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DOS Compatibility Card: Bit-Depth Causes Slow AVI Movies (2/95)

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TOPIC -----

I have a DOS Compatibility Card for the Power Macintosh 6100, and I am trying to use AVI files on it. However, when I try playing these files, they drop both frames and lose sound. The same files work fine on a IBM 486 DX2-50 computer. How can I improve performance? Would performance increase using QuickTime for Windows 2.0?

DISCUSSION -----

The probable cause of the problem is that the AVI movie was compressed as a 16-bit (32,000 colors) or 24-bit (16 million colors) movie and you are trying to play it back on an unaccelerated 8-bit display (256 colors), and the on-the-fly conversion taking place is slowing down the movie.

You can try converting the movie to 8-bit Video for Windows or converting it to QuickTime for Windows 2.0 with the AVI converter, for better frame rate and audio performance. One application that works well for this type of conversion is Adobe Premiere for Windows.

QuickTime for Windows 2.0 is a for-sale product available from APDA, Apple Software Licensing, and online through ZiffNet/Mac and ZiffNet. ZiffNet/Mac and ZiffNet are the online information services all about computing, from Ziff-Davis Interactive, hosted on the CompuServe Information Service. Ziffnet/Mac members can type GO MACSTORE and ZiffNet members can type GO STORE to download the new version of QuickTime for Windows.

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