
Subject: OK, what about this then . . .

Posted by [Sarah](#) on Fri, 30 Nov 2007 07:27:59 GMT

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Assuming I can talk the studio owner out of replacing Paris with his budget Pro Tools M thing, I had a couple other ideas that might appease the hungry techie in him.

One idea, what if we just upgrade the Paris computer? How risky is that? It's so old, I don't even know what it is anymore, and that makes me a bit nervous starting on a new CD project. If I do the "properties" thing, it tells me that I have a "GenuineIntel x86 Family 6 Model 8 stepping 3," whatever the hell that means. It's pentium III or Celeron or something right? Anyway, it's got a whopping 192 mb of RAM, and a mind-boggling 26 GB of hard drive (two 4 gigs and one 18 gig). Would Paris be OK with a new computer? Does it run in XP? Other potential problems . . . ?

Another idea would be to not only upgrade the computer, but also to expand Paris using the spare system I have hibernating in my closet to give us 32 tracks. What does that involve aside from plugging in another EDS card?

I know you guys have discouraged me from doing anything to a working Paris rig, but this thing's at least 7 years old, maybe more, and I hate for it to have a coronary right in the middle of our new CD project.

I don't know. Just thinking out loud here. And I heard there was a guy around here who could build us a killer Paris system. :)

I'd like to say thank you on behalf of the band and ourselves . . .

Sarah-tonin

Subject: Re: OK, what about this then . . .

Posted by [DJ](#) on Fri, 30 Nov 2007 08:33:52 GMT

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"Sarah" <sarahjane@sarah-tonin.com> wrote in message news:474fbc8e@linux...
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Subject: Re: OK, what about this then . . .
Posted by [John \[1\]](#) on Fri, 30 Nov 2007 13:23:45 GMT
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and add 512mb to give you 692mb

Subject: Re: OK, what about this then . . .
Posted by [Aaron Allen](#) on Fri, 30 Nov 2007 14:38:29 GMT
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A new/larger hard drive for audio might not be a bad thing. Be aware that old BIOS and motherboard limitations are likely well below the largest drive available.. check with the motherboard manufacturer for those details. Get a Seagate 7200RPM for the drive, and on a machine of that age it'll need the IDE interface. If you put another EDS in there be aware that they are heat sensitive and power hungry and you 'could' buckle that old supply and start having problems. Make sure the supply is of adequate output, say something like at least a 400w. I wouldn't touch the memory, it'll gain you nothing IME on Win 98. Brian T ran his monster rig of 8 cards on a Athlon 1 Ghz with

256mb of memory. You're looking at one or maybe 2 EDS cards.
Above all before you touch ANYTHING, make a Ghosted image of the system drive.

AA

"Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote in message news:474fbc8e@linux...

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Subject: Re: OK, what about this then . . .
Posted by [DJ](#) on Fri, 30 Nov 2007 15:17:38 GMT
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"TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote in message news:4750271e\$1@linux...

>
> Deej, did you start smoking the good stuff again? You just told someone
> _not_
> to upgrade their computer? I'd think coming from you Sara should set up an
> iSCSI array in another room using 10 GBit ethernet and slave three dual
> opterons

> to each other each with two Magma chassis in each and six EDS cards. Fever
> maybe?
>
> TCB
>

Actually, the way I was going to do it at one time was to have 9 x separate Paris systems, each with an Opcode Studio64XTC to timeline sync them via smpte. 8 x of them would be summing into #9 via ADAT and I think it would have worked just fine if they were running Windows 95 so that the Opcode driver would function properly.

Subject: Re: OK, what about this then . . .
Posted by [Cujjo](#) on Fri, 30 Nov 2007 16:01:00 GMT
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Yes I had issues on my old paris comp that the bios it would think my large drive was a virus! I had to ignore some startup screen every time I started it. But the drive worked, just never showed up as full size if I recall.

