



Date: July 22, 2011

Subject: Statement of Volatility – Dell OptiPlex 790

To whom it may concern:

The Dell OptiPlex 790 contains both “volatile” and “non-volatile” (NV) components. Volatile components lose their data immediately upon removal of power from the component. Non-volatile components continue to retain their data even after the power has been removed from the component. The following volatile and NV components are present on the Dell OptiPlex 790 motherboard:

Description	Reference Designator	Volatility Description	User Accessible for external data	Remedial Action (action necessary to lose data)
Embedded Flash memory in embedded controller SMSC5544	U01	96K byte in non-volatile memory	No	N/A
System BIOS	SPI_1, SPI_2	Non Volatile memory, 64Mbit (8MB), 16Mbit (2MB) System BIOS and Video BIOS for basic boot operation, PSA (on board diags.)	No	N/A
TPM	UF2	18KB located in the TPM module	No	N/A
System Memory – DDR3 DIMM memory	Connectors : DIMM1, DIMM2, DIMM3, DIMM4	Volatile memory in OFF state (see state definitions later in text) One to four modules will be populated. System memory size will depend on DIMM modules and will be between 1GB to 4GB.	Yes, No	Power off system N/A
System memory SPD EEPROM	On memory DIMM(s) – one, two, three, or four present	Non-Volatile EEPROM memory. 2Kbit (256 bytes) One Device present on each DIMM. Stores memory manufacturer data and timing information for correct operation of system memory.	No	N/A

Description	Reference Designator	Volatility Description	User Accessible for external data	Remedial Action (action necessary to lose data)
RTC CMOS	BATTERY	Volatile Battery back-backed CMOS memory 256 bytes Stores CMOS information	No	Removing the on board Coin Cell battery
Video memory – type – see next column	UMA architecture-uses system DDR3.	Volatile memory in off state. UMA uses main system memory size allocated out of main memory.	No	Enter S3-S5 state below.
Hard drive	User replaceable	Non Volatile magnetic media, various sizes in GB	Yes	Low level format
<u>CD-ROM/RW/</u> <u>DVD/</u> <u>DVD+RW/</u> <u>Diskette</u> <u>Drives</u>	User replaceable	Non Volatile optical/magnetic media	Yes	Low level format / erase

All other components on the motherboard will lose data once power is removed from the system. Primary power loss (Unplug the power cord and remove the battery) will destroy all user data on the memory (DDR3, 1067MHz). Secondary power loss (removing the on board coincell battery) will destroy system data on the system configuration and time-of-day information.

In addition, to clarify memory volatility and data retention in situations where the system is put in different ACPI power states the following is provided (those ACPI power states are S0, S1, S3, S4 and S5):

S0 state is the working state where the dynamic RAM is maintained and is read/write by the processor.

S1 state is a low wake-up latency sleeping state. In this state, no system context is lost (CPU or chip set) and hardware maintains all system contexts.

S3 is called “suspend to RAM” state or stand-by mode. In this state the dynamic RAM is maintained. Dell systems will be able to go to S3 if the OS and the peripherals used in the system supports S3 state. Linux, Win 2K and Win XP support S3 state.

S4 is called “suspend to disk” state or “hibernate” mode. There is no power. In this state, the dynamic RAM is not maintained. If the system has been commanded to enter S4, the OS will write the system context to a non-volatile storage file and leave appropriate context markers. When the system is coming back to the working state, a restore file from the non-volatile storage can occur. The restore file has to be valid. Dell systems will be able to go to S4 if the OS and the peripherals support S4 state. Win 2K and Win XP support S4 state.

S5 is the “soft” off state. There is no power. The OS does not save any context to wake up the system. No data will remain in any component on the system board, i.e. cache or memory. The system will require a complete boot when awakened. Since S5 is the shut off state, coming out of S5 requires power on which clears all registers.

The following table shows all the states supported by Dell OptiPlex 790

Model Number	S0	S1	S3	S4	S5
Dell OptiPlex 790	X		X	X	X

Please direct any questions to your Dell Marketing contact.

Sincerely,

Dell Marketing