

SparcBook F.A.Q.

Hugo van der Kooij

Support Engineer
Q&I Nederland
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Revision History

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Fixed the URL's of the document itself. Updated Q&A about the startup	
Revision 2.5	July 2000
Added another URL (The Seldomly Asked Questions) Fixed the URL to IAN's page.	
Revision 2.4	June 2000
Added Q&A about the mouse drift. Added Q&A about suspend from the commandline. Updated Q&A about PCMCIA devices. Updated Q&A about memory. Updated Q&A about battery. Updated Q&A about AC power.	
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This FAQ is dedicated to the SparcBook machines and all mysteries surrounding them. It is posted to linux.redhat.sparc, comp.unix.solaris, comp.sys.sun.hardware and the sparcbook mailinglist (See also: www.sunhelp.org/mailman/listinfo/sparcbook) on an irregular basis. It is normally online on: hvdkooij.xs4all.nl/SparcBook-FAQ/sparcbook-faq.html

This document is no longer actively maintained! I may add fixes to the document and I will leave it online but do not expect any updates.

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1.1. Where is that STOP button hidden?

You might want to note these special keys in the SparcBook:

PAUSE A acts like **STOP A** (or **L1 A** for the real diehards ;-)

PAUSE R will reboot the machine.

PAUSE O will act as Power-Off.

PAUSE PageUp will zoom in on the CDE screen.

PAUSE PageDown will zoom back out on the CDE screen.

A number of these keys will not work properly under all circumstances.

A proper list can be found in the manual. See also: [Q: 1.30](#).

1.2. What are the specs of the SparcBook 3 series?

An extensive summary is listed on: www.dementia.org/~shadow/t-s3_tech.html.

And another one can be found on: <http://www.tadpole.co.uk/~iws/s3spec.html>.

last change: 20000319

1.3. What memory does the SparcBook 3 use?

According to the manual: A matched pair of low profile 60ns 72pin parity SIMMs. You can buy these at any good computer store (they are not Sun proprietary). They are located under the panel in the battery compartment and are user replaceable. (Unless you want 256MB!)

However it seems that life just ain't that easy. People have reported that 32MB modules (8M x 36) that are just 1 inch (25mm) high seem to work. Many others types didn't work out. (So going to 64MB should n't be a problem.)

The following reports were received:

URL: www.memoryx.com

Type: 32mb 72pin Memoryx (1pc) 8mbx33-6

Status: Results in 64MB RAM

URL: www.spartantech.com

Type: a pair of 32Mb ***LOW PROFILE 1" HIGH **** 72 pin true parity SIMMS

Status: Results in 64MB RAM

URL: www.rave.net

Type: 64 MB memory kit. \$310 (USD) (Kingston Memory)

Status: Results in 64MB RAM

URL: ?

Type: generic 64MB parity SIMMs

Status: Does not work

The MicroSPARC processor in the Sun5 (and the SPARCBook) supports multiple 32 MB SIMMs. Larger SIMMs than the 32 MB are *not* supported by the processor. Since the SPARCbook only have two SIMMs slots (instead of 8) only 64 MB is supported. (I haven't seen schematics and chip specs myself but at least this seems to clarify the issue pretty much. Thanks, Ulf.)

Then again it seems the address space of the DRAM controller (STP1012) does use a 12 bit multiplexed bus (both RAS and CAS) and so 2^{12} would mean 16Mwords and with 8 bytes to the word it would result in 128MB maximum capacity. (Ulf did some more digging to get this info to the surface.)

Make sure you shutdown the system completely before changing the SIMMs. If you change the SIMMs when you suspend you may find that the machine goes banana's.

If you forget to do it properly there is still no big problem. Just replace the SIMMs with the original ones. Shutdown properly and go again for the new SIMMs.

You can restart a system that has had the memory changed since a Save by interrupting the system startup with **Pause-A** during the memory test, and then typing **create no-resume?** (or **create no-restore?**) before typing **boot** as is also described in [Q: 1.28.](#)

If you run Solaris 2.5.1 (or lower) you must adjust slice 4 according to the new RAM size. (See also: [Q: 1.24.](#)) Some suggest you should ditch Solaris 2.5.1 in favor of Solaris 2.6 but your milage may vary.

