Subject: Crash AND Burn...
Posted by ganttmann1 on Thu, 17 Sep 2009 00:24:26 GMT
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My system has been a little shaky for a while now. I thought I had found the problem - a bad MOTU PCI324 card (so I thought) in my Magma 13 slot expansion chassis. Also in the Magma were 3 EDS-1000 cards and 2 UAD-1 cards. Computer is a 1.25 gHz dual processor G4 running OS 9.2.2. Paris v.3. Everything seemed fine for a few days after removing the MOTU card but tonight I was running a mix and the computer froze in mid-air. All I had on the screen was my desktop picture. All icons were gone. Restarted and tried to start Paris and got this:

1st: I/O modules used in this patch setting are not available.

2nd: I/O modules used in this patch setting are not available.   Resulting audio may be different then when saved.

3rd: An error occured while reading "Default Project" for now. A new empty project will be created. There are not enough resources available.

4th: Error creating new project. There are not enough free resources available.

So I tried opening one of the projects in the Paris folder - the one w/ reverb presets. Paris crashed and I got an error type 12 message.

I tried rebooting from another drive in the same computer with essentially a mirror of my Paris OS 9 system. Same results. Took EDS cards out one at a time. Same results each time except that one of the cards gave me "Error Code -43/ffffffd5", which, i assume means that card is bad. Still - I have three other cards. So I pulled the Magma card and loaded a card into the Mac's PCI slot. same result w/ every card except the "Error Code -43/ffffffd5" one. I have another G4 w/ Paris installed but so far I have been unable to get the mother*@#%er to boot in OS 9. Had to cancel a client tonight and here I am. Praying for a miracle.

Any ideas?

Sheesh.

Thanks in advance for even WANTING to help ,even if you can't...

gantt

Subject: Re: Crash AND Burn...
Posted by Ted Gerber on Thu, 17 Sep 2009 01:48:30 GMT
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yikes-

might want to call the soniq on this one...

ted

Subject: Re: Crash AND Burn...
Posted by Ted Gerber on Thu, 17 Sep 2009 01:52:55 GMT
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when you put the EDS card in the G4 pci slot, did you use the same slot as the magma chassis card? try another slot if you haven't already

the only time i ever got messages like this was when the EDS card wouldn't/couldn't talk to the MEC - in that case it was because i shorted out the card (and the MEC) by bending one of the pins on the plug...

if you have a bad pci slot in the G4, it would produce the same net result

ted

Subject: Re: Crash AND Burn...
Posted by ganttmann1 on Thu, 17 Sep 2009 03:56:46 GMT
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Hey Ted,

Thanks for the helpful words. I finally have it up again. It was one bad EDS card and, apparently, something corrupted in the Paris software. I finally got my #2 computer running and used it to be sure I had one good card and one good MEC. Got the good card into the #1 computer with the good MEC connected and had the same result. So I reinstalled Paris and it worked. Then I put the good card in the Magma and got that working. Then I put one card in at a time and found the bad one. So I'm back to three EDS cards, two UAD-1 cards and it seems OK. ONe weird thing - Before my A card was submix 1 and my C card was sub 2. Now A is sub 1 and B is sub 2. So I have to reconfigure ALL my projects to match! What a pain!

But it works. Whew.

gantt

Ted Gerber wrote on Wed, 16 September 2009 21:52when you put the EDS card in the G4 pci slot, did you use the same slot as the magma chassis card? try another slot if you haven't already

the only time i ever got messages like this was when the EDS card wouldn't/couldn't talk to the MEC - in that case it was because i shorted out the card (and the MEC) by bending one of the pins on the plug...

if you have a bad pci slot in the G4, it would produce the same net result

ted

Subject: Re: Crash AND Burn...
Posted by ganttmann1 on Thu, 17 Sep 2009 04:12:42 GMT
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Well, I thought I had it licked. Started getting some weird digital static. Rebooted and the statics gone but so is card 3. I'm done for today! Tomorrow I'll pull the cards, clean the edge connectors and re-seat them. And I'll say a little prayer.

6 hours working on this is enough. Good night!

Subject: Re: Crash AND Burn...
Posted by kerryg on Thu, 17 Sep 2009 08:05:22 GMT
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Gantt - if you opened your Mac recently before the problems started, do an *extremely careful* inspection of all your mobo's ribbon connectors to make sure none have been nicked or kinked, or have any sharp bend at all.

I cannot *tell* you how much trouble this one caused a friend of mine - both subtle problems and not-so-subtle. It doesn't always kill a Mac - it can lead to serious problems and flakiness instead.

Subject: Re: Crash AND Burn...
Posted by rick on Thu, 17 Sep 2009 08:52:11 GMT
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+1 on the cable possibility.

Subject: Re: Crash AND Burn...
Posted by kerryg on Thu, 17 Sep 2009 17:42:47 GMT

The ribbon cables are really cheap (you could probably replace them all for under $5) - and the problems a flaky one can create are potentially extremely serious.

So given the presumed age of that Mac and the number of times it might have been opened over its lifespan and the cables inadvertently "stressed" as cards or drives etc were installed or moved or taken out - it's probably a good idea to just replace them all anyway to be *sure* they aren't the problem, and won't be for years to come.

Subject: Re: Crash AND Burn...
Posted by ganttmann1 on Thu, 17 Sep 2009 17:46:07 GMT

Hey Kerry,

Good advice. Any idea where one would find 'em?

gantt

kerryg wrote on Thu, 17 September 2009 13:42The ribbon cables are so darned cheap (you could probably replace them all for under $5) - and the problems a flaky one can create are potentially extremely serious.

So given the presumed age of that Mac and the number of times it might have been opened over its lifespan - it's probably a good idea to just replace them anyway to be *sure* they aren't the problem, and won't be for years to come.

Subject: Re: Crash AND Burn...
Posted by kerryg on Thu, 17 Sep 2009 17:48:09 GMT

I'm guessing your local computer store or an electronics place like Fry's. I've never seen the exact problems you've had, but I've seen that *sort* or *class* of problem from the connectors, if you know what I mean. Take the old ones in with you and check for any "keying" on the connectors since some of those old ones were keyed differently (if I recall, some of them weren't keyed at all).

Hey, if you have another Mac of similar vintage close at hand you could *carefully* (it'll be equally old and fragile) swap the ribbon connector from, you could test the theory right now.