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Subject: 12 Core W7 64 machine is waiting for Mike's 64 bit driver

Posted by [hungaristan](#) on Tue, 25 May 2010 17:50:39 GMT

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A few months ago I promised to get back with the details of my new PARIS setup, so here it is:

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Dual Six-Core Opteron 2.2GHz  
Supermicro H8DA8-2 mobo  
8GB RAM  
Promise SuperTrak EX8650 8 channel RAID  
Two Firewire800 cards  
Two Acer touchscreens

UAD2-Quad  
TC Powercore 6000

VirtuaVia expansion chassis with 4 EDS-1000 cards, 2 MECs  
RME Fireface 800  
Native KORE 2  
Novation Remote Zero SL  
ESI M8U XL MIDI Interface

Win Xp Pro 32 bit  
Win 7 64 bit

Cubase 5  
Native Complete 5, Complete 6  
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I never had to struggle so hard for such a long time to get a PC working reliably.

I started with a Tyan mobo and everything looked fine until I installed Win 7 64 bit, when an endless nightmare of untraceable random BSODs started. It took weeks of tireless investigation to finally surrender and get the Supermicro mobo (for another 400\$).

With the exception of some minor glitches during the configurations it finally works really nicely now.

So, if anyone has plans to set up a new machine for W7 64 bit, these components seem to like each other.

So, what's the missing link in this system? Yes, it's the 64 bit Scherzo driver, of course... Mike, could we fast wind to Christmas now?

Endre

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Subject: Re: 12 Core W7 64 machine is waiting for Mike's 64 bit driver  
Posted by [kerryg](#) on Tue, 25 May 2010 23:01:52 GMT  
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All I can say is WOW!

Mike's been busy with life events for the last little while, but I know the W64 drivers are his biggest passion as of the last time we spoke.

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Subject: Re: 12 Core W7 64 machine is waiting for Mike's 64 bit driver  
Posted by [temetrepo](#) on Tue, 01 Jun 2010 23:33:34 GMT  
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that's a monster of a computer  
wow  
impressive i must say

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Subject: Re: 12 Core W7 64 machine is waiting for Mike's 64 bit driver  
Posted by [rokuez](#) on Mon, 07 Jun 2010 08:59:42 GMT  
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Cool I've been waiting for this post for a while now hungaristan! Thank you for posting.

hungaristan does Paris run ok with the most current drivers for xp?

basically with this win7 system you have spec'ed out here will Paris run ok on it, within the win7 operating system?

Or do you boot up into xp to run Paris on this rig for now.

If you run Paris in win7 on this rig, why exactly do you need 64 bit drivers to have more access to 4gb+ ram for plugins and more cores etc?

thanks again for posting i'll be getting my win 7 paris rig together now!!! i can't wait to get this rig going cause i also got an rme ff800 as well!!!

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Subject: Re: 12 Core W7 64 machine is waiting for Mike's 64 bit driver  
Posted by [hungaristan](#) on Mon, 07 Jun 2010 13:41:27 GMT  
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rokuez wrote on Mon, 07 June 2010 10:59Cool I've been waiting for this post for a while now hungaristan! Thank you for posting.

hungaristan does Paris run ok with the most current drivers for xp?

basically with this win7 system you have spec'ed out here will Paris run ok on it, within the win7 operating system?

Or do you boot up into xp to run Paris on this rig for now.

If you run Paris in win7 on this rig, why exactly do you need 64 bit drivers to have more access to 4gb+ ram for plugins and more cores etc?

thanks again for posting i'll be getting my win 7 paris rig together now!!! i can't wait to get this rig going cause i also got an rme ff800 as well!!!

There are 4 OS's in the system:

WinXP Pro 32 bit:

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All audio hardware and software is available here, this is my PARIS system (with Mike's driver). The only thing that doesn't work here is the Acer touch screens. They were too lazy to write the Xp drivers (which was not clearly stated on their website when I checked it before buying). If I had known this I would have never bought them, hp and Dell touch screens work under Xp for the same price.

Win 7 Ultimate 64 bit:

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All audio hardware and software is available, except PARIS and Wavelab (the 64 bit release is coming out soon)

Win 7 Ultimate 32 bit:

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All audio hardware and software is available, except PARIS. This partition was installed on the Tyan mobo, when I tried to trace down whether the BSODs were caused by Win 7 in general or they were present on the 64 bit version only. Everything works fine here, but now that I have a fully working 64 bit Win 7 system with the Supermicro mobo, this partition is not needed any more.

WinXP Pro 32 bit:

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This partition was installed during the investigations and experiments with various OS and BIOS settings. There's nothing here (not even the mobo drivers), except Acronis True Image.

I'm still using this partition and I perform all disk management tasks for all partitions from here (regular backups, restores, defrags etc.).

In theory it's not necessary to have this partition, but my experience has shown that it's much safer to have a system on a separate HD that's not in daily use (i.e. no updates, failed installs or anything else could mess it up) and the other partitions can be fixed from here in case of a disaster.

So, basically I'm bouncing back and forth between Win Xp 32 and Win7 64 for my audio and video work. The new 64 bit Scherzo drivers would make Xp redundant and I'd use Win 7 64 bit only.

