

Dell™ PowerEdge™ 1800 Systems

# Information Update

## Notes, Notices, and Cautions



**NOTE:** A NOTE indicates important information that helps you make better use of your computer.



**NOTICE:** A NOTICE indicates either potential damage to hardware or loss of data and tells you how to avoid the problem.



**CAUTION:** A CAUTION indicates a potential for property damage, personal injury, or death.

## Abbreviations and Acronyms

For a complete list of abbreviations and acronyms, see "Glossary" in your *User's Guide*.

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This document provides updated information for your system on the following topics:

- Multiple monitors in display properties
- Adding a second IDE device to the IDE controller cable
- Embedded SATA 2s controller-to-CERC SATA 6-channel upgrade considerations
- Video and cabling considerations for the DRAC 4P expansion card
- Enabling video hardware acceleration in the Microsoft® Windows® Server 2003 operating system
- Correcting flat-panel display video problems during Microsoft® Windows® Server 2003 operating system installations
- Power-supply fan performance in system standby mode
- Installing Dell OpenManage™ Array Manager 3.6
- Single memory module installation
- Creating an embedded SATA controller RAID array
- Using Red Hat™ Enterprise Linux, Dell OpenManage Server Assistant, and the embedded SATA controller with RAID
- Installing fast ethernet drivers using Server Assistant on dual-processor systems running the Microsoft Windows 2000 operating system

## Multiple Monitors in Display Properties

Your system has one video connector on the back panel. The video driver installed in your system is designed to be used with various Dell systems, some of which have front- and back-panel video connectors. This causes the Microsoft Windows Server 2003 operating system to report that the system is configured to display on multiple monitors.

To check your display settings:

- 1 Right-click your desktop and click **Properties**.
- 2 Click the **Settings** tab and verify that the display mode is set to **(Multiple Monitors)** on **RADEON 7000 SERIES**.

The video driver also causes Windows Server 2003 to display the monitor that is attached to your system's video connector, as well as to reserve a "default monitor" as a placeholder for systems that have two video connectors.

To view the list of monitors:

- 1 Right-click your desktop and click **Properties**.
- 2 Click the **Settings** tab, and then click the **Advanced** button.
- 3 Click the **Monitor** tab.

The **Monitor Type** list box displays the monitors attached to your system.

 **NOTE:** If a Remote Access Card (RAC) is installed in your system, the RAC appears as a third video device in the **Monitor Type** list box. Use the scroll buttons in the **Monitor Type** list box to display any additional monitor types.

 **NOTE:** If Windows Server 2003 cannot identify the monitor type, the operating system identifies the monitor as a "Plug and Play Monitor."

## Adding a Second IDE Device to the IDE Controller Cable

The system board has one IDE controller and one IDE connector that is normally used to connect an IDE optical device installed in the 5.25-inch drive bay. The System Setup program provides an option to enable or disable the IDE controller, and the primary master optical device can be viewed through the boot order in the System Setup program.

If a second IDE device, such as an IDE tape backup drive, is installed in the 5.25-inch peripheral bay and is attached to the slave connector of the IDE cable, details of the second device can be viewed only in the operating system and not the System Setup program.

## Embedded SATA 2s Controller-to-CERC SATA 6-Channel Upgrade Considerations

If you are presently using the embedded SATA 2s controller in a dual hard-drive configuration and are upgrading to a CERC SATA 6-channel expansion card RAID array, you must first disable and remove the embedded SATA 2s configuration.

 **NOTICE:** Operating the system in a CERC 6-channel SATA RAID array with the embedded SATA 2s controller enabled is not a supported configuration and can cause the operating system to malfunction during shutdowns and other unpredictable results.

Follow the guidelines listed below if you are presently using an embedded SATA 2s controller configuration and are upgrading to a CERC SATA 6-channel configuration.

- 1 Back up the data from the hard drives that the embedded SATA 2s controller is using. The hard drives must be reinitialized for use with the CERC SATA 6-channel upgrade.
- 2 Disable the embedded SATA 2s controller in the System Setup program. See "Using the System Setup Program" in the *User's Guide* for additional information.
- 3 Remove the cables from the embedded SATA 2s controller system-board connectors and the hard drives.
- 4 If you purchased additional hard drives with the CERC SATA 6-channel upgrade, install those hard drives. See "Installing Drives" in the *Installation and Troubleshooting Guide* for additional information.

- 5 Install and configure the CERC SATA 6-channel upgrade.  
See "Expansion Cards" in the *Installation and Troubleshooting Guide* and the documentation that came with the CERC SATA 6-channel upgrade for additional information.
- 6 Restore the data that you backed up in step 1 to the new array on the hard drives.

## Video and Cabling Considerations for the DRAC 4P Expansion Card

If your system has a Dell™ Remote Access Controller 4P (DRAC 4P) expansion card installed, the monitor must be connected to the video connector on the DRAC 4P card—not to the system's integrated video connector. See the *Dell Remote Access Controller 4 User's Guide* for the location of the video connector on the DRAC 4P card.

Also, if you install a DRAC 4P card into the system, the card is supplied with an interface cable that must be attached from the card to the system's RAC connector on the system board. See "System Board Connectors" in the *Installation and Troubleshooting Guide* for the location of the system board RAC connector.

