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PC Compatibility Card: 32-bit Disk Access Not Supported (5/96)

Revised: 5/21/96
Security: Everyone

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Article Created: 13 May 1996
Article Reviewed/Updated: 21 May 1996

TOPIC-----

I have a PC Compatibility Card in my Power Macintosh. After installing Windows 95, I got a message that the computer is not running at optimal performance. It then stated that the hard drive, floppy drive, and CD-ROM drive are running in "Compatibility Mode". What is compatibility mode, and is this normal?

DISCUSSION -----

Windows 95 has the ability to use a 32-bit protected-mode driver to access the hard drive controller and other drive controllers. On some equipment, including the PC Compatibility Card, Windows 95 is unable to access the drive controllers in this mode, so Windows 95 must use 16-bit real-mode drivers. This is the Compatibility Mode that Windows 95 mentioned. Using the 16-bit real-mode is normal for the PC Compatibility Cards. Windows 95 has the ability to use either 32-bit or 16-bit drivers, so this should not cause any problems.

Article Change History:
21 May 1996 - Replaced entire discussion.

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Tech Info Library Article Number:19781