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**Note:** PC is a trademark of IBM Corporation. Windows 98 SE, Windows Millennium Edition, Windows Me, and Windows 2000 are trademarks of Microsoft Inc. All other brand or product names and logos used in this manual are trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective holders.

Thank you for purchasing the *Actiontec* PCI 802.11b Wireless Adapter. This Wireless Adapter is easy to use and easy to setup. If you're tired of dealing with all those messy wires just to connect a laptop to your home network, then take your networking to the next level with the *Actiontec* PCI 802.11b Wireless Adapter. You'll be able to share files, printers, and even your high-speed Internet access, wirelessly!

### Package Contents

Make sure the following items are included in this package:

- PCI 802.11b Wireless Adapter
- *Actiontec* PCI 802.11b Wireless Adapter Installation CD-ROM
- User's Manual and Quick Start Installation Guide

### Minimum System Requirements

- One Pentium-class computer, running at 200 Mhz or higher (preferably 300 Mhz or higher)
- Microsoft Windows 98 Second Edition (SE), Microsoft Millennium Edition (Me), or Microsoft 2000 installed

*Actiontec* Electronics prides itself on making high-quality, durable, high-performance products. If you need assistance, the *Actiontec* Technical Support Department is available 6 am to 11pm Mon - Sun (Central Time), to provide professional support.



### ***Actiontec* Electronics, Inc.**

760 N. Mary Avenue  
Sunnyvale, CA 94085

Phone: 1-719-884-8300 E-mail: [techsupp@actiontec.com](mailto:techsupp@actiontec.com)

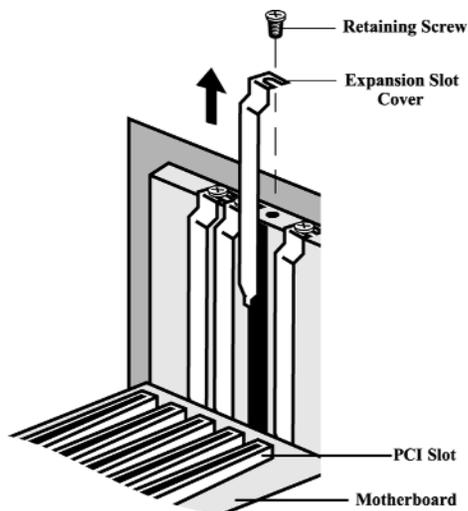
## Installing the Adapter Hardware

1. Switch off the computer and all connected peripheral devices.
2. Unplug the computer power cord from the wall outlet.
3. Remove the computer's cover. Refer to the documentation that came with your computer for instructions.

**CAUTION:** Always discharge static electricity before handling the adapter. You can discharge static electricity by touching a grounded metal structure, or by using a commercially available grounding strap.

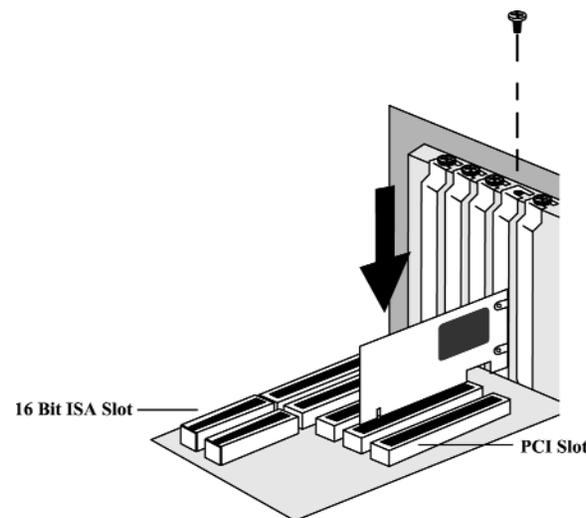
Also, ensure you are installing the adapter in a PCI slot, rather than an ISA slot. PCI slots are usually smaller and light-colored or white, while ISA slots are larger and dark-colored or black. If you are not familiar with computers and computer hardware, or cannot tell the difference between a PCI slot and ISA slot, refer to the documentation that came with your computer. You will severely damage your computer if you install the adapter in the wrong slot.

4. Remove the screw securing the expansion slot cover behind one of the computer's available PCI expansion slots. Lift the expansion slot cover out as shown in the figure below.



**Note:** The position of the expansion slots in your computer may differ from the illustrations shown in this manual, which show the slots in a vertical position. Regardless of the position of the expansion slots, the installation steps remain the same. Please refer to the documentation that came with your computer for more information about the expansion slot configuration of your computer.

5. Insert the PCI 802.11b Wireless Adapter into an available PCI expansion slot (with adapter's black antenna protruding out of the back of your computer), then press on the top edge of the adapter straight down until the adapter's connectors seat firmly in the PCI slot. Secure the adapter's faceplate with the screw you removed in Step 4, as shown in the following diagram. Make sure the antenna is not bent or otherwise damaged.



6. Put the cover back on the computer and secure it.
7. Make sure all power switches are in the OFF position, then reconnect the power cables to the computer and its peripherals.

## Installing the Adapter Software

### Windows 98 SE

1. After you install the PCI 802.11b Wireless Adapter, turn on your computer. The “Add New Hardware Wizard” window appears. Click **Next**.



