

Re: MCE Rollup 2 Dual Processor support

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.mediacenter/2005-11/msg00022.html>

- *From:* "Robert Schlabbach" <robert_s@xxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 1 Nov 2005 03:14:13 +0100
-

That's not quite it. The AMD issue is/was that once you enable Cool&Quiet CPU speed throttling, the CPU cores seem to be throttled independently which seems to result in their high-precision timers delivering different values. As a result, when a thread is switched from one core to the other, it would get different timer values. In the particular case of MCE, the MPEG-2 Demultiplexer filter stumbled over that and malfunctioned, leading to corrupted recordings. That issue is fixed by the "/usepmtimer" in BOOT.INI which forces Windows to use the not-so-high precision ACPI Power Management timer which delivers consistent values.

As to code which will not work right in a multiple CPU system, that does not have to be deliberately written. While typical Windows applications are multithreaded already, two threads will only actually run parallel on a multi-CPU system, and that can lead to different results when there are bugs in the code. Especially when data modifications are protected by a lock to keep changes in sync, and the lock is not consistently obtained, you can get "race" conditions and deadlocks on a multiprocessor system which do not occur on a single CPU system. Incidentally, the MCE 2005 EPG/services database code still contains such a bug...

Regards,«

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Robert Schlabbach
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Berlin, Germany

"JW" <nospam@xxxxxxx> wrote in message news:uzEDs1i3FHA.3000@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
> MCE worked with dual processors in MCE 2004 and MCE does not know if the
> there are two separate CPUs, a HT CPU or a Dual Core CPU. MCE 2005 RU1 had
> no problems with an INTEL Dual Core system only with the AMD dual core
> system and the problem was fixed when AMD gfixed a bug in their dual core
> driver for XP. A programmer has to deliberately write code that will not
> work in a multiple CPU system.
>
> "Quaoar" <quaoar@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
> news:OgGvAdi3FHA.3296@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
>> JW wrote:
>>> Dual processor support was actually included MCE 2005. H

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however, there

>>> was a problem with the original AMD dual core processor driver for
>>> XP that caused problem in rollup1. apparently RU2 included the
>>> latest AMD dual core driver(May 2005) for XP that is also available
>>> at the AMD Website.

>>> "Quaoar" <quaoar@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message

>>> news:eFycRfX3FHA.2640@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

>>>> I recently saw a post here about dual processor support. It was
>>>> stated that dual processor 'optimization' would be provided in a
>>>> future update. Is dual processor support included in Rollup 2?

>>>>

>>>> Q

>>

>> Thanks for confirming what I thought was the case. OTOH, I've yet to
find

>> a definitive statement about dual core capability – "compatible" is as
>> close as I've come to verification that MCE is threaded for dual-core.

>>

>> Q

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◇ *From:* Quaoar

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