

# Diagnostic Card Laptop Dual Version 2.0

User's Guide

Model: dual\_20

For use only in a laptop model computer with mini-PCI slot or LPT (printer port) connection. (Device must be powered by USB).



## **INTRODUCTION**

The Dual Notebook Diagnostic Card is a powerful diagnostic tool for technicians and administrators to troubleshoot various problems of notebook PC PII/III/ P4 by using a mini-PCI and LPT (printer port) Bus. It is easy to install, yet extremely powerful to use. With this card in hand, you no longer have to go through tedious and time consuming process of trying to figure out what is wrong with your hardware. Notebook Diagnostic Card will indicate exactly what is wrong with your notebook in just seconds. It saves you r time and money.

Our new and improved design of Diagnostic Card, it can work with almost all popular types of CPUs, Motherboards, and BIOS .

All though we try, it is not possible to update this manual every time a new motherboard is made by the manufactures. It is always advised to visit the bios manufacture website, and download the latest codes per bios revision. Or visit bioscentral.com for an online reference.

---

## **System Requirements**

The Dual Notebook Diagnostic Card itself only requires an empty mini-PCI slot or LPT port connection. It is not necessary to install memory chips to perform analysis. "POST Codes" can be displayed through the hexadecimal display panel.

---

## **Tech Support**

● <b>Tech Support</b>	<b>1-888-359-0747</b> <b>tech@elstonsystems.com</b>
-----------------------	--

## **Dual Notebook Diagnostic Card INDICATORS**

'Indicators' are any light emitting diodes (LED) or hexadecimal display panel is mounted on extended cable. This section discusses the following indicators that appear on the Notebook Diagnostic Card:

- Dual Notebook mini-PCI & LPT Printer Port Bus Card

## **POST Code Display**

The POST Code Display is made up of a dual, dot matrix hexadecimal read -out that displays Power On Self Test (POST) status codes.

## Power On Self-Test (POST) Codes

This card can test the AMI/AWARD/PHOENIX BIOS, while it can be used in widely model of notebook. During system booting up, this card displays can show the post codes. Refer to Appendix A, it shows almost POST codes provided by BIOS manufacturers.

### PCI Signal Definition:

<b>CLK</b>	<b>Motherboard Clock Signal.</b> Should be on when power is supplied to the motherboard even without CPU.
<b>+3.3</b>	<b>Motherboard Clock Signal.</b> Should be on when power 3.3V is supplied to the motherboard even without CPU.

---

## INSTALLING Dual Notebook Diagnostic Card

### Installation Procedure

TO INSTALL A Diagnostic Card:

- 1) Install the Notebook Diagnostic Card in mini-PCI slot or LPT Printer Port
- 2) Power on the machine and monitor the code shown on LED
- 3) When using the LPT printer mode, USB cable must be used to supply power to PC Diagnostic card. USB cable not required when using mini-PCI slot mode.

### The Feature of 4-Digits

- This Card can work on either mini-PCI or LPT Printer port
- Manually to keep on track for the post code in sequence
- Forward and backward button (S1,S2) Design, it can be easy to check the post code step by step.
- Self-Checking Remote Display Function

### User Guide

1. Insert the post code card in PCI or ISA slot. Power on the machine. The post code will show on display. The left Post code display monitor the real time and right post code is for previous one. After the machine booting up complete, press S1 button about 2 seconds, then it can be checked the previous post code by pressing S1 or S2 button.
2. If S1 button is pressed 2 more seconds, it shows the testing speed rate which represents the PCI clock frequency. For example, if the display show F-33, which represent PCI clock 33 MHz.
3. If S1 button is pressed 2 more seconds for next stage, it has self-checking function from 0000 to 9999. To return original status is just by pressing S1 button again.

### POST Codes

When the machine is turned on, the hexadecimal display should show the various POST codes (Post 80H + 84H) as the system executes (unless it has a rare BIOS that does not display POST codes).

If the machine does not boot, system POST has detected a fatal fault and stopped. The number showing in the hexadecimal display on the Notebook Diagnostic Card is the number of the test in which POST failed. Refer to Appendix A for a listing of POST codes.

