



Tech Info Library

System 7.0.1: Change Overview

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Article Change History

09/25/92 - REVIEWED

- For technical accuracy.

TOPIC -----

This article describes the differences between System 7.0 and 7.0.1. They fall under two main headings:

- cdevs/Extensions
- System File

DISCUSSION -----

CDEVs/Extensions

----- Memory

RAM Disk Support on Quadra and PowerBook Computers Support for RAM Disk on the Macintosh Portable was moved from the Portable control panel to the Memory control panel. Minor internal changes were made to all of the "panels" inside memory. Specifically, the virtual memory and RAM Cache "panels" were updated to work correctly with the new RAM disk and to work with the existing RAM disk on Macintosh Portable computers. The previous version of the Memory control panel would let users reduce the size of the virtual memory backing store (by reducing virtual memory). This change would take effect before restarting. This was corrected under 7.0.1 to occur at restart.

Portable

The screen brightness and contrast sliders previously found in Portable were removed. The PowerBook family has hardware controls on the front to control contrast and brightness. For the Classic family, Macintosh

Portable, and PowerBook 100, a dedicated control panel called "Brightness" provides control of the overall screen brightness. RAM disk controls for the Macintosh Portable previously found in Portable have moved to Memory.

Portable supports internal modems in PowerBook 140 and 170 as well as in the Macintosh Portable.

Brightness

The brightness control panel supports Macintosh Portable, Classic, Classic II, and PowerBook 100 computers. The control panel is a simple slider that controls overall screen brightness.

Network

Minimal Network changes support on-board Sonic Ethernet for the Quadra family.

Battery

Battery was updated to work with the PowerBook family. Battery now provides users with a button to put the computer to sleep immediately.

Caps Lock

The Caps lock indicator panel places a visual indicator of the state of the Caps Lock key on the right end of the menu bar. Available only on PowerBooks.

File Sharing Extension

An internal 4K file sharing buffer was increased to 5K. With the increased performance of the Quadra family's built-in Ethernet, a slightly larger buffer increased the file sharing throughput by 2 times on those computers.

Cache Switch

There's a new control panel for the Quadra computers to disable or enable the 68040 cache. The control panel simply sets a PRAM byte and the System does all the work at the next startup.

A/ROSE and DAL

General 68040 compatibility changes.

HD SC Setup

Minor changes to support new hardware and to change a format-time mode select.

System File

OS

- Keyboard patch wakes up sleeping Putter (Macintosh Classic) keyboards.
- Supports the 53C96 SCSI chip found in the Quadras and PowerBooks 140 and 170. At startup, a linked patch was added to wait for all SCSI drives connected at the previous startup to spin up before continuing the launch. This is for Macintosh Quadras and PowerBooks 140 and 170 only.
- Minor LocalTalk changes for 68040 compatibility.
- Minor changes to Gestalt 'lram', 'ram ', and 'kbd ' selectors for RAM disk/PowerBook keyboard support.
- Updated _hwPriv CPU cache management and dispatch routines.
- Updated keyboard maps for Key Caps (PowerBook keyboard).
- Supports the new Macintosh PowerBook 140/170 power manager.
- Startup code inhibits 68040 cache depending on setting of Cache Switch CDEV.
- Bitmapped system fonts were marked unpurgeable in System 7.0. These are now marked purgeable under 7.0.1.

ToolBox

- SANE (Standard Apple Numerics Environment) performance was improved via backpatching. The new SANE is functional on all computers with a IIci class universal ROM and a Floating Point Unit. It's occasionally noticeable in applications that use SANE on computers with a FPU.
- The Disk Initialization Package now creates an MFS disk when the size of the volume is exactly 800 blocks (400K), instead of doing so on sizes less than or equal to 800 blocks. This is to prevent RAM disks that are smaller than 800 blocks from being formatted as MFS volumes. It is impossible to create a RAM disk with exactly 800 blocks.
- The Notification Manager has been changed to call IdleUpdate when NMInstall is called (on portables) to wake the system up when a notification is about to be posted.

- Enables powerdown messages on Quadra 900 and RAM disk. The warning code, "has files on it and will be erased if you shut down" was added to the Shutdown Manager. Also, all open video drivers are closed before the power is killed at _Shutdown.
- Support for Quadra and PowerBook sound hardware and internal sound input source selection was added to the Sound Manager.
- The backlight driver was upgraded to work with the PowerBook family.
- SetHandleSize was fixed for all 32-bit memory managers.

General

- Various strings and dialogs, required in the support of the new systems, were added.
- Several minor changes that reduce the overall size of the run time system heap were made to compensate for the memory required by the new CPU support.
- The Installer script file has been substantially revised to address the needs of the new systems.

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