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Networked PowerBook: Don't Use AutoRemounter 1.0 w/ AC Adapter

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TOPIC -----

After adding PowerBooks to our network, we noticed a large increase in traffic. It seems that every few seconds an AEP "volley" is started from the PowerBooks, and the only way to disable the AEP packets is to remove the AutoRemounter control panel from the system folder and restart.

DISCUSSION -----

If you have AutoRemounter 1.0 installed in the Control Panels folder on a PowerBook AND the PowerBook is plugged into an AC adapter, AutoRemounter will send 1-byte echo packets every 8 to 18 seconds to the broadcast address. This occurs whether you're successful or not in remounting a server volume. The problem occurs on both routed and non-routed networks.

Also a PowerBook Duo with AC adapter, or inserted into the Duo Dock networked with Token Ring, Ethernet, or LocalTalk with AutoRemounter 1.0 will send the same echo packets.

Workarounds:

- Use battery power on the networked PowerBook,
or
- Remove AutoRemounter 1.0 from the System Folder,
or
- Remove AutoRemounter 1.0 from your hard drive.

The amount of network traffic this problem generates depends on the number of Macintosh computers and the topology of the network. The biggest impact from traffic occurs in environments with large bridged networks and many Macintosh computers. The least impact is on LocalTalk networks or networks that are routed versus bridged.

Article Change History

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- 02/02/93 - Revised to include PowerBook Duo and Duo Dock information.
 - 03/18/93 - Revised to add paragraph about what kind of networks are most

affected.

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