

Re: Recovery Console – dir and cd commands say "The path or file specified is not valid". Why?

Source:

http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.windowsxp.security_admin/2005-03/1207.html

From: Nepatsfan (nepatsfan_at_SBXXXIX.com)

Date: 03/14/05

Date: Mon, 14 Mar 2005 17:14:48 -0500

Depending on how badly you need to preserve the data on your hard drive and how much heavy lifting you're willing to do you might want to consider the following:

Create a bootable CD by following the procedure detailed on one of the following sites:

Ultimate Boot CD:

<http://www.ubcd4win.com/>

Knoppix:

<http://www.knoppix.org/>

Bart's PE:

<http://www.nu2.nu/pebuilder/>

If at all possible, try to make the UBCD. I think you'll find that it's worth the extra effort.

Change the boot order in you BIOS to boot from the CD drive. Once you've got the machine booted, I'd start by backing up as much of your old data as possible to CD's. It sounds as if your HD is about to go south.

Once you've got your data backed up you can do a little troubleshooting. You might find the disk diagnostic tools helpful. I've never had to use the registry editing tools so you're on your own there. I also can't vouch for

--

Nepatsfan

"Phil Addison" <phil_a@blueyonder.co.uk> wrote in message news:03hb31d1876d27na7tudnu8pqnsrle9jfh@4ax.com...

> [I asked already in

> microsoft.public.windowsxp.help_and_support, without

> a solution, so am cross-posting. Hope someone here knows the

> answer -

> thanks.]

>

```
> I have a Dell Latitude Cpt C333GT loaded with XP Pro which will
> not
> complete booting from the HDD.
>
> From power up I get the usual boot menu with "Safe", "Safe +
> network",
> "Safe + Command prompt", "Last known good configuration", And
> "Start
> windows normally".
>
> Choosing "Start windows normally" produces:
>
> XP splash screen for a few seconds then a blank screen for
> about 5
> minutes during which the HDD is making repetitive sounds. That
> finishes
> with a blue screen saying:
> "STOP: c0000218 Unknown Hard Error
> Dumping physical memory to disk: nn" (where nn counts up).
> After some 10s of seconds the machine re-boots and the cycle
> starts
> again.
>
> Booting into "Safe Mode" I get:
> XP splash screen for a few seconds then a list of drivers being
> loaded.
> The last few in the list are:
>
> multi(0)disk(0)partition(1)\WINDOWS\System32\Drivers\ACPI.sys,
> WMILIB,
> pci, isapnp, compbatt, BATT, intelide, PCIIDEX, pcmcia,
> MountMgr,
> ftdisk, PartMgr, VolSnap, atapi, disk, CLASSPNP, sr, KsecDD
> Ntfs, NDIS,
> Mup, agp440.sys.
>
> These all have ".sys" extensions, and the list ends with
> "agp440.sys".
> At this point the disk is repetitively cycling, and the above
> list
> remains on the screen. After about 3 minutes I get a blue
> screen saying
>
> "STOP: c0000218 {Registry File Failure}
> The registry cannot load the hive (file):
> \SystemRoot\System32\Config\SECURITY or its log or alternate.
> It is
> corrupt, absent, or not writable.
> Dumping physical memory to disk: nn"
>
> After some 1/2 minute or so the machine re-boots, and the same
> happens
> again.
>
> I found a KB article that indicates the problem is corrupted
> registry
> hives: "How to troubleshoot a Stop 0xC0000218 error"
> http://support.microsoft.com/kb/314874. This article refers to
> "How to
> recover from a corrupted registry"
> http://support.microsoft.com/kb/307545, which explains how to
> use the
```

> Recovery Console to restore the hives.
>
> So far so good, and can I load the Recovery Console from an XP
> Pro CD.
>
> I immediately hit a snag in that the commands I need are all
> disabled.
>
> In particular DIR, CD, MD will not run, so I cannot do anything
> useful.
> These commands respond with "The path or file specified is not
> valid".
>
> Also the 307545 article says I should see an administrator
> password
> dialog, but I am getting straight into the recovery console
> without
> seeing that.
>
> I currently have a C:\Windows> prompt, but cannot navigate at
> all
> because of the disabled dir, etc, commands.
>
> System restore from start-up does not work, so I do need to be
> able to
> restore the registry files manually.
>
> I can also boot into 'setup' from an XP Pro CD and could do a
> repair
> installation, but only want to try that as a last resort,
> because of the
> risks of upsetting application settings.
>
> Any ideas please?
>
> Phil