Subject: More More Computer Problems
Posted by Doitle on Tue, 05 Feb 2008 18:46:33 GMT
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I'm always on here from time to time posting about the newest big computer explosion I've had happen to me... :/ This time however it's actually my roommates computer that I built for him. It ran fine for 2 months and then one day just. Turned off and won't turn back on. It turns on for a second then shuts itself off. It seems to me that the PSU is detecting a fault or a problem and is actually shutting off through some sort of safety as the computer cannot be turned back on until the switch on the back of the PSU is turned off and turned back on. If I pull the CPU1 cable off the mobo from the PSU then the computer will stay on but obviously will not boot. Anyone have any initial suggestions as to where to start? I'm worried that the CPU died or the vcore on the mobo...

Subject: Re: More More Computer Problems
Posted by Caveman on Tue, 05 Feb 2008 18:51:52 GMT
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Easiest way to test would be to take the PSU out of your computer and plug it in and see if it behaves differently. See if you can get it to beep so you can get beep code which would help you further.

Subject: Re: More More Computer Problems
Posted by reborn on Tue, 05 Feb 2008 19:30:30 GMT
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It sounds more likely (I come to this conclusion because you said it stays on when you cut power to the CPU) that your motherboard is cutting power off immediately due to an over heating CPU (allot, if not all motherboards made now have had this feature for some time to prevent the CPU from melting).
Make sure the heat sink it firmly attached and the artic silver paste stuff is applied properly.

Hope you get it sorted, sounds like a crappy situation you're in.

Subject: Re: More More Computer Problems
Posted by cnc95fan on Tue, 05 Feb 2008 19:53:38 GMT
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This might be irrelevant, because of its age, but my dad once gave me an old Amstrad "pc" he found in the basement of our new house. I had the same problem, but I replaced the PSU (with great difficulty) and it ran fine , until it *disappeared*

Subject: Re: More More Computer Problems

Posted by R315r4z0r on Tue, 05 Feb 2008 19:58:33 GMT
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Do you think something could be wrong with the PSU itself?

What if you try using a different PSU? How many Watts does the current one have?

It may just be shutting down because it can't handle the stress of the hardware.

Subject: Re: More More Computer Problems
Posted by Caveman on Tue, 05 Feb 2008 20:01:31 GMT
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R315r4z0r wrote on Tue, 05 February 2008 19:58Do you think something could be wrong with the PSU itself?

What if you try using a different PSU? How many Watts does the current one have?

It may just be shutting down because it can't handle the stress of the hardware.

Then it wouldn't have been working 2 months ago.

Subject: Re: More More Computer Problems
Posted by R315r4z0r on Tue, 05 Feb 2008 20:08:22 GMT
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No, not necessarily. Power Supplys die all the time. It could of just been exposed to something that it could barely handle for a prolonged period of time until one day it reached its limit and simply eroded its maximum performance.

What it once could handle, is now out of its ability.

Subject: Re: More More Computer Problems
Posted by Blazer on Tue, 05 Feb 2008 20:45:44 GMT
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I've had this problem 2 or 3 times in the past and each time replacing the power supply fixed it.

Subject: Re: More More Computer Problems
Posted by JPNOD on Tue, 05 Feb 2008 20:48:45 GMT
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Might be a good idea to take it to someone who know's what he's doing else, it's up to you.

From what I read the problem seems to be the PSU, or something short circuiting, making it go on and off. Make sure that there is NO screws, backplaters or what so ever behind that is in touch with the motherboard. The thing is if you keep booting it and it goes on/off eventually something will really die.

So first Check
- if nothing is touching the motherboard. Screwes, anything else metal.
- Make sure the wires arent touching the case (Pin connectors).

Another way to find out whether something is short curcuiting or not is by removing the mobo out of the case. Place it on a wooden plate, or shielded bag.

Only mem, CPU, VGA, and PSU.

boot it with a screwdriver by touching the PW-R pins (where normally the case Power on is connected to).