You can also foresake the slice 4 with Solaris 2.5.1 if you don't care about the save & resume option. This will leave you with more disk space for other purposes.

Last change: 20011207

1.4. What OS does the SparcBook 3 run and do I need to purchase from Tadpole?
The SparcBook 3 will run Sunos 4.1.3-u1 and any Solaris version up to and including Solaris 7! Not all of the original distributions from SUN will work fine. But apparently Solaris 2.6 (5/98) seems to install fine. But note that you still need the add-on's listed below. (Solaris 7 is covered in [Q: 1.12.](#))

One can download the additional packages required to let Solaris 2.6 run on your sparc book from: ftp.tadpole.com/pub/sbu/S3-patches/Solaris_2.6/

The file that contains all of them is: <ftp.tadpole.com/pub/sbu/S3->

[patches/Solaris_2.6/TTI_Solaris_2.6_packages.tar.Z](#)

However this does not include the NCE graphical utilities. These are not around at present times but may be available in the future. (Unlikely for Solaris 2.6 now that Solaris 8 is out.)

The solaris commands to use instead of NCE are:

battery (for battery management),

locations/chloc/rmloc/saveloc/loloc (for the network location stuff),

diskid (for disk management),

fbconfig (for monitor setup),

kbconfig (keyboard),

msconfig (mouse),

lsformat (format floppy),

syshw (for other hardware tuning),

Checkout their respective manual pages for more details.

Alternatives are Linux, openBSD and NetBSD. (See also: [Q: 1.12.](#), [Q: 1.14.](#), [Q: 1.15.](#) and [Q: 1.13.](#))

Last change: 20000501

1.5. What is the architecture of the Sparcbook3?

It's a sun4. Kernel architecture sun4m.

Last change: 20000410

1.6. What kind of connectivity does the Sparcbook3 have?

14.4 fax/modem builtin (not upgradable), ISDN (needs an extra NT1 in some countries to work as the unit uses the S/T ISDN interface) and 10mbps ethernet (which needs a special cable to go to a AUI interface on the 3GX).

The AUI (Attachment Unit Interface) cable is identical as the one used by other Sparc systems like the Sparc5, Sparc10 and Sparc LX. For most networks you need a transceiver to connect to an existing 10base-T (UTP) or 10base-2 (coax) network and

these transceivers can be bought in any good computer hardware store.

These cables can be quite expensive if you can't find the proper place. A few suggestions to find them are:

Tadpole

P/N 908030

\$75.00

Ultraspec Cables, Inc.

40 Riordan Place

Shrewsbury, NJ 07702-4305

USA

Tel: 1-800-222-5337 (USA only) Tel: x-1-(732)-450-1900

www.ultraspec.com

Slimline D26M to D15 (AUI Only) AUI Cables for SPARCstation
Models 4, 5, 10 & 20, SPARCclassic & LX Ethernet port adaptor Cable
(#2610) - 1 foot

\$52.00

A-1 Net Inc.

135 Commerce Way

Walnut, CA 91789

USA

Tel: x-1-(909)595-0450 FAX: x-1-(909)594-7617

Sun Micro SPARC 10 / AUI SUN-615F 6' HDB26M to AUI DB15F

\$18.00

Acara Ltd (<http://www.acara.co.uk/>)

17-18 Arches Business Centre Mill Road
Rugby, Warwickshire, England CV21 1QW
Tel: +44-1788-556800 FAX: +44-1788-556800

6' D26M to D15 (AUI Only)

#20.00 (UK Pounds)

The SUN partnummer is X981A. The 'A-1 Net Inc.' may be the cheapest solution yet. But keep shipping costs in mind.

An AUI to Thinnet (10base-2) or AUI to UTP (10base-T) transceiver could be bought in any decent computershop. A lot of shops may charge you amounts that may be stunningly high. So it's well worth to checkout multiple shops before rushing for one.

