boot parameter may be used to prevent the driver from putting the controller into "performant" mode. The difference is that with simple mode, each command completion requires an interrupt, while with "performant mode" (the default, and ordinarily better performing) it is possible to have multiple command completions indicated by a single interrupt.

## HPSA specific entries in /sys

In addition to the generic SCSI attributes available in /sys, hpsa supports the following attributes:

## HPSA specific host attributes

```
/sys/class/scsi_host/host*/rescan
/sys/class/scsi_host/host*/firmware_revision
/sys/class/scsi_host/host*/resettable
/sys/class/scsi_host/host*/transport_mode
```

the host "rescan" attribute is a write only attribute. Writing to this attribute will cause the driver to scan for new, changed, or removed devices (e.g. hot-plugged tape drives, or newly configured or deleted logical drives, etc.) and notify the SCSI midlayer of any changes detected. Normally this is triggered automatically by HP's Array Configuration Utility (either the GUI or command line variety) so for logical drive changes, the user should not normally have to use this. It may be useful when hot plugging devices like tape drives, or entire storage boxes containing pre-configured logical drives.

The "firmware\_revision" attribute contains the firmware version of the Smart Array. For example:

```
root@host:/sys/class/scsi_host/host4# cat firmware_revision
7.14
```

The transport\_mode indicates whether the controller is in "performant" or "simple" mode. This is controlled by the "hpsa\_simple\_mode" module parameter.

The "resettable" read-only attribute indicates whether a particular controller is able to honor the "reset\_devices" kernel parameter. If the device is resettable, this file will contain a "1", otherwise, a "0". This parameter is used by kdump, for example, to reset the controller at driver load time to eliminate any outstanding commands on the controller and get the controller into a known state so that the kdump initiated i/o will work right and not be disrupted in any way by stale commands or other stale state remaining on the controller from the previous kernel. This attribute enables kexec tools to warn the user if they attempt to designate a device which is unable to honor the reset\_devices kernel parameter as a dump device.

## HPSA specific disk attributes

```
/sys/class/scsi_disk/c:b:t:l/device/unique_id
/sys/class/scsi_disk/c:b:t:l/device/raid_level
/sys/class/scsi_disk/c:b:t:l/device/lunid
```

(where c:b:t:l are the controller, bus, target and lun of the device)

For example:

```
root@host:/sys/class/scsi_disk/4:0:0:0/device# cat unique_id
```

```
600508B1001044395355323037570F77
root@host:/sys/class/scsi_disk/4:0:0:0/device# cat lunid
0x0000004000000000
root@host:/sys/class/scsi_disk/4:0:0:0/device# cat raid_level
RAID 0
```

## HPSA specific ioctls

For compatibility with applications written for the cciss driver, many, but not all of the ioctls supported by the cciss driver are also supported by the hpsa driver. The data structures used by these are described in `include/linux/cciss_ioctl.h`

`CCISS_DEREGDISK`, `CCISS_REGNEWDISK`, `CCISS_REGNEWD`

The above three ioctls all do exactly the same thing, which is to cause the driver to rescan for new devices. This does exactly the same thing as writing to the hpsa specific host "rescan" attribute.

`CCISS_GETPCIINFO`

Returns PCI domain, bus, device and function and "board ID" (PCI subsystem ID).

`CCISS_GETDRIVER`

Returns driver version in three bytes encoded as:

```
(major_version << 16) | (minor_version << 8) | (subminor_version)
```

`CCISS_PASSTHRU`, `CCISS_BIG_PASSTHRU`

Allows "BMIC" and "CISS" commands to be passed through to the Smart Array. These are used extensively by the HP Array Configuration Utility, SNMP storage agents, etc. See `cciss_vol_status` at <http://cciss.sf.net> for some examples.