

Sound/Audio issues on XP guest in ESX ...



sboyce 9 posts since

Jun 13, 2007 Hello,

I am having a serious problem with getting audio to work on VMware ESX Server 3.5 with regard to my Windows XP guests.

The thing is, I do not actually need the sound to come out of the speakers. There is an application on my guest that will not load without a sound driver present.

Here is what I am doing:

1. Provision XP guest. Everything works fine at this point.
2. Shut down XP guest. Add the following lines to the .vmx config file:

```
sound.present = "true"  
sound.autodetect = "true"
```

3. Start XP guest. It runs with sound enabled, and everything looks ok.
4. Reboot host.
5. After reboot, in VI client, I am getting an "(invalid)" message next to the virtual machine. I am no longer able to start or configure this VM's settings.
6. Since I cannot start the guest through VI client, I attempt to do so from command line and get this message:

```
root@towelie-vo01-xp-b# vmware-cmd vo01-xp-b.vmx start  
VMControl error -11: No such virtual machine
```

7. When I remove the sound directives and reboot the host, everything works fine again.

Please help, any advice will be appreciated. I have posted my .vmx file below:

```
START-CONFIG  
#!/usr/bin/vmware  
config.version = "8"  
virtualHW.version = "4"  
floppy0.present = "false"  
nvram = "vo01-xp1.nvram"  
deploymentPlatform = "windows"  
virtualHW.productCompatibility = "hosted"  
tools.upgrade.policy = "useGlobal"  
powerType.powerOff = "default"  
powerType.powerOn = "default"  
powerType.suspend = "default"
```

Sound/Audio issues on XP guest in ESX ...

```
powerType.reset = "default"
displayName = "vo01-xp-b"
extendedConfigFile = "vo01-xp-b.vmx"
scsi0.present = "true"
scsi0.sharedBus = "none"
memsize = "256"
scsi0:0.present = "true"
scsi0:0.fileName = "vo01-xp-b.vmdk"
scsi0:0.deviceType = "scsi-hardDisk"
ethernet0.present = "true"
ethernet0.wakeOnPcktRcv = "false"
ethernet0.networkName = "VLAN 601 Voice 01"
ethernet0.addressType = "generated"
ethernet1.present = "true"
ethernet1.wakeOnPcktRcv = "false"
ethernet1.networkName = "VLAN 601 Voice 01"
ethernet1.addressType = "generated"
chipset.onlineStandby = "false"
guestOS = "winxp"
uuid.location = "56 4d f2 62 44 3b 03 92-dd b8 e4 da 57 39 ba bf"
uuid.bios = "56 4d f2 62 44 3b 03 92-dd b8 e4 da 57 39 ba bf"
sched.cpu.min = "0"
sched.cpu.units = "mhz"
sched.mem.minsize = "0"
MemAllowAutoScaleDown = "false"
MemTrimRate = "-1"
ethernet0.generatedAddressOffset = "0"
ethernet1.generatedAddressOffset = "10"
ethernet2.generatedAddressOffset = "20"
ethernet3.generatedAddressOffset = "30"
sched.swap.derivedName =
"/vmfs/volumes/47df9c65-109fd440-ca90-001ec92faa43/vo01-xp-b/vo01-xp-b-875343b1.vswp"
vmware.tools.requiredversion = "7299"
scsi0:0.redo = ""
ethernet0.generatedAddress = "00:0c:29:39:ba:bf"
ethernet1.generatedAddress = "00:0c:29:39:ba:c9"
tools.syncTime = "false"
```

Sound/Audio issues on XP guest in ESX ...

```
guestOSAltName = "Microsoft Windows XP Professional (32-bit)"  
sound.present = "true"  
sound.autodetect = "true"  
END CONFIG
```

Respectfully,

Sean B. Tags: 3.5, esx, esx3, esx35, sound, audio, snd, aud, driver, config, conf, xp, winxp, windowsxp



[subashchaitan...](#) 1 posts since

Jun 9, 2008 1. **Re: Sound/Audio issues on XP guest in ESX 3.5** Apr 21, 2009 10:48 PM

Hi Sean.B,

You can try adding the following entries to your .vmx file. Then you will not face any problems when you restart your Virtual Machine.

```
sound.present = "TRUE"  
sound.virtualDev = "es1371"  
sound.fileName = "-1"  
sound.autodetect = "TRUE"  
sound.startConnected = "TRUE"
```

However, if you take snapshot, you will land up into the same problem again (I am trying to find a workaround for this problem. Will post back once i find someworkaround).

Thanks

Subash Chaitanya



[Texiwill](#) 10,205 posts since

Jan 13, 2004 2. **Re: Sound/Audio issues on XP guest in ESX 3.5** Apr 22, 2009 11:43 AM

in response to: [subashchaitan...](#) Hello,

Moved to Virtual Machine and Guest OS forum.

Is this sound through RDP, VMware Remote Console or what?

Best regards,

Edward L. Haletky

VMware Communities User Moderator, VMware vExpert 2009

====

Author of the book '[VMWare ESX Server in the Enterprise: Planning and Securing Virtualization Servers](#)', Copyright 2008 Pearson Education.

[Blue Gears and SearchVMware Pro Blogs](#) -- [Top Virtualization Security Links](#) -- [Virtualization Security Round Table Podcast](#)