



Tech Info Library

Open Transport: Unable To Get Ethernet Address (4/96)

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TOPIC -----

I have a Power Macintosh 9500 and I am experiencing problems with MacIPX. Is there a known problem with MacIPX and Open Transport? I am also unable to use GetMyAddress to determine the Ethernet address of the built-in Ethernet on my Power Macintosh 9500. How can I get the address?

DISCUSSION -----

Open Transport 1.1 is available, and Apple recommends upgrading to it. The .enet shim is no longer needed for compatibility as described below. Also please contact Novell for compatibility information on MacIPX with Open Transport 1.1.

The first release of System 7.5.2 that shipped with the first Power Macintosh 9500 machines did not include a piece of code called .enet shim, or an enet Compatibility Module. Tech Info Library article "Open Transport and Compatibility Mode" refers to the .enet to DLPI conversion for more information. This shim is required for applications such as MacIPX, SoftPC networking, DECnet and others to interact with Open Transport.

The 'shim' functionality was rolled into the System suitcase of the second release of System 7.5.2 which shipped on the Power Macintosh 7200, 7500 and 8500 systems.

Even with the ".enet shim" in place. GetMyAddress does not report a physical Ethernet address unless some other program has successfully used the shim already. GetMyAddress expects the ".enet" driver to be open already, and does not try to open it itself. This means GetMyAddress will fail to work unless some other program is run first that opens the ".enet" driver. MacIPX is one example of a program that will open the driver, and allow GetMyAddress to work.

The developer of the "Apple LAN Utility" has released version 1.0b4 which can locate the physical Ethernet address on a Power Macintosh 9500. Look for the update on on-line services. This utility is not an officially supported solution, but has worked for Apple customers in the past.

These articles can help you locate the software update mentioned here:

- "Where To Find Apple Software Updates" -- Lists online services for free Apple software updates.
- "Obtaining Apple Product Support in the USA" -- Lists 800 numbers and online services for software updates, Apple support information, and a subset of the Apple Tech Info Library.

Article Change History:

- 16 Apr 1996 - Updated to OT 1.1 and removed old CD-ROM informaiton.
- 22 Aug 1995 - Added new CD-ROM disc ordering information.
- 15 Aug 1995 - Clarified where shim is located in the software.

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