

Re: c0000218 hive error – maybe a special case?

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Win2000/microsoft.public.win2000.registry/2006-10/msg00023.html>

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- *From:* [rsilverst@xxxxxxxxxx](mailto:rsilverst@xxxxxxxxxx)
  - *Date:* 9 Oct 2006 12:24:02 -0700
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FYI – the error message indicates the SOFTWARE hive, not the system hive.

Is there any chance that the recovery method of grabbing a "snapshot" that is described in Q307545 will work for me? It says that it will not work with OEM installations – I am pretty sure that my installation is NOT an OEM because I installed it myself on a home-built PC.

Thoughts? Comments?

Thanks again!  
Bob

Dave Patrick wrote:

You didn't mention the hive. Assuming the system hive and you already tried LKG, It may be possible to rename the system hive found in  
%systemroot%\system32\config\system  
to system.old  
then rename  
%systemroot%\system32\config\system.alt  
to  
%systemroot%\system32\config\system

You can also try using the most recent backup found in  
%systemroot%\repair\regback

If that fails you haven't much choice but to copy/ use the original-as-installed system hive from  
%systemroot%\repair\system  
to  
%systemroot%\system32\config\system  
You'll need to reinstall the device drivers for any hardware added since the original OS install.

If the software hive, it may be possible to rename the software hive found in;  
%systemroot%\system32\config\software

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to software.old  
then copy the most recent backup found in  
%systemroot%\repair\regback  
as  
%systemroot%\system32\config\software

If that fails you can copy/ use the file  
%systemroot%\repair\software  
This file is an image of the hive at the time the OS was installed, so you'd  
have to reinstall all software. This being the case you might just as well  
blow it away and start a new install. (note: this would at least allow you  
to start the OS to make any necessary backups prior to wiping the drive.)

To start the Recovery Console, start the computer from the Windows 2000  
Setup CD or the Windows 2000 Setup floppy disks. If you do not have Setup  
floppy disks and your computer cannot start from the Windows 2000 Setup CD,  
use another Windows 2000–based computer to create the Setup floppy disks. At  
the "Welcome to Setup" screen. Press F10 or R to repair a Windows 2000  
installation, and then press C to use the Recovery Console. The Recovery  
Console then prompts you for the administrator password. If you do not have  
the correct password, Recovery Console does not allow access to the  
computer. If an incorrect password is entered three times, the Recovery  
Console quits and restarts the computer. Note If the registry is corrupted  
or missing or no valid installations are found, the Recovery Console starts  
in the root of the startup volume without requiring a password. You cannot  
access any folders, but you can carry out commands such as chkdsk, fixboot,  
and fixmbr for limited disk repairs. Once the password has been validated,  
you have full access to the Recovery Console, but limited access to the hard  
disk. You can only access the following folders on your computer: drive  
root, %windir% or %systemroot%

Since you have a parallel install you can do the file copy from the other OS

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Regards,

Dave Patrick ....Please no email replies – reply in newsgroup.  
Microsoft Certified Professional  
Microsoft MVP [Windows]  
<http://www.microsoft.com/protect>

<rsilverst@xxxxxxxx> wrote:

| Hi–

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| I've got the blue screen 218 error, but this might be a special case so

| I wanted to describe and ask if there are any easier solutions than

| those posed in previous posts.

|

| I was performing a file search, and I decided to cancel it, but the

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| windows explorer went to "not responding" and i couldn't quit the  
| process, and then it hung the whole computer and I was forced to do a  
| hard reset. That's when I got the registry error. So I'm guessing  
| it's a corrupt registry file as opposed to a disk problem.

| The difference here is that I've got a second bootable drive in my  
| machine, which I'm hoping might give me more options.

| Some details:

| I can't do safe mode.  
| I can't do "last good configuration".

| But the second drive boots fine, and I can see all the files on the  
| main drive.

| Is there any way I might be able to fix this problem \*without\* ending  
| up in a situation where I'll need to reinstall all my software on the  
| main boot drive?

| FYI, I installed my operating system myself, since this was a  
| home-assembled computer. And though the second drive is bootable, it  
| doesn't have all my software on it, so I can't just blow away the first  
| drive and start over.

| Thanks in advance for any suggestions.

| Post, or email me at rsilverst-at-gmail-dot-com.