

# Sun Blade™ 1500 Product Notes

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(Red)



Sun Microsystems, Inc.  
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# Sun Blade 1500 Product Notes

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The *Sun Blade 1500 Product Notes*, 816-7569, contain late-breaking information about changes to the product and to the documentation that became known after the documentation set was published.

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**Note** – This publication describes the changes made to hardware, software, and documentation for Sun Blade™ 1500 workstations with red bezels. If you have a Sun Blade 1500 workstation with a silver bezel, refer to the *Sun Blade 1500 Product Notes (Silver)*, 817-5131.

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**Note** – Both red- and silver-bezeled versions of the Sun Blade 1500 documentation are available at:

<http://www.sun.com/products-n-solutions/hardware/docs/>

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This product note includes:

- “Hardware Information” on page 2
- “Software and Firmware Information” on page 6
- “Documentation Information” on page 14

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# Hardware Information

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**Note** – Before removing or installing any hardware component in the Sun Blade 1500 workstation, read the documentation for that component.

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## Memory Upgrades and Firmware Compatibility

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**Note** – If a memory upgrade is not compatible with the system OpenBoot™ PROM, the workstation might beep three times and power off.

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### Checking Firmware Version

When your workstation boots, the OpenBoot PROM checks for compatible DIMM pairs. When you upgrade your memory, the DIMM pairs you install depend on your system's version of the OpenBoot PROM. You can verify your version of the OpenBoot PROM by typing the following command from a terminal window:

```
% prtconf -v
```

For example:

```
% prtconf -v  
OBP 4.9.4 2003/05/14 19:12
```

In this example, OpenBoot PROM version 4.9.4 is installed.

## Determining Proper DIMM Pair Part Numbers

Use [TABLE 1](#) to determine which DIMM pair memory upgrades to order for your system.

**TABLE 1** DIMM Pair Memory Upgrades

OpenBoot PROM Version	DIMM Pairs	Sun Part Number
4.9.4	2 x 256 MB DIMMs	595-6873-01
	2 x 512 MB DIMMs	595-6874-01
	2 x 1 GB DIMMs	595-6875-01
4.9.5	2 x 256 MB DIMMs	595-7497-01 or 595-6873-01
	2 x 512 MB DIMMs	595-7498-01 or 595-6874-01
	2 x 1 GB DIMMs	595-7499-01 or 595-6875-01
4.9.7	2 x 256 MB DIMMs	595-7497-01 or 595-6873-01
	2 x 512 MB DIMMs	595-7498-01 or 595-6874-01
	2 x 1 GB DIMMs	595-7499-01 or 595-6875-01

## USB Cable Length

Attaching USB devices or USB extension cables with total cable lengths greater than 2.5 m (8.2 ft.) to the front panel or rear panel USB v1.1 connectors might provide unsatisfactory performance. If you must have cable runs greater than this distance, use a powered USB hub.

## Color Monitor GDM-17E10 No Longer Supported

The Sun 17-inch premium color monitor, model GDM-17E10, is no longer supported on the Sun Blade 1500 workstation. This monitor has one of the following Sun part numbers:

- 365-1316
- 365-1319
- 365-1321

# Ethernet LED Colors

The colors of the Ethernet activity and link status LEDs have been reversed and are not correct. The correct colors for the LEDs are shown in [TABLE 2](#).

**TABLE 2** Color of Activity and Status LEDs

	Color of the Activity LED	Color of the Status LED
Correct	Amber	Green
Not Correct	Green	Amber

**Note** – Do not update your motherboard to correct the color of the activity and link status LEDs. The LEDs are functioning correctly, only the LED colors are not correct.

# Ethernet Connector Labeling

The Ethernet connector is not correctly labeled on some workstations. The correct label for the Ethernet connector is shown in [FIGURE 1](#).



Correct label

**FIGURE 1** Ethernet Connector Labeling

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**Note** – On some workstations, the Ethernet connector is incorrectly labeled as a SCSI connector.

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## Unsupported PCI Cards and Peripherals

Installing an unsupported PCI card in or attaching an unsupported peripheral to your Sun Blade 1500 workstation might cause system problems. Before configuring your system with a third-party product, ask your Sun Microsystems representative to verify compatibility and support.

## New Heatsink Material

A new heatsink material has been implemented to improve thermal conductivity between the CPU and heatsink. When you replace the Sun Blade 1500 motherboard or heatsink and fan assembly, perform the following steps:

1. **Clean the top surface of the CPU by wiping it with an alcohol towelette or alcohol prepared rag to remove any existing material.**
2. **Peel the protective liner from the underside of the replacement heatsink and fan assembly.**
3. **Align the heatsink and fan assembly over the CPU and press it down onto the CPU.**
4. **Reinstall the heat sink clips and the fan power connector.**

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# Software and Firmware Information

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**Note** – Before installing any software onto the Sun Blade 1500 hard drive, read the documentation for that software.

