

Dell Computer Corporation
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BIOS Release Notes

Systems: Precision Workstation 620
Version: A12
Release Date: November 02, 2004

The following changes have been made to BIOS rev A11 to create A12

1. Update NIC hotkey processing

Systems: Precision Workstation 620
Version: A11
Release Date: November 29, 2001

The following changes have been made to BIOS rev A10 to create A11

1. Reserve additional 32k of memory for BIOS use.
2. Add SMBIOS calling interface for Selectable Boot.
3. Added Enhanced Selectable boot feature.
4. Changed memory code to ignore false thermal & ECC errors, adjust timings.
5. Moved initial video address to be over 3gig boundary.
6. Reset and power buttons now disabled during NVRAM updates.
7. Fix possible bypass of setup password.
8. Added support for 48-bit LBA devices.
9. Add delay of reading PCI config space for slow adapters.
10. Removed CPU stepping mismatch halt.
11. Corrected problem where 3EC was a possible I/O selection when the LPT mode was set to EPP.
12. Added clear of ESCD for when NIC or AGP aperture settings changes.

Systems: Precision Workstation 620
Version: A10
Release Date: March 30, 2001

The following changes have been made to BIOS rev A09 to create A10

1. Added support for newer CPU's, and updated microcode for other CPU's.

Systems: Precision Workstation 620
Version: A09
Release Date: March 05, 2001

The following changes have been made to BIOS rev A08 to create A09

1. Added support for SST and STM FLASH devices.
2. Added USB controller disable option to BIOS setup.
3. Updated to Intel Rambus Reference code 3.0.00

4. Fixed bug with USB emulation overwriting valid data from ps/2 mouse.
5. Updated support for 256/288Mb RIMMs.
6. Bumped maximum amount of system memory 3gig.

Systems: Precision Workstation 620
Version: A08
Release Date: November 27, 2000

The following changes have been made to BIOS rev A07 to create A08:

1. Fixed MP table to report bridges and slot routing and handle multiple busses correctly.
2. Added support for new RIMMS (256Mbit and 288Mbit).
3. Removed support for SDRAM memory.
4. Corrected memory information display in setup.
5. Modified internal delay loops for better accuracy with faster processors.

Systems: Precision Workstation 620
Version: A07
Release Date: August 10, 2000

The following changes have been made to BIOS rev A04 to create A07:

1. Allow asset program to run under EMM386 or Windows 9x.
2. Change speed reporting for 1 GHz and faster CPU's in Setup.
3. Fix possible hang caused by RTC chipset bug fix.
4. Add sub-functions 41 and 48 to floppy support.
5. Added support for newer CPU's, and updated microcode for other CPU's.
6. Fixed POST code to allow use of removable media harddisks.
7. Changed DBQ timeouts to allow drives with longer test times.
8. INT19 handler now calls option ROM's INT18 handler if all boot devices fail.
9. Remove IRQ6 from PCI irq list, so OS's can assume IRQ6 is only floppy.
10. Added AGP Aperture option and IRQ reservation option in Setup.
11. Fixed backspace handling in keyboard input code in Setup.
12. Fix Setup losing IRQ settings in some configurations.
13. Added entries to the ACPI multiple APIC table for Windows 2000.
14. Make flash program prompt when boot recovery code is going to be re-written.
15. Alter memory initialization code to improve memory detection.
16. Improve high-bandwidth PCI adapter performance.
17. Return correct intrusion switch state in SMBIOS.
18. Fix SMBIOS structures for slot info, add tokens for PXE-NEXT-BOOT.

***** A04 *****
Systems: Precision Workstation 620
Version: A04
Release Date: June 22, 2000

The following problems in the A03 BIOS were corrected to generate the A04 BIOS:

1. Fixed intermittent memory sizing problem.

***** A03 *****
Systems: Precision Workstation 620
Version: A03
Release Date: May 08, 2000

The following problems in the A01 BIOS were corrected to generate the A03 BIOS:

1. Fixed intermittent memory sizing problem.

***** A01 *****
Systems: Precision Workstation 620
Version: A01
Release Date: Mar 03, 2000

The following problems in the A00 BIOS were corrected to generate the A01 BIOS:

1. There may be field occurrences where the real-time clock stops. This can now be detected on a power-on and a reset is sent to the clock to start it running again. A message is displayed when this is detected.
2. Fixed system not waking up from WuOL magic packets when system is in standby mode and NIC is installed in the secondary PCI bus.
3. ACPI updates to improve Window HCT results
4. A new processor speed ratio algorithm has been implemented for support of high speed processors.
5. New diagnostics for onboard IDE drives have been implemented. It is available by pressing CTRL-ALT-"d" when the "F2 = Setup" prompt in the upper right-hand corner is displayed during bootup. A beep will be emitted when the key sequence is pressed. Test results will be displayed on the screen for each enabled drive on each IDE channel. This diagnostic is a subset of the industry standard SMART drive diagnostics.
6. There may be occurrences of system management bus errors due to an errata with the Pentium III Xeon built in thermal monitor. These are worked around by a change to the algorithm used to read the device.
7. New microcode updates for Pentium III Xeon A2 and B0 steppings
8. New support for PC600 RDRAM memory

***** A00 *****
Systems: Precision Workstation 620
Version: A00
Release Date: Jan 20, 2000

* Initial release