If it still does the same, try a different PSU.
I doubt its the CPU as you first have to do the power on/off button at the back of the PSU.

Especially if its a decent PSU it will have protection at this kind of matters...

Post the system spec's. Might help alittle.

Subject: Re: More More Computer Problems
Posted by JPNOD on Tue, 05 Feb 2008 20:53:10 GMT
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Blazer wrote on Tue, 05 February 2008 15:45I've had this problem 2 or 3 times in the past and each time replacing the power supply fixed it.

I assume those were el cheapo PSU's.

any decent PSU. Enermax, Antec, OCZ, Seasonic. Usally just dies and doesn't do anything. (If they die after a couple of years) el cheapo PSU's will give strange problems. even BSOD's in Windows just because it can't deliver a stable voltage to the other components in the PC. With all the qaud core, dual SLI, high energy taking graphics. A GOOD power supply is a must.

Subject: Re: More More Computer Problems
Posted by cnc95fan on Tue, 05 Feb 2008 20:54:15 GMT
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Blazer wrote on Tue, 05 February 2008 20:45I've had this problem 2 or 3 times in the past and each time replacing the power supply fixed it.
Expensive solution IMO. (for a decent PSU, that is) Generally the heavier a PSU is the better quality it is.

Subject: Re: More More Computer Problems
Posted by jnz on Tue, 05 Feb 2008 21:09:05 GMT
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unplug it, hold the power button for a few seconds and replug it in again. try that a few times.

Subject: Re: More More Computer Problems
Posted by Doitle on Tue, 05 Feb 2008 22:01:33 GMT
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I did try that Roshambo, sadly no dice. There are no screws or plates or anything in the way, this computer has been sitting stationary for two months and then suddenly a rogue screw decides to jump into the mix? I think not.

This isn't a cheapo powersupply, it's the same one I have in my computer. OCZ GamerXstream 750w.

As far as the HSF coming unmounted again, while stationary. That seems pretty unlikely. It's spinning and while the computer ran his CPU was way cooler than mine, he has a Thermaltake Venus 12+ on there. It's like a vaccuum cleaner. I wish I could get one but I can't afford 40$ for a HSF...

Like I stated in the first post I've isolated it to where I unplug the CPU1 PSU connector and it will run forever, connect it and it runs for a second. When my computer (With the same mobo) died about 6 months ago and did almost the same thing the motherboard was bad. It would just shut down instantly after being turned on however, when I removed the CPU1 connector mine still turned off... His doesn't.

Edit: Here are his specs. He sent me them.

XFX PVT88PYDF4 GeForce 8800GT 512MB 256-bit GDDR3 PCI Express 2.0 x16 HDCP Ready SLI Supported Video Card - Retail

ASUS M2N32-SLI Deluxe Wireless Edition AM2 NVIDIA nForce 590 SLI MCP ATX AMD Motherboard - Retail

NZXT Zero Black/Silver Aluminum ATX Full Tower Computer Case - Retail

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OCZ GameXStream OCZ700GXSSLI ATX12V 700W Power Supply - Retail

AMD Athlon 64 X2 6000+ Windsor 3.0GHz Socket AM2 125W Dual-Core Processor Model ADX6000CZBOX - Retail

LG 20X DVD±R DVD Burner with LightScribe Black E-IDE/ATAPI Model GSA-H55LK - OEM

CORSAIR XMS2 2GB (2 x 1GB) 240-Pin DDR2 SDRAM DDR2 800 (PC2 6400) Dual Channel Kit Desktop Memory Model TWIN2X2048-6400C4 - Retail

Creative Sound Blaster X-Fi XtremeGamer 7.1 Channels PCI Interface Sound Card - Retail

Western Digital Caviar SE16 WD5000AAKS 500GB 7200 RPM SATA 3.0Gb/s Hard Drive - OEM

Tada.

