

Re: 7.2 and 9.0 freeze

Source: <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/linux.redhat.misc/2006-07/msg00012.html>

- *From:* Robert Heiling <robheil@xxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Wed, 05 Jul 2006 08:04:38 -0700
-

General Schvanzkoph wrote:

On Tue, 04 Jul 2006 20:40:33 -0700, Robert Heiling wrote:

Some Other Somebody Else wrote:

On Tue, 04 Jul 2006 12:25:38 -0700, Robert Heiling
<robheil@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

General Schvanzkoph wrote:

On Tue, 04 Jul 2006
11:30:02 -0700, Robert
Heiling wrote:

General
Schvanzkoph
wrote:

On
Tue,
04
Jul
2006
10:56:01
-0700,
Robert
Heiling
wrote:

I

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recently
rescued
a
1995-vintage
pentium
233
from
the
back
corner
of
my
garage
and
returned
the
borrowed
hardware
to
it
-
floppy,
HD's
8.4GB,
6.4GB,
&
1.6GB.
FC5,
as
I
have
here,
is
out
of
the
question
for
that
old
machine,
so
I
installed
RH7.2.
It
seemed
to
be
running
Ok,

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but
there
was
a
problem
when
it
was
left
unattended.

I
think
the
screen
saver
was
taking
effect
and
I'd
find
it
frozen
with
a
blank
screen.
Space
bar
and/or
mouse
movement
would
not
get
it
to
come
back
to
life.

So
I
fresh
installed
RH9.0
(everything)
and
it
now

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freezes
at
the
text
"login:"
prompt.
This
looks
familiar,
but
I
can't
remember
the
problem.

I've
run
memtest86
for
a
day
and
there
were
zero
errors.
Win98
has
been
installed
on
hdb-6.4GB
(the
1.6GB
is
setup
as
linux
swap)
now
and
it
runs
without
any
problems,
so
I
doubt
that

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the
freezing
is
any
sort
of
hardware
problem.

Does
this
sound
familiar
to
anyone?

Bob

I
don't
think
that
the
resource
requirements
for
FC5
are
all
that
much
greater
then
they
were
for
RH9.
You
might
want
to
try
it
and
see
what
happens.

I hadn't

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mentioned
the other
specs of this
233MMX
machine,
but the
release
notes
for FC5
indicate that
the 128MB
memory it
has will not
support
graphics for
either install
or
operation.
That was
my
experience
a few days
ago when I
started an
install with
just the first
CD of FC5.
I've also
started
installs of
ubuntu
6.06, suse
10.0, &
centos4.2
just to see
what they
look like,
before
loading
RH9 which
I've had for
quite
awhile.

You
could
also
give
Damn
Small

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Linux
a
try,
it's
much
lighter
weight
then
RH9
was
and
it's
using
modern
components.

True. That
are lots of
alternatives,
but right
now I'd like
to solve a
problem
that
shouldn't be
happening.:)

Bob

If you really want to get
RH9 working your best bet
would be to search for
your problems in Google
Groups and see if you can
dredge up an answer that
someone posted when RH9
was current. RH9 is so old
that most of us have
forgotten the fine details of
it's problems.

I was only hoping that it might be a
configuration problem that I could edit and
that someone here might remember off the
top of their head.

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Using a contemporary lightweight distro means that there will be other current users to answer questions. DSL is so small (50 MBytes) that you can download it in a few minutes. If I were you I'd burn a DSL live CD and try it. If it works satisfactorily then you can forget about getting RH9 to work.

That isn't what I want to do. It will take me less time to simply reinstall with a different configuration and see if that does the trick. It wasn't supposed to happen in the first place, so that may be the easiest fix.

Bob

If you really prefer to use an old Red Hat version at this point rather than switch distributions, you should at least use the fedoralegacy.org updates (available for 7.3 and 9, though not for 7.2). That might solve the problem.

Now that's responsive to my posted question. I'll take a look at those. Thanks!

I used 7.3 with only 128MB RAM a few years ago and it seemed tolerable, though I would guess some applications (OpenOffice?) would have had trouble if I'd tried them, regardless of the distribution. Even if you go with DSL or something, you might want to see whether the system will accept more RAM (and whether you can find compatible RAM cheap enough).

The RedHat 6.0 disks are still laying around, so I know that was installed on it back then and I think there was something else I had on it prior to that (non-RedHat). So it's not the first time that linux has been on it and the

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motive is not simply to get some linux running on it. This exercise is solely for experimentation and I won't be putting any money into hardware either as the computer isn't worth it. This system that I'm on now boots FC4, FC5, Win2K and WinXP, so I don't need that other one for anything other than the fact that I was going to connect it to my LAN and do some experiments. I have another one to try if that one doesn't work out.

Thanks for the tip.

Bob

I seem to remember that RH6.x was pretty buggy. RH7.3 worked well and I used it for a long time. I was very unhappy with RH8 and RH9, as I recall the performance of those releases sucked. I stuck with 7.3 through the RH8 era and then when RH9 came along and it was worse than RH8 I switched to Mandrake for a while and stayed with it until I got my first Athlon64 system. Mandrake 10 had terrible A64 support so I switched back to Fedora.

I had RH9 running on this system for a long time and it ran fine for me (2.5 GHz CPU, 759 MB memory). Attempts to install FC4 in a separate partition last year from DVD failed right after hitting carriage return. I gave up after trying quite a number of misguided suggestions for kernel parameters and getting tired of the whole thing. Then, earlier this year, I encountered a situation in a completely different context that involved ACPI and wondered if that had been the problem with the FC4 installation. Sure enough! I turned ACPI off and the install went through. Later, I also installed FC5 over the RH9 installation. Not knowing how it would work out, I kept FC4 as backup, but I guess that partition is where I'll put FC6 when it's ready.

If you are looking to run an old RH on that system I'd use 7.3 not 9.

But flash back to sometime in 2003 when RH9 was more current. I have no trouble visualizing the responses to a proposal to install 7.3 and they would likely be that 7.3 was too OLD and I should use the current RH9. <G>

Bob

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