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Newton Connection Kit for Windows: VCD.386 Errors (1/94)

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TOPIC -----

I recently installed the Newton Connection Kit for Windows on my Windows-compatible computer. When Windows launches on my computer, I get the following error message:

"Can not find the device file that may be needed to run Windows in 386 Enhanced mode. You need to run setup program again to install VCD.386. Press any key to continue"

Also, the Newton Connection Kit doesn't work with my Newton and my computer's fax modem doesn't work. How can I make my system work properly?

DISCUSSION -----

This problem occurs with version 1.0 of the Newton Connection Kit for Windows. Version 1.0a of the Newton Connection Kit for Windows will solve this problem and is available from the Newton System Update line at 1-800-242-3374. You can also use a workaround with Version 1.0 to cure this problem.

Problem

When you install Newton Connection Kit for Windows v 1.0, the installer looks for a statement in the SYSTEM.INI file referencing the file VCD.386. In standard Windows installations, this statement is in the 386ENH section of the SYSTEM.INI file and is written as:

```
device=*vcd
```

This statement tells Windows to look for a file called VCD.386 in the Windows system directory.

If this statement is missing from the SYSTEM.INI file, the Newton Connection Kit installer will add the following statement to the file:

```
device=vcd.386
```

Certain communications software and particular machines (usually laptops with PCMCIA slots) modify the SYSTEM.INI file and place a modified version of the file VCD.386 in the Windows system directory. Often, this modified version is

NOT named VCD.386. This will cause the problems mentioned above.

Solution

You can use Version 1.0a of the Newton Connection Kit for Windows. It does not make the changes mentioned above and assumes that a VCD.386 file or equivalent is being loaded.

You can also use a workaround with Version 1.0. It restores the old SYSTEM.INI file and adds a line referencing the file TSIVID.386.

To do this, follow these steps:

- 1) Quit Windows.
- 2) Copy the file SYSTEM.INI from the directory where the Newton Connection for Windows was installed to your Windows directory. The default path is C:\NEWTON. The installer placed the old SYSTEM.INI file in this directory.
- 3) Launch Windows
- 4) Go to the Program Manager, select RUN from the FILE menu, and enter SYSEDIT.EXE. Click on OK.
- 5) Select SYSTEM.INI from the WINDOW menu.
- 6) Scroll down through the file until you see a line that says [386Enh].
- 7) Continue scrolling down through the file until you see a line that says [Standard].
- 8) Insert a new line above the line that says [Standard] and enter the following text on the new line in all caps:

```
DEVICE=path\TSIVID.386
```

where "path" is the DOS directory pointing to the installed Newton files.

For example, if the files were installed in the directory C:\NEWTON, this statement would be:

```
DEVICE=C:\NEWTON\TSIVID.386
```

- 9) Relaunch Windows.

Your Newton Connection Kit and fax/communications software should now work.
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Keywords: <None>

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