Subject: Re: More More Computer Problems
Posted by Blazer on Tue, 05 Feb 2008 23:27:25 GMT
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I've lived in 2 different houses over the past 5 years, and BOTH of them simply eat power supplies. I've gone through literally a dozen power supplies. I've had 2 that outright exploded, with fire, loud popping, and smoke. Most of them either die the silent death, or act like described above (power on and after x seconds it powers off).

probably 3/4th of them were cheap shitty ones...for awhile I was buying $30 cases from Frys just to get the 420w PSU out of them (ironically the case+PSU was $30 but PSU alone was like $65 lol). The expensive ones seemed to last longer but they are also the ones that literally detonated when they did finally go out.

Subject: Re: More More Computer Problems
Posted by Caveman on Tue, 05 Feb 2008 23:49:00 GMT
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Blazer wrote on Tue, 05 February 2008 23:27I've lived in 2 different houses over the past 5 years, and BOTH of them simply eat power supplies. I've gone through literally a dozen power supplies. I've had 2 that outright exploded, with fire, loud popping, and smoke. Most of them either die the silent death, or act like described above (power on and after x seconds it powers off).

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I think you might want to look into whats eating your PSUs. I have had this same cheap £20/$35 350w PSU for 4 years now and I have yet to fault it. I have alot draining from it and yet it still comes out on top.

I have

3 IDE HDD, 1 Sata HDD, 1 IDE DVDR, 1 Sata DVDR, AMD 6000+, 120mm Case fan, 7900GS, X-Fi Sound card, PCI Wifi and a few USB devices connected.

Something seriously wrong with something in your computer to make it explode good quality PSUs in a short amount of time while im still sitting happy with this cheap thing.

Dot: As I mentioned before, try it with another PSU.

Subject: Re: More More Computer Problems
Posted by R315r4z0r on Tue, 05 Feb 2008 23:51:43 GMT
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Normally cheap PSUs are worse. It really depends on how it is used.

My tech teacher says that if you are buying a PSU and are stuck between two of them... to go with the one that weighs more. He says because it has more transistors in it and would be more efficient at its job.

Subject: Re: More More Computer Problems
Posted by jnz on Tue, 05 Feb 2008 23:57:13 GMT
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Doitle wrote on Tue, 05 February 2008 22:01I did try that Roshambo, sadly no dice.

Then your PSU is gone, most of the time, fried motherboards will fire up the PSU.

Subject: Re: More More Computer Problems
Posted by Blazer on Wed, 06 Feb 2008 03:40:58 GMT
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It's not the same computer that has popped...we have always had between 3-6 computers in the house...none of them have proven immune to PSU death, even if plugged into a UPS and/or surge protector. I guess it could be we just have "dirty power".

Subject: Re: More More Computer Problems
Posted by Sl4cker on Wed, 06 Feb 2008 04:38:14 GMT
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Well like a week ago i was playing a game and heard a loud pop sound from my computer. Then it shut off like 1-2 min later and when i restarted it it would do the same.
After taking my computer apart i found 2 of the screws that held my heat sink fan on broke. The plastic part that held the screw on the whole thing snapped.
So the screws weren't holding the heat sink fan directly on the psu. And it was over heating and shutting off my computer.

I would check this to if you haven't already.

Good luck

Subject: Re: More More Computer Problems
Posted by JPNOD on Wed, 06 Feb 2008 07:46:30 GMT
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R315r4z0r wrote on Tue, 05 February 2008 18:51Normally cheap PSUs are worse. It really depends on how it is used.

My tech teacher says that if you are buying a PSU and are stuck between two of them... to go with the one that weighs more. He says because it has more transistors in it and would be more efficient at its job.

Your teacher is right, a good PSU does weight alot more.

As for topicstarter, I would suggest trying a different PSU then.

Subject: Re: More More Computer Problems
Posted by CarrierII on Wed, 06 Feb 2008 16:05:43 GMT
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The only PSU I've lost got fried in a power surge (I couldn't afford a surge protector lol)

That same surge destroyed one of my router's ethernet ports, the other 3 work fine (the one that's gone was in use during the surge). Weird, eh?