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# User's Guide

# 3D Blaster™ GeForce 256™ Annilihator™

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□ Directive 89/336/EEC, 92/31/EEC (EMC)

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# Introduction

The 3D Blaster  $^{\text{TM}}$  GeForce  $256^{\text{TM}}$  Annihilator  $^{\text{TM}}$  is a quality 2D/3D/video accelerator that uses NVIDIA  $^{\text{TM}}$ 's latest GeForce  $256^{\text{TM}}$  chipset. GeForce 256 is the ultimate 3D processor. Its innovative architecture combines Transform and Lighting (T&L) technology with a rendering engine that delivers four pixels per clock.

NVIDIA's GeForce 256 graphics controller delivers stunning visual quality and performance with its 256 bit true-color engine. Its four rendering pipelines are capable of delivering four pixels per clock. With GeForce 256, developers can create special effects such as multi-texture, bump mapping to simulate rough surfaces, and environmental mapping that gives objects reflective properties. Developers can take advantage of advanced filtering modes (including 8-tap anisotropic filtering) with full scene anti-aliasing to create realistic images that rival more expensive graphics workstations.

The 3D Blaster GeForce 256 Annihilator provides outstanding 2D and video acceleration as well. It supports motion compensation for MPEG-2 decoding. It guarantees a high level of 2D performance, while programmable gamma tables optimize image quality for both text and image-based applications.

# Serial and Model Numbers

Your card's serial and model numbers can be found at the back of the card. We recommend that you record the serial and model number below. This information will be useful in the event that you need to contact our Technical Support staff for troubleshooting or your dealer for warranty service.

Table 1: Serial numbers and model numbers.

Hardware	Product Codes	Numbers
3D Blaster GeForce 256	Serial Number	
Annihilator	Model Number	

Before You Begin

The README file on the CD-ROM contains information not available at the time of printing. Read the file before you continue.

Minimum System Requirements

- ☐ IBM® PC 100% compatible
- ☐ Pentium<sup>®</sup> II, Pentium III, AMD-K6, K6/3Dnow processor or compatible
- ☐ 32 MB RAM (64MB recommended)
- ☐ 35 MB free hard disk space (bundled software will require additional storage)
- ☐ An available AGP 1.0 or 2.0 bus slot
- ☐ CD-ROM drive installed
- ☐ Windows 95, Windows 98, Windows NT 4.0 (with Service Pack 3), or Windows 2000 (when available)
- ☐ Standard VGA monitor or multi-frequency VGA monitor

Updating Drivers

To download the latest drivers for 3D Blaster GeForce 256 Annihilator, visit Creative's Web site (refer to the "Technical Support" section for details).

Preliminary Step: Find Your Windows' version Number (for Windows 95 only)



Check the appropriate box so that you can refer to the Windows' version number quickly during the software installation process.

Since Windows automatically detects new hardware and starts the software installation procedure upon startup, you should verify your Windows version number before installing the graphics card.

# To verify your Windows' version number

- 1. Click Start -> Settings -> Control Panel.
- 2. In the **Control Panel** window, double-click the **System** icon. Your Windows 95 version number is displayed in the General tabbed page of the Systems **Properties** dialog box.
- 3. Note the version number.

The following are the possible Windows 95 version numbers:

- □ 4.00.950 (Retail version)
- ☐ 4.00.950A (Retail version)
- □ 4.00.950B (OSR version 2 and 2.1)
- □ 4.00.950C (OSR version 2.5)
- 4. Shut down the system.

# Step 1: Installing Your Graphics Card

This diagram shows you the connectors on the 3D Blaster GeForce 256 Annihilator card.

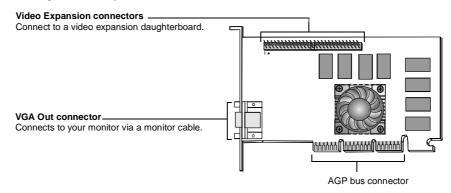


Figure 1: The 3D Blaster GeForce 256 Annihilator card.

