Entry Number:
Title: **The Dell DG/X**
Entry Date: **12 April 1993**

Product Vendor: **Dell Computer Corporation**
Vendor Contact Information:

Hardware Platform: **Intel Processor Family**
Reported in Software Version: **NEXTSTEP Release 3.1**
Keywords: **Dell, Jaws**

DELL_Logo3.eps ¬

Usage Commentary:

The Dell DG/X   provides 1120 x 832 in 16 bit color under NEXTSTEP.   NEXTSTEP also supports SVGA on the Dell DG/X at 1024 x 768.

The Dell DG/X should be compatible with NeXT color monitors. This compatibility is not guaranteed by NeXT.

Setup and Installation:

The Dell DG/X may come with two 1/4 height floppy drives in a single unit. Only one floppy drive should be enabled, and it should be the 3 1/2" set to be drive A in both the CMOS setup and the EISA Configuration Utility (ECU).

The following ECU settings were recorded by the Quality Assurance Group from a Dell DG/X known to have successfully installed and run NEXTSTEP Release 3.1 for Intel Processors. The system was running off of a SCSI hard disk with a DPT 2012 SCSI controller.

EISA Configuration Utility Setup
System - Dell Powerline (TM) Workstation 450 DE/2 (TM) System Board
Memory
    SIMM Memory 16MB
    Extended Memory 15360 KB
    Board Memory : 640 KB
    Base Memory : 640 KB
Fast Video : Cached
CPU Options
    486 Cache : On
    CPU Speed : 50 MHz
Boot Options
    Primary Display : VGA/EGA
    Keyboard : Installed
    Num Lock : On
    Reset Button : Enabled
    Speaker Volume : High
    SmartVu : System Messages
    Hard Disk Autosense : Off
    Boot Sequence : Diskette First
    Password Entry : Before Boot
Password : Not Enabled
Integrated Mouse : Enabled
Integrated VGA : Graphics : Color or Mon without retrace
Integrated Hard Disk Interface : Auto
Hard Drives
    Drive 0 : Not Installed
    Drive 1 : Not Installed
Integrated Serial Interface
    Serial Port 1 : Auto
    Serial Port 2 : Auto
Integrated Parallel Port Interface : Auto
EXP4 - DPT SCSI Host Bus Adapter (PM 2012B2/9X) - Banyan Vines
HARDWARE CONFIGURATION
Hardware Mapping
    IO Ports : Secondary/Disabled

```
    Interrupt Number : 15 Edge
    Floppy Drive : Disabled
    Option ROM : Enabled @ D800h
    HBA SCSI ID : 7
WD1003 EMULATION MAPPINGS
    Drive 0
        SCSI ID : Disabled
        SCSI LUN : 0
    Drive 1
        SCSI ID : Disabled
        SCSI LUN : 0
CONTROLLER PARAMETERS
SCSI Parameters
    Maximum Transfer Rate : 10 MB/s
    External Cable Detection : Yes - 5 MB/s
    Command Queuing : Enabled
    Command Timeout : Enabled - 5 sec
Cache Parameters
    Cache : Enabled (Write-Back)
    Max. Percentage Dirty : 80%
    Max. Percentage Look-Ahead : 80%
    Look-Ahead : Enabled (8 blocks)
    Cache Threshold : 16 blocks
    Caching Parameters : Use Values Stored on Device
!DPTA402.CGF Version 005D
EXP6 - Dell DGX Video Subsystem
     Frame Buffer Location Cacheability : 20000000h, cached
     Video Interrupt Selection : IRQ2, Disable
     Color Mode : Normal
```

Known Problems:

· The Ultrascan monitor shipped with the Dell DG/X and the NEC 5FG both reportedly have some difficulty displaying 1120 x 832 video correctly.   This can result in fuzziness and faded colors. The NEC 6FG does not apparently suffer from this problem.

· Some early DG/X systems have a single jumper on the Jaws Graphics board that will when

jumped incorrectly prevent the cursor from being movable by the mouse while running NEXTSTEP.

- One DG/X system the Quality Assurance Group tested demonstrated sensitivity to fast SCSI transfer rates. This manifested as multiple read errors during the installation process when installing from either a DPT 2012 or Adaptec 1542C SCSI adapter onto a Seagate SCSI hard disk. This problem was not observed on other DG/X systems.