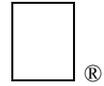


Apple II Technical Notes



Developer Technical Support

SmartPort

#9: Apple II SCSI Errata

Written by:
1990

Llew Roberts July

This Technical Note documents SCSI-specific anomalies that were discovered in the development of the Apple II High-Speed SCSI card.

During the testing of the Apple II High Speed SCSI Card, several SCSI-related issues of interest to developers were discovered. Most of these issues directly relate to SCSI devices with removable media.

If a CD-ROM has a bad directory, the firmware hangs because it gets a “Read In Progress” error. There is no timeout. The system can be recovered if the CD-ROM is manually ejected.

If the media is ejected while a SmartPort `DIB Status` call is in progress, the call returns with incorrect results (it reports `DISKSW` and that the block count of the device is zero). In order to avoid this conflict, bracket the `DIB Status` call with the SmartPort SCSI specific `Control Calls Prevent Removal ($1A)` and `Allow Removal ($1B)`.

A SmartPort `FORMAT` call, in some cases, does not update the DIB correctly to reflect the new or changed partition map. If a SmartPort `Init` call is always made immediately after the `FORMAT`, the DIB is rebuilt correctly. Note that after formatting a tape, the tape should be

removed from the SCSI tape drive before an `Init` call is made. An `Init` call causes the tape to rewind, hanging the system with no time-out until the rewind is complete.

Further Reference

- *Apple II GS Firmware Reference*
- *Apple II High-Speed SCSI Card Technical Reference*