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ARA: Installing Software Remotely (4/93)

Revised: 4/20/93
Security: Everyone

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Article Created: 16 April 1993

TOPIC -----

I have a PowerBook Duo with an Express Modem. When I'm using my Duo remotely, I sometimes need to update software. However, the installer functions for the software being updating require you to quit all applications -- including ARA or other connection software. Is there a workaround for this problem?

DISCUSSION -----

There does not seem to be any workaround to the problem of an ARA connection getting stopped by the Installer. There is a limit to what a "live" install can be expected to do. We assume you are asking this question because you can't download the software (no floppy adapter and drive, or no external hard drive) then perform the installation.

We came up with two similar procedures that still require downloading the software then doing the install, but at least they do not require any additional equipment:

- Depending on the amount of software that must be downloaded and the amount of RAM installed in the Duo, you could create a RAM disk to copy the software into, disconnect and quit ARA, then run the installation. The RAM disk still appears if you then restart with the Shift key down to disable extensions. This will increase the amount of RAM available for the Installer to run in. We successfully downloaded Microsoft Mail and installed it using a RAM disk on a Duo with 4MB of RAM.
- The RAM disk method isn't likely to work with a huge program like Word or Excel. We used disk partition software that comes with Norton Utilities. We created a couple of partitions on our hard drive and copied the

software into them. The nice thing about these kind of partitions is that they can be created and deleted on the fly. Although we didn't perform extensive testing, this method also appeared to work.

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Tech Info Library Article Number:11977