Subject: PARIS 2.2 or 3 / XP- System FREEZE when recording
Posted by scorpionsw on Thu, 25 Jun 2009 05:24:48 GMT

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I just decided to pull my old PARIS system out of some boxes in the garage and see if it could still be used. Mike Audet was very helpful to answer some setup questions I had... and after many installs, "error 1/1", "error 7/7", un-installs, swapping the EDS card to a different slot, etc... I was finally able to launch and run PARIS versions 2.2 & 3.0 successfully with Chris Thoman's XP driver (thanks Mike for helping me find that).

The problem I'm having is that when I simply set up 1 track to record, and then click "record" on the transport... the entire system instantly freezes and I have to hard boot to recover.

I'm using a dinosaur machine:

PC 667MHz / 128 MB RAM
Windows XP Pro

I know the machine sounds like a "pocket calculator" by today's standards... but trust me... back in 1999 it was the hottest thing going I recorded an entire album in 2001 on this same computer with an older version of the PARIS software... so I figured it should work today as well.

I'd love some suggestions on how I could troubleshoot this recording freeze?

I'm wondering if Mike's driver would be the solution? Anyone?

Thanks!
Bryan

Subject: Re: PARIS 2.2 or 3 / XP- System FREEZE when recording
Posted by kerryg on Thu, 25 Jun 2009 05:50:05 GMT

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I've got no practical suggestions; Mike might have a little more free time soon, he's in finals right now.

But I just set up an entry for this on the Wiki under "Bugs/Troubleshooting" so we can document any fix. And welcome to the forums!

- k

Subject: Re: PARIS 2.2 or 3 / XP- System FREEZE when recording
Posted by Philip on Thu, 25 Jun 2009 18:44:54 GMT

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The last time you were tracking with this setup, did you have XP or 98 running?

My guess is that if you are trying XP for the first time, then that is the issue. For me, making the switch from 98 to XP was a crash nightmare. Ultimately, the problem was IRQ issues and conflicts with other pieces of hardware. In the end, I had to dump my sound card, and move my eds cards to an external chassis to get the thing stable.

So, I would try with sound card. Pull it. That might fix your problem. If not, there is a way to disable ACPI while installing XP- if you turn off acpi, you might have more flexibility changing IRQs and stuff.

If you do need to get set up with an external chassis, that's not so bad. One sold on ebay for $70 last week.

-Phil

Subject: Re: PARIS 2.2 or 3 / XP- System FREEZE when recording
Posted by kerryg on Thu, 25 Jun 2009 19:11:58 GMT
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Just so it's been said - getting a second-hand PC to run PARIS on is a breeze nowadays - a PC that will run rings around that one can probably be found sitting in someone's junk closet for free (ahh, the benefits of using an obsolete system - serious upgrades are pocket change!). $200 judiciously spent on Craigslist would buy you something that will put PARIS in hog heaven.

$400 bought me a totally pimped-out "top of the line" AMD system (from a couple of years back, naturally .

Subject: Re: PARIS 2.2 or 3 / XP- System FREEZE when recording
Posted by scorpionsw on Fri, 26 Jun 2009 00:52:49 GMT
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Yeah you know... looking back on it, I'm quite sure you're right that it was Win98 because I bought the system in late 1999 or so and I started recording that album right around then.

I do recall it being easy to set up and pretty stable back then. I haven't done enough research yet to realize that the system runs better on 98 than XP. It makes perfect sense in retrospect. Luckily I think I still have a Win98 CD tucked away.

I also have several computers here at home I can choose from that are better than the one I'm currently using. I just figured I'd start at the "last known good" place and then advance to a better box once I knew the hardware worked.

Since you mentioned "hog heaven". Can you articulate what that looks like? What is an optimal setup for PARIS in your opinion? I've got a couple decent Dell desktops sitting around that are

probably almost 2 GHz and maybe 1 GB RAM.

Subject: Re: PARIS 2.2 or 3 / XP- System FREEZE when recording
Posted by kerryg on Fri, 26 Jun 2009 01:18:10 GMT

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This is just my own take on it, but since PARIS has built in DSP for EQ, faders and basic FX at (effectively) zero latency, "Hog heaven" would be defined as sufficient CPU and RAM to also populate all available VST slots (64 for a one-card system) with reasonably CPU-hungry plugins. To me that's a good yardstick for a basic system. We got to that level of horsepower with Athlons quite a few years ago if I recall correctly.

After that, to me, more horsepower is about running other software, or multi-card operation (hence more VST slots to fill up).

Those Dells sound worth a try - hey, the price is right, and that's *ample* performance.

Subject: Re: PARIS 2.2 or 3 / XP- System FREEZE when recording
Posted by cduffy on Fri, 26 Jun 2009 15:42:57 GMT

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"I was finally able to launch and run PARIS versions 2.2 & 3.0 successfully with Chris Thoman's XP driver (thanks Mike for helping me find that)."

Do you literally mean the original XP driver or Mikes new one?

Do yourself a favor and buy Mike's cause it fixes tons of known problems and is way more stable

On another note... Refurbs from Computer stores are sometimes a good option. The Microcenter in my area has about 200 IBM P4 512 MB 120 GB XP boxes stacked up for $150 bucks each!

Chuck

Subject: Re: PARIS 2.2 or 3 / XP- System FREEZE when recording
Posted by scorpionsw on Fri, 26 Jun 2009 16:32:51 GMT

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Yep. Since I figured Mike pretty much wrote the book on XP setup & configuration I asked him for some guidance getting set up since I'd never used it before on XP. I told him I wanted a basic driver that would first prove that my PARIS hardware was still operational before I bought his driver.

When I was finally successful getting it running (albeit with this recording freeze) I sent an email to

him asking what his driver would bring to me above and beyond Chris'. Haven't heard back from him on that yet though. I'm 100% ready and willing to support his hard work if it brings me a stable & usable system.

With this forum post I was hoping maybe I'd hear from someone who walked this same path before me and could vouch for the fact that Mike's driver would solve my recording freeze, or conversely hear from anyone who's gone the XP route but ultimately reverted back to 98 for the sake of ultimate usability.

Is there a thread here where a variety of folks have weighed in on the usability of PARIS on 98 vs XP, or is it still "no contest" in 98's favor even with Mike's driver?

Subject: Re: PARIS 2.2 or 3 / XP- System FREEZE when recording
Posted by cduffy on Fri, 26 Jun 2009 16:35:46 GMT
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Hi, hope you don't think I was calling you out for not buying Mikes driver

Chuck

Subject: Re: PARIS 2.2 or 3 / XP- System FREEZE when recording
Posted by scorpionsw on Fri, 26 Jun 2009 16:48:00 GMT
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Oh no definitely not. I'm a programmer too though so I wanted to acknowlege my appreciation and support for the work he's doing.