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You can read the recommendations in the user guide, the technical guide or the installation guide for NEC POWERMATE VT 300. You'll find the answers to all your questions on the NEC POWERMATE VT 300 in the user manual (information, specifications, safety advice, size, accessories, etc.). Detailed instructions for use are in the User's Guide.

User manual NEC POWERMATE VT 300
User guide NEC POWERMATE VT 300
Operating instructions NEC POWERMATE VT 300
Instructions for use NEC POWERMATE VT 300
Instruction manual NEC POWERMATE VT 300

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U S E R ' S G U I D E

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Manual abstract:

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....A-System, describes how to use the software utilities shipped with your system, including the BIOS Setup Utility, the NEC OS Restore CD, and the NEC Application and Driver CD.

It also provides information for setting system board jumpers. T Chapter 4, Installing Options, provides detailed installation procedures for system upgrades and options. T Chapter 5, Solving System Problems, contains troubleshooting tips for solving simple problems and describes how to find help when you cannot solve a problem yourself. Using This Guide ix T Chapter 6, Getting Services and Support, describes the services available to you for information and help, and describes how to access the services. T Appendix A, Setting Up a Healthy Work Environment, contains guidelines to help you use your computer productively and safely. This appendix also instructs you on how to set up and use your computer to reduce your risk of developing nerve, muscle, or tendon disorders. ! WARNING Prolonged or improper use of a computer workstation may pose a risk of serious injury. To reduce your risk of injury, set up and use your computer in the manner described in Appendix A, Setting Up a Healthy Work Environment. T Appendix B, System Specifications, provides a technical description of your computer and its components. x Using This Guide Text Conventions This guide uses the following text conventions.

T Warnings, cautions, and notes have the following meanings: ! WARNING Warnings alert you to situations that could result in serious personal injury or loss of life. ! CAUTION Cautions indicate situations that can damage the hardware or software. Note: Notes give important information about the material being described. T Names of keyboard keys are printed as they appear on the keyboard, for example, Ctrl, Alt, or Enter. T Text or keystrokes that you enter appear in boldface type. For example, type abc123 and press Enter. T File names are printed in uppercase letters. For example, AUTOEXEC.BAT. Using This Guide xi Related Documents In addition to this guide, the following printed documentation ships with your computer.

T NEC PowerMate VT 300i Series Quick Setup/Quick Reference The Quick Setup shows how to quickly get the system connected and powered on.



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The Quick Reference briefly describes the documentation, NEC CSD tools and utilities, software applications, and services available with the NEC PowerMate® VT 300 Series computer. T How Does Your Workplace Measure Up? This brochure provides information for setting up and using the computer productively and safely. Information includes guidelines to reduce the risk of injury associated with using a computer. T NEC PowerMate VT 300 Series Release Notes Release Notes provide additional information about the computer that was not available at the time the user's guide was printed.

xii Using This Guide Your system comes with the following online documentation on the NEC Application and Driver CD. T NEC Help Center The NEC Help Center is an online guide to PowerMate computers. It provides information about your system under the following topics: System Tour, System Information, System Upgrades, Service and Support, and Reference. T Healthy Environment This is an online help file that complements the "How Does Your Workplace Measure Up?" brochure. In addition, service and reference manuals are available on the Internet at the Service and Support area of the NEC CSD website (see Chapter 6 for access information).

Using This Guide xiii 1 Reviewing System Features T Front Features T Rear Features T Inside Features T Speakers T System Features ! WARNING Prolonged or improper use of a computer workstation may pose a risk of serious injury. To reduce your risk of injury, set up and use the computer in the manner described in Appendix A, Setting Up a Healthy Work Environment. This chapter highlights system hardware and software, and describes the security features of the system. Front Features The following figure shows the features on the front of the system. A brief description follows the figure. Front features A CD-ROM Drive B Diskette Drive C Power/Sleep Button D Power/Sleep Lamp E Hard Drive Lamp F USB Port 1-2 Reviewing System Features System Controls and Lamps System controls let you select specific system operations. Lamps let you know the status of system operation. The following describes the controls and lamps. The previous figure shows the controls and lamps on the front of the system. T Power/Sleep button Press this button to turn on system power.

To turn off power, press the button and hold in place until the system powers down (approximately three to four seconds). Press and immediately release the power/sleep button to suspend system operation when you plan to be away from your computer for a short time. This places the system in a power saving mode. If you have a VESA-compliant monitor, your monitor also goes into a power-saving mode. Press any key or move your mouse to resume system operation at the point where you stopped it. An amber system unit power lamp indicates that the system is in a power-saving mode. T Power/Sleep lamp The power/sleep lamp indicates whether system power is on or off. It also lets you know if the system is operating in a power-saving mode. A steady green lamp indicates that the power is on to all system components. An amber lamp indicates that the system is in Sleep mode with full-power reduction.

Reviewing System Features 1-3 T Hard drive lamp A lit lamp indicates that the hard drive is active. The green lamp tells you that the hard drive is reading or writing data. ! CAUTION Do not turn off the system unless absolutely necessary while the hard drive lamp is lit. To do so can damage your hard drive or data. Diskette Drive A Use diskette drive A to copy data files to and from a diskette.

You can also use it as a bootable drive for loading and starting programs from a diskette. ! CAUTION To prevent damage to your diskette drive and data, do not turn off the system or remove a diskette while the diskette drive busy lamp is lit. Universal Serial Bus Port The universal serial bus (USB) port on the front of the system allows you to easily and conveniently add plug and play USB devices without opening up the system. You simply plug the USB device into the port. You can connect up to 127 devices including a mouse, monitor, keyboard, printer, scanner, speakers, and more.

A second USB port is on the rear of the system. 1-4 Reviewing System Features CD-ROM Drive Some models come with a 32X Max or 40X Max variable speed CD-ROM drive. Use the CD-ROM drive to load and start programs from a compact disc (CD). You can also use the CD-ROM drive to play your audio CDs. The CD-ROM drive operates at different speeds depending on whether the CD you are using contains data or music. This allows you to get your data faster and to see smoother animation and video. DVD-ROM Drive Some models come with a 4X or 6X digital video disc (DVD)-ROM drive (Windows 98 systems only). The drive offers many improvements over the standard CD-ROM technology, including superior video and audio playback, faster data access, and greater storage capacities. The DVD-ROM drive uses DVD technology to read DVD discs as well as standard audio and video CDs. Tape Backup Unit Some models come with a tape backup unit.

