

RE: Audio iPod and MCE

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- *From:* mosxs <mosxs@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Thu, 30 Mar 2006 01:16:02 -0800
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A pod person? I find it very funny and ironic when someone who supports Windows makes fun of a "pod person". Someone who uses Windows is no more of a sheep than someone who uses an iPod.

The only reason I'm at this MS support site is because I had two idiotic problems with Windows. Problems that should not exist at all in a modern OS. Espically the MCE problem. Who in their right mind would NOT include the option to turn off temporary recording? EVERY other piece of PVR software has this capability. Why not Microsoft's? It's ridiculous. I could go on and on about the other problems Windows has or the modern features it lacks and SHOULD have, or how Windows Vista is more like XP SP3.. but I won't.

"Scottitude" wrote:

No need for your condescending tone little fella. You think you know what you're talking about, but you're only repeting the Jobs Mantra, not trying to read or understand what I'm saying. You're a "pod-person" peddling Apple rehtoric at an MS support site.

"mosxs" wrote:

Have you actually read the support sites? Go to Creative's site and check out the posts there. The majority of problems they have are hardware failures of some sort. The majority of problems at Apple's site are from Windows users who didn't read the manual.

The only reason Microsoft has so much marketshare with OSes, marketshare that is shrinking by the way, is due to their illegal business practices. If they hadn't used those illegal tactics, which they were sued by government bodies for and lost the cases, they wouldn't haven early as much marketshare as they do now.

In the years I've spent browsing support forums, I have seen only two iPods with headphone jack problems. They were treated EXTREMELY rough. You can go to Creative's site and see literally hundreds, if not thousands of posts from

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people who have had their ZM headphone jack die from every day use. If yours has not died yet then you should consider yourself incredibly lucky. My iPod is over a year old now and it works just as good as the day I bought it. It has had a year of very heavy use everyday with the headphone jack going through a lot of use.

Why would you buy an extra battery for an MP3 player? That is a waste of money. One will not get used properly and will die from old age and little use. The battery in iPods always lasts as stated, if not longer. The iPod mini, which I have, is rated at 18 hours but regularly gets 24 hours. Other iPods regularly get 2–4 hours above their rated play time. That's stupid to buy an extra battery. You know what? You don't have to send Apple your iPod to get the battery replaced either. Anyway, why are you complaining about that? How is that any different than buying a new battery from Creative? Ridiculous. When you send your iPod in they give you a new unit in return. For \$60 you get a refurbished unit in return that has undergone a complete rebuild and QA test. You can replace the battery yourself too. Takes a whole 5 minutes and double capacity batteries are a regular thing. No doubt that you'll be able to make a 60GB 5G iPod a 40 hour machine when you replace the battery in a few years.

Have you ever used the Click Wheel? It's a lot faster and easier to use than Creative's touch strip. First, it's not overly or under sensitive like Creative's offerings. It works perfectly. I can go through a list of 100s of artists in one circle. I can navigate to a single song in a library of thousands a lot faster than someone with a touch strip player can. Try using the player before you try to criticize it.

"Scottitude" wrote:

Just because 3/4 of the market succumbed to Apple's "iBono" marketing doesn't make the product the best there is. iPod support sites clearly illustrate that they have the exact same problems as non–Apple devices. Also, people typically post in a support forum because they *are* having a problem.

If we're to follow your logic about ratios and percentages, since well over 90% of computer users use a Windows OS, shouldn't Apple should be running a Windows OS? It has to go both ways or the argument is fatally flawed.

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I have one of the ZMs that, based on what I've read, should have a headphone jack problem but it doesn't. Furthermore, the player and the firmware have performed flawlessly. Make of it what you will but it tells me that most "jack problems" are caused by the way the owner treats the DAP. I've seen numerous posts on both Apple and Creative forums where people complain that the "most abusive" thing they do is wrap the headphone cable arounds the player and drop it in their backpack, but they always treat it gently otherwise. There's your headphone jack problem; user abuse, not product defect.

When the battery in my Creative ZEN Micro is fully drained, I'll insert the brand new spare battery that came packaged with the player. How do you replace an iPod battery? Oh, sorry, you can't; you have to send it back to the factory AND pay them money to do it for you. Sorry man, iPod is an okay player but Apple's concept of consumer-friendly is laughable and I'm almost certain the "patented click-wheel" will eventually become the subject of repetitive stress injury lawsuits.

The shortest distance between two points is a straight line, not an endless circle. Cheers to Apple's marketing genius but Creative's interface and multi-platform compatibility makes it the superior choice for anyone who values function over the trend-factor.

"mosxs" wrote:

Actually, when it comes to DAPs, it's an Apple world. 3/4 of the market is Apple, 80%+ of the digital music market is Apple. In this sense, it is Microsoft's fault for not support Apple's standards.

PlaysForSure hardly guarantees a seamless

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experience. Have you looked at the support forums for Creative or iRiver products? The firmware updates required for many "PlaysForSure" players can brick them! The updates required to Windows and said players can also cause enough damage to the Windows installation that a full format and reinstall of the OS is needed to even get the PC to recognize the player.

Furthermore, a lot of the hardware manufactured by Creative and iRiver have problems. The Zen Micro was known for a faulty headphone jack that went bad after just a few months of regular use. And iRiver is known for poor firmware that can't even organize music properly.

As I said, Apple has over 3/4 of both the hardware and digital downloads market. Microsoft is the one that is refusing to adhere to standards. Them and their hardware partners who couldn't make a reliable piece of hardware if their life depended on it are the ones who are hurting the consumers.

Apple has sold over 1 billion songs through the iTunes Music Store. I guarantee you that the combined sales of ALL WMA stores wouldn't even come close to half of that total.

Apple sold over 20 million iPods last year. The combined total sales of "PlaysForSure" devices wouldn't even equal half of that number.

Somebody is doing something wrong and it sure isn't Apple.

I know I'll get branded as an Apple fanboy. But the only reason I'm posting this is because Microsoft needs to open their eyes. They've fallen way behind Apple, not only in the online music market, but in the OS market too. Their overbearing DRM standards show that they have lost touch with consumers and will continue to lose consumers unless they

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change their tactics.

I can't even install my legally purchased copy of Windows XP on my desktop PC anymore, without calling to have it activated, because of their DRM and the fact that they've lost touch with consumers and decide to treat them like criminals instead of people.

"Scottitude" wrote:

The tool you need is a different DAP. iPods are great...if all your hardware is Apple or if you don't know any better. It's a Windows world my friend and practically everyone but Apple makes a DAP utilizing "Plays for Sure" technology which guarantees a seamless Windows interface. Practically every iPod-comparable DAP out there has better output and a better sound.

My choice was a Creative's ZEN Micro and I haven't regretted it. WMP intuitively recognizes it and syncing is a breeze. Plus, I can load numerous file types instead of trying to convert everything to a proprietary Apple format.

iPods are the most over-rated gadgets on the market and Apple's refusal to support Windows hardware is just pathetic arrogance that only "hurts" the consumer.

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~S~

"Fil Mackay" wrote:

I have been
trying to get
my iPod to
sync with
my MCE.
Easy I
thought.
Yeah
right.

The best I
came up
with is
XPlay
(commercial
product for
WMP not
really
MCE), but
it has
issues:
bugs, and it
converts to
MP3 before
syncing.

What I am
looking for
is a
seamless
sync (native
in MCE) to
iPod, where
the
songs will
be
converted to
AAC
format (not
MP3!) from
my library
(lossless
WMA).

Does
anyone

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know of a
tool to do
it? If not,
I'm going to
write one.