



Tech Info Library

PCI Power Mac: Drive Setup Is Unable To Update Driver (12/96)

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TOPIC -----

This article discusses situations where Drive Setup 1.0.4 may not be able to update the SCSI driver on a PCI-based Power Macintosh computers, like a 7600/132 or 8500/180.

DISCUSSION -----

Some users have reported issues when attempting to updated their SCSI disk driver with Drive Setup 1.0.4. They notice the Update Driver option is dimmed, and if they reformat the hard disk, they can update the driver.

The update driver option may be dimmed because of the following:

The hard disk was formatted with a third-party utility

Drive Setup will not attempt to update the drivers on a device being controlled by a third party driver. A reason for this, is to not replace a security driver which may have moved vital data on the hard disk. The next time the user starts the computer, the hard disk may now be corrupted and unusable.

The installed driver is newer than the version supplied in Drive Setup

Check the version of the hard disk driver by selecting the hard disk and choosing the Get Info command in the File menu. The Info window will show the version information for the driver in the Where field. For instance, a drive formatted with Apple's Drive Setup might show:

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Macintosh HD, Bus 0, SCSI ID 0, (v8.0.4)
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The driver version is listed between the parentheses. If the version is newer than the version of the driver installed by Drive Setup, Drive Setup will not be able to update the driver. You do not want to place an older version of the driver on the hard disk so the update option is disable in this circumstance.

You can refer to the last two digits of the driver version number to determine whether the version of Drive Setup will have a newer driver. For example, if in the Get Info window, the driver version number is 8.0.5 and the version of Drive Setup is 1.0.4, Drive Setup will not update the driver (.0.5 is newer than

.0.4).

Some PCI Power Macintosh computers shipped with Drive Setup 1.0.4 and with hard disks that contain SCSI driver version 8.0.5. Driver version 8.0.5 has fixes specific to the Power Macintosh 9500/200 and Workgroup Server 8550/200. The 9500/200 and WS 8550/200 ships with a Drive Setup Updater program that will let users update their SCSI driver to version 8.0.5 after formatting with Drive Setup 1.0.4. If either the 9500/200, or 8550/200 is reformatted using Drive Setup, the driver installed will be listed, when performing a Get Info, as version 8.0.4. The Drive Setup Updater when used to update the driver to version 8.0.5 will still be listed, in Get Info, as 8.0.4 -- the driver itself gets updated, but the version string does not. Other PCI Power Macintosh computers, like the Power Macintosh 7600 and 8500, may also ship with hard disks that have driver version 8.0.5. Drive Setup 1.0.4 will not update these drivers resulting in the update option being dimmed.

Do not be concerned with Drive Setup 1.0.4 not being able to update the driver on computers other than the Power Macintosh 9500/200. Due to manufacturing efficiency, the 8.0.5 version of the SCSI driver is being installed on all SCSI hard disks. If you are not using a Power Macintosh 9500/200, there is no harm in formatting the hard disk with Drive Setup 1.0.4 and having the driver revert to version 8.0.4. Also, there is no need to format a hard disk and revert to driver version 8.0.4 just because the update option in Drive Setup is dimmed.

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Article Change History:

- 20 Dec 1996 - Updated information on Driver version and Get Info listing.
- 04 Dec 1996 - Added keyword.

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