

Jetico Product Release Notes: BestCrypt for Linux v.1

Note: This document is regularly updated and is subject to change without notice. We invite you to share your feedback with us, including reporting issues with our products, via our online contact form at www.jetico.com/contact/.

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1. Minimum System Requirements

Hardware requirements:

- i386 or higher Linux box (not tested on other platforms)
- 1112 KB of free disk space to install BestCrypt software
- Disk space for containers is not limited

Software requirements:

- Linux system with kernel version 2.4.3 or higher. Kernel configuration **MUST** allow loadable modules support.
See Kernel HOW TO: <http://www.linuxdoc.org/HOWTO/Kernel-HOWTO.html>
Or see Modules mini-HOW TO: <http://www.linuxdoc.org/HOWTO/mini/Modules.html>
- BestCrypt for Linux is distributed in sources only, so you will need Linux kernel development environment ("Kernel development" category in RedHat distributions):
 - Kernel development package with Linux kernel sources (the same version as you are running)
 - GNU C/C++ compiler recommended for kernel compilation (2.2.x kernels use gcc 2.7.2, 2.4.x kernels use gcc 2.91)

2. Supported Operating Systems

BestCrypt for Linux supports the following operating systems, including 32-bit and 64-bit versions:

- Linux 2.4.x
- Linux 2.6.x
- Linux 3.0.x

3. Product Updates

17- January-2012 | v.1.9-2

Improved container creation stability and feedback in case of insufficient disk space.

Added cipher benchmarking with 'benchmark' command.

Corrected new container size calculation.

Improved command line interface.

Fixed a problem for containers always mounted as read-only.

Fixed a problem with changing additional passwords.

Fixed 'raw_link' command to properly link arbitrary files and block devices.

02- December-2011 | v.1.9-1

Added support for Linux kernel 3.0.

03- August-2011 | v.1.9-0

New 'bctool list' command displays information about all currently linked devices, their container files and mount points.

Mount and umount tasks that require admin privileges now delegated to separate helper utilities.

Mount will now try to parse container file system type if not specified explicitly.

Added support for OpenSUSE 11.4 and Ubuntu 11.04.

01- June-2011 | v.1.8-4

Improved compatibility with Ubuntu 11.04.

24- September-2010 | v.1.8-3

Fixed build on Fedora 13 x86_64.

26- April-2010 | v.1.8-2

Fixed compatibility issue with old SHA1 based containers.

11-November-2009 | v.1.8-1

Ubuntu 9.10 support added.

Resolved mount point ownership issues.

21-September-2009 | v.1.8

Linux kernel 2.6.31 support added.

Limited support for KG-GHOST containers added.

LRW encryption mode support added.

Explicit BestCrypt virtual device node allocation support added.

29-June-2009 | 1.7-1

Linux kernel 2.6.30 support added.

Improved support for GCC versions 3.4.x, 3.2.x, 2.95.x.

Improved support for Linux kernel 2.4.x based systems.

30-April-2009 | v.1.7-0

Linux kernel 2.6.29 support added.

Numerous stability improvements and bug fixes, including:

- Proper processing of containers located on read-only media
- Forced unmounting kernel crashes
- Unmounting several containers piled on a single mount point
- Hidden part size correction
- Container size explicit conversion to next sector boundary
- NTFS rw mounting
- Read-only linking/raw linking
- Proper driver resource control and device locking in format, fsck and mount utilities

Major upgrade in BestCrypt architecture with improved support for extended functionality development. BestCrypt now allows explicitly defining and using extended container format modules with all existing functionality. Refer to documentation for details.

Hidden part changes: A long standing bug in hidden part creation made actual size of hidden part to be 2KB more. This issue will not be fixed to secure compatibility with existing containers, but new `make_hidden` commands will correct the size automatically.

11-February-2008 | v.1.6-25

Fixed a rare kernel lockup bug in BestCrypt driver device locking mechanism.
Fixed 2GB sized container creation issues on 32-bit 2.6.28 kernels.
Fixed container creation issues when running out of device space.

16-January-2008 | v.1.6-24

Linux kernel 2.6.28 support added.
Bug fixes.

16-December-2008 | v.1.6-23

RHEL 5.x x86_64 support added.
Fedora Core 1 kernel 2.4.36.x support fixed.
NTFS formatted containers can now be mounted in read-write mode.
Added `-t <fstype>` option to `new` and `make_hidden` commands. With it new container or hidden part will be formatted immediately.

