Subject: Up and running with the PARIS Multicore Drivers
Posted by kerryg on Sun, 29 Mar 2009 17:30:04 GMT
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OK, I'm launched.

I'd been struggling with intractable 1/1 errors that started long before Christmas, which weren't a
priority to track down since there really wasn't anything the PARIS rig was needed for until the
studio opened. Getting PARIS sorted out has jumped up in priority as I get moved in and wired up.

With Mike Audet's help I quickly discovered PARIS wasn't being "difficult". It really *couldn't* find
the hardware; when I started this process a year ago, the best bet was to assemble a PARIS
DAW from old mobos and other components with good solid PARIS-friendly track records, but the
PCI slots on my PARIS-friendly-but-ancient ASUS mobo had died sometime between purchase
and studio move.

With Mike's drivers it's a different game now- his fixes to the PSCL locked down a ton of little
finicky problems under the hood, so the job of choosing a mobo and components is largely the
same as with any other DAW now - go with good quality components. There was nothing really
stopping me taking the multicore plunge.

So I just got on Craigslist and found a secondhand multicore computer with premium components
for $380 CAD (about $300 USD) - Athlon X2/ASUS M2N-E/500W Coolermaster PSU/4 gigs
Corsair RAM/500gig Seagate Barracuda). I chucked the PARIS cards into it, installed the software
in order and powered up the MECs.

Couple of hours just playing around - not one crash. No hesitations, no problems. So far, so good
- everything *just works* like it used to, except far more "peppy". Crossing my fingers and moving
on to more testing later.

Installed Reaper and the libsndfile wrapper - Xenakios outdid himself. PAFs don't get "imported"
into Reaper, they just *show up* in the file selector and when you load them they just *show up*
on the edit screen - like a WAV or any other audio file. Our PAFs are as good as WAVS now, as
far as Reaper is concerned.

So now I can track beds in PARIS in full 24-bit PAF, quit the app, open REAPER and start editing
drums - just like that.

More as I explore, but so far, so good!