

Re: Install Problem at GUI Startup

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.server.sbs/2006-10/msg05701.html>

- *From:* "Anna Clark" <anna.clark(remove this)@verizon.net>
 - *Date:* Sun, 29 Oct 2006 13:01:51 -0500
-

Hi Dennis:

I think we have exhausted the tests of the controller. And I think you confirmed earlier in this thread that you had the latest bios and drivers.

I did not check if this mobo was listed for any server os, but even so, it should not fall over at this stage.

I think you need to check to see if there is even a C:\ drive that windows reconizes, and to that extent, have a look at this article:

<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/816793/en-us#6>

How to troubleshoot the "NTLDR is missing" error message in Windows Server 2003

View products that this article applies to.

Article ID : 816793

since you said you did not have access to a way to make a boot floppy, this article will explain how to use the cd to verify that the files you need are or are not on the hard drive. You can check in the recovery console to see if there even is a c drive.

In essence, DO boot on the cd, and wait for the Setup is Starting Windows, select R, select the copy of windows you wish to repair, put in the admin password. If you get this far, there should be a Windows Partition. When you issue the MAP command it will tell you which is what, and you can then follow the KB article to manuall copy over the files you need to boot. Also, at this point you "probably" can make a boot floppy.

Anna

"denko" <denko@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
<news:60F9BCE1-FDE0-44F2-BDA0-2D2EB721EAFA@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

Anna:

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My steps are exactly as you've outlined except that after the "pass on boot from cd" I get the Ntldr missing error message. I've done this install from both my CD and the DVD with the same result.

Yes, I am using the non promise controller exactly as you suggest.

Any other ideas?

Dennis

"Anna Clark" wrote:

Hi Dennis:

I just tested this, Intel mobo, P5 3 GHz, 1 GB RAM. Installing R2 from DVD,

but after seeing it again, I remember that it "always" does this, so CD should be the same:

Boot from CD
Press F6 (or not)
Setup is loading files
Setup is starting Windows (still in text mode)
Enter to install
F8 to Agree to License
Delete old partitions, if any
create new partitions
format NTFS (very important)
setup is coping files (still in text mode, yellow progress bar)
please wait while Windows initializes your Windows configuration
REBOOT with a 15 second countdown and a red progress bar.
pass on boot from cd
grey gui with bullets on left, info on right.

If any of this is not what your seeing, then you may be rebooting before all

is copied over.

Have you tried the plain jane non promise ide controller? Put the HDD

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master on the first ide1 controller, put the cd as master on ide2 controller.

Regards

Anna

"denko" <denko@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:7FD7B21B-A14C-45A3-AA51-0E07217CDFAB@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Hi Anna:

Thanks for your reply.

The motherboard has two IDE controllers (one using the VIA chipset and

one

using the Promise chip) – a total of eight IDE devices can be

connected.

In

the BIOS I have the "Onboard Promise Device" disabled. I am

definitely

using

the the VIA controller. BIOS allows me to select the boot HDD as

either

0,

1, 2, or 3. I have been booting from HDD-0 but I tried the other

three

and

got boot disk failure messages for each since none of the other three

are

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present. Booting from HDD-0 gives me the "NTLDR is missing" message

so I

am

sure the BIOS is attempting to boot from the installed HDD.

I have been looking at mostly hardware issues. A question that comes

to

mind is when install switches from text to GUI setup, should the

system

reboot or should the display just change from text to GUI? Is it

possible

that something is causing the reboot before all the necessary files

are

loaded to the HDD?

Dennis

"Anna Clark" wrote:

Hi Dennis:

If you are not using the Promise in RAID mode, the raid drivers will

go

unused.

Looking at the MSI web site, it shows three versions of a board

called

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6321,

none of which are Pro-AIR. But all three have standard, non

promise,

non

raid controllers in addition to the promise raid controller.

Is there any chance you are set in the bios to boot from the wrong controller? And have you tried the non raid controller, instead?

In both cases you would want to be sure that the bios was set to

boot

from

the controller to which the hdd was actually attached.

Regards:

Anna

"denko"

<denko@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

wrote in message

news:1CB99927-0DC0-4F84-B70A-0B3E72DA41F2@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Well this has certainly been a monumental effort today. FYI my

motherboard

is a MSI 694 Pro-AIR (#MS-6321). This board includes dual PIII

processors,

is populated with 1 GB of RAM, and has an onboard

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Promise RAID

controller

(RAID 0 or RAID 1).

Since my last post I have done the following.....

