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DAL and SNA•ps Access Over IP-Only Backbone

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TOPIC -----

We have a mix of LocalTalk, Token Ring, and Ethernet (IP only). We have a Token Ring connection to the host using the Apple SNA•ps gateway (Token Ring to host, distributed over LocalTalk to other Macintosh computers). The LocalTalk network has a FastPath connection to the IP backbone and other LocalTalk networks are connected to the Ethernet backbone. Could people on these other LocalTalk networks see the SNA•ps gateway, and have DAL access, if the host has the appropriate DAL server? In other words, could the DAL and SNA•ps traffic go over the IP-only backbone?

DISCUSSION -----

The Macintosh computers on the other LocalTalk networks won't be able to see the SNA•ps gateway if the Ethernet in between them allows only IP traffic. The traffic between the gateway and all the clients is AppleTalk.

Similarly, these Macintosh computers won't be able to access the DAL Server on the host. Though DAL supports a MacTCP connection to VM hosts, the host itself must have an IP connection to the Ethernet. In your case, the traffic between the LocalTalk networks via FastPath is still AppleTalk. If the host is VTAM, the LocalTalk Macintosh computers can access the DAL Server via the SNA•ps APPC gateway, but this is also AppleTalk traffic.
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