



Rocky Linux from CIQ (RLC) is a commercially-backed Enterprise Linux distribution for organizations that need improved security, performance, guaranteed updates, validated access, support, and indemnification... all at a reasonable cost.

Rocky Linux, adopted by millions, delivered by CIQ

Since its inception in 2021, open source Rocky Linux has become the trusted option for organizations seeking a rock-solid, modern Enterprise Linux distribution. It is installed on millions of servers and is powering everything from mission critical apps to emerging AI startups. According to metrics tracked by the Extra Packages for Enterprise Linux (EPEL) Special Interest Group, Rocky Linux dominates the Enterprise Linux market, capturing more than 40% of all EPEL downloads despite launching just over four years ago.

CIQ is the founding services and support sponsor of the open source Rocky Linux project, and with Rocky Linux from CIQ, we start with the open source distribution and extend it with secure delivery, reliability, and support so that you have the assurances you need for production workloads. We rebuild it from the ground up so we can speed delivery of fixes and ensure critical updates are securely deployed to your environments.

By packaging open source Rocky Linux, we pass along the value of the broadly adopted project.



Proven lineage

Rocky Linux inherits the rigorous testing and stability of enterprise Linux, which ensures compatibility with enterprise software and tools expecting a standard environment.



Multi-architecture support

RLC runs on x86_64 and ARM64 architectures. This gives organizations the flexibility to deploy on environments from legacy servers to cloud ARM instances without OS changes.



Open governance

The governance structure of the Rocky Linux community ensures the direction of the project is transparent and open, ensuring long-term stability for users.

CIQ engineering is deeply involved in the open source Rocky Linux project. From development to delivery, we are committed to the long-term success of this important open source project. It's in our DNA.

“RLC represents everything we need from a Linux distribution. It ensures our systems are always up to date and that CIQ is always there to help us.”

Healthcare Provider

Deploy production-ready Rocky Linux from CIQ with native NVIDIA CUDA support for stable, reliable GPU acceleration

CIQ is the leading Enterprise Linux provider licensed to redistribute and repackage the complete NVIDIA CUDA Toolkit within its commercial offerings. This partnership transforms how organizations can access and operationalize GPU acceleration, delivering ready-to-run environments that dramatically reduce complexity, risk, and time-to-value for AI, machine learning, and HPC workloads.



Immediate GPU acceleration without configuration overhead

- Eliminates deployment risks and cuts time-to-production from weeks to minutes
- Provides fully tested, validated, and optimized CUDA-enabled stack available immediately
- Removes the need for manual installations or custom integrations that traditionally create deployment delays and misconfiguration risks

Professional validation and support

- All CUDA-enabled Rocky Linux images are professionally validated and tested
- Available through CIQ repositories and major cloud marketplaces
- Ensures consistency, portability, and compliance across the entire GPU-enabled development lifecycle

Maximum performance from day one

- Unlock the full performance of NVIDIA hardware from development to production
- Ideal for training large language models, running inference pipelines, or executing advanced scientific simulations
- GPU infrastructure represents a significant investment. RLC + NVIDIA CUDA ensures you realize that value immediately

“This integration dramatically simplifies deployment, accelerates customer onboarding, and ensures optimal performance on NVIDIA GPU-enabled infrastructure. We view this collaboration as a key enabler for our joint users and welcome continued alignment with CIQ and NVIDIA to deliver a seamless, high-performance experience.”

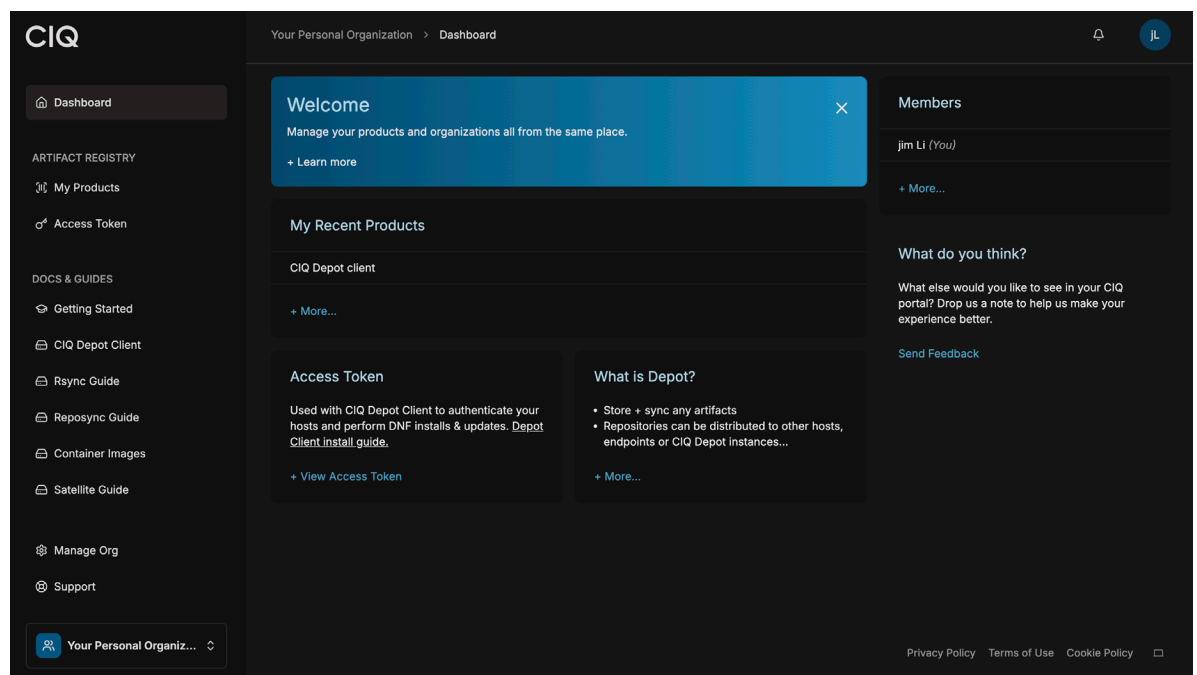
Wim Slagter, Sr. Director Partner Programs at Ansys

