OPENSTEP for Mach Intel Processors Release 4.x
SCSI Driver Overview

Driver: Adaptec 154x family and compatible
Driver Overview: NeXTanswer #2175
Last Update: July 12, 1996

Availability Information

A version of this driver is on the CDROM
Newer Released Driver in NeXTanswers*:   No, Version 0.00, as NeXTanswer #2177
Newer Beta Driver in NeXTanswers*:   No, Version 0.00, as NeXTanswer #2176

Driver Name / Installer .pkg: Adaptec1542B
Driver Type: SCSI
Driver Scope: Product Family
Supported Components: Adaptec AIC-6251, Adaptec AIC-7970
PC Bus / Interface Supported by Driver:** EISA, ISA

General Overview notes: The Adaptec154x compatible driver is designed to support a variety of SCSI adapters from Adaptec and several third parties.

Supported Products / Add-on Adapters:
Adaptec 154xB (ISA)
Adaptec 154xC (ISA)
Adaptec 154xCF (ISA)
Adaptec 174x (EISA)   in standard 154x mode only

Supported Products / Systems (ie integrated into PC System):

Special Features of Driver / Driver Notes:
The onboard floppy controller, available on the 1542 cards, is not supported.

SCSI Driver Details

Supported Connectors: 50-pin Centronics (Standard SCSI), 50-pin Header (Internal SCSI), 50-pin High Density (SCSI-2)
Access Mode: DMA
Attributes**:   SCSI-2
Cache Size Supported**: N/A

Known Problems

·   For setup and installtion of the 154xB see
     NeXTanswers document number 1107.

·   For setup and installtion of the 154xC/CF see
     NeXTanswers document number 1108.

·   NEXTSTEP does not officially support the floppy controller integrated into the 1542B. Use the floppy controller integrated into your system's motherboard.

·   When installing NEXTSTEP onto an IDE hard disk drive, the CD-ROM drive's SCSI ID number should be zero.

·   Some users have reported problems during the installation process if the CD-ROM drive's SCSI ID number is set to zero. NEXTSTEP will freeze after displaying the message rootdev 608 when this problem is encountered. Setting the CD-ROM drive's SCSI ID to six has fixed the problem when nothing else seemed to work.

·   Improper SCSI termination can cause strange, unreproducible errors. Be certain that the first and last devices on the SCSI bus (and only these two devices) are terminated. For more information on this topic, see NeXTanswers document number 1109_SCSI_Setup.

·   Avoid system configurations combining an Adaptec 154xB/C/CF and an ATI Ultra Pro EISA card. A hardware conflict exists which causes data corruption on SCSI hard disks.

·   If your system includes an Adaptec 1542B and you do not have jumper six enabled it will hang. It will boot off the floppy and recognize the SCSI drives, but instead of starting the install process, it will hang with the messages:

   fdisk: bogus bios info
   some bios' can't handle non-sequential targets.

·   The Adaptec 1542B does not support 2.88MB floppy drives attached as SCSI devices.

·   See also NeXTanswers document number 1541_Adaptec_Driver_Related_Problems.rtf.
     Adaptec, Inc. http://www.adaptec.com/

Driver Version Notes

4.00 - Released on OPENSTEP 4.0 User CD-ROM

Future Planning

Future / Update Planning:
Reason for New Driver / Update:
New Driver / Update Timeframe:

New Driver / Update Description:

Note: Information contained in the "Future Planning" section of this document does not constitute a commitment on the part of NeXT to complete the planned development work.

* - Any NeXTanswer number that is blank indicates that a driver will not be released for this version of NEXTSTEP.

** - Indicates information that is inclusive of the entire capability of this driver. Not all devices supported by this

driver may include all features listed. Check any available NeXTanswers and the hardware manual for the device for additional information.

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