

Product: ELISE 2 Module Compact Flash Card

Purpose: Certain flash cards that are being used in ELISE2 modules can be sensitive to power interruption.

Date: 3/6/2008

Compact Flash Cards and Power Interruptions

General

It has come to our attention that certain compact flash cards that are used in the ELISE2 modules can be sensitive to power interruptions if the flash being used has FAT caching enabled.

It has been determined that the Transcend 256 model of flash does in fact use FAT caching.

It should be noted that this does not only affect just Transcend brand flash cards but can also affect other manufacturers that use FAT caching as well.

As of October 2007; Transcend has disabled the FAT caching on the flash cards.

Equipment

If a Transcend 256MB flash card is being used in the ELISE2 module, then you will have to look at the serial number on the flash card in order to determine if the module has FAT caching enabled. The serial number is printed on the side of the compact flash card.

- FAT Cache function is **enabled** before serial number 177244 xxxx
- FAT Cache function is **disabled** after serial number 177244 xxxx

Problem

If a power interruption occurs in a critical "cache transfer" process then it's possible that a failure in file access, loss of data or a missing partition problem could occur.

Corrective Action

Since flash memory with "FAT Caching" enabled can cause an increased risk for file corruption when exposed to uncontrolled power interruptions; the following recommendations are:

- If the ELISE2 module is used in a mission critical system then you should assure that an Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) is used.
- If it is not possible to use a UPS then it's recommended that the compact flash memory be changed to one that does not use FAT caching.
- If you experience start up problems with an ELISE2 module with this type of compact flash after an unforeseen power interruption, you will need to change the compact flash card.

Service Bulletin

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In order to properly power down an ELISE2, please follow the instructions in the "Installation Guide" (TD 92232GB).

To properly power down an ELISE2 module:

1. Remove the cover from the ELISE2 module.
2. Press the reset button (SW4) to perform a shut down of the processor.
3. Wait until the Function Indicator is flashing orange.
4. Remove the power cable.

The power must be removed within 10 minutes or the ELISE2 will restart. If the ELISE2 restarts, wait until the Function Indicator is not indicating starting up (flashing orange) before pressing SW4 again.

Additional Information

If you have any questions about this bulletin, please contact Ascom Technical Services at 1-877 71ASCOM (1-877-712-7266) option 3.