

Ethernet Network and Multiple Protocols Issue

This article last reviewed: 14 July 1989

TOPIC -----

I want to use both AppleTalk 1.0 and TCP/IP protocols.

Are there any problems using both at the same time over the same cable under A/UX? (That is, the A/UX running TCP/IP via BNET on the same physical network as Macintoshes using Macintosh OS with AppleTalk 1.0)

Is this true of TCP/IP and AppleTalk 1.0 under Macintosh OS (one Macintosh using AppleTalk 1.0 and another running TCP/IP via MacTCP)?

What will happen if I use the Kinetics EtherPort II card instead of the Apple EtherTalk card?

DISCUSSION -----

Protocol incompatibilities are unlikely to be caused by the actual card used. An EtherTalk card and a Kinetics FastPath card should yield similar results in terms of being able to run multiple protocols over the same physical media.

Apple Tech Comm has successfully run AppleTalk and TCP/IP protocols over the same network. More specifically, A/UX machines running TCP/IP have coexisted peacefully with Macintosh OS machines on the same Ethernet cable. Note that "coexist" does not mean that the machines can communicate with each other. Coexistence means the ability to use both protocol stacks on the same network without packet corruption and data loss.

AppleTalk has been designed to be compatible in multiprotocol environments. MacTCP and AppleTalk also coexist peacefully on the same network.

The area in which you might see some difficulty is routers. Not all routers route both AppleTalk and TCP/IP packets. Therefore, if you need both packet types to be transmitted, you need to ensure that your routers or bridges are properly configured for handling all of your packet types. Copyright 1989 Apple Computer, Inc.

Keywords: <None>

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19960215 11:05:19.00

Tech Info Library Article Number: 4149