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## Quadra, Ethernet, DECnet 1.1, NSI 1.3: Problem & Workaround 2/93

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TOPIC -----

I am testing a Quadra 700, System 7.0.1 and System 7.1, plus PATHWORKS 1.1. I will also be testing a Centris later to determine the best computer to replace the Macintosh IIci machines we had earlier standardized on.

After getting NCP and SQL\*Net to successfully connect with the PATHWORKS nodes, I was able to run EUC. So far so good with the Quadra 700. I will install System 7.1 to test next.

Following is copy of my evaluation addressing a problem I just encountered on the Quadra 700 while testing it for compatibility, with our existing in-house developed software packages.

### Evaluation

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The DEC PATHWORKS utility program NCP will not complete a DECnet connection to VAX PATHWORKS node.

SQL\*Net v1.5 cannot complete its DECnet connection with the VAX NODE running ORACLE server.

I believe based on several tests and experiments described below that there is some incompatibility in the following hardware/software combination:

Macintosh Quadra 700  
System 7.0.1 + TuneUp 1.1.1  
DEC PATHWORKS v1.0.1  
EtherTalk v2.5 (from Apple Network Product Installer v1.3)

If I reinstall all the software from Apple Product Installer v1.2.3, then NCP and SQL\*Net are able to successfully complete a DECnet connection to a PATHWORKS node.

### Test & Experiments

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Disabling Quadra caches:

I tried the "Animals" Cache switcher, Impulse Technology, to disable the caches while running the NCP program. Neither disabling all caches nor using "Write Through" mode had any effect as far as helping NCP and SQL\*Net connect to the DECnet nodes while the Quadra was configured with EtherTalk v2.5 and AppleTalk 58.0 from the Apple Network Product Installer v1.3.

#### Software combinations:

I removed "Animals" from my Quadra then tried various combinations of EtherTalk/AppleTalk in order to get the NCP program to connect to a VAX NODE with the following results:

Combination	Source	Result
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EtherTalk v2.3.1	Apple Network Product Installer 1.2.3	WORKS
AppleTalk v58.0	Apple Network Product Installer 1.3	
Network CDEV 3.0	Apple Network Product Installer 1.3	
EtherTalk v2.3.1	Apple Network Product Installer 1.2.3	WORKS
AppleTalk v57.0.4	Apple Network Product Installer 1.2.3	
Network CDEV 3.0	Apple Network Product Installer 1.3	
EtherTalk v2.5	Apple Network Product Installer 1.3	FAILS
AppleTalk v58.0	Apple Network Product Installer 1.3	
Network CDEV 3.0	Apple Network Product Installer 1.3	
EtherTalk v2.5	Apple Network Product Installer 1.3	FAILS
AppleTalk v57.0.4	Apple Network Product Installer 1.2.3	
Network CDEV 3.0	Apple Network Product Installer 1.3	

#### Conclusions:

Based on the results of my tests above, I feel that there is some incompatibility with the following hardware/software combination:

Macintosh Quadra 700  
 System 7.0.1 + TuneUp 1.1.1  
 DEC PATHWORKS v1.0.1  
 EtherTalk v2.5 from Apple Network Product Installer v1.3

#### DISCUSSION -----

There is a known problem with a Quadra 700/900/950, using built-in Ethernet, NSI 1.3, and DECnet. Since you have a Quadra 700, you can make use of a workaround, which is to use NSI 1.2.3 instead of NSI 1.3. This problem will be fixed in NSI 1.3.2, which is expected some time this summer (1993).

For your additional information, the new computers (Centris 610 and 650 and

Quadra 800) have a similar problem using DECnet. But because a change to the Ethernet driver is actually in ROM, these systems cannot make use of the NSI 1.2.3 workaround. We expect that this problem will also be fixed by the NSI 1.3.2 release.

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