

PLI External SCSI Floppy Drive format boot block extends beyond front porch

Q: When I try to format a floppy disk with my external SCSI floppy drive, it fails and shows an alert panel that says "Cannot initialize disk. See console for errors." In the console I see this message if it is a new unformatted disk:

```
/usr/etc/disk -i -h localhost -l "UntitledDisk" /dev/rsd1a
Target 5: MEDIA ERROR; block 0H retry 1
Target 5: MEDIA ERROR; block 0H retry 2
Target 5: MEDIA ERROR; block 0H retry 3
Target 5: MEDIA ERROR; block 0H retry 4
Target 5: MEDIA ERROR; block 0H retry 5
Target 5: MEDIA ERROR; block 0H retry 6
Target 5: MEDIA ERROR; block 0H retry 7
Target 5: MEDIA ERROR; block 0H retry 8
Target 5: MEDIA ERROR; block 0H retry 9
sd1 (5,0): sense key:0x3 additional sense code:0x12
        SCSI Block in error = 0 (no valid label)
Read of sector 0 failed
```

If the disk have been formatted and you try to re-initialize the disk, you will see

this message in the console:

```
/usr/etc/disk -i -h localhost -l "UntitledDisk" /dev/rsd1a
disk name: PLI SUPER FLOPPY
disk type: removable_rw_scsi
device = /dev/rsd1a    block size = 512    capacity = 1
MBytes
Disk Format in progress...
***Format Complete***
writing disk label
boot block extends beyond front porch
```

How can I initialize floppy disks.

A: This assumes your external SCSI floppy drive is at sd1.

You must be logged in as, or su'd to root.

(You type the things in bold...)

```
localhost:18# sdform /dev/rsd1a
device = /dev/rsd1a    block size = 512    capacity = 1 MBytes
```

\*\*\*FORMATTING THIS DISK CAUSES ALL DISK DATA TO BE LOST\*\*\*

This will take approximately 5 minutes.

Do you wish to proceed? (Y/anything) Y

Disk Format in progress...

\*\*\*Format Complete\*\*\*

localhost:19# **disk /dev/rsd1a**

disk name: PLI SUPER FLOPPY

disk type: removable\_rw\_scsi

Disk utility

disk> **label**

label information: print, write? **write**

enter host name: localhost

enter disk label: UntitledDisk

writing disk label

disk> **quit**

localhost:20# **newfs /dev/rsd1a**

setting optimization for space with minfree less than 10

Warning: 12 sector(s) in last cylinder unallocated

/dev/rsd1a: 1392 sectors in 78 cylinders of 2 tracks, 9 sectors

1.4Mb in 5 cyl groups (16 c/g, 0.29Mb/g, 64 i/g)

super-block backups (for fsck -b#) at:

16, 320, 592, 896, 1168,

localhost:21# disk -e /dev/rsd1a

disk name: PLI SUPER FLOPPY  
disk type: removable\_rw\_scsi  
localhost:22#

Valid: 3.1, 3.2 68K  
QAxx

[xx will be replaced by the unique QAP number]