

## A NEW APPLE /// GRAPHICS BOARD?

By

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### Another Graphics Board?

/// user Erik Olbrys says he has developed a driver for an Apple // hires graphics card, and might be willing to put a package together for it with enough interest. Olbrys says he began the project for the /// a few years ago, but problems with his SARA caused a lengthy delay. The hardware is a commercial Apple // product and comes in kit form. It also requires some connection modifications.

To get the card to work with the ///, Olbrys says he had to disassemble the .GRAFIX driver and insert the appropriate Apple /// code. It has 128K of on-board memory and uses an NEC PD 7220 Graphics chip. On the technical end, the driver, .HIRES v1.2a (as it now stands) can do everything .GRAFIX can do while also allowing for definable line patterns and create what he called a "dithered half-tone" for fillcolors 0 through 15 that approximates a gray scale. User-definable fill patterns are also possible. With the 128K on-board memory, it can provide 8 pages of 640 x 192 graphics resolution; or 4 pages of 640 x 384 resolution. I've seen some printouts from this card and they look great!

The package would include a Basic invocable module, HIGRAF.INV, the .HIRES driver, a Pascal library unit and utilities and cost between \$30.00 and \$60.00. Estimated cost for the hardware will be around \$200.00. Olbrys stresses this will be most useful to ///ers who write their own programs, since store-bought programs, like Draw On Three or Business Graphics wouldn't be able to fill an entire 640 x 384 screen. He also says the video monitor must be able to handle high-frequency bandwidths and interlacing, such as the Monitor /// (which is not a color monitor however).

The caveat here is that, as with other Apple /// products these days, there would have to be enough interest to push this thing along. If you would be willing to spend the money on this, please contact Erik Olbrys on CompuServe. His number is 71236,1245. Or you can write to him directly at: 41 Pepper Ridge Road, Stamford, CT. 06905.