

RE: Live TV Freezes Media Center

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.mediacenter/2005-12/msg00216.html>

- *From:* Dennis <Dennis@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Thu, 1 Dec 2005 16:35:02 -0800
-

I am back --- I have some success to report but first thanks are in order

I have been working with PNY and Hauppauge technical support, both separately, off and on for the last few weeks in my spare moments. I contacted PNY first because the combined news group opinion appeared to be more toward video cards and drivers and then I contacted Hauppauge the tuner card manufacture. The problem does not seem to be with either company at the moment (the probable fix is coming) and I would like to thank both for their quality easy to work with support. Never once did either company try to dodge the question with the old saying it s not my problem – look over there as many other companies might have tried or attempted to give you an almost impossible task to do, just to get rid of you for a while. Each manufacture worked diligently with me to clear their product, both offering to send me RMA replacement products and a Hauppauge card is on it way right now but it appears not to be the problem either. I did purchase and try a second different video card, a PNY Verto GeForce 6200 128 MB before re-contacting Hauppauge as PNY offered to RMA the first video card just to make sure it was not their card. Again both companies support was just a phone call away, no delayed e-mail messaging like ATI does nor out of the country foreign type support. Just real live, quality, USA support. Support of this quality will definitely guide my next purchase and maybe yours to one of their well supported products.

I just purchased a new mother board (ECS ELITEGROUP nFORCE3-A K8HT1600 nForce 250), processor (AMD Sempron 2800+ Socket 754), new ram too because the old is not compatible with the new mother board, a new SATA Hard Drive and unpacked a new (\$15 after rebate) cheap tower case with 450 watt power supply. One of those tower case deals you can t afford to pass by but probably should have. :) :) I know it s probably not a high quality power supply, I won t forget to try and reuse the original higher quality Enermax power supply if there are problems. I reused the original Hauppauge WinTV-PVR-500 dual tuner card and the original PNY Vetro GeForce FX 5700 VE video card. Loaded Windows XP Media Center software and the ECS set up disk. I updated the PNY video card to Nvidia s version 77.79 driver for Windows XP Media Center. (Note many seem to think the 66.93 version driver is the most stable and I will try it later if there are problems) I then installed the most current Hauppauge tuner driver version 2.0.35.23258 dated 9-15-2005 found on their site as file name mce_cd_29.zip . I installed Nvidia s video

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encoder NVIDIA_PureVideo_Decoder_Trial_1.02-185.exe I did not allow Windows XP Media Center to update at all, thinking I will allow it to update later.

Guess what --- it s working OK, well in at about 4 hour segments before failing so far. Live TV has run about 12 hours so far, noting three freezes at about 4 hour intervals but this time their not absolutely hard freezes, a Ctrl-Alt-Del will bring up Windows Task Manager. I am going to start adding the Windows updates and see what happens but at the moment it looks like the ABIT KV7 mother board with its AMD 2600 Athlon XP processor may have been the problem. Even though I did not reuse the old memory I don t think it was the problem because I used two 512 MB chips, one each at a time and both together, all resulting in the same type failure. More testing with the new setup should tell more but I thought if anyone is still monitoring this newsgroup trouble they might like to know what s happening.

Thanks for everyone s input and I will publish more as I test further, suggestions are always appreciated.

Dennis

"Dennis" wrote:

- > Hello Moose
- >
- > Thanks for the input, I have been asleep at the wheel after a few days of no
- > additional posts and had not noticed all the activity.
- >
- > I just noticed when I went to find your suggested driver, NVIDIA has a new
- > Windows Media Center driver dated November 14 2005 (version 81.94) and I
- > decided to test it first It worked for over 20 minutes, I was impress while
- > I watched but I found the system frozen about 2 hours later when I returned
- > to check on its progress. Easily found a 66.81 driver (not the one you
- > suggested) on the NVIDIA site, tested it and it fails too. Just loaded your
- > suggested driver 66.93 as I had a little trouble finding it. Finally had to
- > do a search on the NVIDIA site for æ6.93 driver and there it was, I am not
- > sure how you find it with out doing a search --- noted for anyone else
- > looking. The system has frozen once after just a few minutes, restarted the
- > system a second time and it froze in about 15 minutes.
- >
- >
- > Again when I find the fix I will post it, even if it s as simple as check
- > the power cord. :) :)
- >
- > Thanks to everyone for the suggestions, they are all appreciated
- >
- > Dennis
- >
- >
- > "Moose" wrote:

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>
>> Hi Dennis,
>>
>> I have had the same problem with FX5xxx cards and it is the driver. The
>> latest Forceware drivers are broken with MCE2005 on these cards. You need to
>> download the 66.93 drivers which work a treat. You can get them from Nvidia's
>> driver archive.
>>
>> Once I installed these drivers I have never had any problems with either a
>> 5200 or a 5700 ultra. Hope this works for you.
>>
>> Rory
>>
>> PS – sorry about the empty post before!
>>
>> "Dennis" wrote:
>>
>>> Windows XP Media Center 2005
>>> NVIDIA DVD Decoder
>>>
>>> Hauppauge WinTV–PVR 500 dual tuner
>>> PNY NVIDIA Vetro Geforce FX 5700 VE video card
>>> ABIT KV7 mother board with onboard sound
>>> 1 GB of memory
>>> AMD 2600 Athlon Processor
>>>
>>> When I start Live TV it will run from a few seconds to a few minutes with a
>>> one time maximum run of about 30 minutes and then everything freezes.
>>> Nothing responds on the computer and it must be powered down and restarted.
>>> The FM radio function will run for less than 30 minutes too and then the
>>> system freezes. Using the DVD movie play back function played back an entire
>>> movie OK. I have all the latest drivers and software updates installed as of
>>> November 4, 2005 including NVIDIA DVD Decoder, TV tuner driver, video card
>>> driver, mother board BIOS, Windows XP and Media Center updates.
>>>
>>> Any help on which way to look would be appreciated.
>>>
>>> Thanks
>>> Dennis
>>>
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• *Follow-Ups:*

◆ ***Re: Live TV Freezes Media Center***

◇ *From: JW*

- Prev by Date: ***Re: Issue with XBOX 360 acting as an Extender***
- Next by Date: ***Re: 1366X768 – Nvidia 6600 – with DVI – HDMI Adapter***
- Previous by thread: ***Can't run Microsoft Management Console***

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