18-November-2008 | v.1.6-22

Ubuntu linux 8.10 support added.

10-October-2008 | v.1.6-21

Fedora Linux 2.6.26.5+ kernels support added.

16-September-2008 | v.1.6-20

Fixed random crash on x86_64 systems. Linux kernel 2.6.26 support added.

23-June-2008 | v.1.6-19

Linux kernel 2.6.25 and Fedora Core 9 support added.

17-June-2008 | v.1.6-18

Ubuntu 8.04 support added.

06-February-2008 | v.1.6-16

Linux kernel 2.6.24 support added.

16-November-2007 | v.1.6-15

Module Makefiles support build with external LDFLAGS. Thanks to Alon Bar-Lev.

19-July-2007 | v.1.6-14

Fedora Core 7 support added.

16-March-2007 | v.1.6-13

Linux kernel 2.6.20+ support added. Thanks to Stephen Moehle.

08-February-2007 | v.1.6-12

Missing `symbdds` in key generators fixed.

01-February-2007 | v.1.6-11

Compile time warnings removed. Thanks to Gentoo team.

09-November-2006 | v.1.6-10

Ubuntu 6.10 compatibility added.

07-November-2006 | v.1.6-9

Fedora Core 6 compatibility added. Thanks to Stephen Moehle.
Minor fixes for clean compilation.

20-October-2006 | v.1.6-8

Linux kernel 2.6.18+ SMP support added (Thanks to Stephen Moehle).
Gentoo patches merged.

27-September-2006 | v.1.6-7

Linux kernel 2.6.18+ support added.

17-August-2006 | v.1.6-6

/dev/bcrypt devices used by mounted containers are protected.

12-April-2006 | v.1.6-5

Minor fix for Fedora Core 5 2.6.15 kernel.

29-March-2006 | v.1.6-4

Fixed compatibility issues with 2.6.16 kernel (Fedora Core 5). Many thanks to Stephen Moehle.

07-March-2006 | v.1.6-3

Fixed compatibility with BestCrypt Corporate edition (now known as BestCrypt Enterprise).

11-August-2005 | v.1.6-2

Fixed compatibility issues with new distributions, including Fedora Core 4.

17-May-2005 | v.1.6

SHA-256 key generator added.

5-January-2004 | v.1.5

Linux 2.6.x kernels basic support added.

18-November-2003 | v.1.4

Incorrect container handling fixed. Please upgrade from BestCrypt v1.3.

5-November-2003 | v.1.3

Initial vector generation procedure fixed.

18-October-2002 | v.1.2

BestCrypt Development Kit added.

23-August-2002 | v.1.1

Urgent unmount feature added, docs reviewed and updated, array out-of bound bug fixed. Thanks to Dr. Andreas Rieke.
2.4.19 kernel compatibility fixed.

15-January-2002 | v.1.0b

Added support for containers larger than 2 GB, hidden part support added, additional passwords support added and advanced commands added.

29-October-2001 | v.0.8-8

Mount locking segmentation fault error fixed - many thanks to Sirron Davis. Added support for mounting container on its parent directory - thanks to Tomi. Read more in the corresponding section of BestCrypt for Linux Tips and Tricks: http://www.jetico.com/linux/bcrypt-help/l_trick.htm

04-June-2001 | v.0.8-2

Root access bug fixed - thanks to Carl Livitt, m0bius and Joel Eriksson.

13-April-2001 | v.0.7

Support for 2.4.3+ kernels added.

26-February-2001 | v.0.6

Added new algorithms: Rijndael, IDEA, CAST, Triple DES, and Blowfish with 128- and 448-bits keys.

15-January-2001 | v.0.5b

Support for 2.4.x kernels added; disk access speedup.

4-February-2000 | v.0.4b

Support for 2.3.32+ kernels added; disk access speedup; container on raw block device support added; user, group and mode mount options added.

11-October-1999 | v.0.3b

Fixed a serious bug that may cause data damage, device name changed from /dev/bc* to /dev/bcrypt*, support for fsck added, support for 2.3.x kernels added, fixed loop device (/dev/loop*) support, added proper kernel version handling and added support for SMP kernels.

13-September-1999

BestCrypt for Linux v.0.2b got 5 golden penguins from Linuxberg (Console/Encryption software): <http://www.linuxberg.com/>

8-September-1999 | v.0.2b

BestCrypt for Linux is announced for 2.2.x kernels.