If your system has a tape backup unit, you can use it to quickly back up all or part of your system's files to a high-capacity tape cartridge. Backup software helps you tailor the backup process to protect your files and applications. Files are compressed during the backup process to conserve space and to speed up the process. Reviewing System Features 1-5 Zip Drive Some models come with a Zip® drive. Use the Zip drive to back up work, archive old files, and transport your work. Store up to 100 MB of data on a 3 1/2-inch Zip disk. PC Card Adapter If your model has a PC card adapter, you can add PC cards to the system. A PC card is inserted into a PC card slot similar to inserting a diskette in a diskette drive. Each type of PC card has a different function. With your PC card adapter, you can add a number of functions to your system with a variety of PC cards.

LS-120 SuperDisk Drive Some models come with an LS-120 MB SuperDisk™ drive, in place of the 3 1/2-inch diskette drive. The drive offers highcapacity, removable data storage through use of SuperDisk diskettes that hold up to 120 MB of data. The SuperDisk drive is fully compatible with 1.44 MB diskettes and can read or write to the diskettes. 1-6 Reviewing System Features Rear Features On the rear of your computer, you'll find external connectors, the power supply socket and voltage select switch, and expansion board slots.

The following figure shows the features. Rear features A Power Socket B Voltage Selector Switch C Mouse Port D Keyboard Port E USB Port F Serial Port 1 G Serial Port 2 H Line Out Jack I Line In Jack J Microphone In Jack K Fan L Printer Port M MIDI Port N VGA Monitor Connector O Expansion Slots Reviewing System Features 1-7 External Connectors External connectors let you attach peripheral devices, such as a monitor, keyboard, mouse, and printer to your system.



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Your system has the following external connectors. *T Mouse port* Attach the mouse that comes with your computer to this port. The mouse port supports a PS/2-compatible mouse.

T Keyboard port Attach the keyboard that comes with your computer to the keyboard port. The keyboard port supports a PS/2®-compatible (personal system/2-compatible) 101-key or 104-key keyboard (in the U.S. and Canada) or a 102-key keyboard (in the United Kingdom and Germany) with a 6-pin mini DIN connector. *T VGA monitor connector* The system comes with an accelerated graphics port (AGP) graphics board. The external video graphics array (VGA) connector on the AGP board supports an NEC MultiSync® monitor, NEC VistaScan™ monitor, or other VGA-compatible monitor with a 15-pin connector. Attach the signal cable from your monitor to the VGA connector. *T Printer port* Use this port to connect a parallel printer with a 25-pin connector to the system. *T Serial ports 1 and 2 (COM1 and COM2)* Attach a serial device with a 9-pin connector to these serial ports. Serial devices include a pointing device, serial printer, or a modem.

T Universal Serial Bus port This port adds a USB connector at the rear of the system (see "Universal Serial Bus Port" earlier in this chapter). *1-8 Reviewing System Features T Audio connectors* The following connectors come integrated on the system board (see the preceding figure for jack locations). *Microphone in jack* The microphone in jack lets you connect a microphone for recording audio information in your data system files. *Line in jack* The line in jack lets you connect a stereo audio device such as a stereo amplifier or a cassette or minidisc player for playback or recording. *Line out jack* The line out jack allows you to connect an amplified output device, such as powered speakers or headset, a stereo tape recorder, or an external amplifier for audio output. *T*

MIDI/Joystick connector The MIDI/Joystick connector lets you attach a joystick to your system for use with games. *T Fax/modem ports* Some models come with a V.90 rated 56-kilobytes per second (Kbps) fax/modem board. The fax/modem board allows the connection of a phone line to the computer for fax and data communications functions. *Dual fax/modem ports* let you use a telephone line for the fax/modem and your telephone.

T LAN connector Some models come with a network board. Use the RJ-45 compatible port on the board for connecting the system to an Ethernet local-area network (LAN). *Reviewing System Features 1-9 Power Supply Features* Your system has the following power supply features: *T Power socket* Connect your power cable to this socket. *T Voltage selector switch* Sets the voltage for your system to 115 volts or 220 volts. ! CAUTION Set the switch correctly for the voltage in your area.

Most wall outlets in the United States and Canada are 115 volts. Outlets in Europe, Australia, and Asia (except Taiwan) are 230 volts. Taiwan uses 115-volt outlets. *T Power supply fan* The power supply fan cools the power supply and other system components to keep them from overheating. Keep the area near the fan clear for proper ventilation.

Inside Features See the following figure for the location of features within the system. Feature descriptions follow. *1-10 Reviewing System Features Inside the system A Power Supply B System Board C Expansion Slots D Accessible Device Bays E Diskette Drive F AGP Board Connector G Hard Drive System*

Board The system processor, memory, audio subsystem, system battery, internal connectors, and external connectors are on the system board. For information on the external connectors, see "External Connectors" earlier in this chapter. The system board supports a diskette drive and up to four IDE devices such as IDE hard drives, IDE CD-ROM drive, IDE DVD-ROM drive, and IDE Zip drive. Internal connectors on the system board include: *T primary and secondary IDE connectors T diskette drive connector T front panel connectors for lamp, USB, and audio signals* *Reviewing System Features 1-11 T T T T T*

T power connectors AGP graphics board connector three PCI connectors one ISA connector additional connectors include the CD Audio In, Modem In, Wake-On LAN, and fan. *Network Board* Some models come with a 3Com® 10/100Base-T Ethernet network board, an Intel® EtherExpress® Pro100 +10/100 Ethernet network board, or a GVC D110G 10/100 network board installed in a PCI slot. *Modem Board* Some models come with a Robotics® 56K Python V.90 ISA modem board or a Lucent V.90 Winmodem PCI board.

Connect your telephone line to this board. *Storage Device Support* Five storage device bays accommodate up to three accessible devices and two internal hard drives. *Chassis* The NEC micro tower chassis conforms to the Intel ATX form factor specification. The chassis features the following: *T standardized chassis size and dimensions T standardized system board size and dimensions T standardized ATX 145 watt power supply.* *1-12 Reviewing System Features Speakers* If ordered, some systems come with two high-quality stereo speakers. One of the speakers connects to the line out jack at the rear of the system unit. An AC adapter comes with the speakers. Install the AC adapter along with the speakers. Adjust the speaker volume by using the volume control on the front of the system or on the right speaker. You can also use the Windows sound software.

