

ESXi: Upgrading memory on host causes ...



[kuldipsingh](#) 36 posts since

Sep 12, 2008

I am facing a strange issue (at least to me) of Blue Screen of Death in Windows Server 2003 VMs.

Description: My esxi host has 4x 2GB = 8GB memory and I decided to replace 2 x2GB sticks with 2x4GB sticks making total of (2x2GB + 2x 4GB) = 12GB. However, this whole thing caused a grief for me.

My esxi host booted up fine and it shows 12GB of memory and every thing was great. However, as soon as I started windows server 2003 and windows 2008 based VMs I see BSoD. See the picture attached.

Few key points to note:

- 1) I have 3 VMs. One windows 2003 and two windows 2008 based.
- 2) VMs I have seen the issue are on the same DATA Store.
- 3) If I only start any 1 VM out of 3, it boots up fine.
- 4) As soon as I try to boot any of the remaining two, I see the BSoD on the VM which was already up and running. I have never seen BSoD if windows was up and running. I have always seen it during the booting of the windows but not if windows was up and running.
- 5) Please find the screen shot of BDoD.

Please help! **Attachments:**

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[dc01.JPG](#) (69.1 K)



[Leafy911](#) 296 posts since

Aug 11, 2008 1. **Re: ESXi: Upgrading memory on host causes BSoD in windows VMs** Oct 22, 2008 8:35 AM

As far as I know ESX is very sensitive when it comes to memory and will PSOD if there is an issue, so I find it strange to hear that on the VMs on top of it are affected. Have you tried using just the 2 x 4GB sticks to see what would happen?

Regards

Leafy911

(Dont forget you receive points when you award points)



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Sep 12, 2008 2. **Re: ESXi: Upgrading memory on host causes BSoD in windows VMs** Oct 23, 2008 6:14 AM

in response to: [Leafy911](#)

Based on your suggestion and my planned activity to upgrade memory to 4x4GB=16GB, the problem has been fixed.

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2x2GB and 2x4GB together was causing the issue. Once I replaced the 2x2GB with 2x4GB, as i have planned, problem was gone.

Conclusion:


Even though the Memory was from the same vendor (OCZ) and same speed 800MHz, it (ESXi) does not like different density (example: 2GB and 4GB) sticks put together

Hope, it will help other people as well.



[Leafy911](#) 296 posts since

Aug 11, 2008 3. **Re: ESXi: Upgrading memory on host causes BSoD in windows VMs** Oct 23, 2008 6:59 AM

 in response to: [kuldipsingh](#)

Hi

Glad I could be of help!

I have 2 ESXi servers at the moment, one with mixed memory DIMMS and I have not seen any issues as yet.

Anytime I do have issues with any system running any OS, I start by simplifying the situation by removing complications such as mixed memory, addition adaptor cards, device drivers etc. By using this method you should be

able to isolate the issue. 😊

Regards

Leafy911

(Dont forget you recieve points when you award points)