DOS 3.3: Interrupts (IRQ)

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Revised:        11/20/84
Security:       Everyone
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Interrupting the Apple's 6502 microprocessor while using DOS can be
treacherous. DOS uses location $45 when converting your decimal numeric
parameters to hexadecimal for its internal use. Similarly, the monitor's
interrupt handler uses $45 to save the 6502 accumulator. So, if an interrupt
occurs while DOS is executing a command, the numeric parameters DOS uses when
it executes commands are changed. Also vulnerable is the sector length of the
files listed in a catalog, since DOS also uses $45 to display this length.

Since DOS uses timing loops during its read and write operation, interrupting
the Read Write Track Sector routines can kill a disk. DOS protects itself
from IRQ, but has no control over NMI (nonmaskable interupt)--so don't use a
NMI while using DOS.

Apple Tech Notes

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