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Power Macintosh 9500: Problems With ATI Display Card (11/95)

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TOPIC ---

I have a Power Macintosh 9500/120 computer that came with the ATI display card.
I have two monitors, a Sony GDM-1932, and a Radius Pressview 21SR. I cannot get
either of these monitors to synchronize correctly. Radius has explained that
their monitor uses Sync on green. The Sony monitor will sync to other
resolutions, but not the 1280x1024.

Is there a difference in the sense codes for this resolution? Is there a way to
get the Radius monitor to work with the ATI display card?

I have contacted a few manufacturers of display adapters for Macintosh
computers, but they have not been able to help me. They claim the 1280x1024
resolution has not been supported on any Apple Macintosh Computers in the past.

DISCUSSION ---

The ATI display card does not support sync on green, this is why the Radius
monitor does not work properly. However, the workaround section of this article
provides some level of support for both your monitors. You also need to purchase
a BNC to VGA cable for the Radius monitor before you can use the workaround.

Normally, on a Power Macintosh 9500 with the standard display card and a
non-Apple display (such as a Sony GDM-1932), you would also need a multiple scan
display. This display would have to be able to synchronize to 640 x 480 at 60Hz
to set up a higher resolution, such as 1024 x 768. Once the higher resolution
was set, you could disconnect the multiscan display and connect the non-Apple
display. Then the computer would start using the new video scan rate each time
the computer is powered on.

This is because the computer uses sense codes to detect the type of monitor that
is connected to it. The computer only starts up at 1280 x 1024 scan rates after
you set the Monitors control panel and the settings are stored in PRAM. With no
setup information in PRAM, the computer starts at the best scan rate and
resolution for the detected display (usually 640 x 480). If you do not have an
Apple display to use for setup, you must use a workaround to set the Monitors
control panel to the 60Hz scan rate.

Workaround
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Step 1

Using a display adaptor, set the display type to VGA/SVGA. (This is 'G' for the
video adaptor from Enhance Cable Technology.) Starting up the Macintosh computer
with the display adaptor attached between the display and the Macintosh video
port starts by default at 640x480 at 60Hz resolution.

Step 2

Open the Monitors control panel. Normally, the control panel Options button only
allows safe operating resolutions.

Step 3

Hold down the Option key on the keyboard when you select the Options button in
the Monitors control panel. The options panel also shows unprotected scan rates
that the video card supports.

Step 4

You can select the 1280x1024 @ 60Hz scan rate from the list. The video scan rate
changes, depending on whether you have selected Rearrange on Close or Rearrange
on Restart on the bottom of the Monitors control panel window.

Step 5

If you have selected Rearrange on Close and you select a scan rate currently not
supported by an Apple display, you are prompted with a dialog box that asks if
the monitor display is correct. The dialog only appears if you select an
unprotected scan rate.

If you do not select the OK button within about 10 seconds, the system assumes
that you do not have a properly synchronized display and reverts back to the
previous scan rate.

Following the above procedure, you should be able to set your display to the
1280 x 1024 at 60Hz resolution and scan rate. Please contact Enhance Cable
Technology for additional information.

NOTE:
This article provides some information about a non-Apple product. Apple
Computer, Inc. is not responsible for content referring to that product. Please
contact the vendor, Enhance Cable Technology, for additional information.

The Tech Info Library article titled "Locating Vendor Information" can help you
search for a particular vendor's address and phone number.

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