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ARA: Installing Software Remotely (4/93)

Article Created: 16 April 1993

TOPIC ---

I have a PowerBook Duo with an Express Modem. When I'm using my Duo
remotely, I sometimes need to update software. However, the installer
functions for the software being updating require you to quit all
applications -- including ARA or other connection software. Is there
a workaround for this problem?

DISCUSSION --

There does not seem to be any workaround to the problem of an ARA
connection getting stopped by the Installer. There is a limit to what a
"live" install can be expected to do. We assume you are asking this
question because you can't download the software (no floppy adapter and drive,
or no external hard drive) then perform the installation.

We came up with two similar procedures that still require downloading the
software then doing the install, but at least they do not require any
additional equipment:

• Depending on the amount of software that must be downloaded and the
  amount of RAM installed in the Duo, you could create a RAM disk to copy
  the software into, disconnect and quit ARA, then run the installation.
  The RAM disk still appears if you then restart with the Shift key
  down to disable extensions. This will increase the amount of RAM
  available for the Installer to run in. We successfully downloaded
  Microsoft Mail and installed it using a RAM disk on a Duo with 4MB of
  RAM.

• The RAM disk method isn't likely to work with a huge program like Word or
  Excel. We used disk partition software that comes with Norton Utilities.
  We created a couple of partitions on our hard drive and copied the
  software into them. The nice thing about these kind of partitions is
  that they can be created and deleted on the fly. Although we didn't
  perform extensive testing, this method also appeared to work.

Keywords: <None>

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19960215 11:05:19.00

Tech Info Library Article Number: 11977