Tech Info Library

Quadra 900, 950, AWS 95, WS 9150: Security Keyswitch (2/95)

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Revised:        2/22/95
Security:       Everyone
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Article Created: 18 May 1992
Article Reviewed/Updated: 22 February 1995

TOPIC ---

The Quadra 900, 950, Workgroup Server 95, and Workgroup Server 9150 come with a
security keyswitch that allows owners to limit access to the computer.

DISCUSSION --

The keyswitch has three positions: OFF, ON, and SECURE. The key can be removed
while the switch is in any of the three positions. The operation of the
keyswitch is designed to provide a first level of security for users who wish to
use it, without being inconvenient for those who don't.

Keyswitch OFF Position

When the keyswitch is in the OFF position, the computer can't be turned on.
Moving the keyswitch from either the ON or SECURE position to the OFF position
turns the computer off.

CAUTION: Turning the keyswitch to OFF when the computer is running turns the
power off immediately -- the system software doesn't have a chance to close
files. If the computer is turned off by turning the keyswitch to OFF, data can
be lost.

Keyswitch ON Position

When the keyswitch is in the ON position, the user controls the power the same
way as on any other computer in the Macintosh II, Quadra, and Power Macintosh
family. The computer can be turned on from the keyboard and turned off with the
Shut Down menu item.

Keyswitch SECURE Position

When the keyswitch is in the SECURE position, the ADB devices and floppy disk

are disabled. For example, the keyboard does not generate characters, or the mouse moves but no menus can be pulled down. Also when power is applied to the computer while the keyswitch is in the SECURE position, the computer automatically starts up. The SECURE position is intended for situations involving remote access, or in which the computer is a network server. In the SECURE position, the computer will automatically power on if power is disrupted (that is, if the cable is removed, or power goes out).

Lost Keys

Naturally, the best thing to do is to make several copies of the key immediately and place them in a secure location. Most key shops have blanks for the type of key used in the 900/950/AWS95/WS9150.

But if the key is already lost, a customer can take the machine to a locksmith shop and have them create a new key to unlock the system. If this option is not viable, a customer can order an entire replacement lock assembly from any Apple service provider. The part number is 705-0175.

For security reasons Apple will not replace individual keys.

If the key is missing out of the box of a new Macintosh, customers should contact the Apple Customer Assistance Center (800-776-2333). A replacement lock assembly will be sent to the customer's authorized Apple service provider, who can install it.

Article Change History:
22 Feb 1995 - Added clarification on key in secure position.
10 Oct 1994 - Clarified Discussion and part number for key.
29 Mar 1993 - Revised to add references to all Quadra 9x0 series
              computers.

Support Information Services

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Tech Info Library Article Number:10207