

## Re: IRQ assignment in Windows 2K/XP/2003...

---

*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Development/microsoft.public.development.device.drivers/2005-04/msg01320.html>

---

- *From:* "Cosmo" <[cosmo\\_matt@xxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:cosmo_matt@xxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* 29 Apr 2005 12:42:50 -0700
- 

I never did report what I found out on this:

I discovered in the PCI bridge spec (chapter 9, revision 1.1) that if multiple devices on the other side of a PCI-to-PCI bridge (on an expansion board) are required to use the same PCI slot interrupt line (INTA#-INTD#) and therefore same IRQ#, the "interrupt pin" request in each of the device's PCI configuration header has to be different (they both don't request INTA# as I thought). For the first device, it had to specify INTA# and the second device needed to specify INTD#. When BIOS POST code is initializing the system, it assumes a pre-defined set of routing information and writes a common IRQ# to each device's "interrupt line" register in the configuration space.

Who would have thunk it?

So, no driver, Windows PnP manager, or BIOS problems were the culprit--just a misconfiguration in hardware...

So Mark, the bridge wasn't "directly" involved with the routing of the interrupts--but the presence of the bridge did change the configuration requirements for the devices on the secondary bus...

Cosmo

Mark Roddy wrote:

> Paul L wrote:

>> Why do you say that the motherboard has them or'd together? The Int A lines

Re: IRQ assignment in Windows 2K/XP/2003...

- >> do not need to be bussed together. The mother board can route the Int lines
- >> from each slot anyway it wishes.
- >>
- >
- > Yes indeed but from the description of the OP's problem it would appear
- > that the lines are OR'd together and that the BIOS is misreporting them
- > as separate. It is not that it has to be this way, it is that this
- > appears, from the evidence presented, to be a fact in this situation.
- >
- > He has two devices behind the bridge, each of which are given separate
- > interrupt vectors by the OS, indicating that the OS believes them to be
- > separately routable. Call them DevA and DevB. DevB asserts an interrupt,
- > but the ISR for DevA gets invoked. DevA.ISR returns False, as the
- > interrupt is not for DevA. DevB.ISR does not get invoked. Instead, as
  
- > the PCI interrupt is still asserted, DevA.ISR is immediately re-invoked.
- > Repeat ad nauseum. I say that the bios is misreporting the interrupt