

Re: Hard Disk Failure

Source:

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- *From:* "Bill Ridgeway" <info@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sun, 25 Feb 2007 14:26:59 -0000
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The first rule when trying to rescue a hard disk is not to use the faulty hard disk. Anything you do may just prevent economic resolution. This could be either by a change to a file or (if it's a mechanical fault) the one additional use that kills it (the one extra straw that breaks the camel's back argument).

You were right not to format it and to look to using another hard drive. You say that it is an old hard disk. That begs the questions just how old, what is its capacity, how fast does it spin, how much has it already been use, does it have any bad sectors. It would be better to get a new hard disk. They're not that expensive.

Looking at information from the PartitionMagic info tool, I'm wondering if you were trying to "fit a quart into a pint pot". Getting a new hard disk should also remedy this problem.

Regards.

Bill Ridgeway
Computer Solutions

"DannyBoy" <dandeasy@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
<news:1172410812.922111.9420@xx>

Hi there

I have a machine with XP Home on it and I use it alot. The problem is that my hard disk seems to have become unreadable and therefore I cant get it to boot. I dont want to format the drive at this point as there is so much stuff on the hard disk that I want to try to keep. The hard disk is partitioned into 2 drives. C: is NTFS and it has XP home and all my apps and data etc... D: is FAT32 and has a recovery partiton on it that enough data to restore to factory defaults.

I found an old hard disk and installed XP pro on it and then installed partition magic on to it. I was hoping that it would automatically fix the HD geometry problem but sadly it did not. I ran the Partition Info tool on the drives and this is the result. I am woundering if anyone can help me to fix the hard disk but without having to loose all the

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data on the disk.

PowerQuest PartitionInfo 8.0 -- Windows NT/2000 Version
Date Generated: 02/25/07 13:23:59
Copyright (c)1994-2002, PowerQuest Corporation
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as it is not modified in any way. All other rights are reserved.

PowerQuest, makers of PartitionMagic(r), Drive Image(tm), and
DriveCopy(tm), can be reached at:
Voice: 801-437-8900
Fax: 801-226-8941
Web site: <http://www.powerquest.com/support/>
E-mail: magic@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

General System Information:
Total Physical Memory (bytes): 1,005,043,712
Used Physical Memory: (bytes): 179,548,160
Maximum Page File Size: (bytes): 2,426,105,856
Current Page File Size: (bytes): 99,770,368

=====
Disk Geometry Information for Disk 1: 2434 Cylinders, 255 Heads,
63 Sectors/Track
System PartSect # Boot BCyl Head Sect FS ECyl Head
Sect StartSect NumSects
=====

0 0 80 0 1 1 07 1023 254
63 63 39,102,147
Info: End C,H,S values were large drive placeholders.
Actual values are:
0 0 80 0 1 1 07 2433 254 63 63
39102147

=====
Disk Geometry Information for Disk 2: 4368 Cylinders, 240 Heads,
63 Sectors/Track
System PartSect # Boot BCyl Head Sect FS ECyl Head
Sect StartSect NumSects
=====

PRESARIO_RP 0 0 00 0 1 1 0C 831 239
63 63 12,579,777
Info: Begin C,H,S values were large drive placeholders.
Info: End C,H,S values were large drive placeholders.
Actual values are:
0 0 00 0 1 1 0C 831 239 63 63
12579777
0 1 80 832 0 1 07 1023 239

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63 12,579,840 299,980,800
Info: End C,H,S values were large drive placeholders.
Actual values are:
0 1 80 832 0 1 07 20671 239 63 12579840
299980800
Error #109: Partition ends after end of disk.
ucEndCylinder (20671) must be less than 4368.

Partition Information for Disk 1: 19,092.9 Megabytes
Volume PartType Status Size MB PartSect #
StartSect TotalSects

C: NTFS Pri,Boot 19,092.8 0 0
63 39,102,147

Partition Information for Disk 2: 32,248.1 Megabytes
Volume PartType Status Size MB PartSect #
StartSect TotalSects

*:PRESARIO_RP FAT32X Pri 6,142.5 0 0
63 12,579,777
NTFS Pri,Boot 146,475.0 0 1
12,579,840 299,980,800

Boot Record for drive C: (Drive: 1, Starting sector: 63, Type: NTFS)

-
1. Jump: EB 52 90
 2. OEM Name: NTFS
 3. Bytes per Sector: 512
 4. Sectors per Cluster: 8
 5. Reserved Sectors: 0
 6. Number of FATs: 0
 7. Root Dir Entries: 0
 8. Total Sectors: 0
 9. Media Descriptor: 0xF8
 10. Sectors per FAT: 0
 11. Sectors per Track: 63 (0x3F)
 12. Number of Heads: 255 (0xFF)
 13. Hidden Sectors: 63 (0x3F)
 14. Total Sectors (>32MB): 0 (0x0)
 15. Unused: 0x80008000
 16. Total NTFS Sectors: 39102146
 17. MFT Start Cluster: 786432
 18. MFT Mirror Start Clust: 2443884

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19. Clusters per FRS: 246
20. Clusters per Index Blk: 1
21. Serial Number: 0x9678DE3E78DE1CB5
22. Checksum: 0 (0x0)
23. Boot Signature: 0xAA55

=====
Boot Record for drive *: (Drive: 2, Starting sector: 63, Type:
FAT32)
=====

1. Jump: E9 A7 00
2. OEM Name: MSWIN4.1
3. Bytes per Sector: 512
4. Sectors per Cluster: 8
5. Reserved Sectors: 32
6. Number of FAT's: 2
7. Reserved: 0x0000
8. Reserved: 0x0000
9. Media Descriptor: 0xF8
10. Sectors per FAT: 0
11. Sectors per Track: 63 (0x3F)
12. Number of Heads: 240 (0xF0)
13. Hidden Sectors: 63 (0x3F)
14. Big Total Sectors: 12579777 (0xBFF3C1)
15. Big Sectors per FAT: 12288
16. Extended Flags: 0x0000
17. FS Version: 0
18. First Cluster of Root: 2 (0x2)
19. FS Info Sector: 1
20. Backup Boot Sector: 6
21. Reserved: 000000000000000000000000
22. Drive ID: 0x80
23. Reserved for NT: 0x00
24. Extended Boot Sig: 0x29
25. Serial Number: 0x42CD48DD
26. Volume Name: PRESARIO_RP
27. File System Type: FAT32
28. Boot Signature: 0xAA55

=====
Boot Record for drive *: (Drive: 2, Starting sector: 12,579,840,
Type: NTFS)
=====

1. Jump: EB 52 90
2. OEM Name: NTFS
3. Bytes per Sector: 512
4. Sectors per Cluster: 8
5. Reserved Sectors: 0
6. Number of FATs: 0
7. Root Dir Entries: 0
8. Total Sectors: 0

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9. Media Descriptor: 0xF8
10. Sectors per FAT: 0
11. Sectors per Track: 63 (0x3F)
12. Number of Heads: 240 (0xF0)
13. Hidden Sectors: 12579840 (0xBFF400)
14. Total Sectors (>32MB): 0 (0x0)
15. Unused: 0x80008000
16. Total NTFS Sectors: 299980799
17. MFT Start Cluster: 786432
18. MFT Mirror Start Clust: 18748799
19. Clusters per FRS: 246
20. Clusters per Index Blk: 1
21. Serial Number: 0x54AC025BAC0237CE
22. Checksum: 0 (0x0)
23. Boot Signature: 0xAA55