

WLAN on Amilo M 7400

Note: This manual is only for people who know what they are doing! I can not take any responsibility if it is really easy. Also for episodes, which look from the guidance I can take over no responsibility. Such a converted laptop should not be turned on in the plane.

How can you get the WLAN card running in Linux in the Amilo 7400 from Fujitsu Siemens

? The Wlankarte in the Amilo M is an Intel card, which is assigned to the Centrino chipset. Linuxant now has a driverloader that makes it possible to use this type of card under Linux.

Unfortunately, the manufacturer has built another hurdle, namely the ability to disable the card via hotkey. However, this possibility is completely undocumented, and also unknown to the service of Siemens. Therefore, I was looking for a way to use the card anyway.

In principle, you can even replace the card completely so that native Linux support is possible. But I could not find a suitable Mini PCI card, which is available under reasonable conditions.

After some searching I found some documentation of other cards that offered the possibility to switch off the RF part by external signal.

Coincidentally, the state of the pin is "active" when it is not connected. Thus, one can simply activate the RF part by isolating the pin. The easiest way to do this is with a tiny strip of Tesafilm cut to size and glued onto pin 13 of the module. Since the pins are counted on both sides, pin 13 on the observers side comes in 7th position. See [picture](#)

Actually superfluous to mention that lost by this intervention the **Gewähleistung** .

Of course, you can now turn off the map on Windows with the push of a button. Under Linux you can do it by shutting down the interface and then unloading the driverloader module (Suse 9.0):

switch off:

```
/etc/init.d/newtork stop
```

Turn

on

```
rmmod driverloader : modprobe driverloader
```

```
/etc/init.d/network start
```



The cover containing the switch is raised. The thing rests quite strong, so that gentle force must be used.



The bar can now be raised. Be careful with the cables, there are still the speakers and the turn on switch, and they are not very long. The cable to the switch is very thin.



Inside view of the laptop. In the middle the wlan map. I have freed her from all her stickers for the investigation.



The wireless card can now be removed by pushing the two side handles. The card is taken out like a RAM tie. The antenna cables do not need to be disconnected, they are long enough.



The glue I have on it is a bit too big (was a test). It only needs the right of the two taped pads to be covered. Click on picture shows details.



After reverse mounting the result: WLAN lamp burns under Linux!