Integrating an N440BX DP Server into an Astor II Chassis:

Question: Which power connector on the N440BX do I connect the Astor II power supply to?

Answer:

Connect the Astor II chassis power connector to the ATX power connector on the N440BX board. It will look like the picture to the left. Note that there are 4 pins that hang over the edge of the ATX connector on the N440BX baseboard. Also note the black ATX designation on the Astor II power connector.

Question: Where do I connect the chassis intrusion sensor?

Answer:
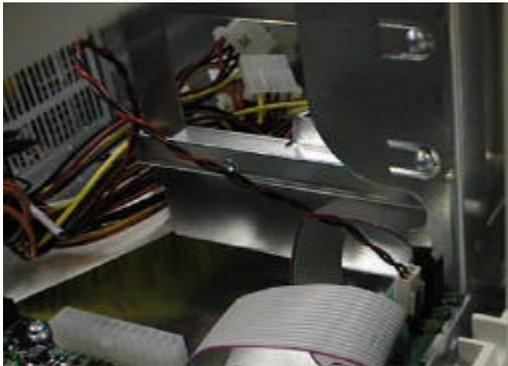
The chassis intrusion sensor connects to the front panel. This is where the reset and power buttons are located. Do not connect the intrusion switch to the N440BX baseboard. When in an Astor Chassis the intrusion sensor is connected to the baseboard.

Question: Which BIOS do I use with the N440BX in an Astor II chassis.

Answer: The same BIOS is used for all N440BX based products. The most current BIOS is Release 11.

Question: Which firmware do I use with the N440BX in an Astor II chassis.

Answer: Use BMC 56 for the N440BX base board. There are currently no HSC Firmware updates for the Astor II LVDS SCSI backplane. The HSC Firmware for the Astor SCSI backplane is not the same firmware that is used with the Astor II LVDS SCSI backplane. All updates for the N440BX baseboard can be obtained from
http://www.intel.com/support/motherboards/server/N440BX/

Question: The Astor II has an LVDS SCSI backplane. Does the N440BX support LVDS SCSI.

Answer: No, the N440BX supports up to UltraWide SCSI only. The onboard SCSI is a Symbios 53876 two channel SCSI controller. The primary channel is an UltraWide controller and the second channel is a narrow SCSI controller. In order to take advantage of the LVDS SCSI backplane a third-party card must be purchased that supports LVDS SCSI and LVDS drives must be utilized to realize the performance benefit of LVDS SCSI.

Some Helpful hints:

Be sure and notice that there are two connectors on the front fan in the Astor II chassis. The connector on the right is for the N440BX and the connector on the left is for the L440GX.
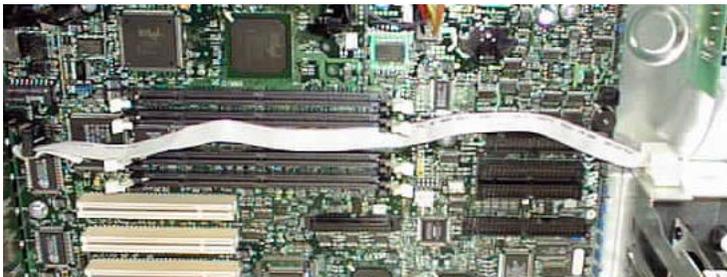
Make sure to stretch the cable that attaches to the drive bay parallel with the DIMM sockets before swinging the SCA hard drive cage into place. Often this cable falls down and can be pinched and damaged when installing the drive bay.

After making sure that the above cable is safe also make sure to pull the wires from the power supply forward so that the plastic fan holder does not cut into the wires. The wires should be in front of the white fan holder when swinging the drive cage into place. In this picture an I/O panel L-cover is being used to gently pull the wires forward while the drive bay is swinging into place.