2. In the next window, select **Search for the best driver for your device**, then click **Next**.



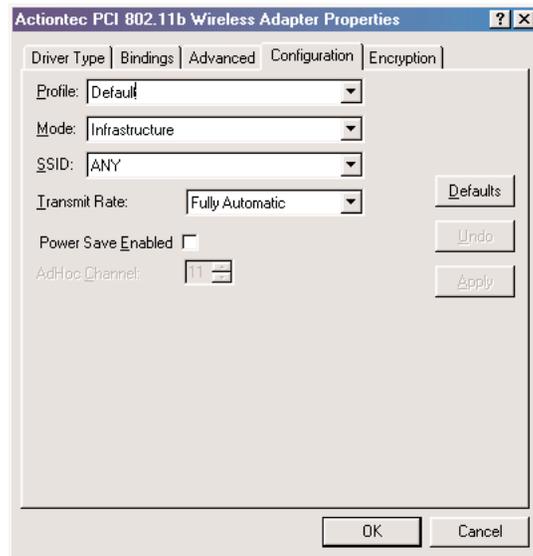
3. Insert the *Actiontec* PCI 802.11b Wireless Adapter Installation CD into your CD-ROM drive. Select **CD-ROM Drive**, then click **Next**.



4. Windows locates the “AEIWLNIC.inf” driver file. Click **Next** to install the driver software.



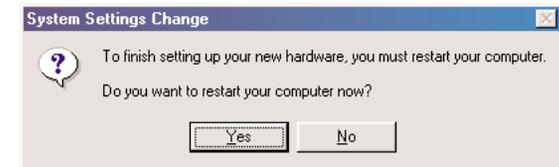
5. The “Actiontec PCI 802.11b Wireless Adapter Properties” window appears. (Note: The “SSID” must be the same as the “ESSID” on your home gateway or access point. See the documentation that came with your home gateway or access point for more information.) Click **OK** to complete the installation process.



6. The installation is complete. Click **Finish**.

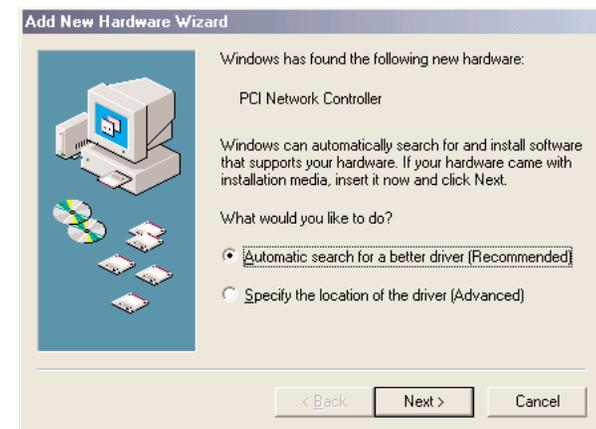


7. To activate the PCI 802.11b Wireless Adapter’s software, you must restart your computer. Click **OK** in the “System Settings Change” window to restart. If this window does not appear, restart your computer manually.

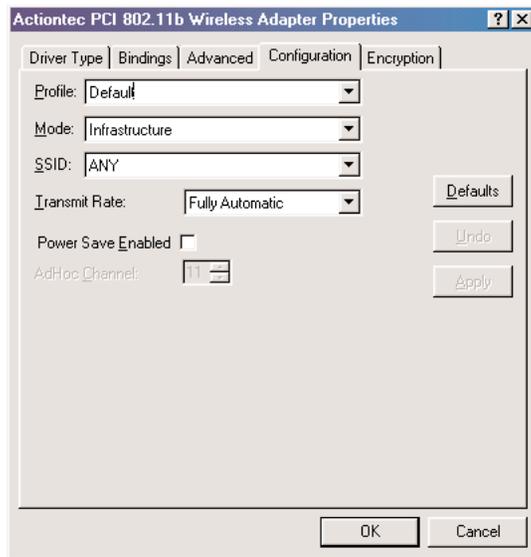


## Windows Me

1. After you install the PCI 802.11b Wireless Adapter and turn on your computer, Windows displays an “Add New Hardware Wizard” window. Insert the *Actiontec* PCI 802.11b Wireless Adapter Installation CD in the CD-ROM drive, click **Automatic search for a better driver (Recommended)**, then click **Next**.



- The “Actiontec PCI 802.11b Wireless Adapter Properties” window appears. (Note: The “SSID” must be the same as the “ESSID” on your home gateway or access point. See the documentation that came with your home gateway or access point to access its “ESSID” value.) Click **OK**.



- The installation is complete. Click **Finish**.



- To activate the PCI 802.11b Wireless Adapter’s software, you must restart your computer. Click **OK** in the “System Settings Change” window to restart. If this window does not appear, restart your computer manually.



