



OpenHPC response to news regarding CentOS

December 18th, 2020

Like many in the HPC community, the OpenHPC Technical Steering Committee recently [learned](#) of a change in direction for the future of the CentOS project. CentOS has been a popular choice in our community for a number of years and we have included OpenHPC installation recipes leveraging CentOS7, and now CentOS8 with the most recent 2.0 release.

This news has obvious repercussions for future releases of OpenHPC and we are tracking multiple developments at the moment¹ including alternative binary compatible Linux distributions that are expected to emerge, as well as the CentOS Stream model. Our thinking presently is that it is too early to decide a definitive alternative and we will continue to monitor and evaluate developments as they emerge. We are also reevaluating our plans for how long to maintain the OpenHPC 1.3 branch² which has support for CentOS7.

As an additional reminder, note that OpenHPC 2.0 includes builds and recipes targeted for use with OpenSUSE Leap 15. Our hope is to be in a position to announce technical guidance for future OpenHPC releases regarding RHEL-based distros by Q2 2021.

In the short term, we plan to continue forward with the following releases:

- OpenHPC v2.1 targeting CentOS8.3 and Leap 15.2 (Q1 2021)
- OpenHPC v1.3.10 targeting CentOS7.9 and SLES 12 SP4 (Q1 2021)

Thanks from your friendly neighborhood (well virtual neighborhood) OpenHPC Technical Steering Committee Members.

¹ <https://github.com/openhpc/ohpc/wiki/Tracking-of-Future-RHEL-Variants-for-OpenHPC>

² OpenHPC v1.3 support currently scheduled to complete at end of 2021