

Tech Info Library

Macintosh II: Certificate of Occupancy Information (9/94)

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TOPIC -----

When furnishing a new office with Macintosh computers, a Certificate of Occupancy is often required. Information needed for this certificate includes:

- EMI (Electro-Mechanical Interference) levels
- Burn test results, meaning what is released when a Macintosh is consumed by fire
- Power and grounding parameters

DISCUSSION -----

Quite often, the information needed for a Certificate of Occupancy is a certificate of compliance from a governmental or a recognized industrial or other safety committee to ensure that adequate protection exists for users against potential health hazards, such as radiation, electrical shocks, and fire hazards, and from RFI interference to radio and television reception. The Macintosh II computer meets national and international product safety requirements. The Macintosh II is approved by the American (Underwriters Laboratories--UL, and FCC), Canadian (Canadian Standards Association--CSA), and European (Institute for Industrial Research and Standards--IIRS) groups, and so on. The evidence of certification that it may be sold in a particular country is in the form of a label affixed to the bottom of the case.

Apple's grounding requirements are usually within those required by building codes in most communities. We suggest that the "third" wire be grounded for the safety of the operator, so that grounding loops don't build within devices, from which one could obtain an electrical shock.

Apple doesn't perform burn tests but works with the UL, which does, to ensure we are avoiding using materials that could contribute to a fire. This includes PCB material, housing plastic (which contains a fire retardant), and other parts. In general, PCB material is flame rated 94V-1 or better, wire should be UL-Listed/CSA-Certified VW-1, and plastic parts within the enclosure are flame rated 94V-2 or better. We generally use components that have been certified by the safety agencies. Components include such things as lithium batteries, power relays, tape drives, and so on.

Most plastics do give off toxins when burned; however, as mentioned above, the

housings and plastics do contain fire retardants, and are all UL-approved.

For more information see:

- The Macintosh Hardware Family Reference manual, Chapter 23, Macintosh II Power. This chapter goes into the AC input power requirements in detail.
- The Tech Info library article, "Electrical Specifications of Most Apple Hardware", and search on "Macintosh" and "specification".

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