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LaserWriter IIg: Link Signals on 10Base-T

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TOPIC -----

I'm testing a LaserWriter IIg on a Banyan network. I'm using a twisted pair transceiver. In my network environment and a variety of vendor equipment, I can't have equipment sending out any "Link signals" between networking components. It appears the transceiver is emitting some sort of link signal. Is there any way I can turn off this signal?

DISCUSSION -----

There isn't an option to turn off the "link beat" signal on the Apple Ethernet NB cards or the LaserWriter IIg when using the 10Base-T transceivers. The "link beat" signal is part of the 10Base-T standard. The cards are designed for use on 10Base-T compliant networks only, and no provisions have been made to accommodate any non-standard Ethernet configuration.

One possible solution, Asante's 10T MAU (medium access unit), allows any computer with a thick Ethernet port to connect to a 10BaseT twisted-pair network. The device, which resembles an external modem, contains two ports:

- A 15-pin AUI port for a thick coaxial connection, and
- An eight-pin RJ-45 port for connection to twisted-pair cable.

The 10T MAU unit also provides four LED status displays and two switches that enable or disable the link integrity and SQE signals. The device is compatible with any thick-cable Ethernet card. You could use this device in addition to an Apple Ethernet NB card with the thicknet transceiver option.

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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