Last change: 20000408

1.7. What about PCMCIA (PCcard) cards for the Sparcbook3?


It can take 2 type I/II or 1 type III cards. Just about any modem card will work (so you can get your 56K connection :). But note that you will not get those winmodems working. So some caution is called for.

But watch out with hard disk, some early (maybe still) hard disk cards had incompatible firmware. (A Western Digital 40M didn't work, but the Maxtor 170M and Eiger 340M did).

In order to work well with disks you must at least load the [T030004-02](#) patch.

Among the known PCMCIA cards that are reported working with solaris 2.6 are:
3C589B (device: pcelx) and 3C589C (device: pcelx)

Among the known PCMCIA cards that are reported working with solaris 7 are:
3cxe589EC (XJack) Purple Label 3com Megahertz, 3C589C (Dongle cable) Blue label
3com Etherlink III

 At present experience has shown that for some people the 3C589D does not work on the SPARCbook. However others have reported it as working just fine. It is therefor assumed they should work properly with Solaris 2.6 but not with Solaris 2.5.1.

Last change: 20000624

1.8. Can I use external disk and cd-roms with my Sparcbook3?

Yes, the Sparcbook3 uses standard (Fast-)SCSI (II) devices. The interface does provide power to special (read: Tadpole) external devices but standard SCSI devices should work perfectly.

Proper SCSI cables can be bought in any good computer hardware store. To boot from an external SCSI CD-ROM the [SUN CD-ROM FAQ](#) is the proper document to read.

1.9. What is the maximum speed on the serial interface?

38,400 is the maximum supported. There might be a kernel hack to get it to do a little faster, but the implementation of hardware flow control on Sun and Tadpole serial ports is software dependant, so very limited.

1.10. Does the type 4 keyboard work with the SparcBook?

It does! Any type 4 or type 5 keyboard should work.

1.11. What about patches with Solaris 2.6?

The following list of patches (with URL) should help you out.

From sunsolve.sun.com/pub/patches/

[Solaris 2.6 \(Sparc\) Recommended patches \(~ 19MB\)](#)

From: [ftp.tadpole.com/pub/sbu/S3-patches/Solaris_2.6/](ftp://tadpole.com/pub/sbu/S3-patches/Solaris_2.6/)

[T030000-01 Fixed 16 bit X server problem \(bus error\)](#)

[T030001-01 System may hang while PCMCIA device is present](#)

[T030002-02 Enhanced generic power management features](#)

[T030003-01 Changing PCMCIA cards does not work well](#)

[T030004-02 PCMCIA ata disk](#)

[T030005-01 Formating PCMCIA disks results in core dumps](#)

[T030006-01 Disks won't keep spundown very long](#)

[T030007-04 'Spurious Interrupt' messages on console](#)

[T030008-01 nitloc fails when TZ contains a / \(slash\)](#)

[T030009-02 US Robotics Modems do not work in SPARCbooks](#)

[T030014-01 Fixes for 16/32 bit Xserver problems](#)

This might seem kinda obvious, but The T03000xxx patches should be installed AFTER installing the Tadpole Packages.

Last change: 19991015

1.12. Any word on Solaris 7?

It seems that Solaris 7 does run on the unit but the tadpole specific items are not there. (So it runs hot due to lack of power management.)

Do NOT (repeat: NOT) attempt to install the Tadpole add-on packages for Solaris 2.6 on a Solaris 7 installation! (For some this advise may sounds stupid as it seems so obvious to them but at present it is all I can tell about Solaris 7. {I didn't try this myself!!!})

Tadpole does NOT plan to put patches for Solaris 7 on the FTP site like they have with the 2.6 patches now. They want us all to drop ~ \$350 for the CD from them with Solaris 7... Ugh. (Mind you that SUN is not as forthcoming to Tadpole as we might have liked in regard to Solaris support. So TadPole must charge a full Solaris license.)

It seems that TadPole will put the patches online somewhere Q4 2000 by which time there will be no way to get a cheap Solaris 7 CD from SUN I guess as SUN is with Solaris 8 now.

Last change: 20000410

1.13. Does it run Linux?

You can get Linux on it but with some restrictions if you are installing it. In short:
You need to use the serial interface as the video chip isn't supported during bootup if you use 2.0.x kernels. It does work with 2.2.x kernels.