## Enabling Video Hardware Acceleration in the Microsoft Windows Server 2003 Operating System

By default, video hardware acceleration is set to a low setting by the Microsoft Windows Server 2003 operating system. Your system's video controller supports enhanced features and requires that the video hardware acceleration be set to its highest (**Full**) setting. Operating the system without adjusting the video hardware acceleration to its highest setting may cause the system to become unstable under certain conditions. To adjust the video hardware acceleration, follow these steps:

- 1 Click **Start**, point to **Control Panel**, and then click **Display**.  
You can also right-click the desktop, and then click **Properties**.
- 2 Click the **Settings** tab in the **Display Properties** window, and then click **Advanced**.
- 3 Click the **Troubleshoot** tab, and move the hardware acceleration slider to **Full**.
- 4 Click **OK**, and then click **OK**.

If you reinstall or update the video drivers, or if you reinstall Windows Server 2003, then reset the video hardware acceleration to its **Full** setting again.

## Correcting Flat-Panel Display Video Problems During Microsoft Windows Server 2003 Operating System Installations

 **NOTE:** The following information applies only to Microsoft Windows Server 2003 operating system installations on systems that have certain flat-panel displays attached, and console redirection is enabled in the System Setup program (console redirection is disabled by default). Systems that have a CRT monitor attached, or systems that are having any other operating system installed, are not affected.

Under certain conditions, the image on some flat-panel displays may roll during the installation of the Microsoft Windows Server 2003 operating system. This is caused by console redirection being enabled in the System Setup program (console redirection is disabled by default).

Console redirection is intended for system management from a terminal attached to the system's serial port. When Windows Server 2003 detects that console redirection is enabled, it optimizes its installation screens to a low-resolution text mode for a VT100-compatible terminal. Some flat-panel displays cannot synchronize to that mode.

To correct the problem, restart the system, enter the System Setup program, and disable console redirection. After installing the Windows Server 2003 operating system, enter the System Setup program, and enable console redirection, if desired.

## Power-Supply Fan Performance in System Standby Mode

Each power supply contains an internal cooling fan. When the system enters system standby mode, the power-supply fan remains on. This is normal operation and allows the fan to continue to cool the power-supply. The fan's performance may cause the system to appear to be on while the system is actually turned off in system standby mode.

## Installing Dell OpenManage Array Manager 3.6

Dell OpenManage Array Manager 3.6 is provided with your system. Array Manager is designed for system administrators who implement hardware and software RAID solutions and understand corporate and small business storage environments. To install Array Manager, perform the following steps:

- 1 Insert the Dell OpenManage CD into the CD drive.  
The Dell OpenManage installation application automatically starts.
- 2 Exit the Dell OpenManage installation application if you want to install only Array Manager 3.6.
- 3 Navigate to the **am\setup** directory on the CD.
- 4 Click **setup.exe**.
- 5 Follow the instructions on the screen.

Array Manager can also be downloaded and installed from [support.dell.com](http://support.dell.com).

## Single Memory Module Installation

If only one memory module is installed, it must be installed in socket DIMM1\_B. Two-way interleaving is not supported for this configuration. See the *Installation and Troubleshooting Guide* for more information about memory modules.

## Creating an Embedded SATA Controller RAID Array

To easily create a RAID array when using the system's embedded SATA controller, perform the following steps:

- 1 Turn on your system.
- 2 Press <F2> immediately after you see the following message:  
<F2> = Setup  
See "System Setup Program" in the *User's Guide* for additional information.
- 3 Enable RAID in the **Integrated Devices** options in the System Setup program.
- 4 See your CERC SATA 2s documentation for information on configuring RAID drives.

The CERC SATA 2s RAID driver is available at Dell Support at [support.dell.com](http://support.dell.com).

## Using Red Hat Enterprise Linux, Dell OpenManage Server Assistant, and the Embedded SATA Controller With RAID

The Red Hat Enterprise Linux operating system can be installed only by using the Red Hat Enterprise Linux media if *all* of the following conditions exist:

- You are attempting to use Server Assistant to install Red Hat Enterprise Linux.
- The embedded SATA controller is enabled in the System Setup program (see the *User's Guide* for more information about the System Setup program).

This is because Server Assistant does not contain RAID drivers to support a Red Hat Enterprise Linux operating system installation with the embedded SATA controller enabled in a RAID configuration at this time. Therefore, the Red Hat Enterprise Linux operating system installation option is not available in Server Assistant if those conditions listed above exist.

See the Red Hat Enterprise Linux documentation for instructions on how to install that operating system from the Red Hat Enterprise Linux media.

After installing the operating system from the Red Hat Enterprise Linux media, you can use Server Assistant to install additional utilities, such as diagnostics, if desired.

## Considerations When Configuring RAID Using Red Hat Enterprise Linux and the Embedded SATA Controller



**NOTE:** The following information applies only if you want to use the embedded SATA controller in a RAID configuration using Red Hat Enterprise Linux.



**NOTICE:** The system does not have RAID drivers that support an embedded SATA controller RAID configuration in a Red Hat Enterprise Linux environment. RAID is not enabled even when the System Setup program RAID option is enabled. RAID can only be enabled and configured from within the Red Hat Enterprise Linux operating system.

When using the embedded SATA controller with Red Hat Enterprise Linux, RAID can only be enabled and configured through the Red Hat Enterprise Linux operating system—not at the system level. *Although the RAID option can be selected and enabled in System Setup program and RAID 0 or RAID 1 can be configured in <Ctrl> <a>, RAID drivers are not available for its support and RAID is not enabled.*

See the Red Hat Enterprise Linux documentation for instructions on how to enable and configure RAID.

## Installing Fast Ethernet Drivers Using Server Assistant on Dual-Processor Systems Running the Microsoft Windows 2000 Operating System

Under certain circumstances, installing the Fast Ethernet drivers using Server Assistant on a system with dual-processors and running the Microsoft Windows 2000 operating system may halt at the **Plug and Play Detection** screen. If this occurs, restart the system and the installation completes normally.