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MacTCP: Routing Information Gateway Address (8/95)

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TOPIC -----

What is the function of the "Routing Information: Gateway address" in the MacTCP control panel? What should I enter if I have multiple routers on the subnet? Why do I have trouble connecting even when I've entered this information correctly?

DISCUSSION -----

The Routing Information Gateway Address should be filled with the default router. Your network administrator will be able to give you that information based on the configuration of your network.

If you have multiple routers on a subnet, you should enter the router that is designated as the default router by the network administrator. If the network is not designed with a preference, have the administrator pick the router you should use.

Although MacTCP uses the default router for connecting to remote addresses that are not on the local subnet, MacTCP will obey any extra router information transmitted via RIP (Routing Information Protocol) broadcasts.

RIP response packets contain information on router addresses and the networks they route to. MacTCP stores RIP response packets as they arrive and uses any routing information provided.

Occasionally users find that MacTCP does not connect to hosts on remote networks. One possible cause is, a network with have routers that advertise incorrect RIP information, which causes MacTCP to use other, non-default routers. Restarting the Macintosh will temporarily clear the information, however, RIP broadcasts are usually sent every 30 seconds, and this is only a short term solution. The long term remedy is to have the network administrator properly configure any devices advertising RIP responses.

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