# To install the graphics card

**Note:** If you are replacing an existing VGA card with 3D Blaster GeForce 256 Annihilator, please remember to remove the existing VGA card.

- 1. Switch off your computer and all peripheral devices.
- 2. Touch any metallic surface on your computer to discharge any static electricity.
- 3. Disconnect the power cord from the wall outlet.
- 4. Remove the computer cover.

- 5. Locate a free AGP expansion slot. Figure 2 shows the various types of expansion slots.
- 6. Remove the metal plate from the free AGP slot. Keep the screw and metal plate for future use.
- 7. Align the bus connector of the graphics card with the expansion slot.
- 8. Press the card's bus connector firmly and evenly into the slot, making sure that the bus connector comes into full contact with the slot. Then, secure the card to the computer casing with a screw. See Figure 3 below.

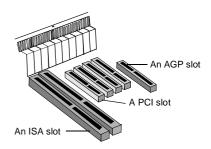


Figure 2: Types of expansion slots.

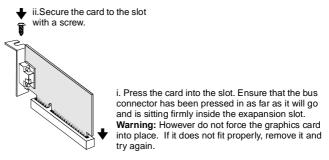


Figure 3: Securing the graphics card to the slot.



If you are using a multi-frequency monitor, you may need a special 15-pin DIN VGA cable. If your multi-frequency monitor allows you to switch between 'TTL' and 'analog' operation modes, set the switch to 'analog'. For details, refer to your monitor's manual.

# Step 2: Installing Your Software

9. Connect the monitor cable to the VGA Out connector of the graphics card, as shown in Figure 4.

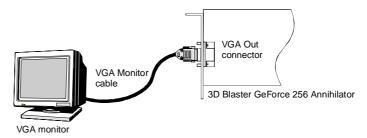


Figure 4: Connecting your VGA monitor to the graphics card.

10. Replace the computer cover and plug the power cord back into the wall outlet.

After installing the graphics card, you can install the software. The 3D Blaster GeForce 256 Annihilator CD contains the following:

☐ Drivers for Windows 95/98 (common to both)

☐ Drivers for Windows NT 4.0

☐ Creative Enhanced BlasterControl<sup>™</sup> for Windows 95/98 and Windows NT 4.0

☐ Creative SoftMPEG for Windows 95/98

This section is organized as follows:

☐ For Windows 95 (Retail version)

☐ For Windows 95 (OSR version 2.0 and later)

☐ For Windows 98

☐ For Windows NT 4.0 (Service Pack 3)

# For Windows 95 (Retail version)

- Switch on your system.
   Windows 95 automatically detects the graphics card.
  - A **New Hardware Found** message box appears, informing you that a display adapter has been detected.
- When a dialog box similar to Figure 5
  appears, ensure that the Driver from disk
  provided by hardware manufacturer
  option is selected.
- 3. Click the **OK** button.
- 4. Insert the 3D Blaster GeForce 256 Annihilator CD into your CD-ROM drive.
- 5. In the **Install From Disk** dialog box, type **D:\WINDOWS** (where D: represents your CD-ROM drive) and click the **OK** button.
- 6. If prompted to select drivers, click the **Creative CT6941** drivers. The drivers are copied to your system.
- 7. When prompted to restart your system, click the **Yes** button.
- 8. After the system has restarted, proceed to install the applications. Click **Start** -> **Run**.
- 9. In the **Run** dialog box, type **D:\WINDOWS\SETUP** and click the **OK** button.
- 10. Follow the instructions on the screen to complete the setup.
  If you do not install all the applications now, you can install them later.

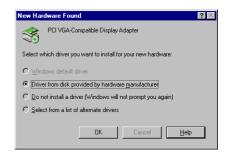


Figure 5: Selecting the **Driver from disk provided by** hardware manufacturer option.

