LocalTalk PC Card: A Description (Discontinued May 1991)

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TOPIC--

This article describes the discontinued LocalTalk PC Card, now updated and
marketed by Farallon Computing, Inc under the product name: PhoneNET PC Card.
To obtain Farallon contact information, use "Farallon" as a search string.

DISCUSSION---

The LocalTalk PC Card lets you to attach MS-DOS computers to the
AppleTalkPersonal Network, the fastest-growing personal computer LAN.

You can enhance documents produced with PC-based applications by incorporating
fonts, styles, and graphics that were previously unavailable. And you can print
documents of near-typeset quality.

The LocalTalk PC Card translates documents into the PostScript page description
language, allowing you to access PostScript features for creating your own
custom graphics and layouts. The LocalTalk PC Card supports applications such as
WordStar, MultiMate, and Lotus 1-2-3; and the PostScript, Diablo 630, and ASCII
print file formats.

The LocalTalk PC Card establishes a standard from which developers can create
MS-DOS applications for AppleTalk. Two such applications are InBox PC from Think
Technologies and EtherSC from Kinetics. InBox PC features electronic mail and
file transfer between a Macintosh Plus and an MS-DPS system. EtherSC is an SCSI
Ethernet Interface that allows a Macintosh Plus to run AppleTalk over a directly
connected Ethernet.

To use the LocalTalk PC Card you need:

- An AppleTalk Personal Network

- One LocalTalk Connector Kit

- An MS-DOS-compatible computer with:
    - a minimum of 256K
    - two double-sided floppy disk drives or
      one hard disk and one floppy disk drive
    - PC-DOS Version 3.1 or later

- One LaserWriter or LaserWriter Plus printer.

Technical Specifications

AppleTalk Protocol Support   Interfaces
ALAP,DDP,ATP,NBP,ZIP,Echo, PAP RTMP RS-422 serial prot (230.4 kilobaud data
                                    transfer rate); DMA interface to host PC

Drive Interface   Configuration
Accessed through software interrupt Selectable Interrupt Request (IRQ),DMA
with parameter block   Request and Acknowledge (DRQ and DACK),
                                    and I/O Address; default configuration
                                    corresponding to PC COM2 device

Processor   Power Consumption (typical)
65C02; 1.8 MHz clock speed   4 watts at 5 volts DC

Memory   AppleTalk communications controller
8 kilobytes RAM, 8 kilobytes ROM   Zilog 8530 SCC

Accessible Fonts   PostScript Programming Access
Courier, Helvetica, and Times Roman PostScript programming additions may be
(directly from PC LaserWriter Plus   made directly within the text of a file
fonts (Using PostScript commands)   so that programming additions can be
                                    made available to all documents

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10 March 1994 - Updated article to include discontinued information
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