

Re: FireWire install problem (& long saga)

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<junkmail608@verizon.net> wrote in message
news:1106751624.940123.270800@c13g2000cwb.googlegroups.com...

| I'm frustrated. I installed a new FireWire card in my PC; and I'm
| getting nothing. That's right, nothing. It isn't even detected,
| much less loading the correct drivers. Here's the whole sad saga
| from the beginning. If you want to skip down to the end, you won't
| miss much pertinent info; mostly this is just venting.

| Not being financially well endowed, I opted for a low price Sony analog
| HandyCam a couple years ago. At that time, digital was well beyond my
| means; and video editing wasn't even on my radar screen. Not long
| after however, I began to see the advantages and fun of working with
| desktop video. Having an analog camcorder, I needed a conversion tool,
| and I picked up a Dazzle DVC100. Analog in; digital out. Should have
| been great. Wasn't. The problem was, the drivers for the device
| seemed to be compatible with every operating system but mine, Windows
| 98SE.

| I tried everything, downloaded the latest drivers, contacted tech
| support, everything. No way, so I just abandoned the whole thing for a
| while, until my processor fortuitously self destructed. As long as
| I'm replacing the motherboard et al (Celeron 2.1), I may as well
| upgrade the OS too, I figure, and I bought Windows XP Home for
| installation on the rebuilt system. Lo and behold, the Dazzle now
| worked; and I managed a few nice projects before it stopped working.
| I don't know why. I can't figure out why; and of course, the
| DVC100 is no longer manufactured and Dazzle is now Pinnacle and there
| is no tech support anymore.

| I went through all of the usual steps. Uninstalling the device and
| drivers, downloading and installing the latest drivers, etc. Still
| nothing. The device appears to be functioning in the Device Manager;
| but neither Windows Movie Maker or MovieStar5 seem to be seeing the
| video signal correctly (neither composite nor S-video). It was
| especially frustrating because it almost works and actually did work at
| one time. After more time on this problem than any sane person would

| expend, I decided to chuck it all and go digital.

| Skip to here for the real question:

| So, while waiting for the arrival of my new MiniDV camcorder (still on a budget), I bought the FireWire card (Adaptec AFW-4300). I put it in an available PCI slot and booted up the PC, delightfully expecting the plug & play to do its thing. Nothing different happened; the PC booted up normally. No "new hardware detected"; no "installing the drivers for your new hardware", nothing. It was as if the card wasn't there. Checked the Device Manager looking for the IEEE Bus Controller; nothing there. Tried "install new hardware" from the Control Panel. Selected the IEEE 1394 Bus Controller device. Windows cannot locate drivers for this device. I'm screwed.

| For the next hour, I tried a few things that got me no closer to a resolution; but if I list them all, maybe it will help you deduce where my problem lies:

| 1. As recommended in the Adaptec installation guide I went to the Microsoft site to locate the latest drivers. I couldn't find anything under "downloads" and precious little in the knowledge base.

| 2. I powered down, removed the card, and moved it to a different slot. I had initially installed the card in a slot occupied by a modem card. The modem is no longer used (I'm DSL now), so I figured this was as good a time as any to yank it. Not only was it not used, however, I had previously disabled it in the Device Manager because it was conflicting with a video card installation. Apparently by disabling the modem, it freed up an IRQ (COM1/COM3) and allowed detection of the video card. (That's another long story and beyond my knowledge, but one thing at a time. If this is relevant in any way & you want more details, just ask.) So it occurred to me that this particular PCI slot might be inoperative because of disabling the modem, and I tried a different slot for the FireWire card. It didn't make any difference.

| 3. I tried looking for tech support and/or drivers on the Adaptec site. No help there. It just tells me that XP should have the drivers embedded. Thanks a lot. OTOH, it does mention five files that should be present for XP to install the 1394 drivers; but three of these files are not present on my PC:

| c:\windows\system32\drivers\1394bus.sys

| c:\windows\system32\drivers\enum1394.sys

| c:\windows\system32\drivers\ohci1394.sys

| I do have the XP disk; but I have not yet tried finding the drivers there (ran out of time last night).

| 4. In Device Manager, there is an "Unknown Device" listed under the USB devices. This may or may not be the FireWire card. I yanked out some of the USB cables (the known offenders – remote hub & card

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| reader) to see if that device disappeared, but it remained. I have not
| yet tried removing all of the USB devices; but I suspect that the
| unknown device might be the FireWire card being erroneously detected.

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| Given the history of problems with device detection and driver
| installation with this PC, I probably don't have just "normal"
| problems; but there seems to me to be two issues at work here. First,
| why doesn't the PC detect the new hardware? And second, where are my
| IEEE 1394 drivers?

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| Thanks for any help,
| Joe F.

Sounds like the card is bad.