How to rebuild kernel to support PS/2 controller

By default, the PS/2 TouchKit controller connected with PS/2 auxiliary port always be directed to be as a standard PS/2 mouse device under Linux kernel 2.6.x or later. It can not be used as a char device for other devices such as touchscreen like kernel 2.4.x does. To make it possible to work with PS/2 touchscreen, it needs to rebuild the kernel for kernel later than 2.6.

Note: Some kernel version later than 2.6.15 (such as Ubuntu 6.06 or Fedora Core 6) already include the compiled kernel module "serio_raw". The user can enter "Ismod | grep serio_raw" to check in a terminal window if this kernel module exist and be loaded or not. If this kernel module was loaded already, it does not need to rebuild kernel. Otherwise, rebuild kernel is required. User must append the following description into the file "rc.local" (It is renamed boot.local under SuSE Linux series) in order to support PS2 auxiliary port as a char device like kernel 2.4.x does. This file can be found in the /etc/rc.d.

```
## SERIO_RAW section begin ##
echo -n "serio_raw" > /sys/bus/serio/devices/serioX/drvctl
## SERIO_RAW section end ##
```

It needs user to check with serio port was for PS2 auxiliary port to assign correct above serioX value. If it is on serio0, the above setting should be

echo -n "serio_raw" > /sys/bus/serio/devices/serio0/drvctl

The user can use "cat /sys/bus/serio/devices/serio/description" to check in a terminal window. By default, the PS2 auxiliary port is assigned to serio/0 under Ubuntu 6.06 and Fedora Core 6 Linux.

After reboot, the PS2 auxiliary port can be used as a char device like kernel 2.4.x does. For touchscreen application, the user still needs to install the TouchKit driver to make sure touchscreen work.

Please follow below steps to rebuild new kernel image to make it work with PS/2 TouchKit touchscreen. Below sample is based on the kernel source 2.6.9-1.667 for Fedora Core 3 Linux.

Warning: Improper setting may cause bad performance of customized kernel.

1. Make sure the kernel-source package is installed before you want to rebuild Linux kernel image. In addition, the kernel-source version must be the same as your running kernel.

The user can use "uname -r" instruction command to check the current kernel version and enter "rpm -q kernel-source" to check the kernel-source version in a terminal window.

2. Open a terminal window and change working directory to /usr/src/linux shown as Figure 1. **Note:** *The root permission is required to rebuild kernel.*

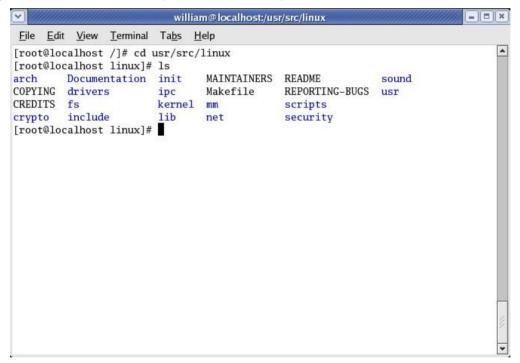


Figure 1: kernel-source directory

3. Execute "make mrproper" to remove old compilation files. Then, execute "make menuconfig" to configure the target Linux kernel configuration shown as Figure 2.

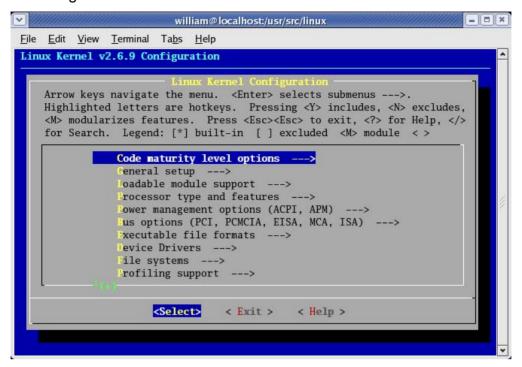


Figure 2: Target Linux kernel configuration

4. Enter submenu to [Device Drivers -> Input device support] shown as Figure 3.

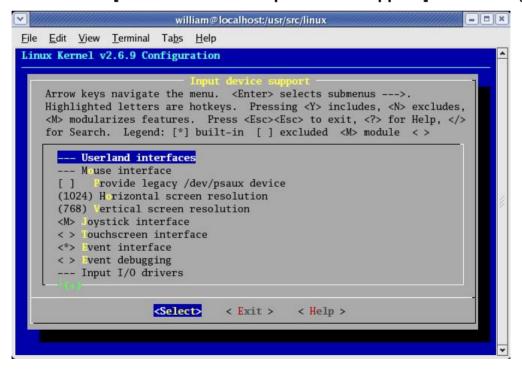


Figure 3: Input device support page

5. Uncheck [Provide legacy /dev/psaux device] option shown as Figure 4.

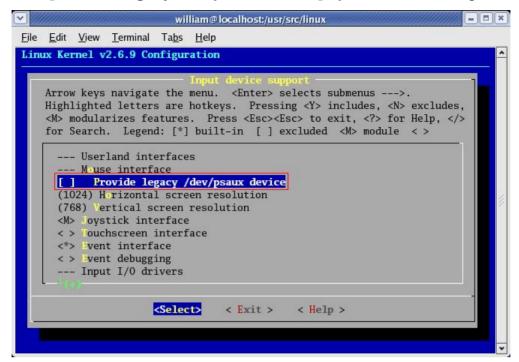


Figure 4: To uncheck [Provide legacy /dev/psaux device] option.

