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PB 500 Series: Intelligent Battery Recondition Software (1/97)

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TOPIC -----

This document provides information about the Intelligent Battery Recondition software for a PowerBook 500 series computer.

DISCUSSION -----

The batteries of the PowerBook 500 series computers are "intelligent", which means they have a small microprocessor in them that monitors the battery's status. The system software communicates with the microprocessor and uses the information stored inside it to tell you how much time is left, if the battery is charging, and so on.

Under certain conditions, the information stored in the battery can become corrupted and cause the system software to incorrectly report the battery status. The Intelligent Battery Recondition software updates this information in the battery and restores normal operation. This software only works on the PowerBook 500 series computers.

Obtaining the Software

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Apple Dealers And Authorized Apple Service Providers (AASP)

Call 1-800-538-9696 to locate the Apple dealer or AASP near you. Ask for the Intelligent Battery Recondition software or Intelligent Battery Update. Most dealers will not charge for the software, but others will charge a small service fee.

Appletalk Remote Access (ARA)

a) Using ARA and a modem, call 1-512-908-8083 and connect as a Guest. You can find many useful PowerBook softwares updates here.

- or -

b) Call the Apple Assistance Center software update server at 1-800-280-9227 and log on as username "AAC." To obtain the password to this server, call 1-800-SOS-APPL.

Download From On-Line Services

You can download the software from a number of online services or the Internet:

America Online - keyword: applecomputer

CompuServe - GO APLSUP

Internet -

Worldwide Web: <<http://www.info.apple.com/swupdates>>

ftp: <<ftp://ftp.info.apple.com>>

These articles can help you locate the software mentioned here:

- "Where To Find Apple Software Updates"
Lists online services for "free" Apple software updates.
- "Obtaining Apple Product Support in the USA"
Lists 800 numbers and online services for software updates, Apple support information, and a subset of the Apple Tech. Info. Library.

Installation

The Intelligent Battery Recondition software consists of two parts: a system extension ("Intelligent Battery") an application ("Intelligent Battery Recondition").

Battery Extension

To install the Intelligent Battery extension, follow these steps:

Step 1

Drag the extension to the Extensions folder (in the System folder) on your PowerBook's hard disk.

Step 2

Restart your PowerBook.

Battery Recondition Application

To install the Intelligent Battery Recondition application, do this:

Step 1

Drag the Intelligent Battery Recondition application to your PowerBook. You can copy the application anywhere on your PowerBook's hard disk.

Reasons For Installing/Using

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You should use the Intelligent Battery Recondition application if your PowerBook fails to recognize an installed battery or when a battery will not charge. You can tell if the PowerBook recognizes an installed battery by looking at the battery monitor module in the Control Strip.

If one of the following situations occur while looking in the Control Strip, then you need to run the Intelligent Battery Recondition application:

- With a battery installed in both bays, the right side battery icon is grayed out.
- With a battery installed in both bays, the left side battery icon is grayed out.
- At least one battery installed and you see the icon of a plug and a right facing triangle in the battery monitor module.

Using The Intelligent Battery Recondition Application

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To use the Intelligent Battery Recondition application, do this:

Step 1

Make sure the battery you want to update is in the right hand battery bay.

Step 2

Double-click the Intelligent Battery Recondition application icon and follow the on screen instructions. You will be instructed to insert batteries into the battery bay on the right side (facing the computer) .

It takes from 7 to 12 minutes to complete the update process. Do not interrupt the application while it is running. Watch for dialogs that require action on your part. Progress messages appear in the Intelligent Battery Recondition application window.

A message appears on the screen telling you when the update process is finished. Click OK to finish the process and automatically quit the application.

IMPORTANT: You can quit the application at any time, but quitting before the update process is complete may cause the battery to behave unpredictably.

The application can only update the battery in the battery bay on the right side of the computer, so if your PowerBook has a battery in the left battery bay, or you have extra batteries for your PowerBook, follow the steps above for each battery.

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document number 20000 (Apple Fax - Document Index - Product Support Literature).
The Apple Fax center is available free of charge 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

NOTE: Apple Fax number 20729 contains the same information as the TIL article titled "Where To Find Apple Software Updates".

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Article Change History:

- 17 Jan 1997 - Updated online references.
- 02 Jul 1996 - Added Fax Doc word
- 15 Aug 1995 - Reformatted and listed information about where to get software.

Support Information Services

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