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Introduction

GrafixStar 550, VideoLogic's low-cost 2D/3D accelerator based on the Cirrus Logic CL-GD5464 chip, provides exceptional Windows 95 and 3D games performance in a single PCI-slot solution. It uses the ultra-fast Rambus RDRAM memory, available in 2 MB or 4 MB variants, to give performance over a wide range of display modes, and built-in video acceleration provides scaled-up accelerated playback of MPEG, Indeo, Cinepak and other digital formats.

The GrafixStar 550 software package includes performance-tuned drivers for Windows 95 and NT 4.0, plus over $300-worth of Prolab™ multimedia software including applications for video editing, processing scanned images and video stills, and an on-screen CD player.

To run GrafixStar 550 you need an IBM or fully compatible 486 PC or above which complies with the PCI local bus specification and which has a spare PCI bus slot.

Make sure you read the latest product information in the file \gs550\win95\disk1\vlgx550a.doc on the CD-ROM if you are running Windows 95, or if you are using another system, the file readme.txt in the root directory of the CD-ROM.

Handling GrafixStar 550

Follow these guidelines to minimize the risk of electrostatic charges damaging the card:

- Keep the card in its protective packaging until you are ready to install it.

- Just before handling the card, touch the metal frame of your PC with the back of your hand to discharge any static electricity which may have built up on you or your clothes.

- Hold the card by the adapter bracket or by its edges; do not touch the circuit board.

- Do not place the card on top of your computer or on any other metal surface.

- Make sure that the card is not accidentally touched by anyone else.

- Handle the card with care to avoid damage to the components on the circuit board.
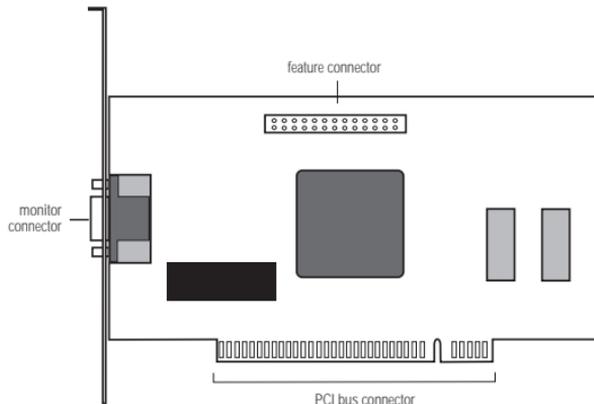
Installing GrafixStar 550

Installing the hardware

Note: If installing for Windows 3.1 or 3.11, make sure you have configured Windows to run with a standard VGA display before installation. To do this, double-click the Main program group, click the Options menu, click Change Systems Settings, and click VGA from the display list box.
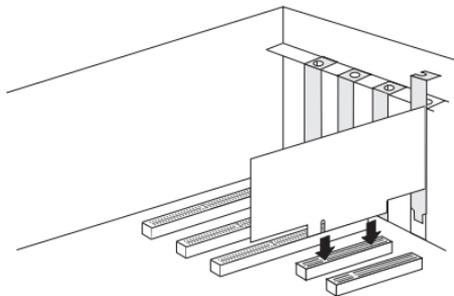
Warning: Always switch off your computer before removing the cover and observe the warnings specified in the manufacturer's documentation.

The following diagram shows the connectors on the card:

feature connector

monitor connector

PCI bus connector

1. Switch off your computer, monitor, and any hardware devices such as printers connected to your computer. Leave the power cable connected to the power outlet so that your computer is grounded.

2. Disconnect the monitor cable from your computer.

3. Remove the computer's cover. You may need to refer to the documentation supplied with your computer for instructions on how to do this.

4. Remove your existing display card or disable your built-in graphics controller. Refer to the documentation supplied with your computer for instructions on how to disable a built-in graphics controller.

5. Locate an empty PCI bus expansion slot and remove the slot cover. Keep the screw, you will need it later to secure the card.

6. Touch the bare metal chassis of your computer with the back of your hand to discharge any static that may have built up on you or your clothes.

7. Align GrafixStar 550 with the slot you have chosen. Firmly press the card into the slot, as shown in the diagram below. You will need to use some pressure to push the card into position, but do not use excessive force.