"Aaron Allen" <know-spam@not_here.dude> wrote:

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>old BIOS and motherboard limitations are likely well below the largest drive

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Subject: Re: OK, what about this then . . .

Posted by [TCB](#) on Fri, 30 Nov 2007 16:07:10 GMT

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Deej, did you start smoking the good stuff again? You just told someone _not_ to upgrade their computer? I'd think coming from you Sara should set up an iSCSI array in another room using 10 GBit ethernet and slave three dual opterons to each other each with two Magma chassis in each and six EDS cards. Fever maybe?

TCB

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Subject: Re: OK, what about this then . . .
Posted by [TCB](#) on Fri, 30 Nov 2007 16:11:44 GMT
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If you were using Win98 then your BIOS was right, the drive was a virus.

TCB

"Cujo" <chris@applemanstudio.com> wrote:

>
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>Yes I had issues on my old paris comp that the bios it would think my large
>drive was a virus! I had to ignore some startup screen every time I started
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Subject: Re: OK, what about this then . . .

Posted by [Kim](#) on Sat, 01 Dec 2007 00:37:58 GMT

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>I'd like to say thank you on behalf of the band and ourselves...

....and I hope you enjoyed the audition. :o)

It's worth noting what Aaron pointed out. Brian T ran an amazing system off a 1 gig 256 meg machine and back then we all thought a 26gig hdd was pretty impressive. ;o)

My first Paris system was Win98, 300Mhz 64Meg ram and a 6.5 gig hdd. Only one EDS card and I would occasionally run out of CPU grunt for plugins, but honestly, we used to track songs while the computer was also doing other stuff at the same time. You could lay down drums and bass while playing video, for example, and look at the machine specs. ;o) My second Paris rig was a 1.2 gig Athlon with 256 meg of ram. It only got replaced because it was faulty and I recognized that we were fast reaching a time when Paris wouldn't run on most new hardware. Ironically the Athlon probably ran short on resources just as often as the 300Mhz box, mostly because I was running Win XP on just 256 Meg. On win 98 this machine would probably never have required upgrading for my use, which at that point was a two EDS system not unlike your own.

All that said, a new hdd isn't going to hurt you. There's nothing like having 200Gig of space sitting there. If nothing else, it means you don't hesitate to just "jot down an idea" in demo form and waste 300meg of space.

As far as just reliability goes, you can kind of look at it two ways. On one hand if a computer is old surely it will break soon. On the other hand, if it's 5 years old and is still running maybe that means "you got the good one" and it will run another 20 years. I find computers often fail after, say, 3-4 years if they are going to fail at all. Beyond that point they tend to fail because of mechanical hardware... dead motherboard battery, a fan has bearing issues, perhaps a hdd goes as they also have moving parts. There are exceptions to every rule of course, but if I have a box which is left untouched for 5 years and runs fine I tend to have more, rather than less faith in it.

This group is running on (I think) a 450MHz PIII with 128 meg which was probably built around 1999. We go offline from time to time for a bit due to internet issues, but that hardware has only failed once, and that was, as above, the CPU fan had a bearing issue. I bought a new CPU for \$15 with a fan on it and she's been sweet since.

If I were you, assuming you don't find you need more power, I'd consider perhaps finding the biggest economical hdd you can fit in it and just leave it at that. If you're really really keen you might upgrade the ram, but Win98 runs nicely on over 128 with only Paris (runs ok on 64 if your install is clean like I said).

It's a different story if you think that upgrading the computer will help your "save Paris" case. Sometimes, even if there's no sense to it, and upgrade can make somebody feel like they are not out of date anymore. ;o) In terms of having a solid reliable Paris box that does everything you want however, I wouldn't be replacing the entire box unless you have reason to do so.

Cheers,
Kim.

"Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:

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Posted by [Kim](#) on Sat, 01 Dec 2007 00:41:46 GMT
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....and as Aaron says... before ANYTHING is touched...

....GHOST! :o)

Cheers,
Kim.

"Kim" <hiddenounds@hotmail.com> wrote:

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