
Apple ATI RAGE 128 Update 1.0

Apple has come out with improvements to the software drivers for the ATI RAGE 128 card that ships in all new Power Macintosh G3 Blue & Whites. Update 1.0 provides improved 2-D and 3-D acceleration. (It apparently does not resolve all outstanding bugs with this accelerator card).

<http://asu.info.apple.com/swupdates.nsf/artnum/n11262>

Apple Display Software 1.7.1

Apple recommends that all users of Apple ColorSync, AppleVision, and MultiSync displays update to this new software.

<http://asu.info.apple.com/swupdates.nsf/artnum/n11263>

Extensis Buys Suitcase

Extensis, makers of various graphic plug-in packages like QXTools, has bought the license for Symantec's Suitcase font management utility. (This is the fourth time the product has changed hands over the years). Extensis has promised a new version for release in March which will deal with Mac OS 8.5 compatibility. The company is inviting beta testers at:

<http://beta.extensis.com/suitcase/>

AlSoft MasterJuggler Pro 2.0.2

AlSoft has made minor corrections to its font management utility to deal with Mac OS 8.5.

<http://www.alsoft.com/MJPtech.html>

Markzware FlightCheck 3.5

Markzware has improved its FlightCheck utility for the second time in as many months. The 3.5 updater works on all copies of version 3.3 and up.

<http://www.markzware.com/mw/updaters.html>

Tell Steve Jobs Your Problem

Apple has a new complaint form on the web which promises to pass on your comments straight to the man himself. Vent your spleen at:

<http://survey.info.apple.com/feedback/feedback.qry?function=complaint>

Tech Note: Auto-Activation in ATM Deluxe

In our last issue we discussed various problems associated with using ATM Deluxe in conjunction with Mac OS 8.5. We showed how to set up ATM preferences to avoid spontaneous crashing when your system is drawing menus and page items.

At that time, we also recommended turning the Auto-Activation feature off if you are supplementing your own fonts with customer supplied fonts on a regular basis. The problem with Auto-Activation –a powerful time-saving feature in ATM Deluxe– is that your “known fonts” database retains information about all of the customer supplied fonts you open. Since these fonts may be of dubious origin and/or quality and may duplicate your existing font set the result is that your database may get *polluted* causing ATM to make the wrong choice when auto-activating a font. (This leads to incorrect screen display and printed output).

Precursor Systems is happy to say that after much digging we have discovered how to create *temporary* font sets. This can keep your database clean and allow you to utilize the Auto-Activation feature successfully. The instructions are contained in Adobe Technical Document #312002 which can be found on the web at:

<http://www.adobe.com/supportservice/custsupport/SOLUTIONS/1371a.htm>

If you would prefer, we would be pleased to demonstrate this technique on site during your next visit.

(There is more information about other font management utilities on page 1 of this issue).