1) I went to the MSI site and downloaded the latest BIOS (dated

11/22/01)

and latest Promise Driver (dated 9/29/00). I checked and the

motherboard

already has the latest BIOS installed. The Promise RAID

controller is

and

has been disabled in BIOS setup.

2) I did a new clean install and selected F6 at the prompt for

RAID

drivers. When it was time to install these drivers, I used the

ones

from

the

MSI web site. Setup gave me the the option of installing either

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a

WinNT

version or a WIN 2000 version. Windows also said that the drivers

I

was

installing were older than ones that can with Windows but I chose

to

install

the manufacturer's anyway. I went thru this install twice

selecting

one

option each time. In each case I had the same result as before.

3) I installed a new (sealed in the box) 60 GB HDD and had the

same

result.

4) I tried to install WIN XP on this machine (it has a similiar

text

based

install procedure) and got the same problem as when trying to

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install

SBS

2003.

Also it would be helpful to know that prior to all this, that this

machine

ran WIN NT 4.0 Server fine and that we were trying to upgrade

this

server.

You mentioned possible RAM problems but this machine goes thru

several

cycles

of RAM test on boot up with no problem.

Anna, you asked about formatting of the HDD. In all cases it has

been

NTFS

and has been a complete format (not quick). You suggested that I

load

files

from another server, but I do not have access to any others.

As always, any and all help

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is appreciated.

Dennis

"Charlie Russel – MVP"
wrote:

Does your
IDE
controller
also
function as
an IDE
RAID

controller? If

so,

that could
easily be the
source of
the issue. If
that is the

case,

I'd

download
the drivers
from your
motherboard
manufacturer,
or from

the

IDE

controller
mfg's site,
and copy
them to a
floppy.
Press F6
when

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the

prompt

appears
during
initial boot,
and load the
drivers.

Some
specifics on
the
hardware
involved
might also
help. What

brand/model of

computer/motherboard
are we
dealing with
here? How
much
RAM?

The next
step, if the
above fails,
is to run a
thorough
RAM

test.

--

Charlie.

<http://msmvps.com/xperts64>

"denko"

<denko@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

wrote in

message

<news:48E67CB1-3CD3-4917-BBC3-88D3B2A2582A@xxxxxxxxxx>

I
have
removed

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the
Adaptec
board,
depowered
the
SCSI
drives
and

have

disconnected
an
IDE
tape
drive.
Right
now
besides
the

motherboard

I

have

one
HDD.
the
CDROM/DVD
drive
and
a
floppy.
There
is
also
one
PCI

Ethernet

card
and
a
modem
connected
to
the
serial

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port.
I
checked
the
BIOS

and

the

PnP

Operating
system
option
was
previously
disabled
and
I
left
it

that

way.

I
have
redone
the
install
from
square
one
including

repartitioning

the

HDD.

The
result
is
the
same.

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Any
other
ideas?

Dennis

"Charlie
Russel
-
MVP"
wrote:

Try
removing
the
Adaptec
from
machine
until
setup
completes.

My

guess

is

that
it
is
switching
the
Adaptec
to
be
in
front
of
the
IDE

for

some

reason
at
this

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point.
There's
a
whole
discussion
about
boot
up
and

HD

controllers
on
the
older
pages
of
my
blog,
but
basically
there
are
two

different

loading
mechanisms
happening
here.
There
is
text
mode
setup,
which

sees

HDs

based

on
some
very
primitive
drivers,
and

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then
Plug
and
Play
that

kicks in

at

the

GUI
mode,
and
loads
things
there.

One
thing
you
can
try
-
turn
OFF
"Plug
and
Play
OS"
in
your

BIOS

if

it's

on.

--

Charlie.

<http://msmvps.com/xperts64>

"denko"

<denko@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

wrote

in

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message

news:0591934B-A8DB-4A89-AA8F-265FBE1DE

I
have
an
Adaptec
SCSI
2940
UW
controller
and
plan
to
use

software

RAID

for
data
on
that
array
once
I
have
have
SBS
installed.
The

system

is

being

installed
on
a
60
GB
IDE
HDD
(20GB
partitioned
for
system
and

I
am
trying
to
do
a
clean
install
of
Win
SBS
2003.
My

server

is

set

to
boot
first
from
the
CDROM
then
HDD-0.
The
text
install
works

fine

(its

formats
the
HDD
and
loads
the
necessary
files
to
the
HDD).
The

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problem

is

that
when
the
install
goes
to
switch
to
the
GUI
screen,
the
server

tries

to

reboot
from
the
HDD
and
I
get
the
message
"NTLDR
is
missing"
with

instruction to

reboot.
I
cannot
get
past
this
point.

Any
help
would
be
sincerely

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appreciated.

Dennis