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Subject: Re: 12 Core W7 64 machine is waiting for Mike's 64 bit driver

Posted by [rokuez](#) on Sun, 15 Aug 2010 10:09:16 GMT

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any pics of ure paris rig ?

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Subject: Re: 12 Core W7 64 machine is waiting for Mike's 64 bit driver

Posted by [kerryg](#) on Sun, 15 Aug 2010 19:44:00 GMT

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Unfortunately, it probably moves too fast to photograph

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Subject: Re: 12 Core W7 64 machine is waiting for Mike's 64 bit driver

Posted by [hungaristan](#) on Sun, 15 Aug 2010 23:08:19 GMT

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kerryg wrote on Sun, 15 August 2010 21:44 Unfortunately, it probably moves too fast to photograph

Very wrong. The beast is over 45 kg, I hardly could lift it up to put it on the table during the installation. Whales are not known for their speed.

It's not gonna be too easy to take pictures of it, though, because it's in the studio rack cabinet, where it won't be easy to make its inside visible, but I'll do my best.

Just one serious thought on speed: I've never seen the CPU load to go higher than 30-40% during normal operation of my audio system, but it seems that it will take some time for the developers to efficiently make use of these multicore systems. E.g. I often get VST peaks with some NI VST instruments (10-12 instances in total), while the system CPU load is still around 30%, which is somewhat disappointing.

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Subject: Re: 12 Core W7 64 machine is waiting for Mike's 64 bit driver  
Posted by [rokuez](#) on Tue, 09 Nov 2010 12:01:35 GMT  
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sorry if this is a dumb question.

I haven't build a PC in some time, so maybe i'm not super familiar with the benefits of the Promise SuperTrak EX8650 8 channel RAID.

The Promise SuperTrak EX8650 8 channel RAID is for connecting multiple hard drives?

If so how many hard drives are attached to this rig?

Why not just use the sata connections (at least i assume its not IDE anymore) from the mobo?

Or do you need the Promise SuperTrak EX8650 8 channel RAID because you can't connect more then X amount of hd's just using the mobos sata connections.

Second thing I'm wondering about is what kind of ram you are specifically using for these 8 gb's?

I'm assuming it won't make a difference i suppose, but I just want to make sure as its been three or four years sense i've assembled a pc.

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Subject: Re: 12 Core W7 64 machine is waiting for Mike's 64 bit driver  
Posted by [hungaristan](#) on Tue, 09 Nov 2010 12:53:48 GMT  
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Quote:

The Promise SuperTrak EX8650 8 channel RAID is for connecting multiple hard drives?

yes

Quote:

If so how many hard drives are attached to this rig?

8

Quote:

Or do you need the Promise SuperTrak EX8650 8 channel RAID because you can't connect

more than X amount of HDs just using the mobo's SATA connections.

That's one reason.

The second one is security (RAID 5 can tolerate the failure of any of the attached disks without losing its data)

The third one is increased read/write performance (due to the distributed r/w actions across the drives). This one has not so much importance for most audio applications, as a single SATA drive has enough throughput to handle really high track counts, but it's a must for video apps, because no single drive will play back 8 HD video channels simultaneously in multicam mode and I'm using the machine for video editing, too.

Quote:

Second thing I'm wondering about is what kind of RAM you are specifically using for these 8 GB's?

Kingston ValueRAM - 4GB (2 x 2GB) DDR2 - 667 MHz / PC2-5300 - ECC  
(KVR667D2S4P5K2/4G)

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Subject: Re: 12 Core W7 64 machine is waiting for Mike's 64 bit driver  
Posted by [rokuez](#) on Sat, 20 Nov 2010 12:05:11 GMT

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just ordered the Supermicro H8DA8-2 mobo! thanks again for making this thread! I can't wait till the Windows 7 drivers are available

I've been looking at the Dual six core 2.2 Opteron what kind of fan/heat sink combo did you get?

I'm probably going to get a HAF 932 case, and then get an Antec case of some sort for the Virtua via and four EDs cards.

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Subject: Re: 12 Core W7 64 machine is waiting for Mike's 64 bit driver  
Posted by [hungaristan](#) on Sat, 20 Nov 2010 22:18:00 GMT

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rokuez wrote on Sat, 20 November 2010 13:05: just ordered the Supermicro H8DA8-2 mobo!  
You won't regret it.

Quote: I've been looking at the Dual six core 2.2 Opteron what kind of fan/heat sink combo did you get?

I bought an Innovatek case with integrated water cooling: (their site is in German only)

<http://www.webshop-innovatek.de/shop/Wasserkuehlung/Fertiggehaeuse/>

Chieftec-BIG-Tower-AP-Dual.html

With all the accessories (RAM coolers, chipset cooler, 10 HDD coolers) it cost over \$1400. It's very quiet (although not completely noiseless, because passive cooling is not enough for this

machine, so there's a microcontroller that operates two large fans when needed). I'm quite happy with it, but it's very expensive and it was difficult to set up (connecting all the modules with pipes, filling up the system etc.), so I'd recommend to check this out instead:

<http://tech-reviews.co.uk/reviews/asus-axe-square-cpu-cooler/>

I put together a new machine based on the Tyan mobo that I bought before the Supermicro for my audio system and used these coolers. Way cheaper and as quiet as the Innovatek (although they cool the CPU only and the Innovatek case takes care of all other parts, too).

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