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PowerBook 5300: Can't Use Floppy at Same Time as PC Card (2/96)

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TOPIC -----

This article describes a potential problem with Macintosh PowerBook 5300 series computers which might prevent a user from using the floppy drive (or other Media Bay device) and a PC (PCMCIA) Card at the same time.

DISCUSSION -----

The problem occurs when the total power requirements for the PC Card and Media Bay device reach or exceed 1 Amp (A). When this limit is exceeded an internal circuit breaker will trip and cause the machine to freeze.

Apple's PowerBook continuation engineering team has added a jumper wire to the logic board which bypasses this 1A circuit breaker limitation. This jumper wire addition was cut-in to manufacturing starting with these serial numbers: FC547XXX and CK547XXX. If a PowerBook computer was built prior to these date codes and is experiencing this problem, the logic board should be replaced through service.

The only immediate workaround for the customer would be not to use the two devices simultaneously. Using one, then the other would prevent the problem from occurring.

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