

Re: new PC catch-22

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.electronics.design/2006-12/msg05442.html>

- *From:* Robert Baer <robertbaer@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sun, 31 Dec 2006 08:53:24 GMT
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Jan Panteltje wrote:

On a sunny day (Sat, 30 Dec 2006 07:28:13 GMT) it happened Robert Baer <robertbaer@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in <[hyolh.8665\\$X72.5823@xx](mailto:hyolh.8665$X72.5823@xx)>:

Jan Panteltje wrote:

On a sunny day (Fri, 29 Dec 2006 09:01:53 GMT) it happened Robert Baer <robertbaer@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in <[5Q4lh.8238\\$X72.3236@xx](mailto:5Q4lh.8238$X72.3236@xx)>:

Incorrect; read what i said.

An OS can read the hard drives, and even DOS boots on the hard drive. Booting from the CD to install WinXP is what is impossible.

If MS DOS boots from the harddisk, it must have FAT16 or so on it?
Win XP will not run on FAT16 I think.

You would have to fdisk that disk.

It is hard to tell, incomplete data.....

Re: new PC catch-22

And pray tell, how does one *install* Windows XP from its CD when that CD does not boot?

You have made so many different statements, some seem to be related to other computers, some are 100% contradictory, so I dunno what you are talking about right now.

Your original statement regarding this thread was something like:

'I started the [OEM] CD, and then when reboot was required it did not reboot'.

If that was a correct observation, and you ALSO stated MS DOS booted from the same HD, then that HD must have FAT16 or something like that on it, and yes XP cannot run on FAT16 IIRC (but I am no MS expert).

There must have been some warning from that OEM CD.

The disk would have to be formatted with a newer filesystem, and the MS DOS would no longer be able to boot from it.

MS DOS will not even boot on a Win98 HD, as that uses FAT32 I think.

So –unless you get more specific and give exact setup of the system and talk about only one case at the time, nobody in this universe can help you. Except by pure chance, as there are simply too many possibilities.

My personal view (as many now already know) is get a Linux distribution, an normal PC hardware configuration and as Saddam is no more MS DOS is no more. (It hang).

Get the assignment to redesign the test system soft and hardware, make some money, go on vacation and forget all about it.

Here is an exact copy of my original posting

<QUOTE>

Start with new (6-month old), bleeding edge stuff: motherboard, Intel D CPU, 80Gbyte hard drive, Sony DVD R/W, 500W supply, WinXP Pro.

Major problems:

- 1) "Intel uCode error...press F1 to continue" no boot from the WinXP CD.
- 2) Update BIOS to latest available (beta): the uCode error goes away; no boot.
- 3) Go into the BIOS setup, first screen: *nothing* recognized; Primary Master, Primary Slave, Secondary Master and Secondary Slave all have the same message, to the effect "nothing available".

But, in booting up, there is a bit of screen fiddling, and the installed hard drive and DVD drive are listed as present.

The DVD light has a very short blink after that, but the CD is not accessed.

Now, the interesting part: plop in a PartitionMagic (bootable) CD, and that works!

Understand, the PartitionMagic CD is old, way before Micro\$uck thought of XP (2002).

Seems to me that M\$ has teamed with the BIOS and board makers to make sure that one cannot *install* WinXp from scratch on these new computers.

But..if you happen to have a computer like that with WinXP installed, the WinXP is readable and can be used

for updates, etc.

So....

How in the h*ll does one start from scratch?

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I had added at other times, that i had tried putting MSDOS on the hard drive and that the hard drive would boot; note the BIOS still displayed no IDE drives present.

Since i did not have ATAPICD.SYS or MSCDEX.EXE, i was not able to see if DOS could access the Sony DVD R/W drive.

Is this simple enough for you?

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