

IGT i960 Platform

Introduction

The **IGT i960 Platform** is one of the most recognizable generations of gaming hardware developed by **International Game Technology (IGT)**. Introduced during the late 1990s and early 2000s, the platform powered a wide range of video slot machines and formed the foundation for numerous successful game titles deployed in casinos worldwide.

Built around the **Intel i960 RISC processor**, the platform combined reliable industrial hardware with a modular architecture that simplified maintenance and field service. Over its lifetime, the i960 platform evolved through several hardware revisions while maintaining a high degree of compatibility between components.

Architecture

A typical i960-based gaming machine consists of several major subsystems:

- Main CPU board
- Video controller
- Game storage media
- Security hardware
- Input/Output controller
- Bill validator and peripheral interfaces
- Touchscreen or button panel
- Display system

Depending on the cabinet configuration and software revision, hardware layouts may vary, although the overall architecture remains consistent.

Software

Games are typically stored on removable media and protected through multiple security mechanisms. Depending on the software generation, machines may use hardware security devices, signature verification, or platform-specific authentication methods.

System software includes diagnostics, hardware configuration, accounting functions, communication protocols, and game execution.

Serviceability

One reason the i960 platform remained popular for many years is its relatively service-friendly design. Many components are modular and can be replaced individually, making repairs practical for trained technicians.

Common maintenance tasks include:

- Power supply replacement
- CPU board replacement
- CMOS battery service
- Display troubleshooting
- Storage media replacement
- Peripheral diagnostics

Documentation

This section of SlotTech documents the i960 platform from a technical perspective, including:

- Hardware revisions
- Motherboard identification
- BIOS versions
- Connector pinouts
- Storage media
- Error codes
- Service procedures
- Reverse engineering notes
- Known hardware issues

The goal is to preserve technical knowledge for engineers, collectors, refurbishers, and service technicians working with legacy IGT gaming equipment.

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