Maximize this window
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to show it automatically!

Tune Up Your IBM-PC for
Performance!
Fred K. Lenherr
New Salem Research

VII. Questions and Answers

Introduction

Most (95%) PC problems are software
Anyone can "fix" software
But you need to know what and how

Here are some suggestions
The first few in each category are easy...
The others may be a little harder

Hardware Problems?

Really, this is last thing to worry about!
Check all connections and jiggle them

>Outside the case (Is it plugged in?!)
>Inside the case (Touch a ground first)
Don't open power supply or monitor
Get symptoms, background, run tests
What has changed? What were you doing?
Get a diagnosis program and learn to use it
Swap parts and boards

Hard Disk Maintenence

DO BACKUPS!
Run a virus checking program
Recover lost clusters - CHKDSK /F
Run a de-fragmentation program
Use a disk utility like Norton Utilities

Check your "interleave" - MFM, RLL only
Consider using Stacker 2.0 to double space

Configuration Files

Use a disk cache (SMARTDRIVE)
Load DOS high with DOS=HIGH
Load other TSR's and devices high

Have enough FILES (about 10 - 30)
Use extended memory with HIMEM.SYS
Use expanded memory with EMM386.SYS
Use a RAM drive (RAMDRIVE.SYS)

Communications:

Get a modem ($50 - $100)
Obtain free advice and information from many bulletin boards and vendor forums

Join CompuServe etc. (but it gets expensive)

Use Echo Mail and an off-line reader to keep up on the latest developments

Windows:

Type SET to see your PATH= and TEMP=
Put your TEMP files on your fastest disk
Print out and read the Windows readme files
Get the Windows Resource Kit ($20)

Use a permanent swap file (386's)
Use 32 bit disk access (386's , most disks)
Get a newer, faster, bigger disk
RAM is cheap -- expand to 8 MB if possible

Windows, continued

Consider getting a graphics accelerator

Save your current initialization (*.ini) files on a floppy --
Then check occasionally for new things added by programs you don't use anymore

Learn to use the keyboard -- it's much faster than just using the mouse

Question and Answers?

I can't treat specific complaints --
But I'd be glad to discuss general
issues

Thanks for attending!!