## Windows 2000

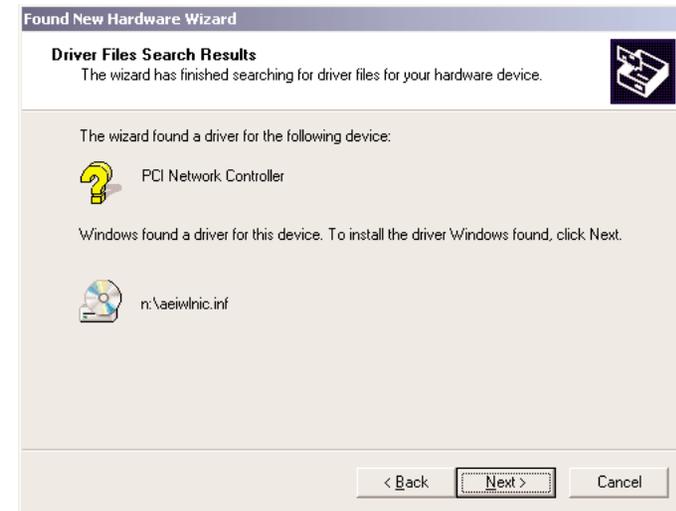
- After you install the PCI 802.11b Wireless Adapter and turn on your computer, the “Add New Hardware Wizard” window appears. Click the **Next** button.



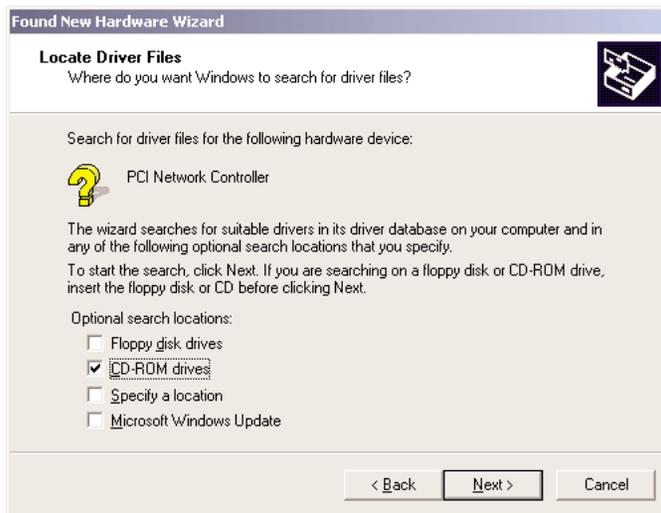
2. In the next window, select **Search for the best driver for your device**, then click **Next**.



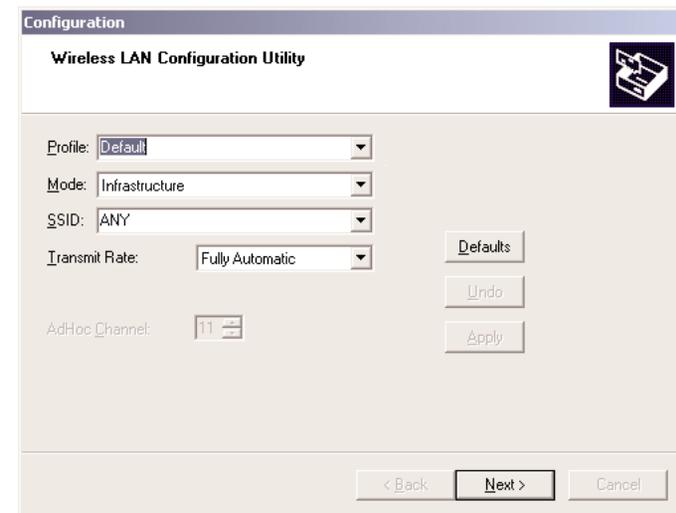
4. Windows locates the “AEIWLNIC.inf” driver file. Click **Next** to install the driver software.



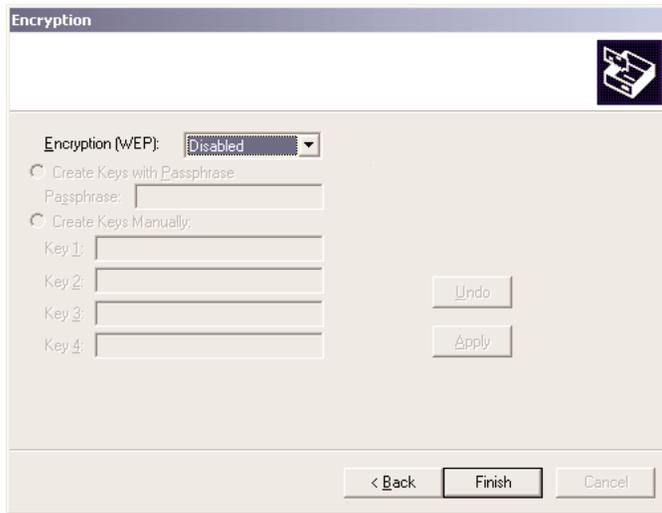
3. Insert the *Actiontec* PCI 802.11b Wireless Adapter Installation CD into your CD-ROM drive. Select **CD-ROM Drive**, then click **Next**.



5. The “Wireless LAN Configuration Utility” window appears. (Note: The “SSID” must be the same as the “ESSID” on your home gateway or access point. See the documentation that came with your home gateway or access point for more information) Click **Next** to continue the installation process.



6. If you have configured any encryption capabilities in your home gateway or access point, complete the following screen accordingly, then click **Next**.



