SNA•ps: Compatibility with Other Apple Products (6/94)

Article Created: 4 August 1992
Article Reviewed/Updated: 29 June 1994

TOPIC ---

What is the compatibility of SNA•ps with other Apple products?

DISCUSSION --

SNA•ps stands for Systems Network Architecture protocols and service, and is a
family of applications that provide Macintosh users with integrated access to
IBM mainframe (System/370 and System/390) and mid-range (AS/400 only) systems.
SNA•ps 3270 or SNA•ps 5250 is end-user application software that presents the
user with one or more 3270 or 5250 terminal sessions. It's designed to present
the user with a text-based interface to applications, data, and services. The
SNA•ps Gateway is server software that provides a network access to IBM
mainframe and mid-range systems. It's designed to serve as an IBM gateway for
multiple Macintosh computers attached to AppleTalk networks.

The SNA•ps 3270 application, which is included in both the SNA•ps 3270 and
SNA•ps 3270 GC (gateway client) packages, will run on the Macintosh Plus and
later systems. The SNA•ps Gateway application runs on one of the three Apple
NuBus cards, and so requires any Macintosh II or Quadra system that incorporate
NuBus. One caveat: the SNA•ps 3270 application includes support for certain
connections (CUT and NLCA) on the Apple Coax/Twinax Card, which also requires a
Macintosh II or Quadra computer.

The SNA•ps 5250 application software works with the Apple Token Ring 4/16 NB
Card or Apple Serial NB Card installed in any Macintosh II or Quadra (NuBus
capable) computer and supports directly connected or AppleTalk distributed 5250
sessions. SNA•ps 5250 sessions are distributed over AppleTalk allows SNA access
for any Macintosh system connected to an AppleTalk network. SNA•ps 5250 also
supports TCP/IP connections to an AS/400 for display support only. SNA•ps 5250
was recently enhanced to support AppleTalk Direct to the AS/400 using the IBM
supplied AppleTalk ADSP stack.

SNA•ps requires Macintosh system software 7.0 or later.

A/UX doesn't support the SNA•ps 3270, SNA•ps 5250 and SNA•ps Gateway software at
this time.

Ethernet supports SNA•ps, but only for connections between Macintosh clients and

SNA•ps Gateways over AppleTalk networks. Ethernet is also supported to the AS/400 using the AppleTalk Direct solution. The connection between the SNA•ps Gateway and the mainframe currently must be either coax, SDLC, or Token Ring.

SNA•ps will run on the Apple TokenTalk NB Card (Apple's earlier 4M/bps Token Ring product) for SNA•ps 3270 GC via AppleTalk, SNA•ps 3270 single user full function SNA product (up to 5 sessions), and the SNA•ps 5250 single user full function SNA product (up to 5 sessions). Since you can't expand the MCP RAM on the TokenTalk NB Card beyond 512K, it is NOT recommended to run the SNA•ps Gateway products. Also, because of RAM limitations neither SNA•ps 3270 single user or SNA•ps 5250 single user products can run at the same time as TokenTalk.

SNA•ps will run on the Apple Token Ring 4/16 NB Card and an Apple Serial NB Card, and as a rule of thumb, a Serial or Token Ring card running SNA•ps gateways need 1MB. If multiple host connections are used (for example more than one host AS/400 and 3270 mainframe) at the same time than 2.5MB is suggested.

SNA•ps supports IBM's NetView network management. The NetView alerts supported are listed in Appendix E of the SNA•ps 3270 User's Guide (packaged with SNA•ps 3270 and SNA•ps 3270 GC). You can print directly from the IBM mainframe to a local Apple (or compatible) printer. The SNA•ps 3270 single user, SNA•ps 3270 GC, SNA•ps 5250 single user, and SNA•ps 5250 GC packages include an application called SNA•ps Print which allows you, for example, to send host output directly to a LaserWriter attached to your AppleTalk network.

The following is a partial list of third-party client software that can use the SNA•ps Gateway to access IBM hosts:

• Legent Corp. MacXCOM6.2
• Connectivité "Both."
• Tangram Systems AM:PM
• ASC asc3270
• Andrew Corp. TokenAxcess
• CEL Software Blacksmith
• Data Access Language (DAL) clients such as Brio DataPrism and DataPivot
• Microsoft Excel
• ACI US, Inc. 4th Dimension
• Fairfield Software ClearAccess
• Andyne GeoQuery

You can develop custom applications that use the SNA•ps Gateway services in C, Pascal, or Assembler. The SNA•ps Gateway supports both 3270, 5250 and APPC client application developments through Applications Programming Interfaces (API). These APIs are available from Wall Data directly. You can purchase the SNA•ps APPC Developer's Kit v1.0 and Apple 3270/5250 Developer's Kit v2.0.

To locate a vendor's address and phone numbers, use the vendor name as a search string.

Article Change History:
29 Jun 1994 - Updated the article and TokenTalk NB Card information.
15 Mar 1993 - Updated, Acius now ACI US, Inc.

Keywords: knts

===

This information is from the Apple Technical Information Library.

19960215 11:05:19.00
Tech Info Library Article Number: 10509