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Enhanced PCI-Based Power Macintosh Models: New Features (4/96)

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TOPIC -----

What are the differences between the previous PCI-based Power Macintosh computers and the enhanced (speedbump) PCI-based Power Macintosh computers.

DISCUSSION -----

The new features in the enhanced PCI-based Power Macintosh computers include:

- Faster processor speeds: up to 150 MHz
- A second-level (L2) cache for higher performance in most models
- Larger sizes of internal hard disks: up to 2 GB
- The latest release of the Mac OS: System 7.5.3
- Multihoming support

Processor Types and Speeds

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The clock speeds for the microprocessors in the enhanced Power Macintosh 7200, 7500, 8500, and 9500 computers are increased over their earlier counterparts. In addition, the microprocessor in the Power Macintosh 7600 is a PowerPC 604 instead of the PowerPC 601 used in the original Power Macintosh 7500. The updates are as follow:

Begin_Table

Model	Processor Type	Processor Clock Speed	Processor Bus Speed
=====	=====	=====	=====
Power Macintosh 7200	PowerPC 601	120 MHz	40 MHz
Power Macintosh 7600	PowerPC 604	120 MHz	40 MHz
Power Macintosh 8500	PowerPC 604	132 MHz	44 MHz
Power Macintosh 8500	PowerPC 604	150 MHz	50 MHz
Power Macintosh 9500	PowerPC 604	150 MHz	50 MHz

End_Table

Second-Level Cache

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All of the enhanced PCI-based Power Macintosh models, except the lowest-priced Power Macintosh 7200 models, include a second-level (L2) cache. The L2 cache provides up to 40% better performance.

The L2 cache in the Power Macintosh 9500/150 consists of 512 KB of fast static RAM. The size of the cache in the other models is 256 KB. The table in the configurations section of this article depicts this information.

Hard disk drive

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The internal hard drives of the enhanced PCI-based Power Macintosh computers consist of either 800 MB, 1.2 GB, or 2 GB. The table in the configurations section of this article depicts this information.

Macintosh System 7.5.3 1

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The enhanced PCI-based Power Macintosh computers include the latest version of the Mac OS, System 7.5.3. For a description of the new features of System 7.5.3,

Configurations

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Begin_Table

Model	DRAM	Hard Drive	L2 Cache
=====	=====	=====	=====
Power Macintosh 7200/100	8 MB	800 MB	-
Power Macintosh 7200/120	8 MB	1.2 GB	-
Power Macintosh 7200/120	8 or 16 MB	1.2 GB	256K
Power Macintosh 7600/120	16 MB	1.2 GB	256K
Power Macintosh 8500/132	16 MB	1.2 GB	256K
Power Macintosh 8500/150	16 MB	2 GB	256K
Power Macintosh 9500/150	16 MB	2 GB	512K

End_Table

Multihoming

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The enhanced models of the PCI-based Power Macintosh computers have a new version of the Curio IC, CurioPrime, that supports multihoming. Multihoming, also called multiporting, makes it possible for AppleTalk to be active on more than one network port on the computer at the same time.

Multihoming is most important for Macintosh computers with PC Compatible cards installed so users can have simultaneous TCP/IP and Netware sessions.

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