7. Click **Finish** to complete the installation process.

## Configuring the Adapter

After you install the software for the PCI 802.11b Wireless Adapter, a status icon appears in the system tray on the lower right side of your desktop, as shown in the figure below.

PCI 802.11b Wireless Adapter Status Icon

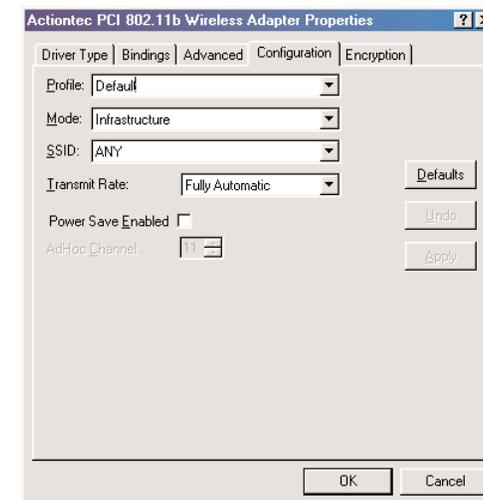


You will not be automatically connected to a network, however. To configure the PCI 802.11b Wireless Adapter and connect to a home gateway or access point:

1. Right-click on the PCI 802.11b Wireless Adapter Status icon. A list appears, as shown in the figure below. There should be a black dot next to **Turn Wireless Radio On**. If not, click on the text to turn on the wireless radio.
2. Select the **Advanced Configuration...** option from the list.



3. The “Actiontec PCI 802.11b Wireless Adapter Properties” window will appear, as shown below. Under the “Configuration” tab, check the **SSID** value. This value should be the same as the ESSID value of your home gateway or access point. For example, if your home gateway or access point’s ESSID value is “ACTIONTEC,” enter the same value into the SSID field of this window. The default value, “ANY,” will cause the adapter to try to connect to any available home gateway or access point it can find.



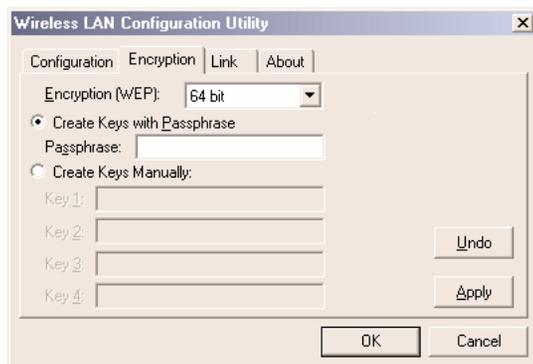
- After you enter the appropriate SSID value, click **Apply** and then **OK**. The PCI 802.11b Wireless Adapter is now able to connect to your home gateway or access point. If your home gateway or access point is connected to a DSL or cable modem, test your wireless connection by opening your Internet browser and surfing the Web.

**Note:** There are two colored bars on either side of the PCI 802.11b Wireless Adapter Status icon. When the bars are **green**, your wireless connection is strong. When they are **yellow**, your wireless connection is fair. When they are **red**, your wireless connection is poor. When the bars are yellow or red, you may experience slower than normal connection speeds.

## Encryption (WEP)

You can use encryption to add a level of security to your wireless network. You are not required to use encryption. If you use a home gateway or access point, make sure to use the same encryption (WEP) keys for both your wireless adapter and home gateway or access point. Follow these steps to set up encryption:

- Right-click on the PCI 802.11b Wireless Adapter Status icon. A list appears, as shown in the middle picture on the previous page. From the list, select **Advanced Configuration...**. The “Wireless LAN Configuration Utility” window appears.
- Click on the **Encryption** tab, then select **64 bit** or **128 bit** encryption, depending on your desired level of security.
- Select **Create Keys with Passphrase** or **Create Keys Manually**. If you select **Create Keys with a Passphrase** and enter a passphrase (a passphrase is the same as a password, with the same type of functionality), the utility automatically generates the four keys. Remember, if you use a home gateway or access point, these keys need to be added to it. If you already have a set of keys configured into your home gateway or access point, or you prefer to create the keys manually, select **Create Keys Manually** and enter the keys in the given fields. Click **Apply** and then **OK** to activate your settings.



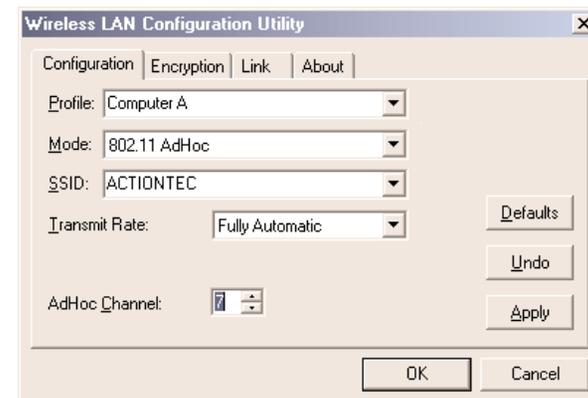
## Configuring the AdHoc Feature

The AdHoc feature enables the PCI 802.11b Wireless Adapter to connect to two or more computers. The most common use for this feature is multi-player games, in which each player can play the game from separate computer against one another via the AdHoc network. If you use the AdHoc feature, a home gateway or access point is not required. Follow these steps to set up the AdHoc feature:

