

# Re: Registry Failure – c0000218

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[http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.help\\_and\\_support/2006-10/msg01530.htm](http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.help_and_support/2006-10/msg01530.htm)

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- *From:* IanG <[ianG@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:ianG@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Tue, 10 Oct 2006 01:21:01 -0700
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Hi Patrick,  
Excellent response to my questions.  
Many thanks for the info.  
—  
IanG.

"Patrick Keenan" wrote:

"IanG" <[ianG@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:ianG@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote in message  
<news:3B44B75D-FC97-460B-90C5-3B02E84BE354@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

Hi John, apologies for the delay in responding to your advice but it has been a really difficult process trying to determine a fix, let me explain. Re your last advice – I was not sure what you meant by a "fault tolerant" boot floppy, but the situation with my shuttle machine was that it did not have a floppy drive fitted, nor could I fit one behind the faceplate since the available space was taken up by my second hard drive. Also, my second pc only has windows 98 SE and so there was no point in creating a boot floppy from that, since I did not know how to ammend the boot.ini file for XP.

I did manage to borrow a friends winXP laptop and I managed to create a boot floppy on it, as per KB305595. I then managed to salvage a floppy drive and "connect" it to the shuttle (don't ask !). However the boot up failed due to some sort of device recognition problem ( I did not make a note) and I presumed this was probably caused by the RAID setup on the shuttle not being identified in the boot.ini file.

Anyway there was a flicker of hope in that I had a floppy drive running and I also had a floppy diskette with the RAID drivers on. So I tried plan B and

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booted from the cdrom, pressed F6 and successfully loaded the RAID drivers. This let me gain access to the recovery console and so I followed the manual

steps in KB397545 and managed to successfully replace the corrupt registry with a snapshot from October 1.

The good news is that the machine is now back up and running and everything

now seems fine, except I do not know what caused the registry corruption in

the first place ? I'd better carry on looking through the knowledge base for

ideas on diagnosis.

I am eternally grateful to you for the valuable advice, and for directing me towards the usefull KB papers.

Many, many thanks.

I have a couple of outstanding "queries" with regard to moving forwards and

if you have any usefull advice I would certainly welcome it:

(1) I wish to create a bootable disk for my winXP setup for future support.

Since the shuttle has no floppy drive and I cannot fit one, if I purchased a

USB external floppy drive would this be useable for boot up ?

This should work fine, within the limitations of a floppy disk, limitations like lack of easy NTFS support.

This is part of why the XP CD is bootable. Win9x boot floppies are normally useless for repairs since they cannot access NTFS drives, and XP does not offer formatting FAT32 on drives above 40 gig or so.

Would the WinXP cdrom bootup recognise the existence of an external floppy

for adding the RAID drivers at bootup, or will it only look for drives A and

B (presumably the external USB floppy might be given a drive letter such as

"E" like a USB memory stick) ?

I have a USB floppy drive, and I just checked it on two systems, my desktop (which has a floppy drive) and my Thinkpad (which does not).

On the Desktop, the existing installed floppy is A and the USB floppy drive became B. On my Thinkpad, the USB floppy becomes the A drive.

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Setup should have no difficulties recognising the USB floppy and the files on it, as long as the system itself recognises it. You may need to adjust system settings to permit booting from USB drives and to move the floppy up in the boot sequence.

Alternatively, is there any way I can use a memory stick as a bootable device ?

This is apparently possible but I've never been able to make that work. There are apparently BIOS dependencies.

<http://www.microsoft.com/whdc/device/storage/usb-boot.msp>

Alternatively, can the boot up files be burned to a cd so as to make a bootable cd ?

You used a bootable CD to get to the recovery console! There are a number of other bootable CD images you can use for recovery, some of which are based on Linux. They can be very useful. I've used Astrumi a couple of times.

If you aren't aware of this, simply copying the files to the CD (or any other media) does not make it bootable.

At the very least, you could make a bootable copy of your XP CD and add a folder to it with the RAID support files you need, and when they're asked for, just tell Setup where they are on the CD. While you're at it, if your XP CD isn't SP2, slipstream this in. Sites detailing slipstreaming also show how to extract the boot file images from your XP CD and the other settings ( like emulation and number of sectors) required to make the CD actually boot.

HTH  
-pk

(5) If yes to all 3, which would you favour for flexibility and ease of use ?

(2) I did not understand the paper KB113977 at all and even if I managed to create the FT boot floppy I was not sure how to create the ARC path in the boot.ini file, specifically for my setup. Also, the paper does not elaborate about breaking the mirror and configuring a new boot and system partition.

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Do  
you know of any other papers (or books) that might help ?

Once again Many thanks for your help.  
Best Regards

—  
IanG.

"John John" wrote:

Whoa! Hold the presses! This is now a completely different ball of wax! If the files on the mirror are not damaged you might be able to boot off the mirror with a fault tolerant boot floppy. Try that first, start reading here and follow the links in the articles for repair options:  
<http://support.microsoft.com/?kbid=323432&SD=tech>

When you see information about NT4 & RAID much of it also applies to Windows XP, the differences may only be minor.

If you must go to the Recovery Console and do the registry fix (KB307545) you need the RAID drivers on a floppy diskette and right when the Windows XP setup program starts you have to press F6 to load the "Mass Storage Device" drivers. As per instructions in other articles concerning mirror recovery you also need these drivers for the fault tolerant boot floppy.

John

IanG wrote:

Hi John,  
Boy am I having fun ( I don't think !).  
Let me try and clarify where I am and what has happened recently, as follows:

The pc is a shuttle, small footprint machine.

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I built it myself a couple of years ago from a "barebones" kit (ie I just assembled it really). It has 2 x 80 gb SATA hard drives which I mirrored via the onboard RAID software (RAID 1). There is no floppy disk drive, but there are usb connections and I have a couple of memory sticks ( 1gb and 512Mb). The machine is running WinXP with SP2 installed. Internet connection is via broadband and I have autoupdate setup to run around 9:00 pm each night, although I do switch the machine off every night, sometimes too early sometimes not.

Okay, now since we last spoke I have managed to gain access to KB307545 and have read through it and it seems straightforward. I also have copies of KB309531 and KB822705 and I have printouts of all three. I do not have any experience of the system recovery facility but I am about learn no doubt ;o)

I have just booted the machine up from the cdrom and, after a short period of loading files, got to the "Welcome to setup" menu. I selected R for recovery and immediately got the following setup message:

"Setup did not find any hard disk drives installed in your computer"  
This was followed by some general advice about checking disks are powered up and then the final comment "Setup cannot continue, to quit setup press F3".

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Pressing F3 rebooted the machine.

I tried the process again and observed that the file loading was mainly drivers and did mention RAID controller among the files). However I then got the same error message from setup – that it could not find any hard drives !

If you can offer any advice at all, short of re-installing windows and starting all over again, then my weekend might just get a little brighter.

Thanks for your time and consideration.