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Connectix: Enabler Patch (4/93)

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TOPIC -----

The purpose of this article is to clear up the confusion regarding the "Enabler patch" (released by Connectix), which patches a specific ROM routine (GetIndResource) to change its behaviour when an invalid parameter is passed to that routine.

DISCUSSION -----

When a negative index is passed to GetIndResource, low memory globals can become corrupted, which will lead to a system error. There is no situation where a negative index should be passed to this routine. Instead of changing the code that passes a negative index to GetIndResource, Connectix chose to modify the behavior of the GetIndResource routine with their patch.

Apple does not support or recommend the enabler patch distributed by Connectix. The patch has not been completely tested, and it causes new compatibility problems with other third-party software. Customers with further questions on the enabler patch should contact Connectix.

There has been additional confusion between Apple's Hardware Systems Update and Connectix's patch, partly because they were released at about the same time. The Hardware Systems Update released in February does not patch GetIndResource. There was a problem with Apple File Exchange on a few machines where Apple File Exchange had the same problem of passing an invalid index to GetIndResource. The Hardware Systems Update fixes Apple File Exchange on these systems. It does not modify GetIndResource.
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