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Subject: [OT] Re: IDL Segmentation Fault  
Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Fri, 03 Nov 2006 19:45:16 GMT  
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Kenneth Bowman wrote:

> In article <eig2ai\$3g4\$1@news.nems.noaa.gov>,  
> Paul van Delst <Paul.vanDelst@noaa.gov> wrote:  
>  
>> Nah, my macbook is a pure work machine. The less crud I have on it the  
>> better. However,  
>> work efficiency would be \*greatly\* enhanced if multiple desktops were  
>> available like in  
>> stock RH linux distros[\*] Or if OSX was an actual Unix OS. Or, most  
>> importantly, if the  
>> darn thing didn't crash several times a day.[+]  
>>  
>> Now, the iMac sitting next to my macbook, that's another matter..... it only  
>> crashes once  
>> a week or so and iTunes is up-to-doodly-date. :o)  
>  
> That seems like a lot of crashes. I won't say mine never crashes, but it is a  
> very rare event.

Yeah it's a lot of crashes. This was my first ever foray into the non-PC linux world and, boy, it makes windows machines look supa-stable. I reboot my linux desktop about, oh, twice a year -- that the reliability I'm used to. Granted laptops are another ball of wax, but even there I think once a month is too often. Macbook pro constant crashes are very common (google it.. I was amazed). The sad thing is that the first piece of hardware that Apple produced that wasn't apparently rock-solid is the one I started with. Good timing, hey? :o)

> I never sleep my desktop Mac. It causes problems with the network file mounts.  
>  
> I sleep my Powerbook every time I move it from work to home. Every couple of  
> weeks it gets tired of the constant network changes and quits connecting, so I  
> restart it. It helps to be sure that volumes are unmounted before sleeping.

There are multiple issues with the sleeping/crashing problems with Intel macbook pros. By far and away the most common theory is that, in some cases, the temperature sensor wires are too close to the CPU heat sink and, since these machines run hot, sometimes the wire casing melts away causing intermittent shorting and the machine shuts down. Googling this topic will get you many hits. I have had one person tell me about a lid-latch issue - somehow the sensor that detects the laptop is open is tripped even when it's closed and the thing wakes up while in your laptop bag .. and is very hot when it comes out. In other cases, not turning off the bluetooth auto-detect may be causing the laptops to wake up en route somewhere and again, it's hot when it comes out of the bag.

I haven't yet figured out why my laptop was crashing constantly, but I suspect its hotness.

It only happens when it's connected to all my other bits at home (display, external drive, wireless mouse/keyboard); on travel using it as an actual laptop it's fine. At home, making it hibernate rather than sleep helped - the inconvenience of having to press the "on" button and wait about 2-3 minutes for it to wake up is acceptable compared to the alternative.

Anyway.....

cheers,

paulv

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Paul van Delst            Ride lots.

CIMSS @ NOAA/NCEP/EMC

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