To bring up the Windows volume control, double click the speaker icon on the taskbar (next to the system clock). Use the software to balance the sound between the left and right speakers. *System Features* Your computer hardware and software deliver the performance and technologies you need for all your challenging tasks today and into the future. *Hardware* The PowerMate VT 300 Series includes the following hardware features: *T PC98 Compliance* All the hardware in the system has been certified by Microsoft® to be PC98 compliant. *T Processor* The system comes with a Celeron® processor, Pentium® II processor, or Pentium III processor.

Processor speed depends on system model. The processors are fast, powerful processors that lend themselves to computational, graphical, and networking tasks. *Reviewing System Features 1-13 T Audio on the System Board* The system board comes with an audio subsystem. The audio chipset gives you a surround sound system for threedimensional sound effects -- much like a live performance. It also provides wavetable synthesis.

(Wavetable synthesis uses actual recordings of real sound effects and musical instruments for a dynamic audio experience.) *T Flashable ROM BIOS* The system's ROM BIOS features system setup configuration, Plug and Play support, and flash support for easy and economical BIOS upgrades. *T System Memory* Your computer comes with at least 32 MB of non-ECC synchronous dynamic random access memory (SDRAM) and supports up to 512 MB.



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T AGP Graphics Board All models ship with an AGP graphics board. AGP enhances graphics performance, particularly for 3-D applications. T Power Management Options Power management options conserve energy and reduce power costs. Software NEC CSD provides a variety of applications and hardware utilities with your system to let you take advantage of your hardware capabilities. Preloaded Operating System The Microsoft® Windows NT®, Windows® 95, or Windows 98 operating system comes loaded on your system. 1-14 Reviewing System Features NEC OS Restore CD In the event of operating system problems, you can restore your operating system using the NEC OS Restore CD. The NEC OS Restore Program on the CD provides a "Fix OS" Restore option for reinstalling the Windows 95 or Windows 98 operating system while leaving data files intact.

This feature lets you back up your data files before performing a complete restore of the operating system. The OS Restore program also provides options for reformatting and repartitioning the hard drive. In addition, the program automatically determines which drivers are needed for your original hardware configuration and installs them during the restore. NEC Application and Driver CD Your system comes with an NEC Application and Driver CD. Use this CD to install any or all of the software that comes with your system, including: T Microsoft® Internet Explorer Internet Explorer provides a top-notch browser with preloaded links for easy access to the world wide web. Also use Internet Explorer to access one of the many new browser-based utilities. T Netscape® Browser Netscape provides a top-notch browser with preloaded links for easy access to the world wide web. Also use Netscape to access one of the many new browser-based utilities. Reviewing System Features 1-15 T Adobe® Acrobat® Reader Use the Adobe Acrobat Reader to read and print portable document format (PDF) files found on the Internet and PDF documents included with various software applications. T Network™ Associates VirusScan® Software Protect the system from viruses by running VirusScan.

T PartitionMagic™ Repartition your hard drive while leaving your data intact with PartitionMagic. Includes BootMagic™ software for easily managing multiple operating systems. T NEC Help Center The NEC Help Center is an online guide with information about the PowerMate system. T Healthy Environment This is an online version of the printed brochure, Setting up a Healthy Environment. The NEC Application and Driver CD also contains a wide selection of drivers for hardware that is compatible with PowerMate series computers.

These drivers are provided with the original manufacturer's installation wizards to ensure correct installation. Security The system has hardware, software, and mechanical security features that offer protection against unauthorized access to your system and data. The following security features are available with the system. T Password security The BIOS Setup utility includes a feature that lets you set up either a user or supervisor password, or both. 1-16 Reviewing System Features The user password controls booting of the system and controls access to the Setup utility and the keyboard.

(User access to the BIOS Setup utility is limited to a subset of all BIOS Setup parameters when a supervisor password has been set.) The supervisor password allows full access to the system and the BIOS. T Windows network security features To learn more about the network security features available through the Windows operating system, refer to your Windows documentation or consult your system administrator. T Locking tab The system also has a locking tab on the rear of the chassis. The tab fits through a slot on the rear edge of the chassis cover when the cover is on. When a padlock is used in the tab, the system is physically protected from chassis intrusion. Reviewing System Features 1-17 2 Setting Up the System T Cable Connections T Startup T Shutdown T Power-Saving Operation T System Care T More Information This chapter provides the information you need to set up and use your system. This includes cable connections, system startup procedures, system shutdown procedures, and system care. The chapter also includes a matrix showing where to find additional information about the computer. Cable Connections After unpacking the system and positioning the system unit in your work area, connect the system components using your Quick Setup poster and the following tips.

T Use the icons on the rear of the system unit to identify the keyboard, mouse, printer, USB, and monitor connectors. T If the system comes with a fax/modem board, connect it to the telephone line as follows: Unplug the telephone from the telephone jack on the wall. Plug the telephone cable that comes with the system into the line jack on the rear of the system and into the telephone jack on the wall. Plug the cable on the telephone into the phone jack on the rear of the system. T If your system comes with the network board option, see your network administrator for guidelines on configuring the system for network access. 2-2 Setting Up the System T Set the voltage switch correctly for your area. The correct setting for the U.S. and Canada is 115V. ! WARNING Set the voltage switch correctly for your area.

T Connect system power cables to a surge protector (recommended) or a properly grounded wall outlet. ! CAUTION NEC CSD recommends connecting the power cable to a surge protector. Startup Press the power button to start up your system. The power lamp lights green to indicate that the system is on. The system performs its Power-On Self-Test (POST) and several messages appear indicating that your system is checking its subsystems.

To see the messages, press Tab during POST. At the bottom of the NEC startup screen, the following message appears: Press F2 to enter BIOS Setup If you want to enter the BIOS Setup, immediately press F2 while the startup screen displays. One beep indicates that the system has successfully completed the power-on test. After a short delay, Windows starts up. Setting Up the System 2-3 If a problem occurs, a series of beeps may sound.

If this happens repeatedly after powering on, power off the system and turn to Chapter 5, "Solving System Problems." The chapter provides helpful hints for solving system problems. Note: If the system displays a message indicating that system settings have changed, run the BIOS Setup utility (see Chapter 3, "Configuring the System"). On systems loaded with the Windows NT® 4.0 operating system, press Ctrl Alt Del when prompted on-screen to do so. The log-on box appears for entering a password. Shutdown Follow these steps to power off your computer. 1. Save your work and exit all open application programs. 2.

