

[SLE] Skype, mic and artsd

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To: suse-linux-e@suse.com

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> *Have been scratching my head due to this, for several nights now:*

> *I have tried to record sound in KDE (Krecord, Audacity, even Qarecord) and also did try out Skype, but the microphone seems to be a problem – it records on a very very low level, like a whisper really, and in Skype the fellow in the other end barely hears me.*

> *While I can hear myself in the headphones just fine, loud and clear, a recording ends up useless "whisper".*

> *Have played with various mic settings, mic boost is on, have played with etc/asound.state settings based on an usenet msg, and with sound related permissions. In Skype I tried starting Skype with "artsd something" parameter based on a newsgroup article; no help.*

> *As I see it here and there in usenet messages that other people too do have this problem in Suse 9.2, and as someone else – apart from Jake Sallee – wrote something about Suse (artsd?) packages being broken, could this be due to some Suse (artsd or other) RPM's being "bad".*

> *If so, which packages should one download and rebuild, to get a consistent upgrade to the sound system?*

> *I use a Terratec Aureon Fun 5.1 card, but earlier I had Creative Live Player 5.1 and if I remember correct, it did not perform too well either. (Did not try Skype with it, though.) There's an integrated sound chip on my PC, but it is disabled in the BIOS settings. The mic/headphone set is a good quality Labtec one and should be working just fine.*

> *Test sound in Control Centre / Sound System works o.k. but test midi produces no sound whatsoever.*

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>MP3's and Wav's play ok. Alsa mixer looks like the
>recording level settings etc. would be as they should.

>Thanks for any input, especially for instructions on
>getting and rebuilding the relevant RPM's.

>2.6.8-24.11-smp / artsd (whatever it is..) version is 1.3.0
>dw / Mike

>Are there any jumpers on the sound card?

>Not all microphones are necessarily compatible with all soundcards. Most PC
>microphones are of the electret condenser kind which requires power to be
>sent to the microphone. Some soundcards have a jumper you have to set to
>send power to the mike, because they're designed to work with either
>electret or standard dynamic microphones, and are changed in hardware rather
>than software.

>Certainly the symptoms you describe would happen if you were either (a) using
>an electret microphone without power, or (b) using a dynamic microphone on a
>soundcard which expected an electret mike.

>First thing I'd do is borrow a couple of microphones from friends and see if
>you get any better results -- it may be that you're bashing your head
>against a wall by playing around with the software.

>Cheers,

>Matt

I had some problems with Skype and SUSE 9.2. When I try to call people, they barely hear me. I have tried some better mics but no improvement. Then I loaded PCLinuxOS Live, and there is Skype app. With my low quality mic people hear me quite fine. So, problem is with some software. What should I upgrade to resolve this issue? arts?

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Mirko

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