

Re: Need help troubleshooting a Compaq Presario SR1365CL (ASUS K8S-LA)

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Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.electronics.repair/2007-04/msg00295.html>

- *From:* Franc Zabkar <fzabkar@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
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On Fri, 06 Apr 2007 18:42:46 GMT, "Peter Bogiatzidis" <pbogi@xxxxxxxxxx> put finger to keyboard and composed:

Hello,

I'm trying to fix a Compaq Presario SR1365CL. The owner worked on it and somehow decided that the hard drive was at fault. I'm not sure what else was tried in order to "fix" it. Currently, PC will not boot Windows XP Home, but BIOS can be entered and changed and it does recognize the hard drive.

After numerous attempts at trying to restore the original drive (Compaq has a restore partition on it) or install Windows on a new drive, I took it to a local computer repair shop to have it checked out. The consensus was that either the motherboard or BIOS was at fault. This is an ASUS K8S-LA motherboard OEM'd for Compaq. Unfortunately, the BIOS can only be updated through Windows.

How can I prove that it is either the motherboard or the BIOS at fault? Is there any way to update the BIOS without using Windows?

If the BIOS is allowing you to see the hard drive, then I expect it is OK. Anyway, if you really want to try a flash upgrade, then boot to a DOS floppy and run Uniflash.

<http://www.uniflash.org/>

It doesn't appear that your board's chipset (SiS 760 / SiS 964) is on the current Uniflash list, but you could at least try reading the BIOS chip without fear of damaging your board:

<http://www.uniflash.org/hardware.htm>

Otherwise I'd try a disc diagnostic tool such SeaTools for Seagate drives. You need to run this from a floppy diskette. Other HD manufacturers have their own tools.

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Hard Drive Diagnostic Programs by Vendor:

OnTrack Data Advisor:

<http://www.ontrack.com/freesoftware/#dataadvisor>

IBM/Hitachi Drive Fitness Test:

<http://www.hgst.com/hdd/support/download.htm>

Western Digital Data Lifeguard Tools:

<http://support.wdc.com/download/>

Quantum/Maxtor PowerMax:

<http://www.maxtor.com/en/support/downloads/powermax.htm>

Seagate SeaTools:

<http://www.seagate.com/support/seatools/index.html>

Download:

<http://www.seagate.com/support/seatools/B7a.html>

http://www.seagate.com/support/seatools/seatoold_reg.html

The above list is reproduced from this old post by Glen Ventura:

http://groups.google.com/group/microsoft.public.win98.gen_discussion/msg/e4981c19fab8355b?hl=en

– Franc Zabkar

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