Make sure that the hard drive, diskette drive, and any other drives are not in use.



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A lit device lamp indicates that the device is in use. ! CAUTION Wait until a program is finished running before powering off the system. Unless absolutely necessary, never power off the system when the system power lamp is amber or when either the hard drive lamp, diskette drive, or other device lamp is lit. Information on the device might be lost or damaged. 2-4 Setting Up the System 3. Click Start on the taskbar, then point to and click Shut Down. Selecting Shut

Down gives you several choices in the pop-up submenu. Select Shut down the computer, then click Yes or press Enter for shut down. 4.

If your system is configured with Windows 98, the system shuts down automatically after a short interval. Note: You can also power off the system by pressing the power button and holding it in for several seconds before releasing. The system powers off after a short delay. 5. If your system is configured with

Windows 95 or Windows NT, shut down the system by pressing and holding in the power button for several seconds before releasing.

6. Turn off power to your monitor. Power-Saving Operation If the system is running Windows 95 or Windows 98, you can put it in Sleep mode (a power-saving state) by lightly pressing and immediately releasing the power button on the front of your unit. The Sleep mode is a convenient way of conserving energy when you are going to be away from your system for a short period of time. The system also goes into Sleep mode when it has been inactive, if the power management has been enabled in BIOS, and an inactivity timeout has been enabled.

(See Chapter 3, "Configuring Your System" for information on setting power management functions.) Setting Up the System 2-5 ! CAUTION Take care to lightly press and immediately release the power button to enter the Sleep mode. Avoid pressing and holding in the power button or you may turn off power and lose data. When the system goes into Sleep mode, it saves data and system status and then shuts off power to all possible components. Sleep mode lets you save power without first saving your work. An amber power lamp indicates that the system is in Sleep mode. Press a key or move the mouse to resume system operation where you left off. System Care Your system is a durable, dependable computer built for heavy use. With protective measures and proper care, you can prevent problems and promote the successful operation and long life span of your computer. Protecting Your System From Damage There are several ways that you can protect your system from possible damage.

NEC CSD strongly recommends the following protective measures. T Connect a surge suppressor between your computer and a grounded wall outlet. A surge suppressor protects your system from sudden transient increases and decreases in electrical power. 2-6 Setting Up the System Be sure to connect all peripherals, such as your monitor and printer, to the surge suppressor. The surge protector should be the only device that you plug into the wall outlet. T Avoid repeated power-on cycles. These subject the system components to temperature variations and stress. T Disconnect your system from telephone and power lines when an electrical storm threatens. If you have a fax/modem, lightning can travel in on the phone line and damage both the fax/modem and the system unit. Lightning can also travel in on power lines and damage your monitor and system unit.

T Be sure that system power is off before you connect or disconnect a cable. Never make cable changes when the system power is on. Doing so can damage the system and its peripherals. T Use BIOS Setup utility options to protect against viruses (see "Security Menu" in Chapter 3). Use appropriate virus detection software regularly to protect your system from computer viruses.

If you plan to use software programs other than NEC CSD supplied software, NEC CSD strongly recommends that you take the necessary steps, such as virus checks, to protect your system. T Position your computer away from direct sunlight and extreme hot and cold temperatures. The recommended operating environment is from 50°F to 95°F (10°C to 35°C). The recommended non-operating environment (shipping or storage) is from 14°F to 158°F (-10°C to 70°C). Setting Up the System 2-7 T After turning off power, wait about five seconds for the hard drive to spin down before you power on again.

T Be sure that nothing is placed on top of your system power cables. T Prevent dust from entering your system by covering it when it is not in use. Keeping Your System in Good Condition Maintain the condition of your system by periodically using the following procedures. ! WARNING For safety, power off and unplug your system, monitor, and any external devices before cleaning them. T Clean the outside of the computer with a soft clean cloth. You can remove stubborn stains with a cloth slightly dampened with a mild detergent. Never use a strong cleaner or solvent on any part of the system. T Keep food and liquids away from your computer. T Periodically clean the keyboard with a vacuum cleaner brush attachment. Do not use any liquid cleaners on the keyboard as they can damage the keyboard.

If an object, such as a paper clip, falls into the keyboard, turn the keyboard over and gently shake it. T Clean the monitor screen with a glass cleaner and wipe it with a clean, lint-free cloth. You may use wet/dry cleaning pads manufactured for monitor screens. 2-8 Setting Up the System Moving or Shipping Your System Use these steps to prepare your system for moving or shipping. 1. Back up the files on the hard drive to diskettes, Zip disks, tape cartridges, or other backup devices. Take precautions for storing and transporting Zip disks, diskettes, or tape cartridges so that they are not exposed to magnetic fields or electrical impulses. 2. Remove any diskette from the diskette drive. If you have a CD in the CD-ROM drive, remove the CD.

3. Turn off the system unit and any external options connected to it. 4. Unplug the system unit power cable from the wall outlet or surge suppressor, then from the unit itself. 5.

Unplug any external options from the wall outlets or surge suppressor, then disconnect them from the system unit. 6. Pack the system components in the original shipping materials and cartons. If these are not available, be sure to use adequate packing materials to protect the components. To set up your system, follow the steps on the PowerMate VT 300i Series Quick Setup poster that comes with the computer.

Setting Up the System 2-9 More Information Once you have your system up and running, we suggest that you do the following: T Install applications provided by NEC CSD on the NEC Application and Driver CD. T See "Setting Up a Healthy Work Environment" in Appendix A. T Install any of your own applications. See the documentation that comes with the application. See the following quick reference chart to find information about using the computer.