- Right click on the PCI 802.11b Wireless Adapter Status icon. A list will appear as shown in the figure below. From the list, select **Advanced Configuration...**



- The “Wireless LAN Configuration Utility” window appears, as shown in the figure below. In the “Profile” field, type in a name. This will save all the settings under that name.
- Click on the down arrow in the “Mode” field and select **802.11 AdHoc**.
- Enter an SSID value in the **SSID** field. The SSID value must be the same on every computer on your network.
- In the **AdHoc Channel** field, select a channel number. This value must be between 1 and 11, and the same for each computer on your network.
- Finally, click **Apply** and then **OK** to activate the settings. Repeat this procedure for each computer you want to include on your network.

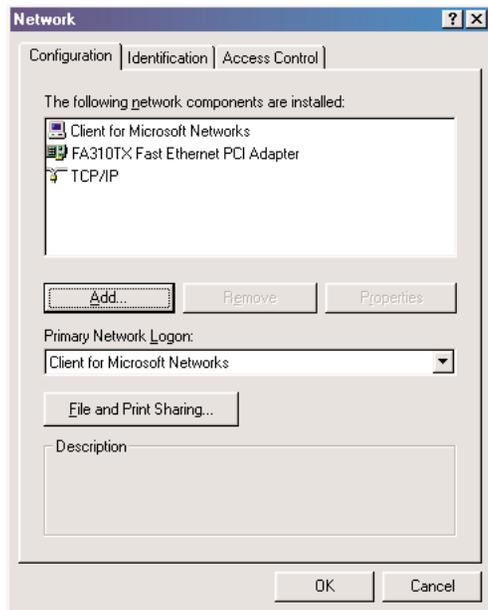


## Configuring File and Printer Sharing

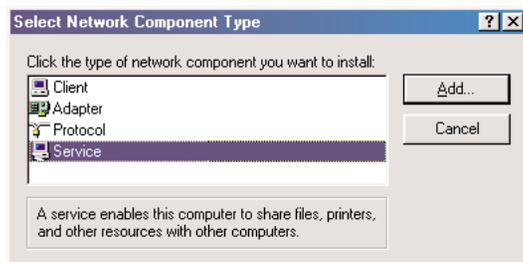
If you use a home gateway or access point, you can establish a network allowing you to share files and printers. This is an easy method to set up a network in your home or small office. Follow these steps to set up file and print sharing:

### Windows 98 SE and Windows Me

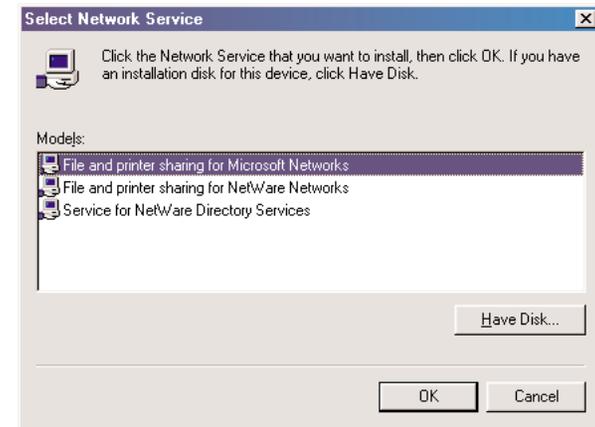
1. From your computer's desktop, click **Start, Settings**, and then **Control Panel**. In the "Control Panel" window, double-click the **Network** icon.
2. The "Network" window appears. Select **Configuration**, then click **Add**.



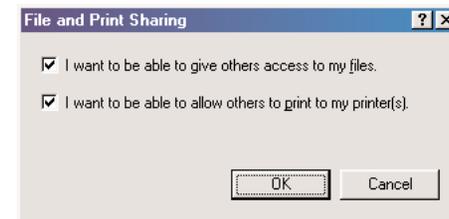
3. The "Select Network Component Type" window appears. Click **Service**, then **Add**.



4. The "Select Network Service" window appears. Select **File and printer sharing for Microsoft Networks** from the "Models" list box, and then click **OK**.



5. The "File and Print Sharing" window appears. Ensure both of the selections have a check mark beside them. If not, click in the box next to each selection. Click **OK**.

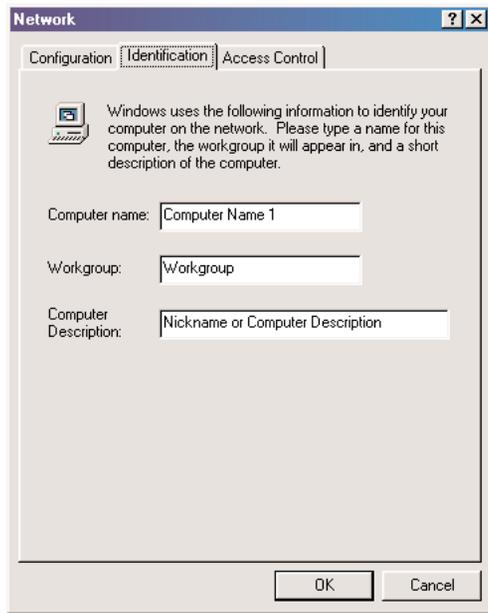


6. The "Network" window reappears. Click on the **Identification** tab (see the first figure on page 20).

**Computer Name:** In this field, enter any name you want (for example, My Computer, John, CPU654). Each computer included on your network must have a different name.

