# Tech Info Library

## PowerBook Duo Dock and 3COM EtherLink NB Card (4/93)

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TOPIC -----------------------------------------------------------

I have tried to install two different 3COM EtherLink NB REV E cards in a Duo
Dock we are using for demonstrations.  We have used these cards in the past in a
Macintosh IIfx and Macintosh IIci without problems.  After the cards were
installed (very tight fit, but everything seated properly), and EtherLink
network drivers were installed, the card weren't recognized.  We put the cards
back in the Macintosh IIfx and Macintosh IIci and everything was OK.

After checking with 3COM I learned they haven't tested their card in the Duo
Dock.  They said it's the same part and version number as the Apple EtherTalk NB
card, and it should function the same as the Apple card. Are there any reports
of the Apple EtherTalk NB card having problems with the Duo Dock?

We are using the network EtherTalk drivers that come with System 7.1.  We also
have not encountered any other problems with the Duo and Duo Dock; it has been
in use for about two months.


DISCUSSION -------------------------------------------------------

Apple does not support the use of the EtherTalk NB card in the Duo Dock. The
main reason is a physical incompatibility: it doesn't fit in the machine without
modification (one of the AUI posts catches the edge of the rear opening, which
prevents the Dock from being reassembled).  Because of this, the driver software
was not tested.

We verified the physical incompatibility here at our labs this morning.

We also tried the newer Apple Ethernet NB card and it installs easily into the
Duo Dock and works perfectly.

Our recommendation is to try a different type of Ethernet card.  The 3COM
EtherLink card and the Apple EtherTalk NB card appear to be incompatible with

the Duo Dock.

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