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Quick Reference to Information About the Computer Information Installing the applications provided by NEC CSD Installing the NEC Help Center online documentation Uninstalling the NEC Help Center Setting a password Adding options Accessing the world wide web Protecting the system from viruses Using support services Taking care of the system Troubleshooting tips Where to Find It "Installing Applications" in Chapter 3 "Installing the NEC Help Center" in Chapter 3 "Uninstalling the NEC Help Center" in Chapter 3 Chapter 3 Chapter 4 Chapter 6 Chapter 1 Chapter 6 "System Care" in Chapter 2 Chapter 5 2-10 Setting Up the System 3 Configuring the System T Configuration Tools and Utilities T BIOS Setup Utility T Flash Utility T NEC OS Restore CD T NEC Application and Driver CD T NEC Help Center T Resolutions for NEC VistaScan USB Monitors T System Board Jumper Settings This chapter provides information on configuring your computer. The chapter includes information on the T American Megatrends, Inc. (AMI) BIOS Setup utility for configuring hardware and the system T Flash utility for BIOS updates T NEC OS Restore CD for rebuilding the hard drive and/or restoring the operating system T NEC Applications and Driver CD for installing the NEC supplied applications and optional drivers T jumper settings for physically configuring devices in the system. See the following table for a quick guide to the utilities, tools, or procedures required in configuring the system. For detailed information about these and other tools, see the sections following the table.

Configuration Tools and Utilities The following table lists ways you can configure the system, and the utility, tool, or procedure to use for the configuration. 3-2 Configuring the System Configuration Tools and Utilities Configuration BIOS, updating Boot devices, determining Boot order, changing Clearing CMOS and password Configuring processor jumpers on system board DIMM memory, checking Diskette drive, enabling Drivers for NEC CSD hardware, installing Hard drive, reformatting Hard drive, repartitioning Hard drive, setting a pre-delay Hard drive, subjecting to power management Healthy Environment (online document), installing Inactivity timeout, setting Keyboard options Memory, checking NEC Help Center, installing Method, Tool, or Utility FLASH utility BIOS Setup (Advanced menu) BIOS Setup (Advanced menu) Jumper Settings Jumper Settings BIOS Setup (Main menu) BIOS Setup (Main menu) NEC Application and Driver CD NEC OS Restore CD NEC OS Restore CD BIOS Setup (Advanced menu) BIOS Setup (Advanced menu) NEC Application and Driver CD BIOS Setup (Advanced menu) BIOS Setup (Advanced menu) BIOS Setup (Main menu) NEC Application and Driver CD (see "Installing the NEC Help Center") see "Uninstalling the NEC Help Center" NEC OS Restore CD NEC Help Center, uninstalling Operating system, restoring Configuring the System 3-3 Configuration Tools and Utilities Configuration Parallel port, enabling, configuring Password, setting or clearing (user, supervisor, or both) Plug and Play, enabling Power management, enabling, configuring Processor speed, changing Serial ports, enabling Software provided through NEC, installing Sound, enabling Time and date, setting USB functions Video device, subjecting to power management Windows 95, Windows 98, or Windows NT, restoring Method, Tool, or Utility BIOS Setup (Advanced menu) BIOS Setup (Security menu) Jumper Settings BIOS Setup (Advanced menu) BIOS Setup (Advanced menu) Jumpers BIOS Setup (Advanced menu) NEC Application and Driver CD BIOS Setup (Advanced menu) BIOS Setup (Main menu) BIOS Setup (Advanced menu) BIOS Setup (Advanced menu) NEC OS Restore CD 3-4 Configuring the System BIOS Setup Utility The AMI BIOS Setup utility program is used to configure the main components of your computer. Your system ships from the factory with the correct system parameters for your configuration. Unless you add optional hardware, you do not need to run the BIOS Setup utility to operate your system. However, you might wish to run the Setup utility to set features that customize your system, such as security features. System configuration information is stored in nonvolatile memory. A nonvolatile memory device retains its data when system power is turned off. Nonvolatile memory in your system is stored in a complementary metal-oxide semiconductor (CMOS) memory chip backed up by a battery on the system board. The battery supplies continuous power to CMOS memory and maintains configuration information when system power is off (see "Battery Replacement" in Chapter 5). NEC CSD recommends that you print out or write down your current BIOS Setup parameters and store the information in a safe place.

This lets you restore your system to the current parameters if you ever need to replace the battery. Configuring the System 3-5 How to Start BIOS Setup To start the BIOS Setup utility, follow these steps. 1. Turn on or reboot the system. 2.

Press F2 as soon as you see the following message at the bottom of the NEC startup screen. Press F2 to enter BIOS Setup You have about five seconds to press F2 before the system boot continues. 3. Setup's Main Menu appears and looks similar to the following. Setup Main Menu Main Menu Main Advanced Security Exit Setup Help Month: Day: Year: Jan-Dec 01-31 1901-2099 BIOS Version Processor Type Processor Speed Cache RAM Total Memory DRAM Bank 0 DRAM Bank 1 System Date System Time Floppy Drive A Floppy Drive B Primary IDE Master Primary IDE Slave Secondary IDE Master Secondary IDE Slave VI. xxxx Pentium 450 MHz 512 KB 32 Mb SDRAM None Wed Aug 11 1999 10:17:59 1.44 MB 3 1/2 Not Installed Auto Auto Auto Auto Previous Item Next Item Select Menu Esc: Exit Enter: Select F5: Setup Defaults F6: Original Values F10: Save & Exit 3-6 Configuring the System How to Use BIOS Setup Use the keys shown on the bottom of the Main Menu to make your selections or exit the current menu. The following table describes the navigation keys. Navigation Keys Key Esc Enter F5 F6 F10 Up or down arrow keys Left or right arrow keys Function Exits the menu. Executes Command or brings up a submenu. Loads the Default Configuration values for this menu. Selects the Original Values for the field. Saves changes and Exits the BIOS Setup utility. Moves cursor up and down in the menu. Selects next menu.

Help Setup information displays on the right side of the Setup screen. Main Menu The BIOS Setup utility usually comes up displaying the Main Menu. If BIOS is displaying another menu, choose the Main Menu by selecting Main in the legend bar. See "How to Start BIOS Setup" for a look at a typical Main Menu screen. Configuring the System 3-7 Main Menu options are available by selecting submenus. Use the arrow keys to select a Main Menu option. Press Enter to display the submenu. Explanations of typical Main Menu options and suboptions appear in the following tables.



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Actual explanations and settings may vary between systems. Main Menu Items Menu Item BIOS Version Settings (default is bold) This field is read-only and cannot be changed from the BIOS Setup utility.

Example: V1.001 Processor Type This field is read-only and cannot be changed from the BIOS Setup utility. Example: Celeron Processor Speed This field is read-only and cannot be changed from the BIOS Setup utility. Example: 433 MHz Cache RAM This field is read-only and cannot be changed from the BIOS Setup utility. Example: 128 KB Total Memory This field is read-only and cannot be changed from the BIOS Setup utility.

