



OPENFABRICS
ALLIANCE

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Birds of a Feather: System Admin

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User BoF Takeaways

- Changes are afoot due to new fabrics and topologies, including OmniPath, and high-speed Ethernet
- Challenges due to a lack of common, upstream commits into Linux kernel
- Customers are faced with a lack of a common issue tracking mechanism, such as Lustre Jira
- Issues are scattered across kernel, OFED/MOFED, distributions
 - Openfabrics wiki: https://www.openfabrics.org/mediawiki/index.php/Main_Page
- Upstream kernel wiki good first source
- Red Hat using up to date upstream kernel
- OFED backports patches which is a valuable service to the community
- OFA has become vendor driven vs. customer driven
 - How do promoting members affect change?
 - Community influence should be affected by contributions to code base and direction of the product
- How do we encourage contribution to the community?
- Government contribution to the open source community is very very difficult
- Laboratories as promoters: the stack is fundamentally different than it was at inception
- InfiniBand vs. 40-100GbE
 - Driven by big data and cloud markets

User BoF Takeaways

- OFED not standard part of distribution is a big challenge
 - Standardize open fabrics as ethernet is
- HPC community good at finding edge cases
- Subnet manager errors: error text mysterious, source indeterminate, and severity not hierarchical
- Documentation is lacking in vetting by the community
- Wiki articles: subnet manager errors and multicast messages
 - OpenFabrics wiki: https://www.openfabrics.org/mediawiki/index.php/Main_Page
- Communicate existence and function of various mailing lists
 - User mailing list: <http://lists.openfabrics.org/mailman/listinfo/users>
- Capture who the user community is
 - git.openfabrics.org
- Include the link to the user community as part of the download: ib core init

- Call to action: do we create an OFA User WG?