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HVD-LVD SCSI Adapter

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As the end of HP Support for the HP e3000 approaches HP Customers with NIO HP e3000 Systems (9x8, 9x9, 99x, etc.) have a limited and aging set of peripheral choices.   Specifically, Series 900 systems support only SE-SCSI and HVD-SCSI type peripherals. At the time this document is being written most of these devices are near or past their official HP End-of-Support dates. At the same time there is a set of newer HP LVD-SCSI devices supported on HP e3000 A-Class and N-Class systems which have longer support lifetimes. This raises the question if there is a way to bridge this HVD-LVD SCSI "gap". . .

As it turns out there are a variety of products which purport to transparently convert from HVD to LVD SCSI type signaling (and vice versa). As part of the HP-UX Hardware Providers Program several such products were tested by the HP-UX Labs and one vendor, Rancho SysTech, was selected as having the best Enterprise Server compatible device (follow the HPHP home page link "HP certified third-party hardware products" and look for the entry for Rancho).

In conjunction with the HP-UX effort we in the MPE/iX Lab evaluated the Rancho devices and determined that they are compatible with HP e3000 hardware and MPE/iX software. When connected to an HP e3000 the Rancho converter boxes are considered "Reference Products", that is, device support is provided by vendor or reseller, not HP (see HPHP home page link 'Learn more about the "Certified for HP-UX" testing program' for the difference between Certified and Reference products).

For further details on the possible usage of these 3rd party supplied reference devices with HP e3000 systems please see the following document "Reference Product Report on HP e3000 Systems and Rancho Technologies HVD-LVD Converters".