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LaserWriter IINTX: How to Network PS/2 and Macintosh Computers

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You can connect multiple IBM PS/2 computers, Macintosh computers, and Apple
LaserWriters, so that the connected computers are networked with each other and
the LaserWriters. This enables Macintosh and IBM computers to share data and
printers through the network interfaces. The following solutions describe the
specific interfaces and their configurations.

DayStar Digital Solution (Direct LocalTalk Connection)

This solution uses a LocalTalk MicroChannel card within IBM PS/2 MicroChannel
systems. The MicroChannel systems are networked using the LT200MC
MicroChannel LocalTalk card for MicroChannel bus PS/2s by DayStar Digital. The
card uses AppleTalk network protocols and associated software so that
MicroChannel PS/2s can communicate with other AppleTalk system components, like
the LaserWriter IINT and IINTX. The card comes with software for PS/2s to
connect to AppleTalk printers. AppleTalk network products like TOPS are
reported to work with the card, too. AppleShare PC 1.0, 1.1 and 1.2 is
reported to be incompatible with the DayStar card. For more details, search
the Tech Info Library under "DayStar".

3COM Solution (Ethernet to Server to Serial Connection)

Another solution is to use the EtherLink MC PS/2 card from 3COM. This is a
more complex solution, because it comprises several components. The card
connects MicroChannel PS/2s to Ethernet. The PS/2s can print to a 3COM 3S200
print server serially-connected to a LaserWriter II. Macintoshes may connect
through an Ethernet interface card too or directly through the LocalTalk port
of the 3S200 server. 3COM servers do not support AppleTalk connections to
LaserWriters and can only connect serially.   The 3S200 server supports file,
mail services, and print services.

Routers (Ethernet to router to LocalTalk connection)

A Kinetics FastPath, Gator Box, or an Apple Internet Router can route EtherTalk
data from Ethernet connected AppleTalk systems like Macintoshes, PCs,
MicroChannel PS/2s, and DEC VMS systems. The computer systems must have an
Ethernet, Tokenring, or LocalTalk interface installed with an AppleTalk driver
and appropriate network software.   Some PC software packages that run with
this configuration are TOPs and AppleShare PC 2.0*. By using the routers, the
EtherTalk systems can print to LocalTalk LaserWriters directly through the
routers or through print servers from companies like 3COM, Pacer, Alisa, or
Apple.

* A MicroChannel PS/2 EtherNet or TokenRing Card using AppleShare PC 2.0 must
use an AppleTalk Phase 2 router. The Apple Internet Router is a phase 2
router.

PS/2 Notes

There are six PS/2 models 25, 30, 50, 60, 70, and 80. Each model can also be
bought in a different configuration. The low-end models 25 and 30 retain a PC
and/or AT bus architecture that works with the Apple LocalTalk PC card.

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