6. Select <*> for the option [Raw access to serio ports] shown as Figure 5.

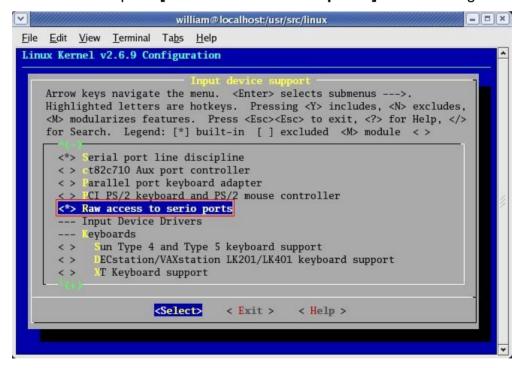


Figure 5: To select <*> for the option [Raw access to serio ports].

7. Quit the Linux kernel configuration and save new kernel configuration shown as Figure 6.

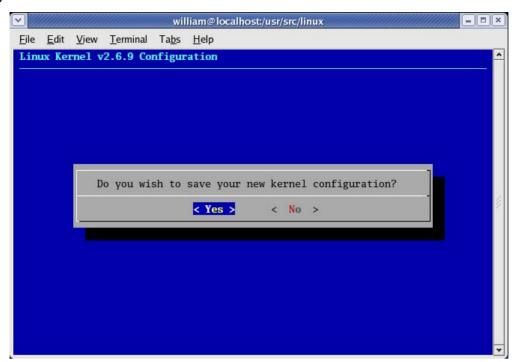


Figure 6: To save new kernel configuration.

8. Execute "make clean" to delete old .o compilation files first. Then, execute "make bzlmage" to build new target kernel shown as Figure 7.

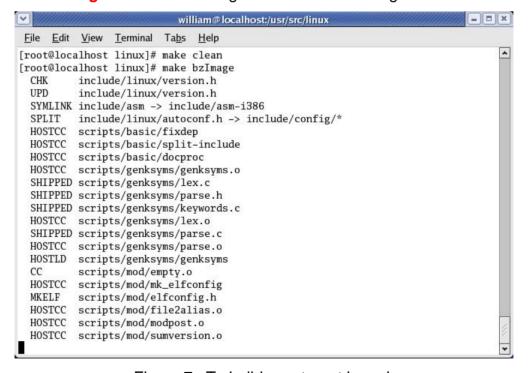


Figure 7: To build new target kernel.

9. Execute "make modules" to build new modules shown as Figure 8.



Figure 8: To build new modules.

10. Execute "make modules_install" to install new modules into target directory "/lib/modules/[kernel version]" shown as Figure 9.

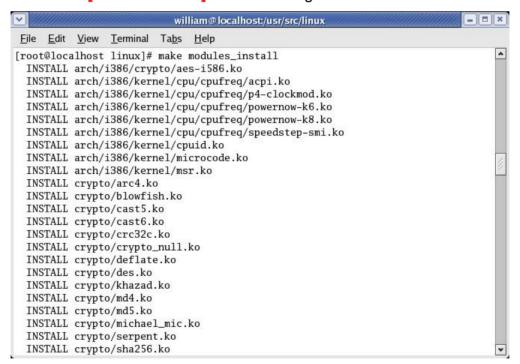


Figure 9: To install new modules.

11. Execute "make install" to install new kernel into target directory "/boot" and modify grub boot menu automatically. This grub boot menu is called "menu.lst" and can be found in /boot/grub. See Figure 11 below.

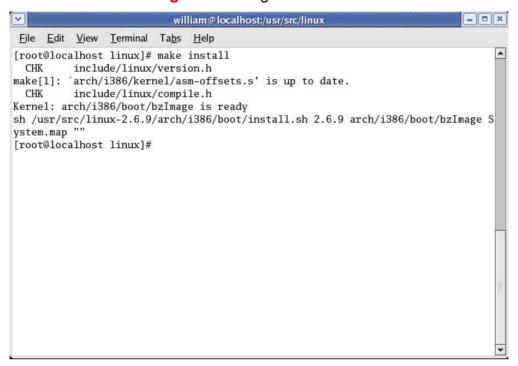


Figure 10: To Install new kernel and modify grub boot menu.

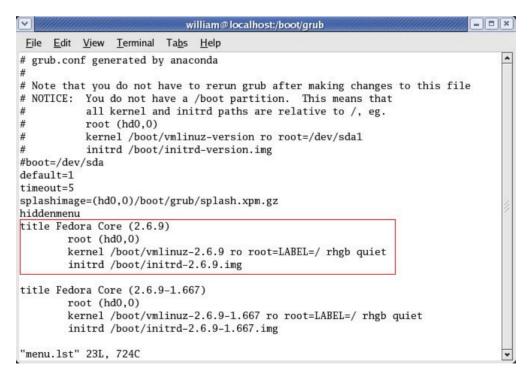


Figure 11: The content of menu.lst file

Note: Please double check every option of the Linux kernel configuration according to error message if the compilation failed.

12. Modify the file of rc.local (It is renamed boot.local under SuSE Linux series.) to append below setting for PS/2 device. This file can be found in /etc/rc.d.

Append the following description in this file.

```
## SERIO_RAW section begin ##
    echo -n "serio_raw" > /sys/bus/serio/devices/serioX/driver
## SERIO_RAW section end ##
```

Note: It needs user to check with serio port was for PS2 auxiliary port to assign correct above serioX value. If it is on serio0, the above setting should be

echo -n "serio_raw" > /sys/bus/serio/devices/serio0/driver

The user can use "cat /sys/bus/serio/devices/serio/description" to check in a terminal window. By default, the PS2 auxiliary port is assigned to serio/0 under Fedora Core 3 Linux.

13. Restart your system to validate the new kernel to support PS/2 touchscreen. After reboot to new kernel, the PS2 auxiliary port can be used as a char device like kernel 2.4 does. For touchscreen application, the user still needs to install the TouchKit driver to make sure touchscreen work.