# For Windows 95 (OSR version 2.0 and later)

- Switch on your system.
   Windows 95 automatically detects the graphics card.
   A New Hardware Found message box appears, informing you that a display adapter has been detected.
- 2. When a dialog box similar to Figure 6 appears, click the **Next** button.
- Click the Other Locations button when it appears in the Update Device Driver Wizard dialog box.
- 4. Insert the 3D Blaster GeForce 256 Annihilator CD into your CD-ROM drive.
- In the Select Other Location dialog box, type D:\WINDOWS (where D: represents your CD-ROM drive) and click the OK button.
- 6. In the **Update Device Driver Wizard** dialog box, click the **Finish** button.



Figure 6: The Update Device Driver Wizard dialog box.

- 7. In the **Insert Disk** message box, click the **OK** button.
- 8. In the **Copying Files** dialog box, type **D:\WINDOWS** and click the **OK** button. The drivers are copied to your system.
- 9. In the **Update Device Driver Wizard** dialog box, click the **OK** button.
- 10. When prompted to restart your system, click the **Yes** button.
- 11. After the system has restarted, proceed to install the applications. Click **Start** -> **Run**.
- 12. In the **Run** dialog box, type **D:\WINDOWS\SETUP** and click the **OK** button.
- 13. Follow the instructions on the screen to complete the setup.

  If you do not install all the applications now, you can install them later.

# For Windows 98

- 1. Switch on your system. Windows 98 automatically detects the graphics card.
  - An Add New Hardware Wizard message box appears, informing you that a display adapter has been detected.
- 2. When a dialog box similar to Figure 7 appears, select the option Display a list of all the drivers in a specific location, so you can select the driver you want.
- 3. Click the **Next** button.
- 4. Insert the 3D Blaster GeForce 256 Annihilator CD into your CD-ROM drive.
- 5. In the **Models** list box, click the **Have Disk** button.
- 6. In the **Install From Disk** dialog box, type **D:\WINDOWS** (where D: represents your CD-ROM drive) and click the **OK** button. If you are installing 3D Blaster GeForce 256 Annihilator as a second or subsequent card to make use of Windows 98's multi-



Figure 7: Selecting the option **Display a list of all the** drivers in a specific location, so you can select the driver you want.

monitor capability, you will see an **Update Driver Warning** message telling you that the driver you have selected may not work correctly. You must click the Yes button to confirm that you want to use the selected driver. Otherwise, the system will install the wrong driver and will not recognize the card as a 3D Blaster GeForce 256 Annihilator card (for details, see "Windows 98 Multi-Monitor Display Problems" on page 19).

- 7. In the Models list box of the Select Device dialog box, make sure the Creative CT6941 entry is selected and click the **OK** button.
- 8. Click the **Next** button.

9. Click the **Finish** button.

The drivers are copied to your system.

- 10. When prompted to restart your system, click the **Yes** button.
- 11. After the system has restarted, proceed to install the applications. Click **Start** -> **Run**.
- 12. In the **Run** dialog box, type **D:\WINDOWS\SETUP** and click the **OK** button.
- 13. Follow the instructions on the screen to complete the setup.

  If you do not install all the applications now, you can install them later.

# For Windows NT 4.0 (Service Pack 3)

- 1. Switch on your system.
- 2. Click Start -> Run.
- 3. In the Run dialog box, type D:\WINNT40\SETUP and click the OK button.
- 4. Follow the instructions on the screen to complete the setup.

  If you do not install all the applications now, you can install them later.
- 5. If the **Invalid Display Settings** message box appears after your system has restarted, click the **OK** button and change the display settings. For details, see "For Windows 95/98" on page 11.

# Step 3: Changing Display Settings

# For Windows 95/98

- 1. Right-click your desktop, and then click **Properties** on the shortcut menu.
- 2. In the **Display Properties** dialog box, click the **Settings** tab.
- 3. In the **Desktop Area** (Window95) or the **Screen Area** (Windows98) group box, move the slider to set the desired resolution.
- 4. In the Color Palette group box, select the desired color. Certain colors may not be available for some display resolutions.
- 5. Click the **OK** button to close the **Display Properties** dialog box.