---

### Troubleshooting During POST

After initial power up, Power-On Self-Test (POST) codes begin displaying on the Notebook Diagnostic Card's hexadecimal displays (for most machines).

*NOTE: A few machines use the parallel port to display POST codes instead of the Diagnostic Card.*

---

### THE POST PROCESS

The ROM built onto the motherboard of the computer runs its built-in POST (Power-On Self-Test) when you switch power on to the computer, press the reset button on the computer, or press Ctrl-Alt-Del (warm boot). POST performs a tightly interwoven initialization and testing process for each of these methods, but it typically does not test or initialize memory above 64K for warm boot. You can get an even better idea of the detailed process by studying the POST code listings in Appendix A.

Error Code	Award (Edition: ELITEBIOS 4.51PG)
C0	Turn Off Chipset Cache
01	Processor Test 1
02	Processor Test 2
03	Initialize Chips
04	Test Memory Refresh Toggle
05	Blank video,Initialize keyboard
06	Reserved
07	Test CMOS Interface and Battery Status
BE	Chipset Default Initialization
C1	Memory Presence test
C5	Early Shadow
C6	Cache Presence test
08	Setup low memory
09	Early Cache Initialization
0A	Setup Interrupt Vector Table
0B	Test CMOS RAM Checksum
0C	Initialize Keyboard
0D	Initialize Video Interface
0E	Test Video Memory
0F	Test DMA Controller 0
10	Test DMA Controller 1
11	Test DMA Page Registers
12~13	Reserved
14	Test Timer Counter 2
15	Test 8259-1 Mask Bits
16	Test 8259-2 Mask Bits
17	Test Stuck 8259's interrupt bits
18	Test 8259 Interrupt Functionality
19	Test stuck NMI Bits Parity/IO check
1A	Display CPU Clock
1B-1E	Reserved
1F	Set EISA Mode
20	Enable Slot 0
21-2F	Enable Slots 1-15
30	Size Base and Extended Memory
31	Test Base and Extended Memory
32	Test EISA Extended Memory
33-3B	Reserved
3C	Setup Enabled

3D	Initialize &Install Mouse
3E	Setup Cache Controller
3F	Reserved
BF	Chipset Initialization
40	Display virus protect disable or enable
41	Initialize Floppy Drive & Controller
42	Initialize Hard Drive &Controller
43	Detect & Initialize Serial/Parallel Ports
44	Reserved
45	Detect & Initialize Math Coprocessor
46	Reserved
47	Reserved
48-4D	Reserved
4E	Manufacturing POST loop or display message
4F	Security Check
50	Write CMOS
51	Pre-boot Enable
52	Initialize Option ROMs
53	Initialize Time Value
60	Setup Virus Protect
61	Set Boot Speed
62	Setup Numlock
63	Boot Attempt
BO	Spurious
B1	Unclaimed NMI
E1-EF	Bios Setup Page
FF	BOOT UP
Error Code	AMIBIOS Edition ( 071596)
D0	NMI is Disabled.CPU ID saved. Init code Checksum verification starting
D1	To do DMA init ,Keyboard controller BAT test ,start memory refresh and going to 4GB flat mode
D3	To start Memory sizing
D4	To comeback to real mode . Execute OEM patch. S et stack
D5	E000 ROM enabled . Init code is copied to segment 0 and control to be transferred to segment 0.
D6	Control point is in segment 0.To check <CTRL><HOME> key and verify main BIOS Checksum. If either<CTRL><HOME>is press ed or main BIOS checksum is bad Go to check point E0 else goto check point D7
D7	To pass control point to Interface Module.
D8	Main BIOS runtime code is to be decompressed.
D9	Control to be passed to main BIOS in shadow RAM

