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## Apple IIGS: Cannot Access 3COM Server

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TOPIC -----

A customer with an existing 3COM network wants to connect an Apple IIGS system and have access to the 3COM server. Is this possible?

DISCUSSION -----

To connect an Apple IIGS to a file server, the file server must be an AppleTalk Filing Protocol (AFP) file server. 3COM's file server is not an AFP file server. Their file server can coexist with AFP file servers but does not function as an AFP device.

The reason the server must use the AFP for the Apple IIGS is because software must be installed into the AppleShare File Server Admin application before the Apple IIGS recognizes the server. Because the 3COM file server uses its own network filing protocols, the Apple IIGS will not recognize the 3COM server.

The Apple IIGS can be attached to a LocalTalk network that is connected to the 3COM server, but it will not be able to access the 3COM server. If there are LaserWriters on the LocalTalk network, the Apple IIGS can print to them.

Until 3COM's file server is seen as an AFP server by the AppleTalk, a way to provide file service from 3COM to the Apple IIGS seems unlikely.

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