

Removal of Legacy Boot Support for Intel Platforms

Technical Advisory

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Legacy Boot Support for all Intel Products

Intel has phased out support for Legacy Boot. Many launched or current products under development and all future products have discontinued platform validation, silicon validation, and customer support of Legacy Boot. Moving forward, all products will only be validated as UEFI Class 3 platforms.

Definitions:

- **Legacy Boot:** A mode where Legacy Option ROMs are loaded into lower memory and run in real address mode, using the 8254 timer and 8259 controller. In UEFI environments, a CSM is required to support this mode of operation.
- **CSM:** Compatibility Support Module. Provides legacy BIOS compatibility in a UEFI Environment.
- **UEFI:** Unified Extensible Firmware Interface. Connects a computer's firmware to its operating system.
- **UEFI Class 3 Platform:** A UEFI system that only runs UEFI applications and does not implement CSM for backwards compatibility with legacy boot operations or legacy bootloaders.
- **Guidance is provided for the following:**
 - Intel Client Platform Programs
 - Intel Data Center Platform Programs
 - Intel Ethernet Products

Contact your Intel representative for additional information.

Intel Client Platform Programs

- Starting with client platforms launching in 2020¹, Intel will no longer be supporting Legacy Boot Mode.
- This means that Intel will not support issues, questions, or debug scenarios on legacy platform BIOS configurations, as they are not official plan of record.

¹Including 10th Generation platforms launching in 2020 and all future platforms.

Intel Data Center Platform Programs

- Starting with server platforms launching in 2020, Intel began phasing out support for Legacy Boot Mode. Starting with server platforms launching in 2024, Intel has discontinued support of Legacy Boot Mode in all segments.
- This means that Intel will not support issues, questions, or debug scenarios on legacy platform BIOS configurations, as they are not official plan of record.
- Server Platform where UEFI Class 3 validation was first made POR:
 - Birch Stream (Intel® Xeon SP and AP)
 - Idaville (Intel® Xeon® D®)
 - Jacobsville (Intel® Atom®)
 - Tatlow (Intel® Xeon® E®)

Intel Ethernet Products

Contact your Intel representative to get the latest information on Intel Ethernet Products and their support of Legacy Boot Option ROMs.

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