

## ***Environment Variables Don't Stay Set in Windows 95***

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### **INTRODUCTION**

When TDT equipment is installed in some Windows 95 systems, Win95 does not recognize the environment variables set in AUTOEXEC.BAT. When a program is run that uses TDT equipment, the operating system can't find the XBCOM environment variable and may make an assumption about the setting (e.g. APa), resulting in a hardware error, or may not run at all.

### **TESTING FOR THE PROBLEM**

To test if this is a problem on a particular pc, do the following:

1. Set up the AUTOEXEC.BAT file as outlined in the System II Installation Guide.
2. Reboot the computer into Windows 95.
3. Open a DOS window (the "MS-DOS Prompt" icon) and type SET at the DOS prompt.

You should see the XBCOM and SPFACT environment variables as you defined them in the AUTOEXEC.BAT file. If they are not there, or are set differently from what is in AUTOEXEC.BAT, use the following procedure.

### **RUNNING WINSET**

WinSet is a program from Microsoft that sets the value of an environment variable globally in the Win95 environment. It is saved in the self-extracting archive ENVARZIP.EXE. Follow these steps to use it:

- I. Unpack the files
  - A. Create a new directory for WinSet. We suggest C:\WINDOWS\WINSET
  - B. Copy ENVARZIP.EXE to the new directory
  - C. Run ENVARZIP to extract the files
- II. Change your AUTOEXEC.BAT file
  - A. Edit your AUTOEXEC.BAT with a text editor (e.g. Notepad or DOS Edit)
  - B. Duplicate the TDT SET commands (XBCOM= and SPFACT=), using the WinSet path set above (e.g. C:\WINDOWS\WINSET\WINSET XBCOM=APB)
  - C. Save your AUTOEXEC.BAT file

### III. Test the result

- A. Reboot your computer and repeat the test outlined above.

WinSet does not set the environment variable in the DOS session in which it was invoked. For this reason, it must be used in conjunction with SET to be of any use in AUTOEXEC.BAT.

WinSet only needs to be run once. However, putting it in the AUTOEXEC.BAT file assures that if any changes are made to the environment variables, they will be made global with WinSet.