8. Secure GrafixStar 550 using the screw that you removed previously.

9. Replace the cover of your computer.

10. Connect the monitor cable to GrafixStar 550. All cables connected to GrafixStar 550 should be properly shielded and comply with radio frequency interference standards.

11. Switch on your computer and your computer monitor. You are now ready to install the software. If you are installing for Windows 95, continue below. If you are installing for Windows 3.1, turn to page 6.

Installing the Windows 95 software

1. When your computer has restarted, a window is displayed saying that Windows has found new hardware. Select Driver from disk provided by hardware manufacturer, and click OK.

2. Insert the VideoLogic Software Library CD-ROM into your CD-ROM drive.

3. Browse to the folder \gs550\win95\disk1 on the CD-ROM. Click OK.

4. At the Install From Disk dialog box click OK. The Windows 95 drivers are copied across from the CD-ROM.

5. A message is displayed notifying you of the change to your system's settings, and asking whether you want to restart the computer. Remove the CD-ROM from your CD-ROM drive, and click Yes.

6. When Windows has restarted and your desktop is available, insert the VideoLogic Software Library into your CD-ROM drive. The Interactive Installation Guide should run automatically from the VideoLogic Software Library CD-ROM. If not, run the file instaler.exe in the root directory of the CD-ROM.

    The Interactive Installation Guide presents you with the software available to GrafixStar 550 from the VideoLogic Software Library, which you can install simply by pointing and clicking.

Installing the Windows 3.1 or 3.11 software

Note: If you are running Windows 3.1 or 3.11, Windows should be set for a standard VGA display **before** you install the hardware, as explained on page 3 of this guide.

To install the GrafixStar 550 software for Windows 3.1 or 3.11:

1. Insert the VideoLogic Software Library CD-ROM into your CD-ROM drive.
2. Start Windows, click the File menu in Program Manager, and click Run.
3. Browse to \gs550\win31\disk1\install.exe on the CD-ROM, and click OK.
4. Follow the instructions that appear on the screen.
5. At the end of the on-screen installation, the WinMode display mode utility is displayed. This enables you to set up your refresh rate, screen resolution and color depth. Click the Help button for detailed instructions on how to use WinMode.
6. When you have set up your display mode, click OK. If you changed a refresh rate in WinMode, a message is displayed saying that the monitor timing must be changed. Click OK to let the computer make this change, and alter the autoexec.bat file for you.
7. A message is displayed asking whether you want to restart Windows. Click Yes. When Windows has restarted, GrafixStar 550 is ready to use.

Changing the screen display in Windows 3.1 or 3.11

To change the resolution or color depth of your display:

1. On your desktop, double-click the VGA Utilities program group.
2. Double-click WinMode utilities.

   You are now using the WinMode display utility, which enables you to set up your refresh rate, screen resolution and color depth. Click the Help button for detailed instructions on how to use WinMode.

3. When you have set up your display mode, click OK. If you changed a refresh rate in WinMode, a message is displayed saying that the monitor timing must be changed. Click OK to let the computer make this change, and alter the autoexec.bat file for you.

4. A message is displayed asking whether you want to restart Windows. Click Yes. When Windows has restarted, GrafixStar 550 is ready to use.

Installing GrafixStar 550 for other operating systems

There are a number of drivers supplied for operating systems other than Windows, such as OS/2 and AutoDesk AutoCAD. To install them, follow the instructions in the file \readme.txt on the VideoLogic Software Library CD-ROM.

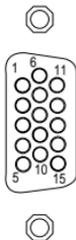# Technical details

Display modes

The display modes supported by GrafixStar 550 depend on the amount of memory installed on your card, as shown in the table below.