# For Windows NT 4 0

- 1. Right-click your desktop, and then click **Properties** on the shortcut menu.
- 2. In the **Display Properties** dialog box, click the **Settings** tab.
- 3. In the **Desktop Area** group box, move the slider to set the desired resolution.
- 4. In the Color Palette group box, select the desired color. Certain colors may not be available for some display resolutions.
- 5. In the **Refresh Frequency** group box, select the desired refresh rate.
- 6. To test the settings, click the **Test** button, and then click the **OK** button. When the **Testing Mode** dialog box re-appears:
  - If the test bitmap is properly displayed, click the **Yes** button.
  - If not, click the **No** button. A warning message will be displayed. Click the **OK** button and repeat steps 3 through 6, changing one or more of the settings.
- 7. Click the **OK** button to close the **Display Properties** dialog box.

# Step 4: Changing Performance Settings

# For Windows 95 and Windows NT 4.0



You can customize the settings of your graphics card for optimal performance with applications. However, if your monitor display exhibits pixel drop (that is, pixels, usually white in color, appear on the screen) or any other abnormal behaviour, revert to the factory default settings (see "Troubleshooting" on page 18).

- 1. Right-click your desktop, and then click **Properties** on the shortcut menu.
- 2. In the **Display Properties** dialog box, click the **BlasterControl** tab.
- On the **BlasterControl** tabbed page, click the **Tweak** icon.
- 4. In the **Tweak** module, select the desired settings.
- 5. To specify additional settings for 3D Blaster GeForce 256 Annihilator, click the Advanced Settings button.
- 6. Select the desired settings and click the **OK** button. To see a brief description of an option or check box in the **BlasterControl Tweak** module, right-click the item, and then click **What's This**.

## For Windows 98

- 1. Right-click your desktop, and then click **Properties** on the menu that appears.
- 2. In the **Display Properties** dialog box, click the **Settings** tab.
- On the **Settings** tabbed page, click the **Advanced** button.
- 4. In the Advanced Properties dialog box, click the BlasterControl tab.
- 5. Select the desired settings and click the **OK** button. To see a brief description of an option or check box in the BlasterControl Advanced module, right-click the item, and then click What's This.

# Getting More Information

For 3D Blaster
GeForce 256
Annihilator

The Help file for 3D Blaster GeForce 256 Annihilator gives a brief introduction to the features supported by this graphics card.

# To open the Help file for 3D Blaster GeForce 256 Annihilator

Click Start -> Programs -> Creative -> Creative CT6941 -> Creative CT6941 Help.

# For Creative BlasterControl

The Help file for Creative BlasterControl shows you how to use the BlasterControl utility to customize your screen resolution, color depth, and refresh rate in Windows.

# To open the Help file for BlasterControl

Click Start -> Programs -> Creative -> BlasterControl Help.

# For Help topics specific to a BlasterControl module

In the BlasterControl module you want, click the **Help** button.

# For Creative SoftMPEG

The Help file for Creative SoftMPEG teaches you how to use SoftMPEG to play Video CDs and MPEG files.

# To open the Help file for SoftMPEG

In Creative SoftMPEG, right-click the Video window, and then click **Help** on the menu that appears.

# **Technical Specifications**

Architecture Highlights	☐ 256-bit wide graphics architecture
	□ 32 MB SDRAM
	☐ 350 MHz Palette-DAC
	☐ 480 million pixels/sec, bilinear filtered
	☐ 2.6 GB/sec total memory bandwidth
	☐ AGP 4X with Fast Writes
3D Features	☐ Transform and Lighting (T&L) Engine
	• Graphics performance scale with Graphics Processor Unit (GPU), not CPU
	☐ Four rendering pipelines capable of delivering four pixels per clock
	☐ Cube environment mapping in hardware, fully supported by DirectX 7 and OpenGL
	☐ Complete DirectX 7 support
	☐ 100% hardware triangle setup
	☐ TextureBlend support:
	Multi-texture
	Bump map
	Light maps
	<ul> <li>Reflection maps</li> </ul>
	Detail textures

