

Re: FIXMBR redux

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.basics/2004-06/0247.html>

From: *Vanguard* (reply-to=newsgroup_at_to-email.use-Reply.obey-signature.invalid)

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William B. Lurie said in news:40BC5F65.3070603@nospam.org:

- > *I think this leads back to my discussions with, and*
- > *advice from, Michael Solomon a while back.....*
- >
- > *Since 'solving' the problems of creating a drive image*
- > *of my master hard drive with Drive Image 7, and creating*
- > *a clone of that drive with its PowerQuest Recovery*
- > *Environment software, I've been living in a fool's*
- > *paradise. I discovered this when I went to create the*
- > *monthly Drive Image yesterday, and create the clone on*
- > *a newly purchased hard drive.*
- >
- > *I've been living with my Master drive booting to a*
- > *choice between normal start-up and Recovery Console,*
- > *a minor annoyance because after a ten-second countdown*
- > *it goes to normal boot, automatically. No problem there.*
- >
- > *I believe that the main part of the problem is now that*
- > *the new exact clone does not have Master Boot Record*
- > *correct, because the 'Normal Boot' path leads to the*
- > *choices of Safe Mode or Normal etcetera, and no choice*
- > *gets to anything other than a repeat of that set of*
- > *choices. If I select Recovery Console, I get a short*
- > *DOS-type message saying that file 'xxxxx.dll' is missing,*
- > *and to reload it somehow from somewhere. I suspect that*
- > *more than one '.dll' file will be in the list of what it*
- > *needs. I tried selecting Recovery Console, hoping that I*
- > *could somehow do a FIXMBR there, but I can't get to RC.*
- >
- > *Incidentally, in running Drive Image, I've repeated the*
- > *whole image-and-recreate process, with and without the*
- > *'keep the MBR' option, with no apparent difference in*
- > *results. I've tried to solve the problem without going to*
- > *you experts, but what I've considered all logical paths*
- > *haven't solved it.*
- >
- > *William B. Lurie*

Although PartitionMagic is great at managing partitions, it doesn't let you save the contents of the MBR. Neither does DriveImage since it creates image filesets for the partition and doesn't include the MBR. You mentioned a "keep the MBR" option. Is this something new in their latest version 7? I have DriveImage 2002 (and prior versions) and that was not an option.

If PartitionMagic or DriveImage really don't include the MBR in whatever version you have, and if you were looking to copy the MBR from the source drive to the cloned drive, use mbrutil from Powerquest. Go to:

ftp://ftp.symantec.com/public/english_us_canada/tools/pq/utilities/

and download head.zip. You can also use tools like MBRtool (<http://www.diydatarecovery.nl/~tkuurstra/mbrtool.htm>). If you know the bootstrap program is larger than 460 bytes and usurps the unused portion of track 0 then be sure to save the entire track 0 rather than just the MBR section (sector 0). Some multiboot managers will use the rest of track 0 for their code or for an extended partition table (if they support more than 4 partitions). You could save the MBR or track 0 onto a floppy and then use the mbrutil or MBRtool to restore it onto the cloned drive.

With the message regarding hal.dll missing, did you perchance change the power saving settings in the BIOS from ACPI to APM or visa versa? Have you tried running the Repair function from the install CD?

You can configure the timeout for the boot menu. System applet in Control Panel, Advanced, Startup and Recovery button,

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