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## Open Transport TCP/IP and Windows NT DHCP (12/95)

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TOPIC -----

When we configure our Macintosh computers for DHCP, we get an IP address back, but that's it -- we cannot get past our routers, and we have no DNS services. The TCP/IP control panel does not list any information other than the IP address.

Also, Windows 95 sends a machine name back to the server, so knowing the MAC address of a machine is not necessary when administering the Windows NT DHCP server. Is there some way the Macintosh can be configured to also send a machine name?

DISCUSSION -----

The Windows NT DHCP server will not return configuration options unless they are specified by the client. This is in violation of RFC 1541 "Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol", the DHCP specification, which states that all parameters with non-default values on the client's subnet MUST be returned. So, the client is not receiving ANY configuration information for default gateways, subnet mask, DNS address, broadcast addr, and domain name(s).

We are addressing this issue in Open Transport 1.1, which is slated for release in early 1996. This will in no way affect Apple Computer's inter-operability with RFC 1541 compliant DHCP implementations.

The work-around is to manually fill in the subnet mask, gateway, and DNS information in the Advanced user mode screen of the TCP/IP control panel. After filling in the information, the Windows NT DHCP server will give an IP address, and the Macintosh computers will have the proper entries they need. Incidentally, this Open Transport TCP/IP Advanced user mode setup can be saved and exported, consequently being imported onto other Macintosh computers on the same subnet.

Sending a machine name to the server is what's called an "option" in DHCP. We currently have no plans to support any options not necessary for full IP functionality.

Article Change History:

15 Dec 1995 - Updated Open Transport 1.1 release time frame.

Support Information Services

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