Customizing Threshold

You can customize certain aspects of Threshold to your liking.   The methods for doing this are described below.

The Preferences Dialog

The Preferences dialog contains several customizable options.

utoswitch battery warning options

Threshold has the ability to switch between different warning sets, depending on whether an internal or external battery is attached.   Through the preferences dialog, you select which sets you want to be used.   The popup menus allow you to select one set to be used when an internal battery is attached, and you can select another set for use when an external battery is attached.

Sleep button

This option allows you to bypass the "Putting the computer to sleep may cause you to lose some network services" dialog.   When the box is checked, hitting the "sleep" button will put your PowerBook to sleep, even if AppleTalk is enabled.   When the box is unchecked, you will get the warning dialog if you try to put your PowerBook to sleep with AppleTalk enabled.

This option allows you to launch Threshold in the background.   This can be especially helpful if Threshold automatically launches at startup, so that you don't have to manually place it in the background.   When the box is checked, Threshold will place itself in the background whenever launched.   Otherwise, it remains in the foreground after launch.

The Customize "Warnings" menu dialog

hen you first start using Threshold, sets 2 through 4 are labeled "custom".   This isn't very descriptive, but through this dialog box you can relabel them to something more meaningful to you.   For example, if you have both an internal and external battery, you might want to label set #2 "internal", for use with your internal battery, and set #3 "external", for use with your external battery.   Note that Set #1 is always the Apple default warnings, and cannot be changed.

Altering the warning thresholds

By using the arrows on the bottom of Threshold's window, you can alter when the warnings will occur.   If you move the warning threshold up, the warnings will come earlier.   If you move the

warning thresholds down, the warnings will come later (when your battery is lower).   Note that the arrows adjust the current warning set, so check the "Warnings" menu first to determine the current set.   Also note that you cannot alter the default Apple warnings.

Threshold automatically limits how far you can vary the warnings.   The highest voltage that Threshold will allow is 6.20v, while the lowest voltage will depend on your model of PowerBook.   Threshold will always make sure that your final warning gives you plenty of time to save your work, before the hardware shutdown occurs.

Regardless of which warning set you are currently using, when you quit Threshold it will restore the warning thresholds to the Apple defaults.

External vs Internal Batteries

Threshold allows you to drop the warning thresholds lower for external batteries, because they have a much larger capacity.   Again, the actual voltage depends on the model of PowerBook you are currently using.