

**COMPAQ**

# Using Network Communications

Compaq Deskpro Family  
of Personal Computers

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## *Using Network Communications*

### Compaq Deskpro Family of Personal Computers

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# USING NETWORK COMMUNICATIONS

Compaq Deskpro models with integrated or preinstalled network interface controllers (NIC) and network device drivers are network-ready. Select models do not include a NIC.

## NIC-Based Alerts

Select NICs feature NIC-based alert support, which allows a system administrator to remotely monitor personal computers over the network. The computer can send hardware and operating system failure alerts over the network before the operating system is loaded or when the computer is powered off. Depending on the NIC model, these alerts may include:

- system BIOS hang
- operating system hang
- processor missing
- operating temperature exceeded
- chassis intrusion

## Remote Wakeup Support

Select NICs feature Remote Wakeup support, which allows the system administrator to turn on power to a client computer from a remote location, through the use of supported PC LAN management tools.



**CAUTION:** If you experience network problems, or problems with starting your computer, check to ensure that the Remote Wakeup cable is connected to the NIC board and to the expansion board cage. If this cable is disconnected, the system will not operate reliably.



Remote Wakeup support is available only when using an RJ-45 network connection.

For more information on Remote Wakeup, refer to the *Intelligent Manageability* guide, or to the online *Remote Management Administrators Guide*. The *Remote Management Administrators Guide* is included with the Remote Management Administration Tools, and is available on the *Support Software CD for Compaq Desktop, Portable, and Workstation Products* or at the Compaq Web Site at [www.compaq.com](http://www.compaq.com).

## **Interpreting the Network Status Lights**

Select Ethernet network interface controllers include network status lights:

- The link light illuminates when the system is physically connected to an active network.
- The activity light illuminates when the computer detects network activity. When the system is connected to a highly used network, the activity light will remain on almost constantly.
- The 100TX light illuminates during 100-Mbs operation.

Some NICs include only two network status lights where link (light on) and activity (light blinking) are indicated by one light and 100-Mbs operation is indicated by the second light.

If Remote Wakeup is enabled, the link and activity lights will remain functional even when power to the computer is turned off.

## Disabling the Autosensing Capabilities

Autosensing NICs automatically determine the maximum network operating speed of the attached network and configure themselves accordingly. The computer begins autosensing whenever it loses a valid network link, for example, if the cable is disconnected.

In addition to determining the network operating speed, the computer determines if full-duplex is supported. Full-duplex systems can transmit and receive information on the network simultaneously. Half-duplex systems cannot transmit and receive simultaneously.

If necessary, you can disable the autosensing capabilities and force the system to operate in one mode only.

1. Select the Network icon, located in the Control Panel.
2. Select the appropriate NIC in the list box and click Properties.
3. Change the Speed and Duplex values from Automatic/Auto Duplex to the appropriate values, depending on the capabilities of your network.
4. Exit the Network control application. You will be prompted to restart your computer in order for the changes to take effect.

Refer to the documentation provided with the network controller for additional information.

✎ 100Base-TX operation requires the use of Category 5 UTP cable with an RJ-45 network connection.

## Installing Network Drivers

The device drivers in the network software enable the computer to communicate with the network.

✎ Device drivers are supplied for the Microsoft Windows NT version 4.0 and Windows 95 or later operating systems, depending on the computer model. If you are using another operating system, device drivers may be installed from diskettes included with the network operating system or are available from Compaq. If reinstallation of the operating system ever becomes necessary, use the *Compaq Restore CD*.