	☐ Backend blend
	<ul> <li>32-bit ARGB rendering with destination alpha</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Point sampled, bilinear and 8-tap anisotropic filtering</li> </ul>
	☐ Per pixel perspective correct texture mapping
	• Fog
	• Light
	<ul> <li>Mipmapping</li> </ul>
	☐ 32-bit Z/Stencil
	☐ 8-bit stencil buffer
	☐ Full scene anti-aliasing
D Features	☐ High performance 2D/GUI/DirectDraw acceleration
	☐ Fast 32-bit VGA/SVGA support
	☐ Multi-buffering (Double, Triple, Quad buffering) for smooth animation and video playback
/ideo Support	☐ Video acceleration for DirectShow, MPEG-1, MPEG-2 and Indeo
	☐ X and Y smooth up and down scaling with filtering
	☐ Per-pixel color keying
	☐ Video window with hardware color space conversion and filtering (YUV 4:2:2 and 4:2:0)
	☐ Supports VIP 2.0 specifications

Specifications	□ AGP 2X
	☐ AGP 4X with Fast Writes
	☐ VESA DDC 2B + DPMS
	☐ Single slot 2D, 3D graphics, and video accelerator
	☐ NVIDIA GeForce 256 <sup>™</sup> graphics engine
	☐ Integrated 350 MHz RAMDAC supporting up to 2048x1536 in true color
	☐ MPEG-1, MPEG-2, and full-motion video
	☐ Motion Compensation for MPEG-2 decoding
	☐ Full Plug and Play compliant
Drivers	☐ Windows NT 4.0 and Windows 2000 (when available) display drivers
	☐ Windows 95 and Windows 98 display driver, DirectDraw, Direct3D, DirectVideo, ActiveX
	☐ OpenGL ICD for Windows 95 and Windows NT 4.0
	□ VBE 3.0 compliant
Utilities	☐ Creative Enhanced BlasterControl <sup>TM</sup>
	☐ Creative Enhanced SoftMPEG
Applications Supported	☐ All Windows 95 applications, including DirectDraw and Direct3D games and applications
	☐ OpenGL applications under Windows 95 and Windows 98



The refresh rates shown in the table are the highest obtainable and are monitor-dependent. Resolutions, pixel depths, and refresh rates are also driver-dependent and may not be available for some applications or operating systems.

Table 2: Refresh rates supported by different video modes (based on 350 MHz RAMDAC).

Refresh Rates		Number of Colors	
Resolution	256 (8-bit)	16.7 million (32-bit)	
640x480	60, 70, 72, 75, 85, 100, 120, 140, 144, 150, 170, 200, 240	60, 70, 72, 75, 85, 100, 120, 140, 144, 150, 170, 200, 240	60, 70, 72, 75, 85, 100, 120, 140, 144, 150, 170, 200, 240
800x600	60, 70, 72, 75, 85, 100, 120, 140, 144, 170, 200, 240	60, 70, 72, 75, 85, 100, 120, 140, 144, 170, 200, 240	60, 70, 72, 75, 85, 100, 120, 140, 144, 170, 200, 240
1024x768	60, 70, 72, 75, 85, 100, 120, 140, 144, 150, 170, 200, 240	60, 70, 72, 75, 85, 100, 120, 140, 144, 150, 170, 200, 240	60, 70, 72, 75, 85, 100, 120, 140, 144, 150, 170, 200
1152x864	60, 70, 72, 75, 85, 100, 120, 140, 144, 150, 170, 200	60, 70, 72, 75, 85, 100, 120, 140, 144, 150, 170, 200	60, 70, 72, 75, 85, 100, 120, 140, 144, 150, 170
1280x960	60, 70, 72, 75, 85, 100, 120, 140, 144, 150, 170	60, 70, 72, 75, 85, 100, 120, 140, 144, 150, 170	60, 70, 72, 75, 85, 100, 120, 140, 150
1280x1024	60, 70, 72, 75, 85, 100, 120, 140, 144, 150, 170	60, 70, 72, 75, 85, 100, 120, 140, 144, 150, 170	60, 70, 72, 75, 85, 100, 120, 140, 144, 150
1600x900	60, 70, 72, 75, 85, 100, 120, 140, 144, 150	60, 70, 72, 75, 85, 100, 120, 140, 144, 150	60, 70, 72, 75, 85, 100, 120
1600x1200	60, 70, 72, 75, 85, 100, 120	60, 70, 72, 75, 85, 100, 120	60, 70, 72, 75, 85, 100
1920x1080	60, 70, 72, 75, 85, 100	60, 70, 72, 75, 85, 100	60, 70, 72, 75, 85
1920x1200	60, 70, 72, 75, 85, 100	60, 70, 72, 75, 85, 100	60, 70, 72, 75, 85

