Removing Z Workstation Right Side Panels and More

This is from a prior document I put together for our IT guys for the Z600/Z620/Z640 boxes, and many of the tips also work for the Z800/Z820/Z840 workstations. My recall is that the plastic sliding drive-drawers for the ZX00/ZX20/ZX40 are all pretty much interchangeable. I can get you the Assembly Part Numbers to search eBay for if you need that. I hope you know of the very excellent and inexpensive HP metal 3.5 to 2.5" form factor adapters that let you perfectly use a 2.5" SSD in those plastic 3.5" drawers. Search eBay for 654540-001. Those shift the drive's "blind-mate" connectors to mesh correctly.

Sticky drive-drawer slide channels appears to be one of your workstation's issues. See the Silicone/Pledge tip below, which changes everything... that stuff is a great solution for this problem.

HP Z600 Z620 Z640 - Remove and Replace the Right Side Cover

Note: These resources are valuable regardless of what right workstation's side panel is being opened. My tip about the wood/hammer below is valuable, and using a rubber hammer can help… metal can mar the aluminum cover if things slip a bit.

Step 1: With all external cables disconnected from the workstation, start with removing the left access panel... that part is easy. For more information about removing the right side access panel, refer to this HP support document:
Z600: https://support.hp.com/us-en/document/c01733186 The video link there did not work for me but the pics in the document lower down below do help.

Z800: https://youtu.be/BdYTFQGd-rg

Z620: Try https://h30434.www3.hp.com/t5/Desktop-Hardware-and-Upgrade-Questions/HP-z620-right-side-panel/td-p/7... Brian's link at the bottom there might give you some added perspective.

Step 2: Remove the Torx-15 screws that secure the right side panel to the bottom of the chassis. Note that the number of screws varies from model to model. Once you find and remove those screws you're over half way done.

Step 3: Slide the right side panel **back** about half an inch (1.3 cm) and then lift and remove the panel. Note that whether you slide **back** or **down** depends on the shape of the slits in the internal metal case that the special machined metal attachment slider posts go into. Those are attached to the right side aluminum cover's inside face. It is either back or down, never a mix of both.

Note for the Z640: The right side panel needs to slide downward (rather than back) about 0.5 inch and then it can be lifted up and out. It can be hard to get this slid down the first time… I use a soft wood block edge against only the top edge of the

aluminum panel, working back and forth. This will allow gentle hammering to get it shifted down the first time. It is much easier to get off after Pledge has been applied, described below.

Before putting the right side panel back on I collect some Pledge Spray into a cup and apply a dab of that to the 9 metal slider posts attached to the inside face of that panel, and even some to the edges of the slots those posts need to slide against when the panel is slid back up. You can use a Q-Tip to swab with. It does not take much and after Pledge is applied future work is much easier. For the Z640 there are two silver metal bottom tabs you need to unscrew first. They are hidden beneath the right side bottom foot assembly (which has only 1 screw to remove). Then that whole foot assembly slides out. Only then can you see the hidden screws beneath.

For your binding drive drawer channels: Apply a very small amount of silicone grease (or Pledge) with a Q-Tip to the metal channels that the plastic drive sleds travel through… they slide much better after that.

Hopefully you can reposition your female “Blind-Mate” receptacle at the back of the drawer bay once you have rear access to that right side. You can find whole sets of those on eBay sometimes.

HP black plastic parts, if broken, can literally be “welded” back together using Gorilla brand liquid (or gel, but slower) superglue. The fumes put off by the cure process can frost nearby plastic parts a bit… I keep a fan running across the area to prevent that. Let things sit overnight for best strength.