WINDOWS DISPLAY MODES		
Display Size	**Colors**	**Refresh Rate (Hz)**
1600 x 1200	256	48i, 60, 65, 75, 85
1280 x 1024	65,536	**43i, 60, 70, 72**
	256	43i, 60, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 100
1280 x 960	65,536	**60, 70, 72**
	256	60, 70, 75, 85, 90, 100
1152 x 864	65,536	60, 70, 75, 85
	256	60, 70, 75, 85, 90, 100, 120
1024 x 768	16.7 million	**43i, 60, 70, 75, 85**
	65,536	43i, 60, 70, 75, 85, 90, 100
	256	43i, 60, 70, 75, 85, 90, 100, 120
800 x 600	16.7 million	56, 60, 72, 75, 85, 90, 100, 140
	65,536	56, 60, 72, 75, 85, 90, 100, 120, 150
	256	56, 60, 72, 75, 85, 90, 100, 120, 150
640 x 480	16.7 million	60, 72, 75, 85, 90, 100, 120, 150
	65,536	60, 72, 75, 85, 90, 100, 120, 150
	256	60, 72, 75, 85, 90, 100, 120, 150

Modes in **bold** available with 4 MB only.

Monitor connector

GrafixStar 550 uses a standard 15-way high density 'D' socket. If your monitor uses a different connector your monitor dealer will be able to supply an adapter. The pin-outs are as follows:

PIN	SIGNAL	PIN	SIGNAL	PIN	SIGNAL
1	Red video	6	Red return	11	Unused
2	Green video	7	Green return	12	DDC2B-Data
3	Blue video	8	Blue return	13	Horizontal
4	Reserved	9	+5 V	14	Vertical
5	Ground	10	Sync return	15	DDC2B-Clock

Power and temperature specifications

GrafixStar 550 operates at a nominal power rating of +6.5 watts (8.5 watts max), at temperatures between 10ºC (50ºF) and 50ºC (122ºF).

Troubleshooting

This section provides solutions to problems that can happen when installing and using GrafixStar 550. For more information refer to the file \gs550\win95\disk1\vlgx550a.doc on the CD-ROM if you are running Windows 95, or if you are using another system, the file readme.txt in the root directory of the CD-ROM.

Problem: After installing GrafixStar 550, my PC does not start.

Solution: Your old graphics controller or graphics card is still active. Remove the old card or disable your graphics controller, referring to your computer's documentation for instructions on how to do this.

Your old graphics card is not seated properly in your PC. Check that the card's connectors are fitted properly into the PCI slot. You may need to move the card into another slot.

Problem: My screen is blank (black) when Windows 95 has loaded.

Solution: The Hardware Acceleration bar in the Graphics section of the System Properties Performance page has been set to None, and must be changed to Full.

Restart your computer in Safe Mode, then display the 'My Computer' group, point at the monitor icon at the top left corner of the group and click the right-hand mouse button to display the context-sensitive menu. Click Properties, then Performance, then Graphics, and then set the bar to Full.

Technical support

If you have any problems while installing or using GrafixStar 550, go through these steps.

1. Check the troubleshooting information in the readme file on the CD-ROM.

2. Visit our technical support Internet web pages at http://www.videologic.com

3. Contact us online using one of the following services:

   - Internet web site: http://www.videologic.com
   - Internet ftp site: ftp:/ftp.videologic.com
   - e-mail (USA, Canada & South America): support_usa@videologic.com
   - e-mail (Germany): support_gmbh@videologic.com
   - e-mail (UK & all other countries): support@videologic.com
   - bulletin board (USA, Canada & South America): +1 415 875 7748 (to 28.8, 8-N-1)
   - bulletin board (Germany): +49 (0)61 03 37 12 57 (to 28.8, 8-N-1)
   - bulletin board (UK & all other countries): +44 (0)1923 271301 (to 28.8, 8-N-1)

4. Contact your original supplier for technical help.

5. Call our customer support group. Try to have details to hand such as your PC's make and model, other cards installed, software you are running, and how to recreate the problem.

   USA, Canada & South America: +1 415 875 0606
   Germany: +49 (0)61 03 93 47 14
   UK & all other countries: +44 (0)1923 271300

The VideoLogic FaxBack service

The FaxBack service provides a listing of VideoLogic products, with summary descriptions and reviews. When you use this service you will be asked to provide your fax number. If calling from outside the USA, Canada and South America your number is 011, your country code, then your fax number. Use the # key when prompted to press the pound sign key.

   USA, Canada & South America: 800 203 8587
   Outside USA, Canada & South America: +1 800 203 8587

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