GPi: Some Macintosh Models Do Not Support It (5/96)

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TOPIC ---

We have recently discovered that pin 7 of the serial port on a Macintosh LC II
is not connected to the main logic board. This appears to be an intentional
design. This causes a problem running a super-fast modem, where the handshaking
that the GPi (General Purpose Input) line provides is needed. Is there a way to
connect this line, and if so how?

DISCUSSION --

Some Macintosh models use a custom Apple chip (the Apple Combo Chip) for serial
communication functions. The chip combines the functions of the 8550 (SCC) and
the 53C80/53C96 (SCSI) into a single chip. This chip does not have GPi
capabilities, so the computers that use it have no GPi functionality.

The Macintosh Models Affected

• Classic, Classic II, Color Classic
• Macintosh LC, LC II, LC III, LC 475, LC 520, LC 57x family
• Performa 200, 400, 405, 430, 450, 600
• Macintosh IIsi
• Macintosh IIvx, IIvi
• Quadra 605
• Macintosh 630 family
• Macintosh PowerBook family

The following computers are in the Macintosh 630 family: Performa 630, Performa
635, Performa 636, Performa 637, Performa 638, LC 630, and Quadra 630.

Article Change History:
09 May 1996 - added PowerBook family.
24 Mar 1995 - Corrected list of Macintosh models without GPi.
10 Feb 1995 - Added keyword; made minor technical updates.

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