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AppleFax Modem: Overview and Firmware

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Overview

The AppleFax Modem allows Macintosh users to send and receive Fax files/documents with the huge installed base of Fax machines currently used by most businesses. In addition to its Fax capabilities, the AppleFax Modem allows 9600 baud file transmission of Macintosh software with other AppleFax Modem users.

The AppleFax Modem's case is exactly the same size as the Apple 3.5" disk drive, letting the two products be stacked. The AppleFax Modem is compatible with Fax Group 3 ONLY (some early-release manuals erroneously\state that the modem is compatible with Fax Group 2 as well). The firmware in this unit is a subset of the Hayes-compatible firmware in the Apple Personal Modem.

Availability

The AppleFax Modem will be sold only by authorized Apple Desktop Communications dealers.

AppleFax Firmware

The command set in the AppleFax Modem firmware is a subset of the Hayes command set used in the Apple Personal Modem, with some additional Fax only 'S' registers. The new AppleFax Modem registers are:

- S14 Error Rate / Contains a value that indicates the number of erroneous transmissions that occurred in the last 256 transmissions.
- S32-S64 Modem Chip Set / These registers map to the R96 Fax compatible modem chip set contained in the AppleFax Modem as follows:

Registers S32-47 Bank 0 registers 0..15

The firmware in the AppleFax Modem is compatible enough with the Hayes protocol that it should run with most communication applications (MacTerminal, for example) with no problem. This will allow you to transfer Macintosh files, type messages back and forth with the other AppleFax Modem owner, and in general become familiar with the command set of this modem.

The communication application must follow these guidelines:

- Handshaking CTS (Clear To Send) or RTS (Return To Send)
- Local Echo Echo off
- Duplex Full duplex
- Bits 8 data bits, 1 stop bit and 1 start bit.
- Baud Rate 9600

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