

Is SATA working? (Can I use sw.raid-5 with SATA + ATA drives?)

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To: linux-kernel@vger.kernel.org

I need a new motherboard and I have to decide should I buy
EpoX PE-4PCA3+ (and use 3 ATA drives connected to HPT374) or
Asus P4C800E-Deluxe (and use 1(2) SATA drive and 2(1) ATA drives).

Board from Asus is about 5% faster in every zone (tomshardware.com)
but can I make it work?

In Asus there is unfortunately only 3 ATA connectors (one is needed
for CD-RW) and I'm not going to put 2 drives on the same cable.

I understood that there are some problems with promise 20378 used in
Asus (in 64 bit mode). Is that something I need to worry about?

Here are chips used in those boards:

Chipset (both boards):

Intel 875P + ICH5R

Asus:

Promise 20378 raid

Intel 82547 lan

Soundmax

EpoX:

HPT374 raid

BCM5705 / 5788 lan

cmi9739A (sounds)

If network or soundsystem is not working rightaway it's not a problem
cause I still have working PCI-cards. If disks are working that's enough
for a while. I'm sure that sound and networks chips will also work on some
day.

Asus have also other very interesting board (P4P800-Deluxe) but it uses
VIA 6410 as a raid controlled and I understood that it's not working (and
VIA is not going to support opensource.. :(). With that board I could use
ATA drives (4 connectors, two of them coming from VIA6410). It would be

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almost as fast as P4C800.

ps. I'm just an ordinary home user and I don't understand any details.

Thanks,

Matti ..with great (but broken) Abit KT7-RAID

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