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Performa 450: Accelerators Versus Power Cache Cards (7/93)

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TOPIC -----

Are accelerators and power cache cards the same? Can I run a 40MHz power cache on my Performa 450 (68030 @ 25MHz) or do I need a 40MHz accelerator, too? Will it speed up programs like CAD programs?

DISCUSSION -----

Cache cards and Accelerators are not the same thing. Cache cards contain SRAM; Static RAM. This RAM is used only by the CPU and has a very high transfer rate between the CPU and itself. Cache memory will increase the speed of most applications, because the CPU stores commands in this ram and doesn't have to fetch instructions by way of the CPU BUS. This increases your speed where tasks are repeated. For example, displaying pictures. The application reads the data from the drive, then has to do repetitive processing to display the picture.

Accelerator Cards replace your current CPU (in your case a 25MHz 68030). By increasing the speed of your CPU, you speed up the processing time. An important thing to remember however, is that when comparing speeds of different accelerator cards make sure the CPU is the same. A 25MHz 68040 is MUCH faster than a 25MHz 68030.

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