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Apple Internet Router: Technical Q&A (2/93)

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TOPIC -----

This article answers technical questions about Apple Internet Router.

DISCUSSION -----

Q: Does the Macintosh running the Apple Internet Router software have to be dedicated to routing only?

A: No. The Apple Internet Router operates in the background and allows the Macintosh to be used for other foreground applications. Though the router can be run in the background of a user's workstation, it creates the potential to disrupt the integrity of the internet if the user crashes an application or turns off the Macintosh. A more secure internet can be created by running the router in the background of other Apple server products such as the AppleShare Server and Apple SNA•ps Gateway software. The Apple Internet Router should be run by itself for optimum performance on large internets.

Q: How many physical ports available can be interconnected with a single Apple Internet Router?

A: Up to 32 physical ports are available on the Apple Internet Router.

Q: Does the Apple Internet Router support remote administration?

A: The Apple Internet Router supports network management through the industry-standard Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP). By using the Timbuktu product from Farallon, which is detailed in the Apple Internet Router Solutions Guide, users can remotely administer the Apple Internet Router.

Q: How many virtual circuits can the AppleTalk/X25 Wide Area Extension support?

A: The X25 can support eight virtual circuits per Apple Serial NB Card for a total of up to 32 virtual circuits.

Q: Can the AppleTalk/IP Wide Area Extension run over Ethernet and Token Ring?

A: Yes.

Q: Does the SNMP router agent in the Apple Internet Router support SNMP sets?

A: Currently the SNMP agent only supports GETS, which allows any SNMP-based management console to manage the router. However, the IETF is in the process of defining SNMP sets and Apple will support these specifications when they are finalized.

Q: What kind of performance can we expect to see with the Apple Internet Router?

A: Apple does not discuss performance ratings of its products because such figures are often misleading.

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