



# Tech Info Library

## EtherTalk NB Revision K card: Problem with Macintosh IICI

Revised: 1/6/93  
Security: Everyone

EtherTalk NB Revision K card: Problem with Macintosh IICI

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### Article Change History

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01/05/93 - REVIEWED  
•For technical accuracy

### TOPIC -----

Apple engineering has discovered a performance problem using an EtherTalk NB Revision K card and EtherTalk 2.0.1 or 2.0.2 software on a Macintosh IICI that is using on-board video and 4 or more colors (in 2-bit or greater mode). Ethernet performance is degraded in this situation.

### DISCUSSION -----

To avoid Ethernet performance degradation on a Macintosh IICI, try any of these three alternatives:

- Use an EtherTalk NB Revision L card, or
- Do not use on-board video (i.e. use a video card), or
- Use only black and white video (1-bit video)

If you're using EtherTalk software, the Ethernet performance can be improved somewhat by starting the Macintosh IICI in 1-bit video and later switching to 2-bit or more video. We have found this workaround to be effective when using EtherTalk software (AppleTalk), but not MacTCP software (for example, MacX.)

The Ethernet performance can also be improved somewhat, if you start the Macintosh IICI in LocalTalk and then switch to EtherTalk. This wouldn't help in the MacTCP case either, unless you are running MacTCP over EtherTalk, rather

than standard Ethernet.

To ensure that you avoid the Ethernet performance problems, use an EtherTalk NB Revision L card, or use a video card, or use only black and white video. Note that the Revision L EtherTalk NB card has been shipping since December of 1989.

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