## Appendix A

---

E0	On Board Floppy Controller (if any)is initialized. To start base 512K memory test
E1	To initialize interrupt vector table
E2	To initialize DMA and interrupt controllers
E6	To enable floppy and timer IRQ,enable internal cache
ED	Initialize floppy drive.
EE	Start looking for a diskette in drive A: and read 1 <sup>st</sup> sector of the diskette
EF	Floppy read error
F0	Start searching 'MIBOOT.ROM' file in root directory
F1	'AMIBOOT.ROM' file not present in root directory.
F2	Start reading FAT table and analyze FAT to find the clusters occupied by 'AMIBOOT.ROM' file
F3	Start reading 'MIBOOT.ROM' file cluster by cluster.
F4	AMIBOOT.ROM' file not of proper size
F5	Disable internal cache
FB	Detect Flash type present.
FC	Erase Flash
FD	Program Flash
FF	Flash program successful.BIOS is going to restart In F000 Memory Address for a real time code
03	NMI is Disabled . To check soft reset /power-on
05	BIOS stack set . Going to disable Cache if any.
06	POST code to be uncompressed.
07	CPU init and CPU data area init to be done.
08	CMOS checksum calculation to be done next.
0B	Any initialization before keyboard BAT to be done next
0C	KB controller I/B free. To issue the BAT command to keyboard controller.
0E	Any initialization after KB controller BAT to be done next.
0F	Key board command byte to be written.
10	Going to issue Pin-23,24 blocking/unblocking command.
11	Going to check pressing of <INS>,<END> key during power-on
12	To init CMOS if "Init CMOS in every boot " is set or <END> key is pressed. Going to disable DMA and Interrupt controllers
13	Video display is disabled port-B is initialized. Chipset init about to begin
14	8254 timer test about to start
19	About to start memory refresh test
1A	Memory Refresh line is toggling .Going to check 15us ON/OFF time
23	To read 8042 input and disable Megakey Green PC feature .Make BIOS segment able to write
24	To do any setup before Int vector init

## Appendix A

- 25 Interrupt vector initialization about to begin. To clear password if necessary
- 27 Any initialization before setting video mode to be done .
- 28 Going for monochrome mode and color mode setting.
- 2A Different BUSES init (system,static,output devices)to start if present.(please see appendix for details of defferent BUSES).
- 2B To give control for any setup required before optional video ROM check.
- 2C To look for optional video ROM and give control.
- 2D To give control to do any processing after video ROM returns control
- 2E IF ega/vga not found then do display memory R/W test.
- 2F Ega/vga not found .Display memory R/W test about to begin.
- 30 Display memory R/W test passed. About to look for the retrace checking.
- 31 Display memory R/W test or retrace checking failed. To do alternate Display memory R/W test.
- 32 Alternate Display memory R/W test passed. To look for the alternate display retrace checking
- 34 Video display checking over .Display mode to be set next.
- 37 Display mode set . Going to display the power on message.
- 38 Different BUSES init (input,IPL,general devices) to start if present.(please see Appendix for details of different BUSES)
- 39 Display different BUSES initialization error messages.(Please see appendix for details of different BUSES).
- 3A New cursor position read and saved. To display the Hit <DEL> message.
- 40 To prepare the descriptor tables
- 42 To enter in virtual mode for memory test.
- 43 To enable interrupts for diagnostics mode.
- 44 To initialize data to check memory wrap around at 0:0
- 45 Data initialized. Going to check for memory wrap around at 0:0 and finding the total system memory size.
- 46 Memory wrap around test done. Memory size calculation over. About to go for writing patterns to test memory
- 47 Pattern to be tested written in extended memory. Going to write patterns in base 640K memory
- 48 Pattern written in base memory .Going to findout amount of memory below 1M memory.
- 49 Amount of memory below 1M found and verified.Going to findout amount of memory above 1M memory
- 4B Amount of memory above 1M found and verified. Check for soft reset and going to clear memory below 1M for soft reset.(if power on,go to check point#4Eh)
- 4C Memory below 1M cleared. (SOFT RESET) Going to clear memory above 1M
- 4D Memory above 1M cleared.(SOFT RESET)Going to save the memory size.(goto check point #52h).
- 4E Memory size display started. (NOT SOFT RESET)About to display the first 64k memory size.
- 4F Memory size display started. This will be updated during memory test. Going for sequential and random memory test.
- 50 Memory testing /initialization below 1M complete. Going to adjust displayed memory size for relocation/shadow.
- 51 Memory size display adjusted due to relocation/shadow. Memory test above 1M to follow.
- 52 Memory testing/initialization above 1M complete. Going to save memory size information
- 53 Memory size information is saved. CPU registers are saved. Going to enter in real mode

