

Re: Hard drive repair (longish)

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PlainBill wrote:

- > 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-quik, but I'm not looking forward to it.
- >
- > Does anyone have any experience with these drives, or any advice to
- > give?
- >
- > PlainBill

try slaving the drive to a machine with an existing XP or NT-based OS
and see if you can read the data