Apple RAID: Disk Compatibility (11/94)

Article Created: 8 November 1994

TOPIC ---

This article provides disk compatibility for Apple Raid (Redundant Array of
Independent Disks) and third-party hard drives needing to support SCSI-2 and
SCSI Manager 4.3.

DISCUSSION --

A major requirement for Apple RAID is its ability to work seamlessly with a
large number of third-party disk drives. This requirement exists because Apple
RAID requires at least two disk to create a mirrored or striped volume. Because
not all configurations of the PowerPC-based Workgroup Servers are configured
with two disk, customers will turn to third-party disk resellers for additional
disk capacity.

A design goal for Apple RAID is to be compatible with disks which support the
advanced SCSI-2 features of Apple's SCSI Manager 4.3 (currently on the AV
Macintosh and all PowerPC-based computers). Particular SCSI-2 features which are
used by Apple RAID include disconnect/reconnect, and SCSI DMA. As these and
other SCSI-2 features are not available in all disk drives, it is recommended
that Apple RAID customers only use recently manufactured disk drives (1990 or
later) of 200 MB and larger. These are general guidelines, as Apple cannot
control firmware changes by non-Apple supplied disk drives. Apple recommends
that customers check with their third-party disk supplier to be sure their disks
work with Apple RAID.

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Keywords: supt

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19960215 11:05:19.00

Tech Info Library Article Number: 16714