Table 2: Refresh rates supported by different video modes (based on 350 MHz RAMDAC).

Refresh Rates	Number of Colors		
Resolution	256 (8-bit)	64k (16-bit)	16.7 million (32-bit)
1920x1440	60, 70, 72, 75, 85	60, 70, 72, 75, 85	60, 70, 75
2048x1536	60, 70, 72, 75	60, 70, 72, 75	60

# **Troubleshooting**

System Hangs, Blank Screen or Corrupted Display

After installing 3D Blaster GeForce 256 Annihilator and starting your system, the monitor displays a blank screen.

# Solutions

Try the following:

- ☐ Switch off your system and wait a while before switching it on again.
- ☐ Verify that any built-in VGA on your motherboard is disabled and that you have removed any other video display card from your system.
- ☐ Ensure that your 3D Blaster GeForce 256 Annihilator card's bus connector is fully inserted into the expansion slot. Ensure this by pressing it gently and evenly into the slot.
- ☐ Verify that the pins of your monitor's VGA Input connector are not bent and that the connector is properly connected to the VGA Out connector of 3D Blaster GeForce 256 Annihilator.

# Windows 98 Multi-Monitor Display Problems

In a multi-monitor setting, the monitor connected to the 3D Blaster GeForce 256 Annihilator card remains blank even though the card and its drivers have been installed.

#### Cause

If 3D Blaster GeForce 256 Annihilator's drivers are not specified during the software installation, the system installs it as a standard VGA card that does not support Windows 98's multi-monitor feature.

# Solution

Update the device drivers to 3D Blaster GeForce 256 Annihilator's drivers:

- 1. Right-click your desktop, and then click **Properties** on the shortcut menu.
- 2. In the **Display Properties** dialog box, click the **Settings** tab.
- 3. On the **Settings** tabbed page, click the **Advanced Properties** button.
- 4. In the **Advanced Display Properties** dialog box, click the **Change** button.
- 5. In the **Select Device** dialog box, click the **Have Disk** button.
- 6. Insert the 3D Blaster GeForce 256 Annihilator CD into your CD-ROM drive.
- 7. Follow steps 6 through 13 of the procedure in "For Windows 98" on page 9 to complete the update.

# Other Display Problems

For the resolutions supported by your monitor, refer to its manual.

Monitor display flickers or the screen goes blank after Windows starts.

Cause

Your monitor may not support the resolution or refresh rate that you have set.

Solution

Use display settings supported by the monitor.

To change the display settings:

- 1. Restart your system in Windows 98 **Safe mode**. To do so:
  - i. Restart your system and when the message "Starting Windows 98..." appears, press <F8>.

A list of options such as **Safe Mode** and **Command Prompt Only Mode** appears.

- ii. Select **Safe Mode** and press <Enter>.
- 2. After your system has restarted, right-click the desktop and click **Properties**.
- 3. In the **Display Properties** dialog box, click the **Settings** tab.
- 4. Try the following:
  - ☐ Make sure that the correct monitor is selected.