Use of an external CDROM that works fine with Solaris didn't work well with Linux. (But this could be just my problem with my Ultraplex drive and not a generic thing.)

Linux can use the screen (on a TadPole SPARCbook 3GX) with Red Hat Linux 5.2 (the only 2.0.x kernel distribution I tried) if you observe the following guidelines:

Use a Linux kernel 2.0.33 or 2.0.35 source. (The default one shipped with Red Hat Linux 5.2 does work with these small fixes. So get clean kernel sources.)

Replace the original suncons.c and weitek.c files with the changed ones.

Configure and compile your own kernel. (Don't allow SparcBook 1 support as it will break things for you!)

Edit `/etc/inittab` to allow a init process on the screen.

Now reboot with the new kernel.

This is not meant for people who are not familiar with making their own kernels.

Thomas M. Roerh wrote the changes in the files stated above.

Alternatively it seems that 2.2.x kernels work fine for console work. Thomas reported success with kernel 2.2.5 and is now looking into the XFree stuff.

Installing Red Hat Linux 6.0 for the Sparc does not need the fix mentioned above. However the display handling is a bit akward now. It realy feels like you are using a 2400 bps terminal.

The current state of things that (may) work:

the console, as a general PROM console (which is why it sucks so hard). As of 2.3.15 the console is supported as FB console.

the serial, parallel ports (parallel port driver in linux was fixed quite recently, and new 2.3 kernels will have a parport module which should work with these, I intend to try momentarily)

dbri audio should work but not well yet (some of the interface "knobs" are missing, like the ability to change volume, but someone's working on it)

dbri isdn *may* work, but I don't have any way to try so I can't say. You need the amd79c30 module in the ISDN4Linux stuff since the same guy worked on support for those and for this, and he reused code.

the mouse should work with recent 2.3.x kernels.

The current state of things that don't work (yet) or are not investigated:

pcmcia

onboard modem

power management

Last change: 19991015

1.14. NetBSD

NetBSD-sparc version 1.4 works fine on the SPARCbook 3GS and 3GX, and can be installed easily from the distribution CD. However, this version does not support X11, pcmcia, power (microcontroller) management, the internal modem, audio, or ISDN. Thus, you're restricted to a text-only interface, although using a utility like `screen' makes this much less painful; see <http://ftp.uni-erlangen.de/pub/utilities/screen/> for the latest version.

If you really want X11 and NetBSD, and if you're not afraid of a bit more work, NetBSD-current (11 aug 1999 and later) is the answer. It adds native X11 support and some basic power management functionality (like powering down the lcd screen when the lid is closed or X11 does a screenblank). You'll want to follow the instructions on the NetBSD website for installing the latest sparc binary snapshot, and for compiling the TADPOLE3GX kernel. A good starting point for this can be found at <http://www.netbsd.org/Documentation/current/index.html> but the basic steps are usually something like this:

Install the latest release distribution.

Download the NetBSD-current source; tarballs can be found at:
ftp.netbsd.org/pub/NetBSD/NetBSD-current/tar_files/src/.

Compile and boot a NetBSD-current TADPOLE3GX kernel.

Download the latest NetBSD-sparc binary snapshot from:
<ftp.netbsd.org/pub/NetBSD/arch/sparc/snapshot/>

The snapshots live in directories with names of the form YYYYMMDD which indicate the -current source from which they were built.

Rebuild the entire system from -current source.

The support currently in NetBSD-current will most likely be first available in a real release as of NetBSD-1.5. However, drivers for the currently unsupported devices are appearing quickly; if you continue to track the -current development, you can get device support almost as fast as it appears (pcmcia development is underway).

1.15. OpenBSD

OpenBSD (at least the snapshot of 19990919) seems to run with X in 256 colors.

Last change: 19991117

1.16. Is there a mailinglist?

There are a multiple mailinglists dedicated to the Sparc Books. The first one started by Rich is called: sparcbook-owners. No further info is recorded for this list anymore.