RLC: Ubiquitous, validated and reliably delivered

RLC is available directly from CIQ and is provided via secure, validated software supply chain. All installers, RPMs, binaries, and metadata are cryptographically signed and verified prior to distribution through CIQ-managed repositories. These repos are geo-replicated, monitored, and hosted in hardened data centers to ensure high availability and integrity. As a result, every RPM or ISO image obtained via CIQ is integrity-verified and cryptographically validated, ensuring authenticity and correctness.

CIQ Portal: a management console for your Linux environments

CIQ streamlines the management of subscriptions and downloads across an organization through the CIQ Portal. It serves as a central resource to access rpms, ISO installers, cloud images, container based images, CUDA-enabled images, and repository access tokens for your account. With Portal, you'll no longer need to search across multiple websites or use personal accounts to download installation media.



RLC: Up-to-date and secure

Keeping systems patched is essential in enterprise environments. RLC delivers validated security updates (when necessary) with a commercially backed SLO (within ~30 days of release) to ensure that even if the upstream community is delayed or if they decide not to fix a critical security issue, CIQ will ensure you are compliant and up to date.

RLC: Supported and indemnified

CIQ offers direct support from many of the same engineers who build and maintain Rocky Linux. Support plans include options for standard business hours or 24x7 coverage. Regardless of the plan, critical issues are prioritized for fast response to minimize downtime and risk.

RLC also comes with protection and indemnification guarantees that mitigate your risk and liability in the case of legal issues. CIQ is accountable and delivers the coverage to keep your legal and compliance teams satisfied.

What are the differences between Rocky Linux and RLC?

There are a few items the open source Rocky Linux community does not focus on and CIQ is here to ensure those requirements are met. The differences are outlined below:

Feature	Rocky Linux Community	Rocky Linux from CIQ
PACKAGING		
Major releases	✓	✓
Package validations	✓	✓
DELIVERY		
Public repos	✓	-
Account management	-	✓
Customer dedicated repos	-	✓
Secure access	-	✓
Artifacts validation	-	✓
Cloud availability	✓	✓
Cloud mirrors	-	✓
GPU ACCELERATION		
NVIDIA CUDA Toolkit	-	✓
Validated CUDA images	-	✓
Professional GPU support	-	✓
SECURITY		
CVE remediation	✓	✓
Secure boot for x86	✓	✓
Secure boot for ARM	-	✓
Update SLO and guarantees	-	✓
SUPPORT		
Bug fixes	-	Add-on
24/7/365	-	Add-on
Advanced SLAs	-	Add-on
COSTS/LEGAL		
Cost	\$0	Per node
Risk mitigation	-	✓
Indemnification	-	✓

RLC: Right image, all environments, right cost

Rocky Linux from CIQ offers a simple, low-cost site license, and we'll only track how much data has been downloaded, so you are free to use RLC on as many nodes as you like without audit. You can use a consistent Enterprise Linux distribution in ALL your environments and know that we've got your back in production. This model eliminates compliance audits and reduces administrative overhead and risk of unexpected costs.

RLC: Optimized for your application requirements

Many workloads have explicit requirements. With RLC, we also offer versions of Rocky Linux tailored to specific needs, while still providing the core benefits of RLC.

RLC | Hardened

RLC-Hardened is a security-focused version of RLC that includes features and configurations for environments with strict security requirements. It minimizes zero-day attacks and accelerates risk mitigation so you can stay ahead of updates and reduce exposure. It also suits environments with compliance requirements such as FIPS, DISA STIG, PCI DSS, or HIPAA.


RLC | AI

RLC-AI allows you to keep pace with increasing pressure to scale deployments, optimize costs, address growing security concerns, and adapt to a relentless pace of AI innovation. It includes a kernel optimized for AI, leading edge user space enhancements, current drivers and key performance improvements. Now enhanced with native NVIDIA CUDA Toolkit integration for maximum GPU performance.

Get RLC now

RLC gives you the reliability of a stable, supported Enterprise Linux distribution with the flexibility of open source. It's designed for organizations that need a consistent Linux platform they can customize, deploy at scale, and keep secure over time. With native NVIDIA CUDA support, you can accelerate AI and HPC workloads without the complexity and risk of manual GPU software deployment.


If you need more information, please reach out to us to schedule a demo or consult with our experts to talk about deployment options.

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