

Re: Hard drive repair (longish)

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"PlainBill" <PlainBill47@yahoo.com> wrote in message
news:9ij641di1vkunlhc0loh7f6j9ebnqi6kc@4ax.com...
> Well, I really blew it this time. About a month ago I replaced my 120
> gig hard drive with a new 200 Gig Maxtor, model # 6B200P. In
> violation of my common sense, I did NOT keep the old drive as a
> backup. Well, the new drive went belly up last week – it wouldn't
> even spin up. Some of the stuff on the drive is easily replaceable,
> but many of the pictures of my Granddaughter cannot be replaced.
>
> I requested an advance replacement from Maxtor, and when it arrived I
> tried to repair the bad drive by swapping the electronics boards. I
> verified these had identical part numbers. This had a limited success:
> The new hda does not spin up with the old electronics board; the old
> hda DOES spin up with the new board. However, the drive does not
> properly report it's size. The new drive reports it is 203.9 Gig; the
> new electronics board with the old hda reports it's size as 250 Gig,
> then generates POST errors.
>
> At this point I can restore the electronics boards to the proper hdas
> and return the old drive to satisfy the terms of the advance
> replacement, since I have not altered anything. The last option I am
> considering is a part which appears to be a SST Serial flash chip. It
> should be possible to swap these between boards if I unsolder with
> chip-quick, but I'm not looking forward to it.
>
> Does anyone have any experience with these drives, or any advice to
> give?
>
> PlainBill

Well the first bit of advice is to *not* buy Maxtor drives as they've been some of the least reliable I've dealt with, obviously that's no help now though.

You could try replacing the motor driver IC, it's usually a square 44 pin or so SMT chip, replacing it requires some care and skill but it's doable.