Displease with the lack of (web)archive and the not quite open policies on the list another one has been started and is just called: Sparcbook mailing list

Note that much of the following can also be accomplished via the World Wide Web, at: www.sunhelp.org/mailman/listinfo/sparcbook/

In particular, you can use the Web site to have your password sent to your delivery address.

List specific commands (subscribe, who, etc) should be sent to sparcbook-request@sunhelp.org.

About the descriptions - words in "<>"s signify REQUIRED items and words in "[]" denote OPTIONAL items. Do not include the "<>"s or "[]"s when you use the commands.

The following commands are valid:

```
subscribe [password] [digest-option] [address=<address>]
```

Subscribe to the mailing list. Your password must be given to unsubscribe or change your options. When you subscribe to the list, you'll be reminded of your password periodically. 'digest-option' may be either: 'nodigest' or 'digest' (no quotes!) If you wish to subscribe an address other than the address you send this request from, you may specify "address=<email address>" (no brackets around the email address, no quotes!)

```
unsubscribe <password> [address]
```

Unsubscribe from the mailing list. Your password must match the one you gave when you subscribed. If you are trying to unsubscribe from a different address

than the one you subscribed from, you may specify it in the 'address' field.

who

See everyone who is on this mailing list.

info

View the introductory information for this list.

help

Just in case you really want to see all the commands available ;-)

1.17. What do the green and flashing orange lights mean?

The green light means that the Sparcbook is running on external/AC power. If the orange light next to it starts flashing, this means that a shutdown is emanate. This usually happens when the battery gets down to 15-20%.

One person reported this happening even when the battery was at 100%. The SB had an old battery and we suspect that it didn't have enough "push" to keep running the SB and that is why it was giving a shutdown warning even though the battery said 100%.

1.18. If my computer hard hangs and STOP-A doesn't work, what can I do?

Disconnect AC power AND remove the battery to stop the machine the hard way. (I needed this at least once during some Linux kernel juggling!)

Last change: 19991101

1.19. Is it ok to remove the battery for long periods of time?

It shouldn't hurt you unless your RTC chip is getting older. The RTC has its own lithium cell which does have a finite lifetime, and may need replacing in the future (as with a lot of Sun machines).

If you remove the battery for some time (without mains as well) and lose your setup then your RTC has had it. A sparepart description along with some advice on how to recover the lot is planned on by Ian but it is uncertain when this information will be available.

last change: 20000624

1.20. How do I open the case of the Sparcbook?

Indeed, as opposed to many other laptops, the SparcBook 3 is neatly packed and very service friendly. Naturally, it is necessary to be very careful opening any costly

equipment, but that is obvious:)

The case is opened by unscrewing the two screws beneath the feet, and the screw hidden by a little rubber cork in the middle between them. After that, put the SparcBook with the display up (open it before even unscrewing), take out the hard disk, and carefully lift the rear side (the side with the display). The thing just gets very easily opened. The display will now be detached, so you should unplug the internal display connector. After that, it is easy to unscrew the keyboard. Beware that the upper part of the SparcBook is "hinged" in the front and screwed in the back.

The back flap which covers all the connectors will probably fall off, as it is just standing there, being held in place by the display part. So before closing the case just put it in place.

When closing the thing, watch out for the little microswitch front right (this is the switch which knows that you closed the display). "Hinge" the upper cover (the keyboard) in front and carefully put it in place. You can not miss much, although sometimes you should juggle a little bit until everything is in place.

Connect all internal connectors and put the display in place. Screw down the three screws on the bottom, put in the little rubber cork. That's it.

Point of interest: the SparcBooks 3 have interchangeable processor boards, I tested in on a 3GS and 3GX, but it most probably should work also for the XP and TX. If you want to see the proper machine name when booting, you should also change the help-processor board (the board with the LCD display), as the serial number and computer type are held there.

One more point: if you have software protected by the host ID, or ethernet ID, and your SparcBook breaks, you could use another one, as long as your help-processor is working ok, so you take it out from the broken computer and put it in the working one. That's way you have to know how to open the case.

last change: 20000408

1.21. How do I remove the hard disk?

The removeable hard disk is located on the left side (looking at the SB from the front). Push the little cover down a bit and then slide the disk straight out. (Of course, you should only do this when the SB is turned off!)

