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Power Macintosh 8100: Description of Dual SCSI Channels (1/95)

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TOPIC -----

This article discusses the two SCSI channels present within the Power Macintosh 8100 series.

DISCUSSION -----

The Power Macintosh 8100 series computer has a dual channel SCSI bus, there are two physical connectors on the logic board. The first SCSI channel supports only the internal hard drive.

The second channel supports any additional internal or external SCSI devices. The two SCSI busses are independent of each other, both have their own SCSI controller chip.

As with other Macintosh computers, the SCSI bus must be terminated at both ends. The first channel is terminated by the internal hard drive and the logic board.

Termination for the second channel is a bit more complicated. For CD ROM equipped 8100's, the cable for the CD has an additional SCSI connector, and a terminator on it similar to that on the Quadra 900/950.

If the unit does not have an internal CD ROM drive, termination is provided by the logic board. Any external device must also be terminated completing the necessary termination at both ends of the SCSI bus.

The faster processing rates and tighter tolerances of the Power Macintosh require using cables and terminators with the correct impedance. We strongly recommend using Apple cables and terminators or third party equivalents which meet Apple standards.

Article Change History:

09 Jan 1995 - Updated product name to relate article to all Power Macintosh 8100 models.

08 Apr 1994 - Clarified first SCSI channels' capabilities.

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