

APPENDIX C

RamFactor Accessories

RamCharger

— RamFactor Battery Backup Option

By now you have probably witnessed the impressive speed of the RamFactor card when used as a RAMdisk. Remember that one of the major disadvantages of a RAMdisk is its volatility. Even a brief power interruption will completely erase the contents of a RAMdisk. The RamCharger Battery Backup Option eliminates this disadvantage and turns the RamFactor into a non-volatile, bootable storage device. Not only does the RamCharger protect the contents of RamFactor's memory during momentary power outages, it provides extended protection against loss of data during long power failures.

RamCharger installation is simple. Plug the AC power cord into any grounded 120 volt wall socket (240v model available) and connect the RamFactor power cable to the RamFactor's power socket.

The RamCharger battery and charger are entirely contained within an attractive case similar to the Disk II case. During normal operation, RamCharger charges its internal battery and supplies power to the RamFactor memory chips. When the AC power to RamCharger is interrupted, RamCharger instantly switches to battery power until the AC power is restored. RamCharger's heavy duty battery can maintain memory on a 1 megabyte RamFactor for about 12 hours. It will keep a 1 Meg RamFactor with a fully loaded 4 Meg Expander attached for up to 7 hours. AC power will maintain RamFactor memory continuously!

RamFactor Size	Power Source	Mem. Maintained
1 Meg Board	RamCharger	Up to 12 hours
5 Meg Board (1 Meg w/ 4 Meg Expander)	RamCharger	Up to 7 hours
1-5 Meg	AC Power	Continuous

If you reboot using Control Open-Apple Reset or if another standard DOS 3.3 startup disk is booted while the RamFactor DOS 3.3 RAMdisk is active, the new operating system will have to be linked to the RAMdisk with the IN#s command. All files stored in the RAMdisk will still be intact. Any attempt to access or format a RamFactor RAMdisk that has already been formatted under a different operating system will result in a "WRITE PROTECT" error message. To clear the RAMdisk, remove power from the RamFactor card. (i.e. turn the computer and battery backup option switch OFF.)

When you use the INIT command with the modified DOS 3.3 in memory, keep this in mind: The image of DOS written on the initialized floppy disk will be the patched RAMdisk version DOS. The initialized disk will be "tied" to the RamFactor card and its current slot. For the floppy disk to successfully boot, the RamFactor card will have to be installed in the same slot as when the disk was initialized.

Copying Files to the DOS 3.3 RAMdisk

Standard (not copy-protected) DOS 3.3 files can be copied to the RamFactor's RAMdisk using the Apple File Developer program (FID). The FID program is particularly useful for transferring all types of DOS 3.3 files. For your convenience, we've included the FID program on RamFactor's DOS 3.3 Utilities disk. You can also find FID on the Apple DOS 3.3 System Master disk.

To run FID from RamFactor's DOS 3.3 Utilities disk:

- 1) Boot the utility disk.
- 2) Select COPY FILES from the menu.
- ◆ *Note:* FID is a binary program which can also be executed by typing BRUN FID at the BASIC prompt.
- 3) Follow the on-screen instructions to copy files.

Automatic File Copying at Boot

FID can be used in combination with a text file to create a *turnkey* file copy utility program. The turnkey program (examples following) is a quick way to transfer a selected list of files to the DOS 3.3 RAMdisk. The text file contains a list of commands used to run the FID program, set up the source and destination disks, and instruct FID which files to copy. The EXEC command is used to start processing the text file's commands. (See the DOS Users Manual for more information on EXECuting text files.)