## Appendix A

54 Shutdown successful, CPU in real mode. Going to disable gate A20 line and  
disable parity /NMI.  
57 A20 address line ,parity/NMI disable successful. Going to adjust memory size  
depending on relocation/shadow.  
58 Memory size adjusted for relocation/shadow. Going to clear Hit<DEL> message.  
59 Hit<DEL> message cleared. <WAIT...> message displayed. About to start DMA  
and interrupt controller test  
60 DMA page register test passed. To do DMA# 1 base register test  
62 DMA# 1 base register test passed. To do DMA#2 base register test.  
65 DMA#2 base register test passed. To program DMA unit 1 and 2  
66 DMA unit 1 and 2 programming over. To initialize 8259 interrupt controller.  
7F Extended NMI sources enabling is in progress.  
80 Keyboard test started . clearing output buffer,checking for stuck key ,to issue  
keyboard reset command.  
81 Keyboard reset error/stuck key found. To issue keyboard controller interface test  
command  
82 Keyboard controller interface test over. To write command byte and init circular  
buffer  
83 Command byte written , Global data init done . To check for lock-key.  
84 Lock-key checking over. To check for memory size mismatch with CMOS  
85 Memory size check done. To display soft error and check for password or bypass  
setup.  
86 Password checked. About to do programming before setup.  
87 Programming before setup complete . To uncompress SETUP code and execute  
CMOS setup.  
88 Returned from CMOS setup program and screen is cleared.About to do  
programming after setup  
89 Programming after setup complete . Going to display power on screen message.  
8B First screen message displayed. <WAIT...> message displayed . PS/2 Mouse  
check and extended BIOS data area allocation to be done.  
8C Setup options programming after CMOS setup about to start .  
8D Going for hard disk controller reset.  
8F Hard disk controller reset done. Floppy setup to be done next.  
91 Floppy setup complete . Hard disk setup to be done next.  
95 Init of different BUSES optional ROMs from C800 to start.(please see Appendix -I  
for details fo different BUSES).  
96 Going to do any init before C800 optional ROM control  
97 Any init before C800 optional ROM control is over. Optional ROM check and  
control will be done next.  
98 Optional ROM control is done. About to give control to do any required  
processing after optional ROM returns control and enable external cache  
99 Any initialization required after optional ROM test over. Going to setup timer data  
area and printer base address.  
9A Return after setting timer and printer base address.Going to set the RS-232 base  
address  
9B Returned after RS-232 base address . Going to do any initialization before  
Coprocessor test  
9C Required initialized. Before Coprocessor is over. Going to initialize the  
coprocessor next.  
9D Coprocessor initialized. Going to do any initialization after Coprocessor test.  
9E Initialization after coprocessor test is complete . Going to check extd keyboard,  
keyboard ID and num-lock  
9F Keyboard ID command to be issued.  
A2 Going to display any soft errors.

## Appendix A

---

A3	Software error display complete. Going to set keyboard typemate rate.
A4	Keyboard typematic rate set . To program memory wait states.
A5	Going to enable parity/NMI
A7	NMI and parity enabled. Going to do any initialization required before giving control to optional ROM at E000.
A8	Initialization before E000 ROM control over. E000 ROM to get control next
A9	Returned form E000 ROM control. Going to do any initialization required after E000 optional ROM control
AA	Initialization after E000 optional ROM control is over. Going to display the system configuration.
AB	To build MP table if needed.
AC	To uncompress DMI data and execute DMI post init.
B0	System configuration is displayed
B1	Going to copy any code to specific area.
00	Copying of code to specific area done Going to give control to INT-19 boot loader Testing Point
2A	Different BUSES init (system,static,output devices)to start if present.
38	Different BUSES init(Input ,IPL,general devices) to start if present.
39	Display differerent BUSES initialization error messages.