Example: 32 MB DRAM Bank 0 DRAM Bank 1 These fields are read-only and cannot be changed from the BIOS Setup utility. Example: DRAM Bank 0 32 MB SDRAM DRAM Bank 1 None System Date Set system date in this field. Press Tab or Enter to move between month, date, and year fields. Example: Aug 10 1999 3-8 Configuring the System Main Menu Items Menu Item System Time Settings (default is bold) Set system time in this field. Press Tab or Enter to move between hour, minute, and second fields.

Example: 09:30:00 Floppy Drive A: Disabled 360 KB 5 1/4" 1.2 MB 5 1/4" 720 KB 3 1/2" 1.44/1.25 MB 3 1/2" 2.88 MB 3 1/2" Not Installed Device type, Device type, Device type, Device type, Auto Auto Auto Floppy Drive B Primary IDE Master Primary IDE Slave Secondary IDE Master Secondary IDE Slave Each device menu item displays the Hard drive or CD-ROM identifier if a device is installed. If you install a hard drive that does not feature auto IDE type detection or your IDE hard drive was formatted on another system with parameters different from those reported by the drive, enter a parameter for each of the fields in the device submenu. Bring up a device submenu by pressing Enter. The submenus include Type, Cylinders, Heads, Sectors, LBA Mode, Block Mode, Fast Programmed I/O Modes, and 32-Bit Transfer Mode. Each mode is briefly described in the following. Configuring the System 3-9 Main Menu Items Menu Item Type Settings (default is bold) None, CD-ROM, IDE Removable, User, ATAPI Removable, Auto Defaults to Disabled and changes at boot time based on auto-detection.

When set to Auto, the values for Cylinders, Heads, Sectors, and Maximum Capacity are displayed but are read only. When set to Auto, the BIOS detects what the drive is capable of, not the translation mechanism that was used to format the drive. If a drive is run in a mode other than the mode in which it was partitioned and formatted, unpredictable results may occur, including data loss. Cylinders Write Precompensation When Type is Auto, value in the Cylinders field is auto-detected and field is read only. When Type is Auto, value in Write Precompensation field is auto-detected and field is read only. When Type is Auto, value in Heads field is auto-detected and field is read only. When Type is Auto, value in Sectors field is auto-detected and field is read only. xxxx MB On, Off When On is selected, it causes logical block addressing to be used in place of cylinders, heads, and sectors. When Type is set to Auto, the value in the LBA Mode field is auto-detected and the field is read only. Heads Sectors Maximum Capacity LBA Mode 3-10 Configuring the System Main Menu Items Menu Item Block Mode Settings (default is bold) On, Off When On is selected, it allows block mode data transfers.

When Type is set to Auto, the value in the Block Mode field is auto-detected and the field is read only. Fast Programmed I/O Modes 32 Bit Transfer Mode Auto, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. Sets the Advanced PIO mode. ON, Off When On, allows 32 bit data transfers. Advanced Menu The Advanced Menu is a top-level menu in the BIOS Setup utility.

Choose the Advanced Menu by selecting Advanced in the legend bar. Advanced Menu options are available by selecting submenus. Use the arrow keys to select an Advanced Menu option. Press Enter to display the submenu. Settings of the Advanced Menu options and suboptions are given in the following tables. ! CAUTION Setting items on this menu to incorrect values can cause your system to malfunction. Configuring the System 3-11 Advanced Menu - Advanced CMOS Setup Menu Item Event Log Capacity Event Log Validity View DMI Event Log Clear all DMI Events Logs Settings (default is bold) Status only. Press Enter to view. Status only. Press Enter to view. Status only. Press Enter to view. No, Yes Selecting No prevents clearing out the DMI events logs. Event Logging Enabled, Disabled Selecting Enabled permits event logging. ECC Event Logging Enabled, Disabled Selecting Enabled permits ECC event logging.

Quick Boot Enabled, Disabled When Enabled, the BIOS does not test system memory above 1 MB or wait for ready signals, allowing a quick boot. 1 Boot Device st Disabled, IDE-0, IDE-1, IDE-2, IDE-3, Floppy, LS-120, ATAPI Zip, CDROM, SCSI, Network Sets the hard drive as the first boot device. 2 nd Boot Device Disabled, IDE-0, IDE-1, IDE-2, IDE-3, Floppy, LS-120, ATAPI Zip, CDROM, SCSI, Network Sets the CD-ROM drive as the second boot device. 3 Boot Device rd Disabled, IDE-0, IDE-1, IDE-2, IDE-3, Floppy, LS-120, ATAPI Zip, CDROM, SCSI, Network Sets the diskette drive as the third boot device. 3-12 Configuring the System Advanced Menu - Advanced CMOS Setup Menu Item Quiet Boot Settings (default is bold) Enabled, Disabled When Enabled, displays the NEC splash screen, with settings for displaying POST or entering BIOS setup. S.M.A.R.T.

for Hard Disks Disabled, Enabled Select Enabled to use the Self Monitoring Analysis and Reporting Technology (S.M.A.R.T.) for reporting server system information over a network. PS/2 Mouse Support Enabled, Disabled Select Enabled to allow use of a PS/2 mouse. CPU Serial Number Disabled, Enabled Advanced Menu - Advanced Chipset Setup Menu Item Graphics Aperture Size Settings (default is bold) 4 MB, 8 MB, 16 MB, 32 MB, 64 MB, 128 MB, 256 MB Determines the effective size of the graphics aperture used in the particular PAC configuration. USB Keybd/Mouse Legacy Support Disabled, Enabled Select Enabled to enable the BIOS USB functions for legacy keyboards and mice. Configuring the System 3-13 Advanced Menu - Power Management Setup Menu Item Power Management/APM Settings (default is bold) Enabled, Disabled The Enabled setting enables Power Management and Advanced Power Management (APM).

Video Power Down Mode Disabled, Standby, Suspend Specifies the power conserving state that the VESA VGA video subsystem enters after a specified period of display inactivity has expired. Hard Disk Power Down Mode Disabled, Standby, Suspend Specifies the power conserving state that the hard disk drive enters after a specified period of inactivity has expired. Standby Time Out (Minutes) Disabled, 1, 2, 4, 8, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60 Specifies the length of time of system inactivity while in full power on state before entering Standby state. Suspend Time Out (Minutes) Disabled, 1, 2, 4, 8, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60 Specifies the length of time of system inactivity while in Standby state before entering Suspend power state.



