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Network Server 500 & 700: Hot Swappable Drives & RAID (9/96)

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TOPIC -----

This article describes the need for an optional Network Server PCI RAID Card at RAID level 5 for hot swappable drives.

DISCUSSION -----

The Network Server 500 and Network Server 700 contain a flexible SCSI backplane that allows the easy removal and insertion of SCSI devices. The removal or insertion of a SCSI device while the system is running causes a reset of the SCSI bus. The ability to handle the SCSI reset is operating-system dependent. AIX does not have the ability to handle this reset, which may lead to data corruption when the reset occurs. The optional Network Server PCI RAID Card, M4030Z/A, buffers the AIX operating system from the consequences of drive insertion and removal when the drive is part of a RAID configuration setup for RAID Level 5.

In summary: hot-swapping drives on the Network Server 500 and 700 requires that the drives be part of a RAID Level 5 configuration with the Apple Network Server PCI RAID Disk Array Card.

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