Summary Description: Trying An Internet Radio Server

Tags: software; Linux Ubuntu; Icecast

Why I did this: On a previous test, I had repurposed my old PC into something new (and hopefully useful); I could only manage to get Ubuntu installed which seem to make the system run relatively well (but not fast). I wanted to extend the repurposing of the PC, and build some experience with Linux servers by trying to make an internet radio server on the PC. I heard about Icecast, a free internet server system, so decided to install it and use free Mixx DJ software to broadcast music (I could also just copy songs to a folder readable by Icecast but I just chose this route).

(pic of solar system)

Design Walkthrough:

Parts: Old PC, Linux Ubuntu, Icecast radio server, Mixx dj software, Cloudflare

Lessons Learned and Future Changes:

Everything seemed work but my old PC is way too slow for basic tasks. The radio server setup well and was able to broadcast songs, but because of the slow PC, it was choppy playing (like even on the PC itself, not the broadcasting being choppy); I think I might need to recycle this computer as its uses are realizing to be none. I used Cloudflare to tunnel the internet connection, so I didn’t have to expose address/ports; so, I was able to hear the broadcast from my phone outside my local network.

This trial was just another test to play with servers and repurposing computers, so I don’t know if id ever practically use this again, it might be easier to find some online free server to hold my tracks, though if I ever wanted to do any live dj-ing, I could use this.

References:

Kurt Edelbrock’s Icecast on Linux tutorial: <https://www.linux.com/news/broadcast-your-music-icecast/>

Vultr’s Icecast on Ubuntu tutorial: <https://docs.vultr.com/install-icecast-on-ubuntu-20-04>

Mixx DJ software: <https://mixxx.org/>

Icecast internet broadcasting software: <https://icecast.org/>