Machine management: How to configure a Windows machine to read the hardware clock as local time

For Windows XP and Windows Server 2003:

1. Right-click **My Computer**, and then click **Properties**.
   -or-
   Click **Start**, click **Run**, type sysdm.cpl, and then click **OK**.
2. On the **Advanced** tab, click **Settings** under **Startup and Recovery**.
3. Under **System Startup**, click **Edit**.
4. This should open boot.ini file. Find the line that looks like this:
   multi(0)disk(0)rdisk(0)partition(1)\WINDOWS="Microsoft Windows XP Professional" /fastdetect
5. Append the option /usepmtimer to the line so that looks like below:
   multi(0)disk(0)rdisk(0)partition(1)\WINDOWS="Microsoft Windows XP Professional" /fastdetect /usepmtimer
6. Save -> Close -> Restart your machine.

For Windows Vista and later, follow these steps:

1. Open the Windows guest.

2. Open the **Accessories** menu of the **start** menu. Right click on the **Command Prompt** application, select **Run as Administrator**.

3. Confirm the security exception, if prompted.

4. Set the boot manager to use the platform clock. This should instruct Windows to use the PM timer for the primary clock source. The system UUID (*{default}* in the example below) should be changed if the system UUID is different than the default boot device.

5. Enter the command as shown below:
   C:\Windows\system32>bcdedit /set {default} USEPLATFORMCLOCK on
6. Restart the machine.

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