Chapter 3

Hardware Installation

Install the FastTrak Card

Insert and secure the FastTrak card into a PCI Bus Master slot. There are no hardware configurable jumpers or settings to change due to the adapter's Plug-n-play (PnP) features.

The FastTrak66 system resources including port address, interrupt, and BIOS address are ***automatically*** determined by the system PnP BIOS.

To customize IRQ settings, enter the Mainboard BIOS's Advanced PCI setup and follow the manufacturer's procedures. When the system is limited by IRQ resources, this card can be set for the same IRQ as other PCI cards that support PCI interrupt sharing.

Set IDE Drive Jumper Settings

Drives must be Ultra ATA/33, EIDE and/or Fast ATA-2 compatible to operate with the FastTrak RAID Adapter. For optimal performance, install all ***identical*** drives of the same model and capacity. The drives' ***matched performance*** allows the array to function better as a single drive.

Refer to the drive manufacturer documentation for proper Master / Slave settings. Note that sometimes the Master drive with no slave attached is called "Single." The master slave setting differentiates two drives chained on the same connector.

Attaching Drives to Connectors

Attach drives with the supplied 18" standard 40-pin IDE cables. Use all available connectors before chaining a slave drive. This is recommended for better performance since data can be processed in parallel.

For maximum IDE Fault tolerance, each mirrored pair should be installed on separate IDE connectors.

Drives Attachment Order By Connector

The following table shows the order and setting for drives connected to the channels of the FastTrak card.

	FastTrak	
Total Drives	***IDE 1***	***IDE 2***
One	M	—
Two	M	M
Three	M & S	M
Four	M & S	M & S

M - Master, S - Slave

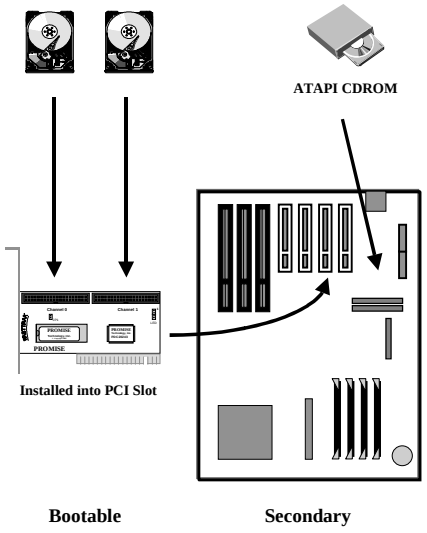
Installation Scenarios

Examine the following installation scenarios which may apply to your system. Then proceed to Chapter 4 which covers operation of the card's BIOS utility and array creation.

FastTrak coexisting with ATAPI CD-ROM

ATAPI IDE CD-ROM drives can be installed on Mainboard or add-on IDE controllers.

No configuration is necessary on the mainboard BIOS setup.

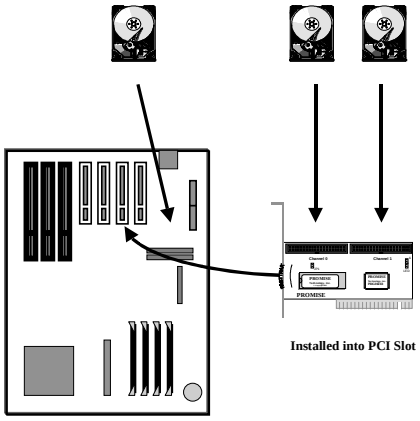


FastTrak coexisting with hard drives on onboard IDE control-

ler

The FastTrak can coexist with onboard or add-on IDE controller(s) and hard drives installed.

The hard drives on the onboard IDE must be bootable for all drives to be accessible.

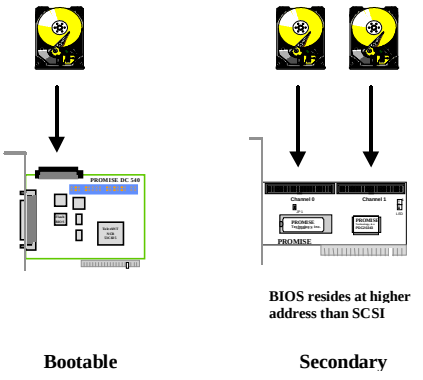


FastTrak Coexists with SCSI controller

The FastTrak is bootable with a SCSI controller in the system. The adapter with the lower BIOS address will be bootable.

Check with the SCSI card's manual for possible available addresses.

If it is necessary to change the FastTrak PnP BIOS address, try swapping the FastTrak's PCI slot with the SCSI card's slot.



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