Apple IIGS: ProDOS/8

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Revised:        2/18/87
Security:       Everyone
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To support the old Apple II mode on the Apple IIGS, system disks have P8, or ProDOS/8, as it is a version of ProDOS 1.1.1 made especially for Apple IIGS, although ProDOS/8 works on an Apple IIe or Apple IIc.

ProDOS/8 handles the following Apple IIGS capabilites, features and operating modes:

- ProDOS/8 accepts system calls from applications running in 8-bit mode only.

- ProDOS/8 accepts system calls from the lowest 64K of memory only.

- ProDOS/8 uses a simple global page bit map.

- ProDOS/8 maintains a section of memory, which can be accessed directly, that
  contains system global variables such as date and time, system level, and I/O
  buffer addresses.

- ProDOS/8 reads the Apple IIGS clock rather than the ThunderClock.

On the Apple IIGS, ProDOS and ProDOS/16 are designed to the run in tandem, as a package. ProDOS/8 is provided to maintain compatibility with ProDOS v1.1.1. In normal situations, you need not be concerned with which operating system is functioning; ProDOS/8 is automatically loaded if you run an application designed to run under ProDOS 1.1.1 or versions earlier.

Apple Technical Communications

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