

# Product Support Bulletin

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Subject: Proper Method for Running Benchmark and Diagnostics Programs

Date: 06/04/93

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PSB No: S-0158

Originator: MWT

This bulletin describes the proper method for running any benchmark or diagnostics programs. This applies to any computer system.

In most cases, the computer should be started using an MS-DOS boot diskette that's 'clean' - in other words, one with no CONFIG.SYS or AUTOEXEC.BAT files. The appropriate executable can then be run, either from diskette or hard drive.

There will be some exceptions to the above rule. In attempting to benchmark or troubleshoot any add-on that requires a device driver (CD-ROM, local area network, etc.), obviously the necessary device driver(s) must be loaded. Also, some programs will require a minimum number of FILES or BUFFERS to be defined in the CONFIG.SYS file. Such programs will usually display this requirement if they are run without the necessary CONFIG.SYS file.

For the most consistent results, use the absolute minimal boot configuration that's allowed by the hardware being tested.

## Product Support Bulletin

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Subject: Using the Manzana DrivePort

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Originator: MWT 

Manzana Microsystems, Inc. (Goleta, Ca.) has developed a product called the DrivePort. It allows the removable "DataSafe" hard disk drive cartridges for the Equity LT-286e and LT-386SX to be used on an AT- type desktop computer. The subsystem consists of the 16 - bit DrivePort adapter card, the DrivePort base unit and cable, a Y-configured power cable and a diskette containing the QDRIVE.SYS device driver and utility software.

The DrivePort was tested using an Equity 386/25 desktop computer equipped with two IDE hard disk drives, two floppy disk drives, a streaming tape drive and a VGA video adapter.

The first step in the installation process is configuring the DrivePort adapter card. The default jumper settings assign the DrivePort as an additional drive (E1, E4 and E5 installed; E2, E3 and E6 removed). This is the setting that was used. Note that it is possible to configure the DrivePort as the primary (only) drive, but Manzana recommends against this for a number of reasons.

There are two other jumpers (W1 and W2) that determine the power source for the adapter. When these jumpers are set in the A - B positions, the adapter is powered by the Y-power cable. This cable must be connected to one of the disk drive power cables from the power supply. Then take the small 4 - pin connector of the Y-cable and attach to the matching connector J3 on the adapter card. The third part of the "Y" is a male 4 - pin connector for powering a disk drive, if all of the power supply wiring harness connectors are in use.

With W1 and W2 in the B - C positions, all power is supplied via the 16 - bit system bus. This is the configuration that was tested.

Now the adapter card is installed in any available 16 - bit AT- type expansion slot. Once installed, the cable from the base unit is attached to the DB-37 connector on the adapter card's mounting bracket. This completes the hardware portion of the installation.

At this point, the device driver and utility software should be copied to the hard drive. On the test unit, the QDRIVE.SYS driver was copied to the C:\SYS subdirectory, and the QDRVLTR.EXE, QDRVCHK.COM and HXBIOS.COM utilities were copied to C:\DOS. the CONFIG.SYS file was then edited to add the following line:

```
DEVICE = C:\SYS\QDRIVE.SYS
```

This device driver acts as an extension of the drive handling capabilities of MS- DOS, allowing the DrivePort to be recognized on boot-up. On the test system, logical drives C, D, and E were already assigned to the internal hard drives, so QDRIVE.SYS assigned logical drive F to the DrivePort. If the system is booted without a hard drive cartridge mounted in the base unit, there will be a pause while the device driver retries the DrivePort. It will then proceed with the boot process without installing the device driver or assigning a logical drive.

NOTE: Installing or removing a hard drive cartridge while the system is powered on may result in severe damage to the drive, the DrivePort, or the computer. Always turn the computer off before installing or removing the hard drive cartridge.

QDRVCHK.COM provides technical statistics on the mounted DrivePort, similar to the DOS CHKDSK command. HXBIOS.COM can be executed if the system was booted with no hard drive cartridge installed and QDRVCHK needs to be run. QDRVLTR.EXE will provide the DrivePort's logical drive assignment.

The hard drive cartridge must be initialized on the LT-286e or LT-386SX. The low - level format and partitioning cannot be done via the DrivePort. Also, the DOS - level format must be performed for the first time on the laptop - it may then be formatted while installed in the DrivePort.

In testing, the DrivePort performed as if an additional conventional hard disk drive had been installed. File and directory copies, application program execution and BACKUP/RESTORE functions were tested with no problems.

The DrivePort is available from Epson Accessories, Inc. at (800) 873-7766. Manzana can be contacted at (805) 968-1387.

EISA SERIES DESKTOP					
VER	PART #	DESC	TYPE	LOC	REASON
0.10.20.01	DESKROM	Phoenix	27C512	U26	INITIAL RELEASE

EISA SERIES TOWER					
VER	PART #	DESC	TYPE	LOC	REASON
	TOWERROM			U26	INITIAL RELEASE

EQUITY LT					
VER	PART #	DESC	TYPE	LOC	REASON
1.00		HLO-A1	27C64	3F	INITIAL RELEASE (FIRST 800 UNITS)
1.00		HLO-B1	27C64	5F	
1.01	Y164802001	HLO-A2	27C64	3F	Fixes problems with the serial port and Microsoft Word.
1.01	Y164803001	HLO-B2	27C64	5F	

EQUITY LT286e					
VER	PART #	DESC	TYPE	LOC	REASON
1.01		AMI	27256	U18	INITIAL RELEASE
1.01		AMI	27256	U19	

EQUITY LT386SX					
VER	PART #	DESC	TYPE	LOC	REASON
1.02		AMI	27C256	U13	INITIAL RELEASE
1.02		AMI	27C256	U14	

NB3s					
VER	PART #	DESC	TYPE	LOC	REASON
040990-KO					INITIAL RELEASE