

PowerMac Processor Upgrade

The modular and evolutionary upgrade for Pre-G3 PowerMacs

MACH Carrier™ G4 SSE

Compatible Computers



PowerMac 7300, 7500,
7550, 7600



PowerMac 8500, 8550,
9500, 9550



PowerMac 8600, 9600 and
WGS series

What is the MACH Carrier G4 SSE?

The MACH Carrier G4 SSE is a processor replacement for PowerMac 7300-9600 (illustrated above). It physically replaces the original 604 processor to give a huge performance increase.

What kind of speed increase can I expect with a MACH Carrier G4 SSE?

The performance increase is significant as the G4 processor is much faster than a 604. The main difference is that the level 2 cache, a small memory module that accelerates a processor, is "sitting" next to the processor on the G4s (same principle as on the G3s). The G4 processor also has an AltiVec™ unit (Velocity Engine in Apple terminology). This unit can dramatically boost performance on applications that have been rewritten to use it. For example, Adobe PhotoShop 5.5 and higher, Cinema 4D XL, Sound Jam MP are all AltiVec optimized. Depending on the speed of the original 604 processor, you will experience a speed increase of up to 800% in normal operations and even more with AltiVec optimized application (up to 29 times faster!) It is also a good idea to upgrade the original graphics card, as you will see a big speed increase thanks to the faster main processor.

What are the advantages of XLR8's Carrier concept?

The Carrier concept is a modular approach to processor upgrades. All the processor cards that are manufactured by competitors (NewerTech®, PowerLogix®, Sonnet®) are all-in-one cards. This means that the processor is soldered onto the board. If you want to use a faster processor, you have to change the whole card. XLR8 on the other hand has a modular upgrade.

The MACH Carrier is composed of a MACH Speed G4 ZIF MPe processor and a Carrier ZIF MPe adapter card that allows you to use ZIF processors in older PowerMacs.

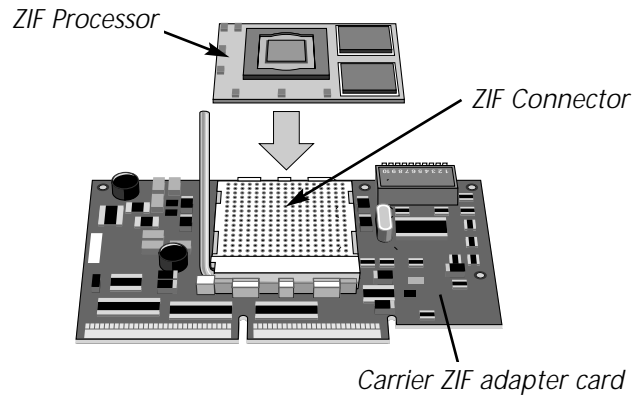
- ZIF processors are, as a general rule, less expensive than all-in-one cards
- ZIF processors will be manufactured for a much longer period, as the PowerMacs G3/early G4 series are more recent computers and use this technology (PowerMac G3 users will upgrade to G4 processors.)
- Only XLR8 offers its Trade Up Program... "Trade up from your previous XLR8 product to the fastest product in your class and get up to a 20% Trade-Up discount off the SRP, direct from XLR8!"

<http://www.xlr8.com>





All-in-One G3 upgrade card



XLR8's MACH Carrier upgrade card

Jumpers and switches?

It is often argued by our competitors that upgrade cards which have jumpers and switches to adapt an upgrade card to a computer, are less user-friendly as so-called "auto-bus" cards . The MACH Carrier G3 and G4 upgrade cards are shipped pre-set, which means you do not have to touch anything. Just plug the card into the computer and it works! In fact, the jumpers allow you to modify the speed (ie. optimize) of your card. This is a big advantage for experienced users, who wish to get the most out of their product. Therefore, the MACH Carrier cards are as easy to use as any "auto-bus" card. The difference is that XLR8 cards can be adjusted/tuned for your environment. This is why the MACH Carrier design is the most award-winning upgrade card design in its class.

What about dual processor upgrades?

Sorry these have been discontinued.

List of AltiVec enhanced applications

- Adobe Systems, Inc. Photoshop 5.5 (graphics)
- Adobe Systems, Inc. After Effects 4.1 (media editing)
- Apple Computer Final Cut Pro 1.2 (video editing)
- Astarte Software AG MPack 3.5.1 (video compression)
- Bitheadz, Inc Osmosis 1.1 (music sample conversion utility)
- Casady & Greene Sound JAM (MP3 player/encoder)
- Connectix Corporation Virtual PC (emulator)
- Deneba Canvas 7 (graphics)
- Emagic GmbH Logic Audio Platinum (music composition/audio processing)
- Heuris MPEG Power Professional (video compression)
- Linker Systems, Inc. Animation Stand (animation)
- Macromedia Flash (web animation)
- Macromedia Dreamweaver (web content)
- Macromedia Director (animation)
- Maxon Cinema 4D (3D rendering)
- MetaCreations Kai's Power Tools 6 (graphics)
- MetaCreations Bryce (3D rendering)
- NewTek Lightwave 3D (3D rendering)
- Puffin Designs Commotion (video editing)
- QDesign Qdesign (music codec)
- Sonic Solutions Sonic DVD Fusion (DVD creation)
- Sonic Solutions Sonic DVD Transcoder (DVD creation)
- Sonic Solutions Sonic DVD Creator (DVD creation)
- Sorenson-Vision Sorenson 2.0 (video compression)
- BIAS - Peak 2.10-TDM (Digital audio editing program)
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- Bitheadz, Inc. Phrazier (Real time audio loop sequencer)
- Bitheadz, Inc. Retro AS-1 version 2.0 (Virtual analog synthesizer)
- Bitheadz, Inc. Unity DS-1 version 2.0 (Real Time Digital Sampler)
- Cubase VST/24
- Emagic - Logic Audio 4.1 (synthesis of digital audio recording, digital signal processing, MIDI sequencing, and notation)
- Proteron, LLC N2MP3-1.5b3 (MP3 encoder)
- Quadmation PlayerPRO 5.4 G4 (MOD/MIDI file tracker, composer and player)
- StarNine Technologies, Inc WebSTAR Server Suite 4.2 (Internet server software)
- Terra Soft Solutions Black Lab Linux (Workstations and Parallel Computing Systems)
- Terran Interactive, Inc. - Media Cleaner Pro 4.0.2 (digital media compression)
- Terran Interactive, Inc. - Media Cleaner Power Suite 4.0.2 (QuickTime Prep)

Applications optimized for multiprocessing include:

- Adobe Photoshop
- Adobe AfterEffects
- Adobe Premiere
- Alias|Wavefront's Maya
- Apple Final Cut Pro
- Casady & Greene's SoundJam MP
- NewTek LightWave 6
- Maxon Computer Cinema 4D,
- Digital Origin Edit DV
- Media 100 Inc.'s Media 100 Suite.
- Sorenson's Sorenson Video
- Terran Interactive's MediaCleaner Pro

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