

Re: GRUB madness [Error 21] !!

Source: <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/alt.os.linux.suse/2007-09/msg00129.html>

- *From:* Darrell Stec <darrell_stec@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 04 Sep 2007 14:50:19 -0400
-

akarui.tomodachi@xxxxxxxxxx wrote:

While investigating further with my "GRUB 21" problem, I got some interesting findings.

Here is the refreshed summary of the problem

A: System information:

- 1) P-II box with 400 MHz clock with two HDDs
- 2) BIOS is 1999 model
- 2) HDD1 is primary master of size 8.4 GB, and installed with Windows 2000 (drive C)
- 3) HDD2 is primary slave of size 120 GB, and installed with Windows 2000 and OpenSuSE 10.2 (drive D)

B: Problem observed:

- 1) After installing OpenSuSE 10.2, on bootup, "GRUB 21" error is reported

C: Workaround:

- 1) From "repair" console of the Windows 2000, issuance of FIXMBR command fixes ONLY the Windows 2000 bootup and it works ONLY for Windows 2000 (both windows on drive C and D could be booted)
- 2) To start OpenSuSE, has to be booted from the disk-1 by selecting the option "boot from installed"

D: Interesting findings:

- 1) On bootup, I can't see the BIOS is reporting about HDD2. I have tried all combinations of BIOS (CMOS setup) configurations, with AUTO, USER and LBA, LARGE, AUTO. Nothing made this HDD2 reported
- 2) But, if I boot either from Windows or OpenSuSE (as reported in C above), I could see both Windows and OpenSuSE could see this HDD2 and its contents.

Now the questions to the community:

- 1) How could I make my BIOS see the HDD2 at the boot up ? I think that is the root cause of the problem of reporting "GRUB 21" error.

Re: GRUB madness [Error 21] !!

First, experience has shown me that the larger, faster drive should always be the primary one.

How sure are you that you have all the jumpers set correctly? Depending upon the manufacturer some drives need a master/slave arrangement and others work best using CE (cable enable). Are both drives on the same IDE cable or separate? Does your BIOS have an hard drive auto detect and if so what is it reporting?

—

Later,
Darrell Stec darstec@xxxxxxxxxxx

Webpage Sorcery
<http://webpagesorcery.com>
We Put the Magic in Your Webpages
.