    To verify, click the **Change Display Type** button or the **Advanced Properties** button on the **Settings** tabbed page.
  - ☐ Use a lower refresh rate or the adapter's default.

    For details on this, refer to the topic "Using BlasterControl Monitor Settings" in the BlasterControl Help file.
  - ☐ Lower your monitor's resolution.

    To do so, adjust the color depth and desktop area on the **Settings** tabbed page.

Monitor display exhibits pixel drop (that is, pixels, usually white in color, appear on the screen) or other abnormal behavior.

Cause

The settings that you have selected for your graphics card may be incompatible with one or more games or applications that you are running.

#### Solution

Use the factory default settings:

- 1. Right-click your desktop, and then click **Properties** on the shortcut menu.
- 2. In the **Display Properties** dialog box, click the **BlasterControl** tab.
- 3. On the **BlasterControl** tabbed page, click the **Tweak** icon.
- 4. Click the **Restore Defaults** button.

Beeping Sounds During System Startup

When the system is starting up, there is a series of prolonged beeps.

Cause

Your 3D Blaster GeForce 256 Annihilator card may not be firmly inserted into the expansion slot.

**Solution** 

Ensure that the bus connector of the graphics card is fully inserted into the expansion slot. Ensure this by pressing the card gently and evenly into the slot. You can also try removing the card and re-inserting it.

Problems Installing Software

In Windows 95 or Windows 98, the installation program for BlasterControl does not run automatically after you have inserted the installation CD into your drive.

Cause

The AutoPlay feature in your Windows 95 or Windows 98 system is not enabled.

Solution

To install the software from the CD:

- 1. Double-click the **My Computer** icon on your Windows desktop.
- 2. In the **My Computer** window, double-click the **Creative CT6941** icon. If the installation program does not run, double-click the **Windows** folder icon followed by the **Setup** icon.
- 3. Follow the instructions on the screen to complete the installation.

# **Problems Using Software**

When you restart Windows, one of the following error messages appears:

- □ "BlasterControl will only work on Creative graphics product drivers. Do you want BlasterControl to be loaded the next time you start Windows?"
- □ "BlasterControl will only work on Creative graphics product drivers."

Cause

3D Blaster GeForce 256 Annihilator drivers, required by BlasterControl, may have been replaced by other drivers when you installed DirectX applications.

Solution

Re-install or revert to the 3D Blaster GeForce 256 Annihilator drivers. To revert to the drivers:

- 1. Right-click your desktop, and then click **Properties** on the shortcut menu.
- 2. In the **Display Properties** dialog box, click the **Settings** tab, and then click the Change Display Type button or the Advanced Properties button.
- 3. In the **Adapter Type** group box or on the **Adapter** tabbed page, click the Change button.
- 4. In the **Select Device** dialog box, click **Creative CT6941**, and then click the OK button.
- 5. In the **Insert Disk** message box, click the **OK** button without inserting any CD.
- 6. If 3D Blaster GeForce 256 Annihilator drivers and later versions of DirectX drivers are already installed, click the **Skip File** button until the **Adapter Type** group box or the **Adapter** tabbed page appears.
- 7. Click the two **Close** buttons to close the **Display Properties** dialog box.
- 8. When prompted to restart your system, click the **Yes** button. After you have restarted your system, the newer DirectX drivers will work with the latest 3D Blaster GeForce 256 Annihilator drivers.

# Problem with OpenGL **Applications**

When starting OpenGL Screen Saver or applications in Windows 98, the message "No local buffer memory available" appears.

# Solution

Set a lower resolution and color depth:

- 1. Right-click your desktop, and then click **Properties** on the shortcut menu.
- 2. In the **Display Properties** dialog box, click the **Settings** tab.
- 3. In the **Desktop Area** group box, move the slider to set a lower resolution.
- 4. In the Color Palette group box, set to 640x480 and 16-bit color (high color) for OpenGL applications to work properly.

OpenGL applications run uncharacteristically slowly in Windows 98.

