MSI Center BIOS Updater Permanent Fix – Full Procedure

Overview

This document describes the exact working fix to permanently disable MSI Center's BIOS updater (UPDATEBIOS.exe),
prevent recurring pop■ups, ACPI conflicts, and ntoskrnl.exe BSOD crashes.
The procedure removes the updater and locks the directory so MSI Center cannot regenerate it.

■ Root Cause

MSI Center installs a secondary component named MSI_Center_Updater which includes:
- UPDATEBIOS.exe (BIOS flasher)
- OneDC_Updater.exe
- Hotfix scripts
- Firmware update metadata (XML)
- Updater modules that interact with ACPI

When corrupted or mismatched, MSI repeatedly attempts to run UPDATEBIOS.exe during startup, causing crashes and errors.
MSI Center automatically recreates updater files unless the directory is locked from writing.

✔ Fix Summary

1. Stop MSI services.
2. Take ownership of MSI_Center_Updater.
3. Delete the BIOS updater.
4. Recreate the folder empty.
5. Lock it so MSI Center cannot write new files.
6. Restart MSI services.

After this, MSI Center features (MUX switch, fan control, RGB) still work, but BIOS updater is permanently disabled.

1. Stop MSI Services

```
Stop-Service "MSI Foundation Service" -Force
Stop-Service "MSI_Center_Service" -Force
Stop-Service "MSI Sendevsvc" -Force
```

2. Take Ownership & Reset Permissions

```
takeown /f "C:\Program Files (x86)\MSI\MSI_Center_Updater" /r /d y
icacls "C:\Program Files (x86)\MSI\MSI_Center_Updater" /reset /t /c
icacls "C:\Program Files (x86)\MSI\MSI_Center_Updater" /grant "Administrators:(F)" /t
icacls "C:\Program Files (x86)\MSI\MSI_Center_Updater" /grant "SYSTEM:(F)" /t
```

3. Delete the BIOS Updater Folder

```
Remove-Item "C:\Program Files (x86)\MSI\MSI_Center_Updater" -Recurse -Force
Test-Path "C:\Program Files (x86)\MSI\MSI_Center_Updater"  # Should return False
```

4. Recreate the Folder Empty

```
New-Item -Path "C:\Program Files (x86)\MSI\MSI_Center_Updater" -ItemType Directory
```

5. Apply Safe Read-Only Permissions

```
icacls "C:\Program Files (x86)\MSI\MSI_Center_Updater" /inheritance:r
icacls "C:\Program Files (x86)\MSI\MSI_Center_Updater" /grant:r "SYSTEM:(RX)"
icacls "C:\Program Files (x86)\MSI\MSI_Center_Updater" /grant:r "Administrators:(RX)"
```

6. PERMANENT LOCK — Deny Write for Everyone

```
icacls "C:\Program Files (x86)\MSI\MSI_Center_Updater" /deny "*S-1-1-0:(W)"
# S-1-1-0 = Everyone
```

7. Restart MSI Services

```
Start-Service "MSI Foundation Service"
Start-Service "MSI_Center_Service"
Start-Service "MSI Sendevsvc"
```

8. Verification

```
icacls "C:\Program Files (x86)\MSI\MSI_Center_Updater"
# Expected:
# Everyone:(DENY)(W)
# Administrators:(RX)
# SYSTEM:(RX)
```