

RE: WMP10 plays DTS DVD but MCE silent – HELP!

Source:

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- *From:* Tim <Tim@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 19 Jul 2005 20:44:03 -0700
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Given no responses yet I wonder if readers assume that MCE plays no audio at all. To clarify this issue: MCE audio works fine except that I cannot get it to play DTS or Dolby Digital soundtracks RELIABLY.

For example, just now (before adding this comment) I inserted a DVD that offers only a Dolby Digital soundtrack. I clicked Play DVD in MCE, the relay in the receiver clicked, and its display now says Dolby Digital with all 5.1 speakers indicating "active" status. Surround sound success.

I then returned the DVD to its root menu, looked at the setup menu to confirm there were no options other than a THX audio and video test, and resumed playing the movie — now no audio. Silence. I tried several navigation iterations to no avail.

But I can always exit Media Center and play the same DVD with soundtrack perfectly decoded using Windows Media Player 10. In WMP I can stop the movie, use various menus, change soundtracks, etc. and I never lose audio.

Try that in Media Center and I can hear the receiver's relays clicking and it returning to stereo mode on its display and silence from the speakers even if I just fast forward while playing the DVD.

All of this says to me that Media Center has a problem with DTS and Dolby Digital audio since both it and WMP are using the NVidia decoder. See?

Incidentally, I ejected the DVD, reinserted it, clicked Play DVD in Media Center, and the receiver's relays clicked, Dolby Digital decoding appeared on its display, etc.

Unpredictable.

On the other hand, if I play a DVD that offers the choice of playing a DTS or Dolby Digital soundtrack in a Setup menu, Media Center will always NOT send audio to the receiver. So at least that's predictable: no sound if you purposely select DTS or Dobby Digital.

Creative Labs support suggested perhaps it's a digital rights thing. Anyone

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have some knowledge about this?

"Tim" wrote:

> My system has MCE 2005 with Nvidia decoder. SoundBlaster Live 24bit card
> using coax SPDIF out to JVC home theater receiver.
>
> Creative Labs' Device Control applet "Decoder tab" set for "SPDIF Passthrough"
>
> Nvidia's nStant Media Properties Audio tab set as follows: speaker setup: "a
> receiver" "via an SPDIF cable", advanced settings: "allow 24 bits" "DTS audio
> out is Method 1 data mode SPDIF"
>
> When I play a DVD using Windows Media Player 10, go to the DVD's audio setup
> screen and select DTS, and then play the actual movie the JVC receiver
> automatically detects that the incoming signal is DTS, switches to its 5.1
> display, and sound comes out all speakers as expected.
>
> When I play the same DVD in MCE 2005 and take the same steps stereo audio is
> heard until I select DTS whereupon SILENCE.
>
> HALP!
>
>
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• **References:**

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◇ From: Tim

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