

What is special on the AoE driver for...



[Gert Huisman](#) 1 posts since

Sep 30, 2008

Why do we need a special driver for VMWare ESX? If I remember correctly VMWare ESX is build on a Linux kernel. The AoE driver is part of the standard linux kernel for some time now. Dit VMWare disable the AoE driver or are they build on older kernels?

Gert



[Roger Klorese](#) 1 posts since

Sep 20, 2007 1. Re: **What is special on the AoE driver for VMWare ESX** Sep 30, 2008 10:47 AM

ESX is **NOT** built on a Linux kernel. It is its own purpose-built proprietary kernel.

It uses a Linux kernel to boot and provide some management services, but its performant I/O is done by drivers in that proprietary kernel.



[Michaelian Ennis](#) 2 posts since

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Aug 12, 2008 [2](#). **Re: What is special on the AoE driver for VMWare ESX** Sep 30, 2008 11:11 AM

The console OS is linux, VMKernel (ESX) is not. The ESX AoE driver interacts with the VMkernel itself allowing imported AoE targets to be used as block devices for ESX itself. This means one can format it as VMFS and store the virtual machines on AoE targets.