**Workgroup:** Enter the name of your network in this field. The Workgroup name must be the same on every computer included on your network.

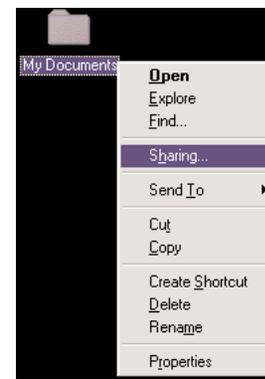
**Computer Description:** In this field, enter the location of the computer, the main user's name, or any other information you want.



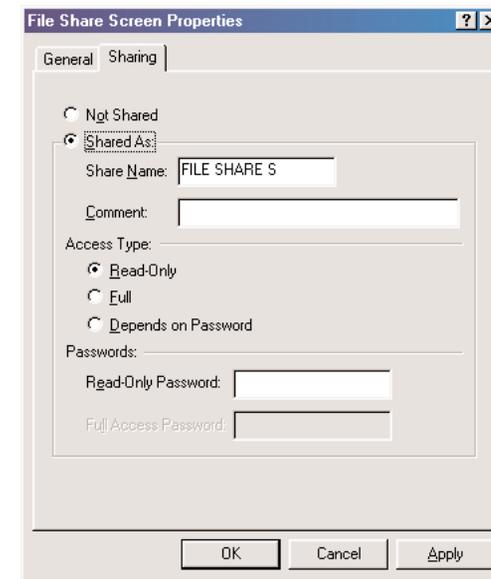
7. Click on the **Configuration** tab. In the “Primary Network Logon:” text box, located just above the “File and Print Sharing” button, ensure **Client for Microsoft Networks** is selected (see the first figure on page 18). If not, click the down arrow and select it from the list that appears. Click **OK**.
8. The “System Settings Change” window appears. Click **Yes** to restart the computer. If you do not see this screen, restart your computer manually. After your computer restarts, you will be asked to supply a user name and a password. Enter the information in the respective text boxes and write it down, since you’ll need it to access your network.



9. After your computer restarts and you have entered a password and user name, enable a file or drive for sharing by locating the file or drive you want to share. (The easiest way to do this is by using Windows Explorer.) Right-click on the **File** or **Drive** you want to share. From the list that appears, select **Sharing**.



10. The “File Share Screen Properties” window appears. Select **Sharing**, then click **Shared As**. This will enable other users on your network to see the file or drive selected. Select an **Access Type**, as explained below.

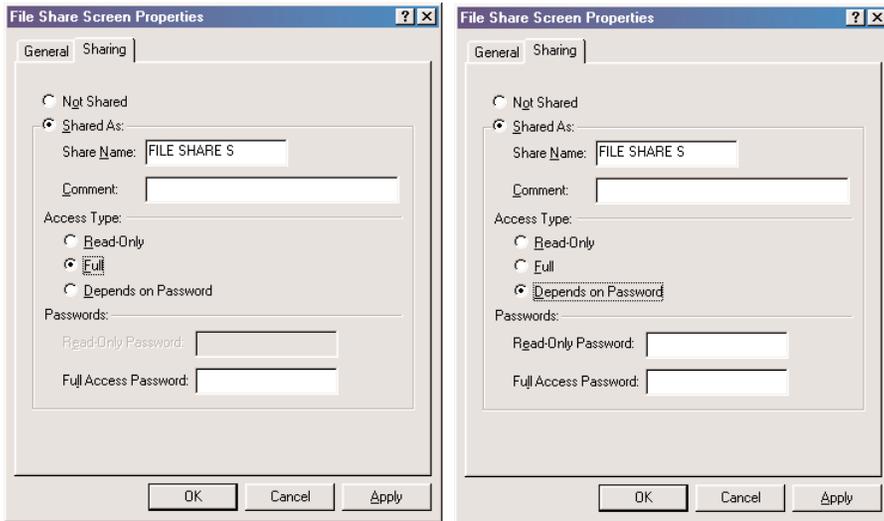


**Read Only:** Allows other users on your network to view the file or drive you select, but not modify it in any way. You can further restrict their privileges by entering a password in the appropriate field.

**Full:** Allows users on your network to read, modify, move, and delete any information in the shared drive or file. You can restrict their privileges by entering a user name and password.

**Depends on Password:** Allows you to have both Read Only and Full Access files on the shared file or drive. The level of access will depend on the passwords you enter in the appropriate field.

When you finish, click **Apply**, then **OK**.