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## Verifying Workstation Configuration With the Sun Install Check Tool

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**Note** – Install Check is an optional tool for verifying workstation configuration. Sun Microsystems encourages its use for customer satisfaction.

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The Install Check tool verifies and provides information about your Sun Blade 1500 workstation's configuration. To run Install Check, you need to download it from the web.

## Downloading Install Check

1. As superuser of the Sun Blade 1500 system, open a web browser and go to the Install Check URL:

<http://www.sun.com/software/installcheck/index.html>

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**Note** – Documentation on the use of Install Check is available at this URL.

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2. Click **Get the Software**.
3. Click **Download Sun Install Check Tool**.
4. Log in with your My Sun, Sun Store, or SunSolve<sup>SM</sup> username and password.

**Note** – If you are not a registered user, click Register Now and register.

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5. Read and agree to the licensing terms.
6. Click the **Sun Install Check Application, English link** and save the `sunic.zip` file to a download directory.



7. Go to the download directory and unzip the `sunic.zip` file.

```
# unzip sunic.zip
```

A `sunic` subdirectory is created, containing a `README` file.

8. Read the `README` file for further instructions to install and run the Sun Install Check tool.

## Software Optimization

Software for the Sun Blade 1500 workstation is continuously improved throughout the life cycle of the product. To guarantee that your system's software has the latest improvements, always install the latest patches for your system. [TABLE 3](#) lists the latest patches as of December 2004.

**TABLE 3** Latest Patches as of December 2004

Solaris Operating Environment	Patch	Synopsis
Solaris™ 8 2/04	108528-29 (or later)	Kernel update patch
	108576-48 (or later)	SunOS™ 5.8: Sun XVR-500 graphics accelerator patch
	108974-41 (or later)	DADA, UATA, DAD, SD, SCSI patch
	108975-08 (or later)	rmformat and format patch
	108977-04 (or later)	libsmmedia patch
	109793-25 (or later)	su patch
	109873-26 (or later)	prtdiag and platform libprtdiag_psr.so.1 patch
	109883-02 (or later)	/usr/include/sys/ecppsys.h patch
	109887-18 (or later)	Smart card and usr/sbin/ocfserv patch

**TABLE 3** Latest Patches as of December 2004 (*Continued*)

<b>Solaris Operating Environment</b>	<b>Patch</b>	<b>Synopsis</b>
	109889-07 (or later)	usr platform links and libc_psr patch
	109892-04 (or later)	/kernel/drv/sparcv9/ecpp patch
	109896-28 (or later)	SunOS 5.8: USB and audio framework patch
	109920-09 (or later)	pcic and busra driver patch
	110320-03 (or later)	/kernel/misc/sparcv9/s1394 patch
	110609-04 (or later)	USB header patch
	110835-07 (or later)	/platform/sun4u/kernel/misc/sparcv9/gptwo_cpudriver patch
	111325-02 (or later)	/usr/lib/saf/ttymon patch
	111804-03 (or later)	update_drv, rem_drv patch
	111808-02 (or later)	/usr/lib/adb/devinfo patch
	113680-04	BGE driver patch
	113681-03	mc-us3i patch
	113886-26 (or later)	OpenGL® 1.3: OpenGL patch for Solaris (32-bit)
	113887-26 (or later)	OpenGL 1.3: OpenGL patch for Solaris (64-bit)
	114537-26 (or later)	SunOS 5.8: Sun XVR-100 graphics accelerator patch
	114554-17 (or later)	SunOS 5.8: Sun XVR-1200 graphics accelerator patch
	114152-01 (or later)	SunOS 5.8: Japanese SunOS 4.x Binary Compatibility (BCP) patch (Only for Japanese locale)
	114583-01 (or later)	I <sup>2</sup> C driver patch

**TABLE 3** Latest Patches as of December 2004 (*Continued*)

<b>Solaris Operating Environment</b>	<b>Patch</b>	<b>Synopsis</b>
	116042-12 (or later)	SunVTS 5.1: Patch Set 5
	116698-02 (or later)	Sun Blade 1500 flash PROM update patch
	117000-05 (or later)	Kernel update patch
	117005-01 (or later)	PICL-D patch
	117350-13 (or later)	Kernel update patch
	117365-01 (or later)	OpenBoot PROM 4.9.5: Firmware upgrade
Solaris 9 4/04		
	112233-12 (or later)	Kernal update patch
	112540-22 (or later)	SunOS 5.9: Sun XVR-500 graphics accelerator patch
	112926-05 (or later)	Smart card patch
	112954-09 (or later)	uata driver patch
	113077-14 (or later)	su patch
	113277-26 (or later)	sd and ssd patch
	113447-23 (or later)	libprtdiag_psr patch
	113490-04 (or later)	Audio device driver patch
	113886-20 (or later)	OpenGL 1.3: OpenGL patch for Solaris (32-bit)
	113887-20 (or later)	OpenGL 1.3: OpenGL patch for Solaris (64-bit)

