

Statement of Volatility –Vostro 3910

 CAUTION: A CAUTION indicates either potential damage to hardware or loss of data and tells you how to avoid the problem.

The Vostro 3910 contains both volatile and non-volatile components. Volatile components lose their data immediately after power is removed from the component. Non-volatile components continue to retain their data even after power is removed from the component. The following non-volatile components are present on the Vostro 3910 system board.

Table 1. List of Non-Volatile Components on System Board

Description	Reference Designator	Volatility Description	User Accessible for external data	Remedial Action (Action necessary to prevent loss of data)
Embedded Flash memory in embedded controller DEC1515	U2504	200K bytes of on-chip ROM and 256 bytes of on-chip RAM	No	N/A
System BIOS	U2502 / U2504	16M + 32M bytes non-volatile memory, System BIOS and Video BIOS for basic boot operation, ePSA (on board diagnostics.)	No	N/A
TPM Nuvoton NPCT750JAAYX	U9101 (Nuvoton)	24K bytes non-volatile memory located in Nuvoton TPM.	No	N/A
System Memory – DDR4 DIMM memory	Connectons : DIMM1, DIMM2	Volatile memory in off state (see state definitions later in text) One to two modules will be populated. System memory size will depend on DIMM modules and will be between 4GB to 32GB.	Yes	Power off system.
System memory SPD EEPROM	On memory DIMM(s)	128 bytes + 256 bytes non-volatile EEPROM memory. One Device present on each DIMM. Stores memory manufacturer data and timing information for correct operation of system memory.	No	N/A
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 memory	Volatile memory in off state. UMA uses main system memory size allocated out of main memory.	No	Enter S3-S5 state below.
SD Memory Card	User replaceable	Non-volatile magnetic media, various sizes in GB.	Yes	Low level format.
M.2 Solid State Disk	User replaceable	Non-volatile magnetic media, various sizes in GB.	Yes	Low level format.
Hard Disk Drives	User replaceable	Non-volatile magnetic media, various sizes in GB.	Yes	Low level format.
CD-ROM/RW/ DVD/ DVD+RW/ Disk Drives	User replaceable	Non-volatile optical/magnetic media.	Yes	Low level format/erase.
Embedded Flash memory in embedded controller	U2504	200K bytes of on-chip ROM and 256 bytes of on-chip RAM	No	N/A

DEC1515				
System BIOS	U2502 / U2504	16M + 32M bytes non-volatile memory, System BIOS and Video BIOS for basic boot operation, ePSA (on board diagnostics.)	No	N/A
TPM Nuvoton NPCT750JAAYX	U9101 (Nuvoton)	24K bytes non-volatile memory located in Nuvoton TPM.	No	N/A

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 (DDR4, 3200MHz). Secondary power loss (removing the on-board coin cell 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 and Windows7 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.

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 Vostro 3910:

Model Number	S0	S1	S3	S4	S5
Vostro 3910	X		X	X	X

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