

Tutorial 5 is coming soon

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Hi all,

I have now a Windows Embedded SP1 image of 365 MB FAT16 (uncompressed) (is very close to real XP Pro SP1), that simply boots any computer with USB boot possibility in Bios.

I do not know, where to get more computers, that can be tested . Perhaps I reached the mark of 100 different compis that can boot from this single USB image. I tested also about 20 different USB devices for that image. Some USB sticks show a very silly behavior but at last they work all with this image and all can boot all compis from USB.

The method, to write first all FF on a brand new USB stick with a Hexeditor like Winhex seems to be a very good thing to persuade it to boot XP from USB. Until now I dont know why this works. Also it seems to be important for some USB sticks, to copy first ntdetect.com , ntlldr and boot.ini on it and dont replace them after!

I found out, that the Lexar Jump drive is shown at once as a harddisk, so there you need not the Hitachi Filter drive.

I noticed, that the generic image only works, if exact the Critical Device Database of the Tutorial 3 with putting in the real Vid and Pid numbers and the same for USBSTOR#... of the special USB device is used. No generic entry there for the Vid and Pid number there works on all computers.

And a very tricky thing is the use of the EWF filter. Direct before you enable EWF, delete a last time whole key Mounted Devices. After this, if you do USB boot on any computer, this key is build new, but only in ram. So you have no key Mounted Devices before you boot a new compi.

Any extra entry in the Critical Device Database gives a BSOD 0x7b on a

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few computers.

The entry gendisk alone has to be deleted.

Yesterday I send such a generic USB image on a SanDisk Cruzer Micro 512 USB stick to ala2.

Perhaps he is able to find a computer, where it does not work.

So I think, that the Tutorial 5 will be splitted in 2 parts:

Part 1 will describe how to build a slipstream CD with that you can install via USB XP SP2 simply on any computer. I received a Beta version from ala2, so this is nearly ready.

This USB XP SP2 will not boot other computers.

Part 2 is coming from Windows Embedded. I know now a lot of reasons, that gives you BSOD 0x7b.

The funny thing is: Windows Embedded is much more vulnerable for this blue screen than real XP.

But it is a hard work, to build a real XP with the corresponding drivers of Windows Embedded.

Until now I have such a XP (build only of SP1 drivers) but it does not boot all computers from USB, as ala2 told me. So this part is only 50% ready. My problem there is, that this real XP SP1 boots all of my computers and all of them at school and in the neighborhood.

There is perhaps a very small thing that makes the BSOD 0x7b on some computers.

Martin says, that he put all the PCI devices in a special order at boottime (with Group, Start and TAG. This is the only new idea I have at this moment.

Nice to hear from you

Dietmar

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