

Ever since getting my Tormach 1100 Series 3 mill a few years back, the one thing that has always bothered me is using those thumb drives to move data back and forth between my design computer and the pathpilot controller. I eventually found an article on how to make pathpilot share its local gcode folder which was cool, but you have to have the machine on to do that. What I really wanted was to have a local share on my network that was always accessible, if I was creating a program, I'd just like to save it to the network. Then when I was ready to run it, go out to the mill, and just run the file off the server instead of copying it over. I've seen others also searching for information on how to get something like this to work, so I thought I'd share how to get this setup since I finally figured it out myself.

First thing you will want to do is create a share on your file server that you want pathpilot to see. I am using a synology drive station for my local file server. You could do this basically on any computer that you want pathpilot to read from that is always on. You will be creating a SMB share. I won't get into how to do this, since there is lots of article how to do this out there.

Once you have your share created on your server, you will want to go on your pathpilot controller and do the following:

Turn on the computer as you normally would, once you are at the main operator page or MDI hit (CTRL-ALT-X) on the keyboard, this will open a terminal window.

Once you are in the terminal type in: `mate-panel`

This will get the gui for Linux to show up, you now have access to everything you've never known was there. You will want to open another terminal or command prompt window. There should be a small icon on the bottom of the screen on the taskbar of a black terminal window. Click this and you should now have a new command prompt where you will do the following:

type in: `cd/` (then hit enter - this will take you to the root directory on linux)

next type in: `sudo mkdir home/operator/gcode/xxxxxx` (xxxxxx=the name of the folder that you would like to be your network share or folder you will see in your gcode directory in pathpilot)

once that is done you will need to edit a file called `fstab`, to do that type in:

`sudo nano /etc/fstab`

This should open a super basic text editor where you can edit the file. Use your arrow keys to go down to the very bottom of the screen and then add a new line of text as follows:

```
//yourfileservename/filesasename /home/operator/gcode/xxxxxx cifs
user=username to log into your remote share password=password to your remote share, uid=1000 0
0
```

xxxxxx is the name of your directory you created above in your pathpilot gcode

folder. Once you have that added, hit CTRL-X to save the file and exit the editor.

If everything worked, you can just type in: exit to exit the terminal window, or click on the start menu and select the shutdown option to reboot the computer. When pathpilot boots back up, you should now have a folder in the root section of your files tab. When you click on that, you should see whatever you have on your file server share, and you will be able to save/edit/delete etc files in that folder, or open them up in pathpilot.

Hope this helps someone out. I am using pathpilot 2.9.something when I set this up, I would imagine it should work on most versions that you can access the gui for linux mint. I personally do not know my way around linux much, but just enough to get into trouble :) Another cool thing with accessing the Linux GUI is you have access to a web browser, file manager, and a whole load of goodies. Just be careful when in there for obvious reasons.