

UEFI SecureBoot + Linux, is the nightmare over?

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During the last weeks, I spent several nights playing with UEFI and its extension called UEFI SecureBoot. I must admit that I have mixed feelings about UEFI in general; on one hand, you have a nice and modern ?BIOS replacement? that can boot .efi files with no need for a bootloader like GRUB, on the other hand, some hardware, not even the most exotic one, is not yet glitch-free. But that?s what happens with new stuff in general. I cannot go much into detail without drifting away from the main topic, but surely enough, a simple google search about UEFI and Linux will point you to the problems I just mentioned above.

But hey, what does it all mean for our beloved Gentoo-based distro named Sabayon? Since DAILY ISO images dated 20121224, Sabayon can boot off UEFI systems, through DVD and USB (thanks to isohybrid ?uefi) and, surprise surprise, with SecureBoot turned on!. I am almost sure that we?re the first Linux distro supporting SecureBoot out of the box (update: using shim!) and I am very proud of it. This is of course thanks to Matthew Garrett?s shim UEFI loader that is chainloading our signed UEFI GRUB2 image.

[rest here](#) [2]

[Linux](#)

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