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Frequently Asked Questions

LSI SAS 9207 series of HBAs



What is included with the LSI SAS 9207 series of HBAs?

Each 9207 series HBA, including the 9207-8e, 4i4e and 8i, purchased from an authorized LSI distributor is packaged with a documentation CD, Quick Installation Guide and alternative Low Profile Mounting Bracket with mounting instruction. The basic package is called a “Single” package as it includes just one HBA. A wide array of compatible cables are available from LSI for connecting each 9207 HBA to appropriate 6Gb/s SAS storage devices, either internally or externally.

What is the difference between a “Kit” and “Single” package?

“Kits” only exist for the 9207-8i and 9207-4i4e HBAs. In addition to the “Single” package content, they contain compatible cables for connecting the internal ports to typical internal disk drives that are not included in the “Single” package. The cable packaged in the kit is a “breakout” cable, connecting the SFF8087 HBA connector to 4 individual SFF8482 (SAS Disk Drive) connectors, each including its own power pigtail and connector. There is no “Kit” for the 9207-8e because of the large variation in cable lengths for external applications. One and two meter compatible passive cables are available from LSI distributors (ordering part numbers: CBL-SFF8088SAS-10M and CBL-SFF8088SAS-20M, respectively). Ten and twenty meter active cables are also available from LSI (ordering part numbers: LSI00273 and LSI00272, respectively).

Can I review documents before purchasing an HBA?

Yes. All the documents included with any of the 9207 series HBAs are available on the LSI channel website at <http://www.lsi.com/channel/products/storagecomponents/Pages/HBAs.aspx>. Just click on the specific HBA you are interested in and then on the “Resources” tab to see the complete list of available documents.

Are the LSI SAS 9207-8e and 9207-4i4e HBAs compatible with the LSI SAS6160 Switch?

The LSI SAS 9207-8e and LSI SAS 9207-4i4e are both compatible with the LSI SAS6160 SAS Switch. They connect with the same cables as the other popular 6Gb/s HBAs: 9200-8e, 9205-8e, and 9212-4i4e. The 9207-8e, like the previous generation 9201-16e HBA, supports active cable connections to the SAS Switch via 10 and 20 meter active cables from LSI (ordering part numbers: LSI00273 and LSI00272, respectively).

Does the 9207 series directly replace any existing HBAs?

The LSI SAS 9207 series of HBAs offer higher performance limits than prior HBAs. The form factor, cabling and drivers all enable an easy migration from existing models. The PCIe® 3.0 host interface doubles any bandwidth constraints that may have existed in PCIe 2.0 based motherboards.

Current 6Gb/s HBA	PCIe 3.0 Successor
9211-4i, 9211-8i	9207-8i
9212-4i4e	9207-4i4e
9200-8e, 9205-8e	9207-8e

I've heard references to 9217-xx HBAs. What is different about them than the 9207 series available in the LSI channel?

LSI supplies products directly to OEM companies in addition to those sold through LSI franchised distributors. The 9217 series HBA models are sold directly to specific OEM customers. There is no hardware difference between 9207 and 9217 series of HBAs.

The "1" in the model # also indicates that these boards have integrated RAID, "IR", firmware versus the standard "IT" firmware on the 9207 models. All the 9207 series HBAs are shipped from the LSI factory with IT firmware.

What is the difference between "IT" and "IR" HBA firmware?

"IT" firmware maximizes the connectivity and performance aspects of the HBA. "IR" firmware addresses additional reliability needs with limited RAID functionality via RAID 0, 1, 10 and 10E capabilities.

The latest versions of both firmware types are maintained on the LSI channel website at:

<http://www.lsi.com/channel/support/products/Pages/FindSupportbyProduct.aspx>



For more information and sales office locations, please visit the LSI web sites at: www.lsi.com/channel

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