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Macintosh IICx: Video Slowdown Problem (11/94)

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TOPIC -----

I'm having a screen-refresh slowdown problem on a Macintosh IICx (4MB RAM, HD40 SC) and a Two-Page Monochrome Monitor. After working fine for a few hours, the system becomes sluggish when I scroll through a document.

If I restart the machine, the system seems to work fine again, but slows down after a short period. This happens with various applications. When a 1-Bit Video Card is installed in the Macintosh IICx next to the Two-Page Monochrome Video Card, the system seems to perform fine, even when this card is not connected to a monitor.

Can you explain?

DISCUSSION -----

We know of no reason why a Macintosh IICx with a Two-Page Monochrome Monitor would slow down after being used for a few hours, or why it would maintain its level of performance if a second video card is installed. This is not a known problem, even though this is a commonly used system configuration.

Here are some things to check:

- Are you running in the Finder or under MultiFinder?
(If MultiFinder, are the other programs running in the background?)
- Is there heavy network activity?
- Is Background Printing turned on?
- Is there more than one System Folder or System file on the startup disk?

Here are some known causes of system slowdowns:

- At the Finder level, a bloated Desktop file or fragmented hard disk. Some programs maintain just a few pages of their documents in memory. Therefore, the time to scroll to different sections of the document varies, depending on whether that portion of the document is in memory or on the hard disk. If the hard disk or file is fragmented, the time to

display different portions may vary.

- Viruses. Ensure that the hard drive and floppy disk are free of any viruses.
- Hardware problems with either the Two-Page Monochrome Video Card or -- less likely -- the Macintosh IICx logic board. Try using different cards or using a different system.

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