11. To share your printer, select **Start**, **Settings**, and then **Printers**.

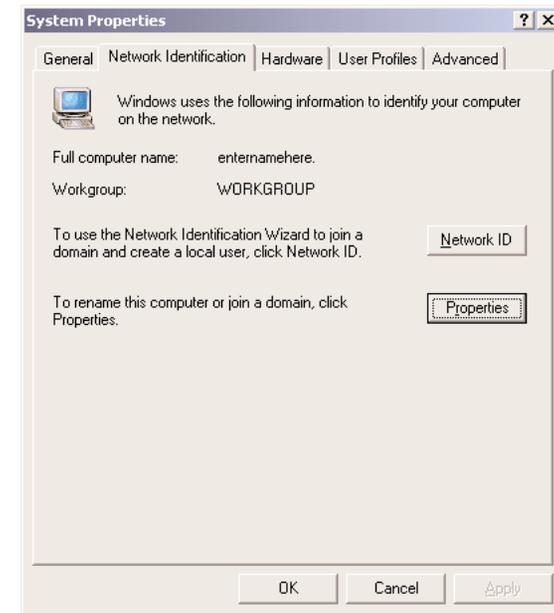
12. Right-click on the printer you want to share. Select **Sharing** from the list that appears as shown below.



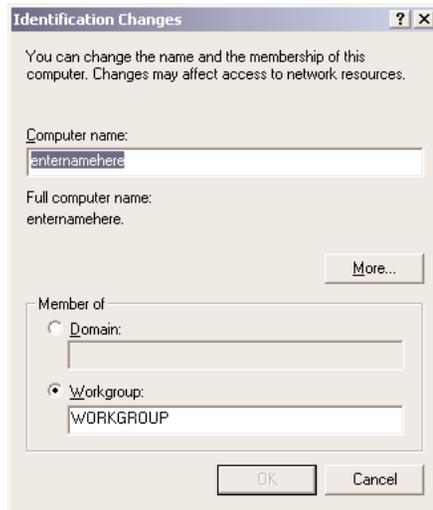
13. Enable sharing by selecting **Share As**. A default name for the printer will be created in the **Share Name** text box. Set a password for the printer at this time if you want to restrict printer use on the network. Set the default printer settings by modifying information on the other tabs of this window.

## Windows 2000

1. After you install and configure the PCI 802.11b Wireless Adapter, Windows 2000 automatically enables file and print sharing for your computer. The only items that need to be changed are your Workgroup settings. All the computers on your network must have the same Workgroup name. To check or change the Workgroup name, right-click on the **My Computer** icon on your desktop and select **Properties** from the list that appears.
2. The “System Properties” window appears, as shown below. Select **Network Identification**. If the “Workgroup” name is the same as the other computers on your network, click **OK**. If not, select **Properties**.



3. The “Identification Changes” window appears. In the **Computer Name:** text box, enter a name for your computer. This computer name must be different from all other computer names on the network. In the **Workgroup** text box, enter the network name. This network name must be the same for every computer on your network. Click **OK** to return to the “Network Properties” window, then click **OK** again to restart your computer.



## Troubleshooting

### You are experiencing slow or erratic network performance.

The antenna may not be receiving a strong signal. Keep the area around the antenna clear from materials that could block radio transmission, such as metal objects, electronic devices, and cordless telephones.

Changing the direction of the antenna may strengthen the wireless signal. Move your computer a few inches to receive a stronger signal. If this doesn't work, you may have to move your computer closer to the home gateway or access point.

Check your home gateway or access point to ensure that it is operating correctly. Make sure that there are no loose connections or cabling problems, and that the home gateway's or access point's antenna is working properly. You may have to consult the documentation that came with your home gateway or access point to check its operation.

### You cannot connect to your home gateway or access point.

Make sure that the “SSID” value of the PCI 802.11b Wireless Adapter is the same as the “ESSID” value of your home gateway or access point. See page 8 (Windows 98 SE), page 10 (Windows Me), or page 13 (Windows 2000) for more information.

Make sure that the encryption settings of the PCI 802.11b Wireless Adapter match the encryption settings of your home gateway or access point. See page 16 for more information. You may have to consult the documentation that came with your home gateway or access point to get information concerning the unit's encryption capabilities.

### There is no network connection when the computer becomes active again after being in sleep mode

Restart the computer to restore the connections.

### Installation program does not finish. The driver fails to load.

There may be a resource conflict on your computer. Use the Device Manager to resolve resource conflicts. To access the Device Manager, select **System** from the Control Panel, and then select **Device Manager**.

## The PCI 802.11b Wireless Adapter installs as an unknown device.

The Windows Add Hardware Wizard was unable to locate the PCI 802.11b Wireless Adapter drivers. You may have had no CD or the wrong CD inserted in the CD-ROM drive, or the Installation CD may not have been ready when the wizard looked for the drivers. To solve this problem, remove the PCI 802.11b Wireless Adapter from your computer and repeat the installation procedure. Make sure that you insert the Installation CD when the procedure indicates, and that you wait for it to come up to speed in the drive.

## Notices

### FCC Regulations

The following statements are provided in accordance with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regulations. Please read these statements carefully before installing your modem.

### FCC Part 68 Requirements

This equipment complies with Part 68 of the FCC Rules. On the bottom of the modem is a label that contains, among other information, the FCC Registration Number and Ringer Equivalence Number (REN) for this equipment. If requested, this information must be given to the telephone company.

