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327x Terminal Emulation/File Transfer over Asynchronous Lines

Article Created: 15 November 1991

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TOPIC -----

Is there a product to connect a Macintosh via asynchronous lines to an IBM 3090 system? What communications controller would IBM have to use to support such a connection if one exists?

Is there a product called Mac3Xlink, which can do asynchronous connection for a 3270 session? On the IBM PC, the protocol is supposed to be called Fterm protocol or FDterm protocol.

DISCUSSION -----

We don't recognize the name Mac3XLink, and the name sounds like a product for IBM System 3x, not 3090. The PC/HOST File Transfer and Terminal Emulator Program (FTTERM) provides 3270, DEC VT100, DEC VT220 and 3101 terminal emulators, along with 3270 and ASCII file transfer capabilities. In addition, FTTERM Version 2.1 expands its connectivity options to let an IBM Personal Computer or Personal System/2 operate on an IBM Token Ring Network or a Broadband IBM PC Network local area network (LAN).

There is no FTERM version on the Macintosh platform. However, many vendors provide Macintosh 327x Terminal Emulation/File Transfer over synchronous and asynchronous connections:

- Simware offers multi-session 3270 terminal emulators and file transfer over asynchronous lines, if used in conjunction with their host software Sim3278 virtual memory or VTAM.
- RELAY provides file transfer over asynchronous lines to a mainframe running RELAY Communications' RELAY/virtual memory or RELAY/TSO.
- MacBLAST software for IBM mainframe also transfers text or binary files via asynchronous ports or protocol converters. MacBLAST is available from Communications Research Group.
- Avatar MacMainFrame DX provides single-session terminal emulation and file transfer over asynchronous lines.

You need an IBM 7171 Protocol Converter or compatible product to use these software products.

You can find more information about these products in the Apple Multivendor Network Solutions Guide, Part number M6198/C, or search The Redgate Macintosh Registry under Third Parties on AppleLink.

On AppleLink, you can find contact information for the various vendors by clicking the Library Index button to view the folder structure in the Tech Info Library. An alphabetic listing of vendors is in the Third Party Company Directory folder.

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Keywords: <None>

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19960215 11:05:19.00

Tech Info Library Article Number: 9352