**TABLE 3** Latest Patches as of December 2004 (*Continued*)

<b>Solaris Operating Environment</b>	<b>Patch</b>	<b>Synopsis</b>
	114128-02 (or later)	sd_lun patch
	114538-26 (or later)	SunOS 5.9: Sun XVR-100 graphics accelerator patch
	114555-17 (or later)	SunOS 5.9: Sun XVR-1200 graphics accelerator patch
	114153-01 (or later)	SunOS 5.9: Japanese SunOS 4.x Binary Compatibility (BCP) patch (Only for Japanese locale)
	114584-01 (or later)	I <sup>2</sup> C driver patch
	115553-13 (or later)	USB and audio framework patch
	116042-12 (or later)	SunVTS™ 5.1: Patch Set 5
	116472-01 (or later)	reformat patch
	116474-02 (or later)	libsmmedia patch
	116476-01 (or later)	pcic driver patch
	116478-01 (or later)	usr platform links patch
	116480-01 (or later)	IEEE 1394 patch
	116482-01 (or later)	modload utils patch
	116665-01 (or later)	BGE driver patch
	117171-12 (or later)	Kernel update

**Note** – Patch 116698 can be installed to update the OpenBoot PROM firmware to a version later than 4.9.4.

## Updating the OpenBoot PROM Firmware

1. As superuser of the system that requires the firmware update, go to the SunSolve web site:

<http://www.sunsolve.sun.com>

2. Click the Patchfinder link.

The SunSolve Patch Access page appears.

3. Type 116698 into the Patch ID field and click Find Patch.

The patch README file is displayed.

4. Read the README file for instructions on downloading and installing the firmware.

## Checking Your Installed Patches

- Type this command to see which patches are installed on your system:

```
% patchadd -p
```

The installed patches are listed in ascending order.

## Installing the Patches Using the patchadd Command

1. Go to the Sun Solve web site:

<http://sunsolve.sun.com>

2. Click the Patchfinder link.

3. Enter a patch ID from TABLE 3, "Latest Patches as of December 2004" on page 7 into the field and click Find Patch.

4. Download the patch to a temporary location.

5. Repeat Step 3 and Step 4 for each patch required.

6. Become superuser of the system to receive the patch.

**7. Transfer and unzip each patch.**

For example:

```
# unzip xxxxxx-x
```

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**Note** – Where *xxxxxx-x* represents a patch ID number.

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**8. Install each patch.**

For example:

```
# patchadd xxxxxx-x
```

**9. Repeat [Step 7](#) and [Step 8](#) for each patch required.**

**10. If requested by a patch, reboot the system after installing all of the patches.**

For example:

```
# reboot -- -r
```

**11. Verify the system configuration by running the Sun Install Check tool.**

See [“Verifying Workstation Configuration With the Sun Install Check Tool”](#) on page 6.

# Reinstalling the Solaris Operating Environment and Supporting Software Patches

The Sun Blade 1500 workstation ships preconfigured with Solaris 8, Solaris 9, and other preinstalled software applications.

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**Note** – Backing up the preinstalled image for the Sun Blade 1500 workstation is good practice and a precautionary measure. If necessary, refer to the *Solaris 8 System Administrator Guide Volume 1*, 805-7228, for instructions.

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If you erase, reformat, or replace the Sun Blade 1500 hard drive, you will need to install the Solaris Operating Environment and software applications. To restore the workstation software to a minimal configuration, see Chapter 2 of the *Sun Blade 1500 Getting Started Guide*, 816-7565.

After you reinstall the Solaris Operating Environment, ensure that the latest versions of the patches are also installed. See [“Software Optimization” on page 7](#).

After installing the Solaris Operating Environment, patches, and software, you can optionally verify the configuration with Install Check. See [“Verifying Workstation Configuration With the Sun Install Check Tool” on page 6](#).

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# Documentation Information

## ShowMe How Multimedia Movie Links Might Not Work

The *Sun Blade 1500 Service, Diagnostics, and Troubleshooting Manual*, 816-5121-11 contains links to multimedia service procedures. Sometimes, if you read the manual with an Adobe® Acrobat Reader that has been launched from a web browser, the links may not work correctly, while the rest of the manual content displays properly. If this happens, perform one of the following steps to see the movies:

- Open Adobe Acrobat Reader, and then open the *Sun Blade 1500 Service, Diagnostics, and Troubleshooting Manual* directly from Acrobat Reader to access the multimedia links within the manual.

The *Sun Blade 1500 Service, Diagnostics, and Troubleshooting Manual* PDF files are located on the hardware documentation CD at:

```
/cdrom/cdrom0/Docs/ServiceManual/ (for Solaris users)
```

or

```
/sblade1500doc/Docs/ServiceManual/ (for users on other platforms)
```

- Click the ShowMe™ How tab on the hardware documentation CD site pages, and select a link to view a movie.