

AN-016 Running NetBSD 1.5 on CHARON-VAX

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CHARON-VAX product releases after March 31, 2001 support the installation of the NetBSD operating system. To run NetBSD 1.5 on CHARON-VAX do the following:

1. Download an ISO image of the NetBSD installation CDROM (53 Mb) from <ftp://ftp.netbsd.org/pub/NetBSD/misc/iso/vaxcd.iso> or from any other NetBSD mirror site. You can use this image with CHARON-VAX as virtual disk, or burn it with your favorite CD recording software on a CD-ROM.
2. Prepare a disk image (with MKDISK) on which NetBSD will be installed. The minimum size of the disk image is 200 Mb – but about 500 Mb is recommended. Configure the disk image and the installation image or CD in the CHARON-VAX configuration file. For example:

```
# Definition of the disk controller and the first two disk units
load RQDX3 DUA
# System disk DUA0 for NetBSD installation (rz25 image made with MKDISK)
set DUA file[0]="rz25.dsk"
#NetBSD distribution media, if you use CD-ROM drive G: (as DUA1)
set DUA file[1]="\\.\G:"
# NetBSD distribution media, in case you are use the ISO image as DUA1
#set DUA file[1]="vaxiso.iso"
```

3. Start CHARON-VAX and boot from the NetBSD distribution media – i.e.: “*boot dual*”
4. When NetBSD finishes booting, the installation program will start. Installation information is available at: <http://www.netbsd.org/Documentation/>
5. The installation of NetBSD consist of five steps:
 - a) Disk partitioning
 - b) Selecting software subsets to install
 - c) Selecting media from which to install and install
 - d) Shutdown and boot of installed system
 - e) Post-installation system configuration

Only step “c” requires a CHARON-VAX specific operation, the rest is available in the NetBSD documentation. When prompted to select media from which to fetch packages to install, select/type the following: “*unmounted fs*” (not the CDROM!), then device “*ra1c*”, then file system type “*cd9660*”, directory “*/vax/binary/sets*”, and then proceed with the installation. When install is finished, boot the installed system – i.e. “*boot dua0*”, then proceed to step “e”.

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