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Power Button Function Sleep/Suspend Sleep/Suspend sets the power switch for Suspend (Sleep) mode. With power on, pressing the switch once places the system in sleep mode. Pressing and holding the switch in for 4 seconds turns power off. 3-14 Configuring the System Advanced Menu - Power Management Setup Menu Item Restore on AC/Power Loss Settings (default is bold) Stay Off, Power On, Last State The Power On setting turns power on after a power loss. Jumper JP1 must be set for Power On (see "Setting System Board Jumpers" for procedures on setting JP1). Ring Resume from Soft Off Disabled, Enabled The Disabled setting causes the system to ignore any incoming call from a modem.

Enabled allows the system to boot up on an incoming telephone call. Not supported on Windows 98 systems. LAN Resume from Soft Off Disabled, Enabled The Disabled setting causes the system to ignore any incoming signal from the LAN network board. Enabled allows the system to boot up on an incoming LAN signal from the network board. RTC Alarm Resume from Soft Off Disabled, Enabled When Enabled, you can choose the time the system boots up (see the following time settings). RTC Alarm Date RTC Alarm Hour RTC Alarm Minute RTC Alarm Second Sets the day that the system boots up (when RTC Alarm Resume is Enabled). Sets real time clock alarm hour (when RTC Alarm Resume is Enabled). Sets real time clock alarm minute (when RTC Alarm Resume is Enabled). Sets real time clock alarm second (when RTC Alarm Resume is Enabled). Configuring the System 3-15 Advanced Menu - PCI/Plug and Play Setup Menu Item Plug and Play Aware O/S Settings (default is bold) No for Win NT, Yes for Win 9x Select Yes if the system's operating system is Plug and Play compliant.

Primary Graphics Adapter PCI, AGP Select AGP if your graphics board is AGP. Select PCI if your graphics board is PCI. PCI VGA Palette Snoop Disabled, Enabled Set to Enabled if an ISA adapter board requires VGA palette snooping. PCI IDE Bus Master Disabled, Enabled Set to Enabled to specify that the IDE controller on the PCI local bus includes a bus mastering device. Advanced Menu - Peripheral Setup Menu Item Onboard Sound Chip Settings (default is bold) Disabled, Enabled The Enabled setting allows use of onboard sound.

Onboard FDC Auto, Disabled, Enabled Select Auto to automatically detect FDC devices. Onboard Serial Port A Onboard Serial Port B IR I/O Pin Location Select Auto, Disabled, 3F8h, 2F8h, 3E8h, eE8h Auto, Disabled, 3F8h, 2F8h, 3E8h, eE8h SINB/SOUTB, IRRX/IRTX 3-16 Configuring the System Advanced Menu - Peripheral Setup Menu Item Serial Port B Mode Settings (default is bold) Normal, IrDA, ASK IR Selecting Normal sets the port for normal use, not for IR use. IR Duplex Mode IrDa Protocol Onboard Parallel Port N/A N/A Auto, Disabled, 378, 3BC Select Auto to allow the BIOS to automatically assign the parallel port to an available parallel port IRQ. Parallel Port Mode Normal, Bi-Dir, EPP, ECP Use this mode to choose the operating mode of the onboard parallel port. EPP Version Parallel Port IRQ Use this setting (1.

7 or 1.9) to select the EPP version. Parallel port 7 Setting depends on setting of Parallel Port Mode. If not set at auto, you can select the interrupt line for the onboard parallel port. Parallel Port DMA Channel This option allows you to choose DMA channel 1 to 3 for the onboard parallel port in ECP mode. Disabled, Primary, Secondary, Both The Both setting enables both the primary and secondary IDE controllers. Hard Disk Delay Time Disabled, 3 sec., 6 sec., 9 sec., 12 sec.

, 15 sec., 21 sec., 30 sec. The hard disk delay time gives the hard disk time to spin up before the system boots. Onboard IDE Configuring the System 3-17 Advanced Menu - Change Language Setting Menu Item Language Settings (default is bold) English Security Menu The Security Menu is a top-level menu in the BIOS Setup utility. Choose the Security Menu by selecting Security in the legend bar. Security Menu options are available by selecting submenus. Use the arrow keys to select a Security Menu option. Press Enter to display the submenu. Settings of the Security Menu options and suboptions appear in the following table.

Security Menu Items Menu Item Password Check Set Supervisor Password Settings (default is bold) Setup, Always [Enter] Use this field to set or change the supervisor password. Press Enter to bring up a dialog box where the password can be entered and confirmed. Set User Password [Enter] Use this field to set or change the user password. Press Enter to bring up a dialog box where the password can be entered and confirmed. 3-18 Configuring the System Exit Menu The Exit Menu is a top-level menu in the BIOS Setup utility.

Choose the Exit Menu by selecting Exit in the legend bar. Exit Menu options are available by selecting submenus. Use the arrow keys to select an Exit Menu option. Press Enter to display the submenu. Explanations of the Exit Menu options and suboptions appear in the following table.

Exit Menu Items Menu Item Exit Saving Changes Exit Discarding Changes Load Optimal Settings Load Fail Safe Settings Load Original Values Settings (default is bold) Implements the changes just made, and exits BIOS. Reverts to the settings from before the BIOS session. Reverts to the factory set optimal settings. Reverts to the factory set fail safe settings. Reverts to the factory-shipped settings. Configuring the System 3-19 FLASH Utility The system BIOS resides on a flash read only memory (ROM) chip in your system. The flash ROM can be updated using the following procedure. Before starting the BIOS update, NEC recommends that you first contact NEC CSD for assistance (see Chapter 6 for contact information). Update the Flash ROM with a BIOS flash diskette. The diskette contains the latest version of the BIOS code.

You can get the diskette from NEC CSD or download the BIOS from the NEC CSD website or Bulletin Board System (BBS). See Chapter 6 for download, website, and bulletin board system information. Update the BIOS from the BIOS flash diskette as follows. 1. Write down the BIOS Setup parameters currently set on your system. 2. Turn off the system. 3. Put the flash diskette in drive A, and turn on the system. 4.

When the flash upgrade menu appears, choose Update Flash Memory Area from a file. 5. When the menu asks you to enter a path/filename, use the arrow keys to select the ".bio" file and press Enter. 6.