1.22. Where can I get more sleds/enclosures for the hard disk?

They are very hard to find. Of course, Tadpole will sell you a disk drive that is in a sled, but they charge a rather large price for them. You're pretty much on your own for this one.

1.23. Can I use PC IDE notebook hard disk in my Sparcbook?

Yes and no. The SB uses SCSI drives, however, there seems to be a company in Japan that sells an IDE to SCSI converter. It is a 4.5mm high card that fits on top of the 2.5"

IDE drive. Some Apple notebooks use this converter. (As does the 2GB drive from TadPole which is also a IDE disk with SCSI-to-IDE convertor!)

You may checkout: www.powerbook1.com/pbhardddrives.html#scsi or www.powerbookguy.com/drives.html or <http://www.adtx.co.jp/english/>

It seems that a major part of the poor performance is due to the IDE/SCSI convertor.

last change: 20000408

1.24. What is slice 4 (partition e) on my disk used for?

It is the save area used when you suspend your SB. It should be the exact same size as the RAM in your SB. When you PAUSE-O (suspend) the SB, the contents of RAM are written to this slice. If you never want to use the suspend feature, this slice can be formatted and used like any other slice of the disk.

Solaris 2.6 does not need this slice as it handles suspend differently. It just saves it's own state to a partition that has enough space to hold it. The state file (.CPR) is not that big as it is rather compressed.

1.25. Will my SparcBook work on AC only (without a battery)?

Unfortunately for some it doesn't for others it works fine. So just be carefull if you give this a try. However I got this working just fine without the battery.

Ian reported he managed to run the unit off a 12v lead acid cell connected to the external DC input connector. Any attempts however are don at your own risk.

last change: 20000624

1.26. Can you upgrade the tadpole's maxed-out 2GB drive to something a bit larger?

So it seems. Just pop the drive & converter assembly out of the caddy, move the converter to a new 2.5" 12.5mm IDE drive, reassemble the caddy, pop back in and format!

Worked fine for IBM 6.4 (IBM Model DADA-26480 4200RPM 13420 Cyl+2Alt 16 Hd 63 Sec) with new install of SOLARIS 2.6 with above-mentioned patches... No reason to think larger drives would not work...

Please note that this only works for the 2GB disk as it allready has a SCSI to IDE convertor. All smaller disks are fully SCSI and lack the convertor.

1.27. After installing a larger drive in my SPARCBook, the system fails to resume and falls back to the boot prompt with a message about a short read accessing .CPR on sd@3, 0:g, or similar.

The cprboot bootstrapper has some sort of limit to how far into the disk the .CPR system state file may be. This is easist to solve by booting normally (See) . changing the path

to the statefile in `/etc/power.conf`, then running **pmconfig**. Assuming you partitioned your disk with a small root filesystem, then a `/var` filesystem on the b partition, `/var/.CPR` would be a good choice.

last change: 20000410

1.28. Whenever I try to boot, resume fails with an error message which suggests booting normally. How do I force the machine to boot normally after a failed resume?

At the rom monitor prompt, do a reset command, then while the Sparcbook banner is displayed enter **PAUSE A** to interrupt the sequence. Then, type **create no-restore?** and enter. Then type **boot disk**, and the machine will boot normally instead of doing a resume.

The trick here is to do a **PAUSE A** while the banner is displayed, otherwise the **create no-restore?** will have no effect.

last change: 20000410

1.29. Is my SPARCbook Year 2000 compliant?

The following units are: Voyager Ii, UltraBook 170 / 200, SPARCbook 3 / 3LC / 3TX / 3GX / 3XP / 3000 ST / 3000 XT

The following units are not: SPARCbook 1 / 2

See also: www.tadpole.com/support-trdi/y2k/sparc.html

1.30. Where can I find manuals?

Our prayers have been heard. Tadpole has made them available on their FTP server. Don't hessitate to say thanks to them for this service.