The REN is used to determine the maximum number of devices connected to your telephone line that will ring in response to an incoming call. In most, but not all, areas, the total REN of devices connected to a line should not exceed five (5). To find out the total permitted in your area, contact your local telephone company.

If your telephone equipment causes harm to the telephone network, the telephone company can discontinue your service temporarily. If possible, the company will notify you in advance. But if advance notice is not practical, you will be notified as soon as possible. You will be informed of your right to file a complaint with the FCC.

Your telephone company can make changes in its facilities, equipment, operations, or procedures that could affect the operation of your equipment. If so, you will be notified in advance so you can make the changes needed to maintain uninterrupted service.

If you experience trouble with this equipment, please contact the manufacturer at the address given in this manual. The telephone company may ask that you disconnect this equipment from the network until the problem has been corrected or until you are sure that the equipment is not malfunctioning.

This equipment may not be used on public coin service provided by the telephone company. Connection to party lines is subject to state tariffs.

## Canadian Department Of Communications (CDOC)

### Requirements for End Users:

**Note:** The Canadian Department of Communications label identifies certified equipment. This certification means the equipment meets certain telecommunications network requirements. The Department does not guarantee the equipment will operate to the user's satisfaction.

Before installing this equipment, users should ensure that connection to the line is allowed by the local telecommunications company. The equipment must also be installed using an acceptable method of connection. In some cases, the company's inside wiring associated with a single line individual service may be extended by means of a telephone extension cord. Compliance with the above conditions may not prevent degradation of service in certain situations.

Repairs to certified equipment should be made by an authorized Canadian maintenance facility designated by the supplier. Any repairs or alterations made by the user to this equipment, or equipment malfunctions, may give the telecommunications company cause to request the user to disconnect the equipment.

Users should ensure for their own protection that the electrical ground connections of the power utility, telephone lines, and internal metallic water pipe system, if present, are connected together. This precaution may be particularly important in rural areas.

**CAUTION:** Users should not attempt to make such connections themselves, but should contact the appropriate electrical inspection authority, or electrician, as appropriate.

### Regulatory Compliance Notices Class B Equipment

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.

- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio or television technician for help.

### Modifications

The FCC requires the user to be notified that any changes or modifications made to this device that are not expressly approved by *Actiontec Electronics, Inc* may void the user's authority to operate the equipment.

Declaration of conformity for products marked with the FCC logo – United States only

This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) This device may not cause harmful interference, and

(2) This device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

"IMPORTANT NOTE: To comply with FCC RF exposure compliance requirements the antenna used for this transmitter must be installed to provide a separation distance of at least 20 cm from all persons and must not be co-located or operating in conjunction with any other antenna or transmitter."

For questions regarding your product, or the FCC declaration, contact:

*Actiontec Electronics, Inc*  
760 North Mary Ave,  
Sunnyvale, CA 94086  
United States  
Tel: (408) 752-7700  
Fax: (408) 541-9005

## **Actiontec Electronics, Inc., Limited Warranty**

**Hardware:** *Actiontec* Electronics, Inc., warrants to the end user (“Customer”) that this hardware product will be free from defects in workmanship and materials, under normal use and service, for twelve (12) months from the date of purchase from *Actiontec* Electronics or its authorized reseller.

*Actiontec* Electronics’ sole obligation under this express warranty shall be, at *Actiontec*’s option and expense, to repair the defective product or part, deliver to Customer an equivalent product or part to replace the defective item, or if neither of the two foregoing options is reasonably available, *Actiontec* Electronics may, in its sole discretion, refund to Customer the purchase price paid for the defective product. All products that are replaced will become the property of *Actiontec* Electronics, Inc., Replacement products may be new or reconditioned. *Actiontec* Electronics warrants any replaced or repaired product or part for ninety (90) days from shipment, or the remainder of the initial warranty period, whichever is longer.

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**Obtaining Warranty Service:** Customer may contact *Actiontec* Electronics Technical Support Center within the applicable warranty period to obtain warranty service authorization. Dated proof of purchase from *Actiontec* Electronics or its authorized reseller may be required. Products returned to *Actiontec* Electronics must be pre-authorized by *Actiontec* Electronics with a Return Merchandise Authorization (RMA) number marked on the outside of the package, and sent prepaid and packaged appropriately for safe shipment, and it is recommended that they be insured or sent by a method that provides for tracking of the package. The repaired or replaced item will be shipped to Customer, at *Actiontec* Electronics’ expense, not later than thirty (30) days after *Actiontec* Electronics receives the defective product. Return the product to:

**In the United States:**  
*Actiontec* Electronics, Inc  
 760 North Mary Avenue  
 Sunnyvale, CA 94085

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**Dispute Resolution:** The customer may contact the Director of Technical Support in the event the Customer is not satisfied with *Actiontec* Electronics response to the complaint. In the event that the Customer is still not satisfied with the response of the Director of Technical Support, the Customer is instructed to contact the Director of Marketing. In the event that the Customer is still not satisfied with the response of the Director of Marketing, the Customer is instructed to contact the Chief Financial Officer and/or President.

**Governing Law:** This Limited Warranty shall be governed by the laws of the State of California, U.S.A., excluding its conflicts of laws and principles, and excluding the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods.