Subject: pops and crackles on new machine
Posted by TommyMambo on Wed, 16 Dec 2009 01:46:28 GMT
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Hi,
I just (with the great help of Mike!) got my new machine up and running Paris on XP.
Performance wise it's great, but I just started to do a mix and I noticed alot of pops and crackles in the track. They are not showing up in the submixes, just when I mix down using Global.

Any help would be appreciated!

Thanks,
Tom

Subject: Re: pops and crackles on new machine
Posted by kerryg on Wed, 16 Dec 2009 03:03:10 GMT
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Are there any background processes running?

Subject: Re: pops and crackles on new machine
Posted by TommyMambo on Wed, 16 Dec 2009 03:34:10 GMT
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Hi,
No background processes running. A couple of plug ins but that's it.

New machine is dual core, very fast. Could it be the sampling rate (which I have set at 44)?

I can't really hear the pops until I open the wav files in Soundforge to edit.

Subject: Re: pops and crackles on new machine
Posted by kerryg on Wed, 16 Dec 2009 05:59:55 GMT
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Very strange - that machine should be able to handle that with extreme ease, sounds like a single setting somewhere that needs tweaking. Wish I knew more about PCs so I could be of more help.

Subject: Re: pops and crackles on new machine
Posted by dnafe on Wed, 16 Dec 2009 11:01:33 GMT
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That is weird...I've had the odd crackle and pop (very rare) but they were only anomalies in playback and weren't actually written on the wav or paf file.

Which plugins were being used...if they were third part that could be the source.

Subject: Re: pops and crackles on new machine
Posted by TommyMambo on Wed, 16 Dec 2009 12:30:08 GMT
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I was just using a couple of PARIS plug ins like compressor and delay, maybe chorus on the backing vox too.

I'll experiment some more. It was weird, there didn't seem to be anything dirty in the PARIS track files when they were solo'd out.

Subject: Re: pops and crackles on new machine
Posted by mani1147 on Fri, 18 Dec 2009 01:53:37 GMT
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Tom, if your running two Paris I/O devices, don't forget the BNC connection between the two, this could cause funky crackles if I remember correctly.

Rob

Subject: Re: pops and crackles on new machine
Posted by mani1147 on Fri, 18 Dec 2009 01:55:38 GMT
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Subject: Re: pops and crackles on new machine
Posted by Mike Bloomer on Mon, 21 Dec 2009 03:22:44 GMT
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Hi Tom,
Are you saying that it plays OK in Paris and you don't notice the pops until you play back in Sound Forge? Do you see the pops in the display of the waveform? If not check your buffer sizes in Sound Forge...
Mike

Subject: Re: pops and crackles on new machine
Posted by TommyMambo on Mon, 21 Dec 2009 03:55:31 GMT

Thanks Mike - Will do...

PS - Great new record!

Cheers,
Tom

Subject: Re: pops and crackles on new machine
Posted by TommyMambo on Mon, 21 Dec 2009 23:29:57 GMT

Now it appears that its not in Paris at all, but random static in Sound Forge. It's not in the file, as it occurs all over the place in different spots with each playback.

Tried adjusting the buffers but still not solving it. Any other help is appreciated.

Subject: Re: pops and crackles on new machine
Posted by kerryg on Tue, 22 Dec 2009 02:10:36 GMT

Are you digitally sync'd between any two units? It doesn't have to be passing audio. PARIS connected to anything via ADAT cables of different lengths - a DAT machine feeding your audio card via SP/DIF - that sort of thing? If so, try disconnecting it.

Subject: Re: pops and crackles on new machine
Posted by TommyMambo on Tue, 22 Dec 2009 02:31:43 GMT

No, none that I'm aware of.

Subject: Re: pops and crackles on new machine
Posted by kerryg on Tue, 22 Dec 2009 02:33:28 GMT

What audio interface are you playing the files back through? PARIS ASIO, built in (motherboard) audio, a firewire interface etc?

Subject: Re: pops and crackles on new machine
Posted by kerryg on Tue, 22 Dec 2009 06:38:10 GMT
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By the way, Tommy, I know it's probably not much help to hear this, but I have definitely seen this behaviour before, I just can't recall what I tracked it down to. I'm trying to mentally retrace my own troubleshooting path.

Subject: Re: pops and crackles on new machine
Posted by TommyMambo on Tue, 22 Dec 2009 12:25:59 GMT
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They seem to play back fine in Paris, just when they are imported into a wave editing tool (sound forge) which I guess uses the PC's audio card.

Subject: Re: pops and crackles on new machine
Posted by Mike Bloomer on Tue, 22 Dec 2009 14:30:05 GMT
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 Sounds like Sound Forge isn't syncing with the sound card.Have you tried playing something back with Windows Media player? That would tell you if the problem is with Sound Forge or somewhere in Windows.
 Also make sure that on that the correct sound card is chosen in SF and also in the properties page for the sound card itself in Windows. (Control Panel/Sounds and Audio Devices).
 If the correct drivers are chosen in SF then try incrementally larger buffer sizes, this will translate into greater latency but as it is your wave editor it shouldn't be a problem.
 Are you using the on-board sound card or something else?
MB

Subject: Re: pops and crackles on new machine
Posted by TommyMambo on Tue, 22 Dec 2009 22:19:37 GMT
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Just tried playing back these files in Windows Media Player and they sound great and clean, no random pops.

Subject: Re: pops and crackles on new machine
Posted by Mike Bloomer on Wed, 23 Dec 2009 01:42:00 GMT
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Then it's gotta be between Sound Forge and the sound card.It's been quite a while since I've been

inside Sound Forge but the settings should in a drop down menu at the top maybe under Options/preferences/Audio (IIRC) There should be a menu to select which audio device the program uses. You don't want to be using Microsoft sound mapper which SF loads by default when you install it. The name of your sound card should appear there. You should change both the recording and playback preferences. BTW what're you using for a sound card?
MB

Subject: Re: pops and crackles on new machine
Posted by kerryg on Wed, 23 Dec 2009 01:46:04 GMT
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If you aren't using a dedicated audio card or interface, maybe you could see if installing ASIO4All (free) gives you better results (often gives more tweakability).

Subject: Re: pops and crackles on new machine
Posted by TommyMambo on Thu, 24 Dec 2009 14:09:18 GMT
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After trying all of the tips laid out above, I started researching SoundMax (maker of my soundcard) and have found that there are many reported problems when using SoundMax with XP (not Vista, for some reason, but the new Paris drivers are for XP as we know).

So, I am looking at replacing the soundcard in the PC now, and was wondering if anybody has any suggestions...

It's a Dell 5500 model, if that makes a diff.

Thanks and happy holidays.
Tom

Subject: Re: pops and crackles on new machine
Posted by Mike Bloomer on Thu, 24 Dec 2009 17:48:36 GMT
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Been using the EMU 1212m for a couple of years now. Nice sounding card at a good price and plays nice with everything.
Sound Max drivers can be touchy.
You might think about Wavelab instead of Sound Forge it's a lot more user configurable and has tons of features. Any version after ver.4.0 can open pafs. You might be able to find one used on EBay... Been using ver. 5, never upgraded to because I haven't had a need for the features....
MB

Subject: Re: pops and crackles on new machine
Posted by TommyMambo on Thu, 24 Dec 2009 17:51:55 GMT
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Thanks Mike - I'm looking at some external sound cards...

I was using Wavelab but it went with the old machine.

Will check that out, thanks and happy holidays!