Tech Info Library

GS/OS 4.0: Disk Drive Anomaly

Revised: 9/22/89
Security: Everyone

GS/OS 4.0: Disk Drive Anomaly

==

This article last reviewed: 22 August 1989

This article describes a configuration in which GS/OS 4.0 thinks disks are
locked when they aren't or unlocked when they aren't. To see the problem
"live", try the following on an Apple IIGS with one or two 3.5-inch disk
drives and one 5.25-inch disk drive all daisy-chained from the SmartPort.

1) Start GS/OS on the 3.5-inch drives.

2) Insert a locked 5.25-inch disk into its drive and put it on the desktop.

3) Remove the 5.25-inch disk.

4) Insert a write-enabled 5.25-inch disk and mount it on the desktop.

5) Copy the locked 5.25-inch disk onto the unlocked 5.25-inch disk. When
the copy process ends, try to rename the unlocked 5.25-inch disk.

The Finder thinks the disk is locked. The problem appears to be with the
driver for the 5.25-inch drives and seems to be related to how GS/OS sees
3.5-inch disks. If a 3.5-inch disk is unlocked, then the "Get Info" for all
5.25-inch disks displays "Unlocked", whether the 5.25-inch disk is
physically locked or unlocked. Conversely, the same is true for a locked
3.5-inch disk. If a 3.5-inch disk is locked, then the "Get Info" for all
5.25-inch disks displays "Locked". Again, it does not matter if the
5.25-inch disk is physically locked or unlocked.

The workaround for this problem is to make sure that your 3.5-inch disks
are not write-protected. This lets the user make copies and rename new
5.25-inch disks without having to restart the system.

Copyright 1989 Apple Computer, Inc.

Tech Info Library Article Number:4261