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DOS Compatibility Card: Video Signal Brighter In Windows (8/95)

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TOPIC -----

I am using a DOS Compatibility Card with a Multiple Scan 17 Display. Everything seems to work okay in the Macintosh and DOS environments, but when in the Windows environment, all lines are distorted. In particular, vertical lines tend to "bleed" to pink and then white. Only black shows up properly.

DISCUSSION -----

Here is some background that explains the nature of the problem and provide a reasonable workaround

Background

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The video signal for the DOS/Windows image is actually brighter than the Macintosh image to compensate for the dark image quality that Windows has. The poor image quality of Windows was confirmed by original beta testers for the DOS Compatibility Card. The beta users complained about Windows not being as bright and "crisp" as the Macintosh image. To compensate, the DOS video signal has actually been adjusted so it is brighter (greater signal strength) than the Macintosh video image.

In some cases though, the adjusted difference in brightness can be seen and the Windows video can slightly overdrive the display. The increased video signal strength may create streaks or ghosts of color around icons and other objects in the Windows video image.

Workaround

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In configurations where there is ghosting, color streaks or outlines in the Windows video image: switch to Windows; adjust the contrast control of the display down to minimize contrast (this should remove the ghosting or streaks); increase or adjust the brightness for an acceptable display image brightness.

This adjustment should provide an acceptable display for both Macintosh and Windows images.

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