You can find the manuals on [ftp.tadpole.com/pub/pdf/](ftp://ftp.tadpole.com/pub/pdf/). The manuals you will find most interesting are [SPARCbook Portable Workstation User Guide SPARCbook 3000 and SPARCbook 3 Families](#) with 256 pages and [SPARCbook"3 Series Technical Reference Manual 980327-02](#) with 216 pages. (Also note the [Errata](#) that gets updated as needed.

last change: 20000319

1.31. Where can I find more info?

Here are some URLs to explore for more info.

Solaris Central has a good lists of FAQ's: <http://www.solariscentral.org/>

TadPole: <http://www.tadpole.co.uk/>

A TadPole employee wrote some nice stuff as well on: [Unofficial Tadpole Support Page](#)

The SQA (Seldomly Asked Questions) has some great info on surgery on the unit: [Hacking the SPARCbook](#)

A mirror side for the TadPole stuff can be found on:
<ftp://ftp.cis.rit.edu/sparcbook/>

last change: 20001004

1.32. Why does my mouse cursor move down slowly?

The mouse cursor drift problem means you need to recalibrate your mouse.

Without touching your mouse pointer, press and hold **PAUSE** and **HOME** keys at once for about three seconds.

last change: 20000612

1.33. How can I suspend the unit without CDE?

You can suspend the unit with the command **uadmin 3 0**. This should also work if issue it from within KDE or any other windowmanager/desktop you fancy over CDE.

last change: 20000612

1.34. Why isn't my question in the FAQ?

It may be any of the following reasons:

No one asked. (so it's not a FAQ ;-)

No one answered. (So either no one knows or no one bothered to answer ;-)

The given answer was incorrect or may be misleading. (I am still no guru but go a long way with these computer things and can usually tell whether or not this may happen.)

I didn't like the answer. (The use of profane language and such will definitely be a reason to dislike the message and in such event it will not make it to the FAQ.)

But If you want to contribute to the FAQ feel free to send a clear question and answer to me. I just might put it into the next edition provided I have time for it. If you want to add info to an existing question you **MUST** quote the full question as numbers are irrelevant to me as the source document is not numbered at all. (It's added

automagically!)

Please don't start sending me questions without answers.

The preferred way is to make a copy of the SGML source; make the required changes and send in the diff (diff -ur) of the SGML source.

FAQ entries should be send in a message exclusively to me and not to one of the mailinglists or contain a copy to one of them as they will be handled differently by my mail handling software and it's likely I may overlook them in such case.

Some of these questions are plain obviously if you happen to have the manual in front of you. But aparantly there are still lot's of units out there without a manual. Now they are online there is not an excuse not to have them. (See also: [Q: 1.30.](#))

2. Contributors

Hugo van der Kooij (hugo@vanderkooij.org)

Andre (no further info recorded)

Robert Barnes (barnesr@erols.com)

Mark G. Thomas (Mark@misty.com)

Rich Kulawiec (rsk@gsp.org)

Thomas M Roehr (troehr@interactive.net)

Ian Spray (Tadpole)

Bill Strange (wstrange@polarisdata.com)

Alan Barclay (alan@escribe.co.uk)

Simon Adams (simon.adams@wcom.co.uk)

Shawn Ferry (lalartu@obscure.org)

Mike Kopack (makopack@yahoo.com)

Hugh Crawford (hugh.crawford@weblines.com)

James Garnett (garnett@suod.cs.colorado.edu)

Derrick J Brashear (shadow@dementia.org)

Mike Jacobi (mike@engg.ksu.edu)

Sunder (sunder@sunder.net)

Jon Pile (Jpile@EnerTel.nl)

Robert Bagnall (Robert.Bagnall@toyota-europe.com)

Ulf Samuelsson (ulf@atmel.com)

Tim Schaffer (tschaffe@gnt.net)

Jeff Homer (jeff@eros.cis.jhu.edu)

Kurt Huhn (kurthuhn@k-huhn.com)

Dino Dai Zovi (ghandi@mindless.com)

Julian Coleman (J.D.Coleman@newcastle.ac.uk)

Zorislav Shoyat (sojat@srce.hr)

Greg (greg@cheers.bungi.com)

Bob Krzaczek (boba@cis.rit.edu)

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