

PC PLATFORMS & PRODUCTS



Card Executive 2.0 for Windows NT

Features:

- ◆ Support for PCMCIA Committee Proposal 187 - Card and Socket Service Bindings for Windows NT
- ◆ PC Card 5.0 Compliant Implementation
- ◆ Socket Services support for CardBus and other socket controllers from leading vendors, including Cirrus Logic, O₂Micro, RICOH, and Texas Instruments
- ◆ Card Services
 - ◆ Supports hot swapping
 - ◆ CardBus (32 bit)
 - ◆ PC Cards (16 bit)
 - ◆ Zoomed Video
- ◆ Client Drivers to support all classes of cards
 - ◆ Modem
 - ◆ ATA / SRAM
 - ◆ Ethernet
 - ◆ SCSI
 - ◆ Token Ring
 - ◆ IDE CD-ROM
 - ◆ Serial I/O
 - ◆ Multifunction
- ◆ Supports PC Cards using Point Enabler mode on Microsoft's NT 4.0 Hardware Compatibility List
- ◆ Windows 95-like Automatic Driver Installation
- ◆ PC Card Diagnostics
- ◆ Power management support when used together with either PowerPanel 2.0 or APM 2.0 for Windows NT
- ◆ Translations available for: English, Japanese, German, French, Spanish, Italian

Card Executive™ 2.0 for Windows NT: Hot Swapping of CardBus Cards Under Windows NT 4.0

Phoenix Technologies, the world-wide leader of system software for portable PCs, is introducing its second generation of Windows NT 4.0 product, Card Executive 2.0 for Windows NT. Card Executive extends the capabilities of our PC Card software stack for Windows NT 4.0 by providing the following new features:

- ◆ 32 bit CardBus Card support
 - ◆ 3COM 3C575 EtherLink XL 10/100 Mbps Card
- ◆ Proposal 187 Compliant NT Bindings for 16 bit and 32 bit cards
- ◆ Support for Cirrus Logic, O₂Micro, RICOH, and Texas Instruments CardBus controllers
- ◆ Automatic Driver Installation
- ◆ PC Card Diagnostics

Card Executive 2.0 for Windows NT is a fully PC Card 5.0 compliant implementation that provides Automatic Driver Installation, User Interface, Socket Services, Card Services, Client Drivers, Power Management Support, PC Card Diagnostics, and National Language Support (NLS).

Automatic Driver Installation

Card Executive 2.0 for Windows NT provides automatic installation of PC Card software, similar to Windows 95. Upon card insertion, Card Executive 2.0 automatically finds the correct driver and installs it with minimal user interaction. If the user selects an invalid configuration, the error is flagged, and the user can select a valid configuration. The benefit to the OEM is that this minimizes end user configuration errors and the resulting technical support inquiries.

User Interface

Card Executive 2.0 for Windows NT features a user interface that has three major components:

1. PC Card icon in the task tray. The tooltip displays the type of card plugged into the slot or "empty", if no card is inserted.
2. The PC Card Control Panel. The PC Card Control Panel has three tabs:
 - ◆ Status — Provides specific information about the card in each socket.
 - ◆ Settings — Lets the user to enable or disable the software user interface parameters. Lets the user to configure the COM Port settings when inserting a modem.
 - ◆ About — Provides vendor information and the version number of the product.
3. Insertion, Removal, Information, and Configuration messages. This is a series of dialog boxes that provide status when a card insertion or removal occurs. Dialog boxes can be enabled or disabled through the Setting page in the control panel.

National Language Support (NLS)

The initial release of Card Executive 2.0 for NT will be released in English only in July 1997. A subsequent release is planned for August 1997, which will include support for English, Japanese, German, French, Spanish, and Italian.

Socket Services for All Leading Socket Controllers

Card Executive 2.0 for Windows NT provides a single socket services driver that works with a wide variety of leading CardBus, PCI, and ISA PC Card controllers including:

Vendor	Socket Controller Name
Cirrus Logic	CL-PD6710/20/22, CL-PD6729/30, CL-PD6832
O ₂ Micro	OZ6722, OZ6729/30, OZ6832/36
RICOH	RL5C465/66, RL5476
Texas Instruments	PCI 1130/31, PCI 1250

Support is provided for up to 4 PC Card slots with 2 controllers to allow for a second socket controller in a docking station.

Card Executive 2.0 for Windows NT works with either PowerPanel 2.0 or APM 2.0 for Windows NT to power manage PC Cards. This allows power to the socket controller to be turned off during a suspend and restored during a resume in a manner which Windows NT 4.0 can tolerate.

Card Services Features Support for CardBus

Card Executive 2.0 for Windows NT supports CardBus cards in 32-bit mode in addition to 16-bit cards. Card Executive 2.0 provides true hot swapping with its implementation of Card Services. The product supports both hot insertion and hot removal of specified PC Cards including LAN, SCSI, multi-function and combination cards in addition to modems, ATA, and SRAM cards. Card Services supports 5V or 3V cards and DMA cards. Card Services utilizes Windows NT's resource management to dynamically allocate resources to PC Cards. Card Executive 2.0 implements support for Zoomed Video cards. Zoomed Video cards require a ZV Port Manager driver from the video chip supplier and a client driver from the ZV card supplier.

Client Drivers

Card Executive 2.0 for NT comes packaged with a set of Proposal 187 compliant PC Card client drivers to provide hot swapping for the most popular modem cards, network cards, SCSI cards, ATA/SRAM (including IDE CD-ROM), and multifunction or combination PC Cards on the market. A complete list of cards supported is available from Phoenix Technologies.

Enabler.sys is a driver that allows Card Executive 2.0 for Windows NT to support all the PC Cards presently supported under the Microsoft NT 4.0 Hardware Compatibility List in Point Enabler mode.

Proposal 187 Compliant

Card Executive 2.0 for Windows NT supports the standard client driver API "Card and Socket Bindings for Windows NT 4.0," known as Proposal 187, which was ratified by the PCMCIA committee on May 16, 1997. The benefit of supporting this standard is that PC Card manufacturers can write a client driver that works with all commercially available PC Card software stacks supporting this API. This encourages PC Card manufacturers to provide client support for Windows NT 4.0. The benefit to end users is a higher level of confidence that PC Cards purchased during the life of the machine will be fully functional.