
Subject: Win XP Question

Posted by [Bill L](#) on Fri, 18 Jul 2008 20:34:20 GMT

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Anyone know how I can open the windows folder on a boot disk that I am not booted from?

I got a corrupted hal.dll and need to fix it somehow. 5 hours and I'm still nowhere. Oy!

Subject: Re: Win XP Question

Posted by [Bill L](#) on Fri, 18 Jul 2008 20:46:32 GMT

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One more datum. When I try to open the windows folder, it tells me the disk is not formatted. All the other folders are openable.

Bill L wrote:

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> not booted from?

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> still nowhere. Oy!

Subject: Re: Win XP Question

Posted by [erlilo](#) on Fri, 18 Jul 2008 20:58:37 GMT

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Have you tried F8 when starting up from Dos to Win mode, where you can get a menu with choices if there's problems?

If you have the original WinXP CD, you can also use the CD to install, where you get choices to just repair problems in an old installation.

Erling

"Bill L" <bill@billlorentzen.com> skrev i en meddelelse

news:48810038\$1@linux...

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> booted from?

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> still nowhere. Oy!

Subject: Re: Win XP Question
Posted by [Chris Ludwig](#) on Fri, 18 Jul 2008 22:19:32 GMT
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Hi Bill,

Get your Windows XP install disk and let the machine boot to it like your doing a fresh install. When it gets to the point that it is looking for drives and previous windows installs and see if it detects a windows folder.

If not then shut down the machine and unplug any other hard drives in the system. Reboot the system and let it boot tot he windows disk.

When you see the option to Press R to enter recover console see if it lets you and finds a windows install on that drive to log into.

If not the then you will need to use some sort of drive recovery software or send it to a data recovery company.

If the drive is still spinning up and is being seen in the BIOS then it would seem like you MBR or partition table info got messed up some how.

Viruses, bad sectors etc can cause this.

If the data on the drive isn't critical then you should just go buy a new drive and reinstall windows. You could try some tricks to to fix the MBR and partition info.

If there is mission critical info on the drive don't bother just send it to a recovery place.

If you go a buy a new drive you can always just use the the most recent backup you have of the OS drive.

You do have a recent backup of your OS drive don't you ? :)

If not then I would highly recommend getting in the habit!!
www.paragon-software.com

Chris

Bill L wrote:

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Chris Ludwig

Subject: Re: Win XP Question
Posted by [xpam_mark](#) on Fri, 18 Jul 2008 23:05:39 GMT
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CL is spot on here however, I recommend going the recovery route first. Each time you boot to that drive (even if to CD with that drive as primary HD), that drive gets some read/write action. Remove the suspect HD and install it in as anything other than C or Boot drive in another machine. Ontrack makes a great recovery package. I've successfully lifted everything off a fully re-formatted drive using Easy Recovery Professional. If ERP can't find anything, move directly to CL's final step. Data recovery company will want a minimum of bucks with no guarantee of *any* recovery and with audio projects, we all know that one or two little pieces of data saying bye-bye, you number one will go directly to file 13.

Here's a little more info on the malf you have:
http://www.kellys-korner-xp.com/xp_haldll_missing.htm

W. Mark Wilson

"Chris Ludwig" <chrisl@adkproaudio.com> wrote in message
news:488118f0\$1@linux...

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> Chris Ludwig
>
> ADK Pro Audio
> (859) 635-5762
> www.adkproaudio.com
> chrisl@adkproaudio.com

Subject: Re: Win XP Question
Posted by [Aaron Allen](#) on Sat, 19 Jul 2008 00:21:13 GMT
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If his HAL.DLL is missing or corrupted, he's more screwed than to just go to safe mode, unfortunately. Ludwig and Wilson have it pretty well covered IMO - in fact, I'd recommend you guys to take notes on this so when it happens to you, you can have some info handy to try immediately. Print it, put it in a file unless you have another computer with access.

AA

"erlilo" <erlingl@tdcadsl.dk> wrote in message news:488105f7@linux...

> Have you tried F8 when starting up from Dos to Win mode, where you can get
> a menu with choices if there's problems?
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Subject: Re: Win XP Question

Posted by [xpam_mark](#) on Sat, 19 Jul 2008 00:41:31 GMT

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I should add here guys that the purpose for installing the suspect drive on another machine as a non-bootable is so that the suspect drive may be examined for recovery without write ops anywhere on the drive until you choose to perform them.

During any recovery op, try least invasive measures first... it takes t....i....m....e. For example, don't run any "disc repair" or MBR fixes or virus detection/removal. Let the recovery software do it's thing. It may want to read the drive for a day. Then get tough if it seems worth the risks.

W. Mark Wilson

"W. Mark Wilson" <xpam_mark@avidrecording> wrote in message news:488123b6@linux...

> CL is spot on here however, I recommend going the recovery route first.
> Each time you boot to that drive (even if to CD with that drive as primary
> HD), that drive gets some read/write action. Remove the suspect HD and
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>> chrisl@adkproaudio.com
>
>

Subject: Re: Win XP Question
Posted by [Tom Bruhl](#) on Sat, 19 Jul 2008 06:12:54 GMT
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Aaron,
My printer is doing just that .

I'm hoping for the best for you Bill.
Tom

"Aaron Allen" <know-spam@not_here.dude> wrote in message
news:4881356a@linux...
> If his HAL.DLL is missing or corrupted, he's more screwed than to just go
> to safe mode, unfortunately. Ludwig and Wilson have it pretty well covered
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Subject: Re: Win XP Question
Posted by [John \[1\]](#) on Sat, 19 Jul 2008 10:22:16 GMT
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when it happens to me i just restore my drive image in 4 minutes and I'm back.
I put all my files on a server so nothing of value is on the box and can
be whacked anytime. it's the only way i've kept any sanity with a pc

Subject: Re: Win XP Question
Posted by [Bill L](#) on Sat, 19 Jul 2008 13:33:01 GMT
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Hey Guys, thanks for all the helpful suggestions. However, maybe I did not
make my point well. The drive does not seem damaged. Only the hal.dll file.

I have tried booting off another drive I have so I could simply replace the
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There are many fixes for hal problem listed on the web, all of which I tried
already. I just need to know if there is a way to access the windows folder
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Bill L <bill@billlorentzen.com> wrote:

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Chris Ludwig
ADK
chrisl@adkproaudio.com <<mailto:chrisl@adkproaudio.com>>
www.adkproaudio.com <<http://www.adkproaudio.com/>>
(859) 635-5762

Subject: Re: Win XP Question

Posted by [Aaron Allen](#) on Sat, 19 Jul 2008 14:26:12 GMT

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There is, but you have to take over/blow away ownership, and that could make it not work on it's own anymore. It's been a while, but I had to do this once in a similar situation. As I recall :

Create an account on another computer with the same name/password.
Give that account admin privs on the machine.
Use that account log in to the machine.
Can you see the windows directory now?

I'm not 100% on this, and the SID might not allow it since that won't be the same but it seems like on XP pre SP1 I was able to pull it off that way. Things may have changed since then.

have you tried <http://support.microsoft.com> for researching answers?

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Subject: Re: Win XP Question

Posted by [Bill L](#) on Sat, 19 Jul 2008 15:25:48 GMT

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Thanks for the reply Aaron, but it's actually on the same machine but not booted from. with the bad hal.dll I can't boot from it at all.

That's the problem.

Aaron Allen wrote:

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Subject: Re: Win XP Question
Posted by [Aaron Allen](#) on Sat, 19 Jul 2008 17:21:46 GMT
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Sorry, I assumed you knew I meant to transplant the drive to another machine for viewing, preferably in a USB case and connected after the other machine has booted.
My bad.

AA

"Bill L" <bill@billlorentzen.com> wrote in message [news:4882096c\\$1@linux...](#)

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Subject: Re: Win XP Question
Posted by [xpam_mark](#) on Sat, 19 Jul 2008 19:41:59 GMT
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Yeah, it's a good find CL. These finds are a waste of nook&cranny space on your hard drive... that is until the completely perfect time a perfect problem rears its' ugly head.... like this HAL.DLL thing.... conjures up an "open the pod bay door" moment for me.

How about a new reality TV show for geeks... "When Dynamic Link Libraries Attack."

I like these guys... they have straightforward stuff that gets pretty deep.... even the simple mind can follow most of it.

"Chris Ludwig" <chrisl@adkproaudio.com> wrote in message news:4881f1e1@linux...

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> --
> Chris Ludwig
> ADK
> chrisl@adkproaudio.com <<mailto:chrisl@adkproaudio.com>>
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