Open Transport 1.1.1: Cross-Platform Issues FAQ (10/96)

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TOPIC ---

This article is the Open Transport 1.1.1, Cross-Platform Issues FAQ (frequently asked questions).

DISCUSSION --

Question: Will Apple port Open Transport to Windows or UNIX?

Answer: Apple does not plan to port Open Transport to other operating systems. Rather, Open Transport is based on Apple porting three existing, cross-platform industry standards to MacOS. These standards have their roots in the UNIX community and experienced UNIX network developers will find themselves "right at home" when developing for Open Transport.

Question: What about Windows developers? What about Windows Sockets?

Answer: NetManage, the leading developer of TCP/IP protocols and applications for DOS and Windows, now offers Windows Socket tools for MacOS, to provide access to Open Transport/TCP and MacTCP services via the Windows Sockets (WinSock 1.1) API.

NetManage's WinSock for the MacOS is WinSock 1.1 compliant and is being certified by the WinSock Labs operated by Stardust Technologies, Inc., which performs compatibility testing. The SDK for MacOS costs $250 per license, with free distribution.

For more information, contact NetManage at 1-408-973-7171.

Question: With both XTI and Windows Sockets available for Open Transport, which API should a developer use?

Answer: The choice of API will depend upon a developer's background, experience, and goals. For developers with a background in UNIX, a need for POSIX compliance, or a need to deploy an application across MacOS and UNIX systems, XTI is the logical choice. For developers with a background on Microsoft Windows, or a need to deploy an application across MacOS and Windows, Windows

95, and/or Windows 95 systems, the planned WinSock tools from NetManage will provide an attractive cross-platform alternative.

Apple is committed to XTI and will focus development on transport independence around this API. MacOS developers now using classic AppleTalk or MacTCP APIs are encouraged to move to Open Transport XTI API.

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