The utility asks for a confirmation that you want to load the new flash into memory. Select Continue with Programming. 7. After the upgrade completes, remove the diskette. 8.

Reboot the system and start the Setup program. Press F5 to reset the BIOS defaults. Use the recorded Setup selections you made at the beginning of this procedure to set the parameters. 3-20 Configuring the System NEC OS Restore CD The following procedures describe how to use the NEC OS Restore CD that ships with your system. Please read the following sections in their entirety before using the NEC OS Restore CD to restore the Windows operating system or factory-installed drivers on your system.



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Introducing OS Restore Options The NEC OS Restore CD contains the Windows 95, Windows 98, or Windows NT operating system and device drivers for the hardware that was factory-installed in your system. Use this CD to restore your system to its working state if a problem occurs that causes data loss or corruption. After restoring the operating system, use the NEC Application and Driver CD to install your applications, optional drivers, and online documents. Note: Use the NEC Application and Driver CD to install or restore applications, optional drivers, and online documents (see "NEC Application and Driver CD" later in this chapter). *Choosing a Restore Program* The OS Restore program allows you to reinstall your Windows 95, Windows 98, or Windows NT operating system.

You can perform the restore in the following ways: *T Auto*, which reformats and repartitions the hard drive before restoring the Windows OS and factory-shipped drivers (see "Auto Rebuild and Restore") *Configuring the System 3-21 T T Custom*, which reformats the hard drive with the option to repartition before restoring the Windows OS and factoryshipped drivers (see "Custom Rebuild and Restore") *Fix OS*, a Restore option on the NEC OS Restore CD for Windows 95 and Windows 98 systems. The Fix OS restore option reinstalls the Windows operating system while leaving data files intact. It allows you to restore your system to the point where you can back up your data files. This option is intended as a precursor to a full format and restore (see "Fixing the Operating System"). The operating system and factory-shipped drivers are always restored regardless of which program you choose. See "NEC Application and Driver CD" for instructions on installing any of the applications or online documents, or to install device drivers that did not come with your system. *Launching the NEC OS Restore CD* Follow these steps to launch the NEC OS Restore CD. ! CAUTION The OS Restore program deletes all the data on your hard drive. If possible, back up your data before performing an OS restore. 1.

Power on or restart the system and immediately insert the NEC OS Restore CD into the CD-ROM drive. The Operating System Restore Welcome screen appears (see the following figure). 3-22 *Configuring the System Welcome screen 2*. Click Continue to continue (or Exit to exit the program). A License Agreement screen appears with three options: Back, Reject, and Accept. 3. Read the license agreement and click Accept to continue. The Restore Mode screen appears with four options: Back, Auto, Custom, and Fix OS. See one of the following sections to continue with the restore. *T "Auto Rebuild and Restore"* *T "Custom Rebuild and Restore"* *T "Fixing the Operating System"* *Configuring the System 3-23 Auto Rebuild and Restore* Follow these steps to reformat and repartition your hard drive. ! CAUTION The OS Restore program deletes all the data on your hard drive. If possible, back up your data before performing an OS restore. 1. Launch the NEC OS Restore CD and follow the prompts to get to the Restore Mode screen (see "Launching the OS Restore CD"). 2. Click Auto to repartition and reformat your hard drive. *T If you are running Windows NT 4.0, skip to step 4. T If you are running Windows 95 or Windows 98, the Partition Information screen appears. 3.*

The Partition Information screen that appears in Windows 95 or Windows 98 has three options (Back, FAT 16, and FAT 32) and lets you select the File Allocation Table (FAT) type you want to use for the operating system restore: *T Click Back* to return to the Operating Mode screen. *T Click FAT 16* to select the FAT 16 allocation table (current FAT type). *T Click FAT 32* to select the FAT 32 allocation table (available for Windows 95 or Windows 98 systems only). 3-24 *Configuring the System Note: Some older software may not work in a Windows 95 or Windows 98 system configured for FAT 32. In addition, select FAT16 if a dualboot system (with Windows 95 or Windows 98 and Windows NT 4.0) is desired.* 4. A FAT 16 or FAT 32 Partition warning screen appears indicating that the system is about to partition and format your hard drive using the FDISK program. This warning screen contains three options: Back, Exit, and Continue. 5.

Click Continue. The following take place: *T T T T* system performs FDISK system reboots partitions are formatted OS and drivers load from the CD The "Operating System Restore Completed" screen appears when all files have been restored. 6. Remove the CD from the CD tray. 7. Click OK to reboot. This completes the Auto Rebuild and Restore procedure. See "NEC Application and Driver CD" for instructions on installing any of the applications or online documents, or to install device drivers that did not come with your system. Restore any application or driver that was not provided by NEC by using the vendor diskette(s) or CD-ROM(s) included in its original packaging. *Configuring the System 3-25 Custom Rebuild and Restore* Follow these steps to format your hard drive with choices on repartitioning the drive: 1.

Launch the NEC OS Restore CD and follow the prompts to get to the Restore Mode screen (see "Launching the OS Restore CD"). 2. Click Custom to repartition and/or and reformat your hard drive before reinstalling the operating system. After you click Custom, the integrity of your system's existing FAT table is verified. *T If the table is functional, a Partitioning the Hard Drive screen appears with options allowing you to retain the present partition structure or partition the hard disk using FAT16 or FAT32. T If the existing partition table is not functional, the system performs an "Auto" restore as described in "Auto Rebuild and Restore."* 3. If you want to partition and reformat the hard drive, go to step 6. Otherwise, click Skip to retain the present partition structure on the hard drive. The Format Mode screen appears with four options: Back, Quick, Full, and Exit.

T Click Back to return to the Partition Information screen. *T Click Quick* to do a quick hard drive format. *T Click Full* to do a full hard drive format. *T Click Exit* to terminate the restore process. 3-26 *Configuring the System 4*. After you select the type of hard drive format you want to do (Quick or Full), the Formatting Drive(s) screen appears with a status bar showing the progress of the formatting. After the drive is reformatted, the Installing Applications screen appears, indicating the status as the operating system loads from the CD. The drivers and other software components required for the operating system are also loaded from the CD. After the OS finishes loading, the "Operating System Restore Completed" screen appears. Go to step 6. 5. To partition the hard drive, click Continue on the Partitioning the Hard Drive screen. The Partition Information screen appears in Windows 95 and Windows 98 systems In Windows NT 4.



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