#### Cause

OpenGL applications do not support Windows 98's multi-monitor feature. Consequently, Windows 98 disables all hardware acceleration when the multimonitor option is enabled.

## Solution

Disable the multi-monitor option:

- 1. Right-click your desktop, and then click **Properties** on the shortcut menu.
- 2. In the **Display Properties** dialog box, click the **Settings** tab.
- 3. Clear the **Extend my Windows desktop onto this monitor** check box.

# Problem with PCI Bridge (in Windows 95)

After installing 3D Blaster GeForce 256 Annihilator onto a Pentium II LX system or any other AGP system, the Resources tabbed page of the 3D Blaster GeForce 256 Annihilator Properties dialog box in Windows 95 shows resource conflicts similar to the following:

Memory Range used FEDC0000 - FEDDFFFF used by PCI standard PCI-to-PCI bridge.

Memory Range used FD800000 - FDFFFFFF used by PCI standard PCI-to-PCI bridge.

Memory Range used FE000000 - FE7FFFFF used by PCI standard PCI-to-PCI bridge.

#### Cause

The "PCI standard PCI-to-PCI bridge" is the CPU chipset to AGP controller, which Windows 95 cannot identify properly.

# Solution

No action required.

A conflict between the AGP video controller and the "PCI standard PCI-to-PCI bridge" in the Windows 95 Device Manager does not affect the functionality of the AGP card within Windows 95. This problem is common to all AGP graphics cards and does not affect 3D Blaster GeForce 256 Annihilator's functionality. It has been resolved in Windows 98.

# Problem with AGP Aperture Size



Changing settings in CMOS incorrectly can cause the system to stop functioning.



Some of the steps from step 3 onwards may not apply to your system's CMOS. Refer to your system's CMOS documentation for more details.

DirectDraw/Direct3D fails to use hardware acceleration (HAL).

Cause The CMOS setting for the AGP Aperture size is less than 8 MB.

Solution Set the AGP Aperture size to 8 MB or more.

Do the following in CMOS:

- 1. Restart your system.
- 2. During the memory check, press < Delete >. The CMOS setup menu appears.
- 3. Select **Chipset Features Setup** and press <Enter>.
- 4. Set your **AGP Aperture Size (MB)** to **8 MB** or more.
- 5. Press <Esc> to return to the CMOS setup menu.
- 6. Select **Save & Exit Setup**, and then press <Enter>.
- 7. Press <Y> and then press <Enter>.

# Technical Support



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- IRO line, DMA channels used ☐ Motherboard information: BIOS manufacturer/version and chipset manufacturer
- ☐ Type and version of your operating system, e.g., DOS 6.0, Windows 3.1x, Windows 95, Windows 98 or Windows NT

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Should your store receipt indicate that the product is less than 30 days old, you have the option of calling Technical Support for assistance or returning the full product to the dealer/retailer, as they may offer a replacement or credit option within a specified period (see "European Help Line" section for contact numbers).

More than 30 days since date of purchase

First contact European Technical Support (see "European Help Line" section for contact numbers) to establish the nature of the problem and details on our repair returns procedure. Creative Labs requires that all returns for repair/replacement must first be issued with an authorisation number.

Returning a	product
for repair	

Contact Technical Support for technical assistance, and then, if deemed necessary, contact RMA to receive your authorisation number for repair/replacement of product.
Technical Support will communicate how to return the product in question for repair/replacement.
You should return only the <i>hardware</i> item in question and return it to the address detailed by technical support. It is not necessary to send the related software, accessories and original packaging.
Please quote the authorisation number clearly on the outside of the packaging, in which you return the hardware item in question.
Upon receipt of the faulty item, Creative Labs will process your request and arrange return

Creative may replace or repair the product with new or reconditioned parts, and the faulty parts will become the property of Creative. The warranty period for your repaired/replacement item is 90 days from the date of shipment from Creative, or what is left on the original item's warranty, whichever is longer.

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# **Creative European Help Line**

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To receive technical support via the Internet, please email: support @ CREATIVE-LABS.CO.UK

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