

## Re: emachines w3107 question

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.general/2008-06/msg03397.html>

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- *From:* "R. McCarty" <PcEngWork-NoSpam @xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
  - *Date:* Wed, 18 Jun 2008 18:32:51 -0400
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That's one of the questions that will never get a "Meeting of the Minds". Most new computers have "Low Power" modes where the PC for all intents is off. The better question is how often do you use the PC and does boot time matter to you. I turn mine on in the morning and off at night. Some people leave their PCs on 24-7 and allow them to go to Standby or Hibernate. On average a computer "Fully Awake & Running" consumes power similar to a 100-watt light bulb.

From a technical standpoint heat ages electrical components. So

leaving it on consumes power that is partly dissipated as heat. But if you allow it to go to sleep then the power draw is nearly zero.

A computer in Hibernate or Standby can be resumed quicker than if it's doing a cold boot.

Maybe this is a question for "The Mythbusters" (?) I'd just use it the way you like and not worry about shortening it's life. Besides most PC's become obsolete before they physically fail.

"dedmunne" <dedmunne.29f4047@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message [news:dedmunne.29f4047@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:dedmunne.29f4047@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

w\_tom;3140369 Wrote:

On Jun 18, 6:29\*am, dedmunne dedmunne.29ea...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx wrote:--  
My girlfriend has left this comp running 24/7and we've had the comp.  
for  
about 2 years with no problems until yesterday when a storm knocked  
out  
the electricity and ALL that appears on the screen now is this

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MediaShield ROM BIOS 6.33  
Copyright (C) 2005 NVIDIA Corp.

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Detecting array ...

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She rebooted several times and a couple of times " Windows root\system32\hal.dll. is missing " appeared on the screen . We first tried the "Recovery Disc" that came with the comp. and tried both the "Destructive" repair and the "with Back-up" repair options to no avail and now when you reboot the only thing on the screen besides the \*eMachines logo is  
BOOT Menu F10  
BIOS Settings F2-

Better computer manufacturers provide comprehensive hardware diagnostics for free just for this problem. Currently, you are trying to fix everything at once rather than break the problem into parts; address hardware separately without Windows.

For example, a missing .DLL file might be a Windows problem. Kernel Inpage error message implies hardware. System now booting only BIOS and not Windows – either. Executing hardware diagnostic verifies hardware without the complication of Windows – simplifies a solution by analyzing hardware without Windows complications.

So download diagnostics from third parties. For example, a memory checker (MemTst86) can be downloaded and booted. But what can you boot that system from now that Windows does not boot. Memtst86 normally would boot from a floppy. A responsible manufacturer would provide complete diagnostics to boot from a CD. Could you load and boot Memtst86 from a memory stick? You must do this to first establish where the defect lies.

Repeat same for hard disk. Download and boot that diagnostic from the hard drive manufacturer.

Another approach is to verify various subsystems. For example, all those strange problems could be due to a power supply 'system' problem. Yes, every one of those previous error messages can be traceable to voltages that exist and are too low. Thirty second with a multimeter would provide the complete answer. Measure VDC on any one of orange, red, purple, and yellow wires when system should be booting. If numbers exceed 3.23, 4.97, or 11.7, then that subsystem is perfectly good – move on to other suspects.

Each suggestion has a common theme. Break the problem into parts. Establish which parts do or do not work – definitively. This occurs so much faster if the manufacturer provided comprehensive hardware diagnostics. Once hardware integrity is known, only then move on to address potential Windows problems. However, based upon your various error messages, this is probably a hardware failure; each message

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pointing at completely different hardware which is why a power supply 'system' is also suspect.

Why did failure occur? A useful answer is only after the defect is identified.

Thank you all for your replies but since I know nothing about the inner workings of a comp. then I suppose we will have to buy another one because I doubt the bill to fix it would be that much less than buying a new one that is better than the one we have now.

One last question though...is it better to turn your comp. off when not in use or does it really decrease the lifespan of a comp. to just leave it running all the time?

Thanks again so much for your replies.

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dedmunne