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VAX/VMS and TCP/IP Questions and Answers

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TOPIC -----

- 1) Can someone running Telnet and using MacTCP or Telnet's the built-in communications on a LocalTalk Macintosh, communicate with a host on Ethernet through an AppleTalk Internet Router?
- 2) Can someone on a Macintosh using Telnet (with or without MacTCP) communicate with a VAX running VMS? Do you need other software on the VAX so that it can "speak" TCP?

DISCUSSION -----

- 1) The user will not be able to communicate with the host without a DDP/IP gateway for this reason:

A DDP/IP gateway is a device that takes the AppleTalk-encapsulated IP packets from LocalTalk and decapsulates them. This device (such as the FastPath) then broadcasts them onto Ethernet as IP packets. The AppleTalk Internet Router is not a DDP/IP gateway and is not capable of this.

It is important to note that MacTCP 1.0 will not work across a router, AppleTalk Internet Router included, if class C IP addressing is being used. Class A and class B addressing work properly. If the user needs to use Class C addressing, please contact us for a temporary fix.

- 2) If the Macintosh is on LocalTalk, the user will need a DDP/IP gateway as explained above. If it is on Ethernet, the DDP/IP gateway is not needed. The VAX running VMS needs to run a communications package that supports TCP/IP. Digital Equipment Corporation distributes Network Research Corporation FUSION TCP/IP and the Wollongong Group's WIN/TCP and WIN/TCP-DDN through the Digital Distributed Software (DDS) program. Another example is the TCP/IP software for VAX/VMS by Process Software.

You may want to contact DEC's DECdirect Prepurchase Technical Assistance or Process Software departments directly. For more details, search the Technical Info library under "Digital Equipment Corporation."

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