

# Re: combining 2 power supplies

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- *From:* "Dave (from the UK)" <[see-my-signature@xx](mailto:see-my-signature@xx)>
  - *Date:* Tue, 28 Mar 2006 16:35:18 +0100
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James Sweet wrote:

There's a lot of wattage inflation these days,

True.

following the stereo equipment makers in the 80s. The fact of the matter is that if you have a \*quality\* 300 or 350W power supply, it should run just about anything you can fit in the computer. I've measured a number of computers with a power analyzer and I have yet to see one which draws more than 250W from the wall under full load, most typical single CPU computers are down around 160-180W even with multiple hard drives.

But I don't believe that 250 W drawn from the mains is a likely maximum now.

I was doing some calculations the other day based on a pair of Opterons. According to AMD, they are about 100 W each. A very mediocre graphics card is probably 30 W. Disks take more when they spin up.

350 W is probably adequate for most things I would agree. My main PC (I don't use PCs much) has a 235 W power supply in it, but a pair of 450 MHz Pentiums and a 10,000 rpm SCSI disk. That seems to be OK

A more elegant solution if there are multiple disks might be to build a timer that delays the starts on them, as the power when running is probably only half that when starting.

Personally, I think I'd just rather buy a bigger psu - they are not that expensive now.

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Dave K MCSE.

MCSE = Minefield Consultant and Solitaire Expert.

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