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SNA•ps 3270 Manager, Users Guide, and v25bis Problem (7/93)

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TOPIC -----

In setting up an SDLC connection using SNA•ps 3270 Manager, I selected "switched" and "v25bis". The phone number field will not accept any special characters (, ; w t) to control dialing. For example, when you move to a new field or try to save the config document you get the error, "invalid value; previous value substituted."

This is contradictory to the manual in Appendix G Configuring and Managing in a 3270 Environment under SDLC of the SNA•ps 3270 Users Guide. What's wrong, is it the manual or software?

DISCUSSION -----

We tested SNA•ps 3270 Manager v2.0, and found the following:

- It is possible to configure for V25bis with the comma (,)
- Not with the Wait characters (W w :)
- Not with the Pause characters (K k <)
- Not with the Pulse characters (P p)
- Not with the Tone characters (T t)
- Not with the Flash Hook characters (& !)
- Not with the semicolon (;)
- Not with the Special Tone characters (A B C D * #)
- Most of the Presentation characters (- () and space) worked, but the dot (.) did not work.

However, all of these characters worked properly when the SNA•ps Config (version 2.0) was used instead of the SNA•ps 3270 Manager. SNA•ps Config would accept a "space" as a presentation character, but upon closing and reopening the configuration window, all characters behind the space were undisplayed - although they were still "there". (This was shown by an attempt to reenter the "missing" characters and having the application 'beep' and then display the "missing" characters.)

As you mentioned SNA•ps 3270 Manager, we are assuming you don't have access to SNA•ps config. Even if you did have access to SNA•ps Config, the SNA•ps 3270 Manager can not open a configuration created by SNA•ps Config. SNA•ps

Admin would be required to start a gateway configured by SNA•ps Config.

If you have version 2.0 of SNA•ps 3270, the comma (,) and common US presentation characters (- () and space) are functioning with that release. If you need additional characters, then yes SNA•ps 3270 Manager won't handle them.

Our sources tell us, "Anything but the most straight-forward set-ups really need to be done in SNA•ps Config and SNA•ps Admin. Yes, the SNA•ps 3270 Users Guide does not make it clear that 3270 Manager won't handle the complicated phone numbers."

A possible work-around would be to enter the phone number information in the modem itself. When DTR goes up the modem will dial the stored number. This would require a direct cable from the modem to the Macintosh, and an async terminal emulator (like MacTerminal) to set the modem configuration. It isn't hard, but it does require the modem's manual to be sure you get it right.

So, you either need SNA•ps Config and SNA•ps Admin (the Gateway product), or you need to configure the modem itself.

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