



Tech Info Library

LaserWriter: Token Ring and NetPort or SprintTALK/25T (7/93)

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TOPIC -----

I'm exploring the possibility of using an Intel NetPort to connect LaserWriters to Token Ring via the serial port (or parallel port on the NTR).

What products are available to connect LaserWriters to Token Ring?

DISCUSSION -----

There are no products available to connect a LaserWriter directly to a Token Ring network. One solution available is Digital Products' SprintTALK/25T, or to locate the printer behind a Token Ring-to-LocalTalk or Token Ring-to-Ethernet router.

The NetPort won't work unless you only want to print to the printer from Novell servers. You may be able to configure a Novell server that has the AppleTalk NLM installed to print to a printer attached to the NetPort. In that case, it would be easier and more direct to just attach the printer to the Novell server. If you have Novell servers installed, you may want to explore this further.

SprintTALK/25

SprintTALK/25 lets you directly connect Macintosh computers and LocalTalk compatible printers to an Ethernet or Token Ring network. While other Ethernet print servers limit you on the number of printers you can connect, SprintTALK/25E provides support for up to eight printers. SprintTALK/25T provides the industry's only fast, easy, and inexpensive conversion of TokenTalk to LocalTalk.

You may locate the AppleTalk devices anywhere that's convenient, because SprintTALK/25 is also a single zone router, Macintoshes and other LocalTalk devices can also be connected and accessed. Any Macintosh on the network can see and print to any connected printer via the standard Macintosh "Chooser" window, users don't have to operate network software or change queues.

NetPort Description

NetPort is a print server for NetWare 2.x and 3.x token ring networks running at either 4 or 16 Mbits/sec. You can connect to two printers anywhere on the network without shutting down the file server. NetPort is completely transparent to users and takes up no workstation or file server memory. The server is fully self-contained, including microprocessor, memory, NIC, and one serial and one parallel port. Print server software in the NetPort eliminates the need for a NetWare VAP or NLM. The unit's flash memory allows configuration updates via software, rather than replacing ROM chips. The NetPort is also available for thin coaxial, thick coaxial, and twisted-pair Ethernet versions. Contact Intel Corp. Personal Computer Enhancement Division for more information.

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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23 July 1993 - Company title updated from Intel Corp., Personal Computer Enhancement Operation to Intel Corp., Personal Computer Enhancement Division.

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