

FriendlyNet 10Base-T: Won't Switch Among IEEE 802.3 Draft Modes

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TOPIC -----

I want to connect a Macintosh Quadra 700 to an existing Novell-based EtherNet with 10Base-T. I can't get contact, and I think it's because the existing network is based on IEEE 802.3 draft 5, while Apple's implementation most likely is draft 10. Other cards/transceivers have the ability to switch between the two modes. What does Apple do to connect to a network based on draft 5?

DISCUSSION -----

There was a significant amount of work done and products sold before the standard was finalized. Many of the hubs produced before the standard was finalized don't support the Link Integrity function, a test signal used to verify the connection between the transceiver and the hub.

Unfortunately, we don't have any way to disable Link Integrity for our FriendlyNet 10Base-T transceiver, nor do any of the third-party FriendlyNet compatible transceivers support the disabling of this signal. The only solution for this type of environment is to purchase a third-party 10Base-T Ethernet card that supports disabling the Link Integrity function. Copyright 1992 Apple Computer, Inc.

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