Power Macintosh: Disk Copy Gives Error Copying (12/94)

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TOPIC ---

I have a Power Macintosh computer and I am trying to use Disk Copy to make
disks. However, when I try to copy over preformatted MS-DOS formatted disks, I
get an error message. If I put the disk into the Macintosh after quitting Disk
Copy, it looks like it copied the disk properly, but the disk doesn't work. What
is going on?

DISCUSSION --

There are two issues at work here. The Power Macintosh floppy driver and the
Disk Copy application.

When using a 720K MS-DOS formatted disk with an 800K Macintosh image file, Disk
Copy (or any other disk image utility such as DART or Disk Dup) runs out of
useable tracks at the end of the disk. On non-Power Macintosh computers, Disk
Copy is able to "add" the extra tracks needed. On Power Macintosh computers,
because of some timing issues in the Power Macintosh floppy driver, Disk Copy is
not able to "add" the extra tracks, so you get the error message at the end.
These timing issues are known to Engineering, but since Disk Copy was written
before the advent of the Power Macintosh computers, it is not able to account
for the timing differences. Disk Copy needs to be revised to account for the
timing differences in the Power Macintosh floppy driver. Since there is not a
group tasked with revising Disk Copy, this may or may not be done soon.

Workarounds

There are two workarounds for this problem:

1) Use the Erase Disk option in the Special menu, and format the disk
   as a Macintosh disk.
2) Use a bulk-eraser to remove all track and sector information.

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