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PowerBook Duo: Not Retaining Network Selections (1/97)

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TOPIC -----

I find that my PowerBook Duo is not retaining its network connection information when it is ejected from the Duo Dock, used, and reinserted back into the Duo Dock. I have an Ethernet connection to the Duo Dock, but the PowerBook Duo defaults back to LocalTalk connection when reinserted into the Duo Dock.

Shouldn't the Duo remember the network selection when it is reinserted into the Dock?

DISCUSSION -----

A PowerBook Duo may not retain its network connection information when it is ejected from the Duo Dock, used, and reinserted back into the Duo Dock. The problem is related to the version of the Network control panel currently installed.

When the Network Software Installer (NSI) is used to install network software, the Network control panel is replaced. The NSI 1.2.3 disk installs Network CDEV version 2.3.3, which remembers the network setting. The NSI 1.3 disk installs Network CDEV version 3.0, which does not remember the network selection. The Network CDEV version 3.0.2 (from System 7.5, or NSI 1.4.4 and later) remembers the network connection of the Duo Dock when the Duo is re-inserted.

The problem can be worked around by drag copying the 2.3.3, or the 3.0.2 version of the Network CDEV to the Control Panels folder on the Duo.

You can obtain versions of the Network Control Panel which retain the network settings from the following locations:

Network Control Panel v.2.3.3

- System 7.1
- Network Software Installer 1.2.3
- Online services

Network Control Panel v.3.0.2

- System 7.5

- Network Software Installer 1.4.4
- Online services

This problem has been corrected in System 7.5, and the Network Software Installer v1.4.4 and later.

If you are using System 7.5.2, there are no known workarounds to this problem at this time. If you are using System 7.5.3 (System 7.5 Update 2.0), this problem may behave differently depending on whether you're using Open Transport or Classic AppleTalk:

*If Classic AppleTalk is the selected networking, there is no way around the problem at this time.

*If Open Transport is the selected networking, the problem occurs if the PowerBook is put to sleep while it is outside of the dock. The problem also occurs with saved configuration settings. That is, a configuration setting with the Printer Port selected for AppleTalk will revert to Modem Port when the Duo is re-docked. There may be other instances when network settings change.

Apple is currently investigating this problem and hopes to have it fixed in a future system update.

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- 29 Jan 1997 - Updated with additional Open Transport information.
- 16 May 1996 - Updated for Open Transport and System 7.5 Update 2.0.
- 29 Sep 1995 - Added Info Alley information; updated article.

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