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TokenTalk NB Card Connector Issues

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Security: Everyone

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TOPIC-----

I have an IBM PS/2 attached to a Token Ring. Can the DB-9 connector be detached from the back of the PS/2 and connected to the TokenTalk NB Card in the Macintosh?

Also, what do you do about the different types of connectors, like the yellow and green color-coded connections? Is it true that using the wrong type (color-coded) connector may bring down the Token Ring?

DISCUSSION-----

If the DB-9 attached to the PS/2 is a Type 2 connector, everything will work correctly when connected to the TokenTalk NB Card. However, if the DB-9 connected to the PS/2 is a Type 3 connector, one issue exists. This concerns the size of the DB-9 being attached the PS/2. Some Type 3 DB-9 connectors may be too wide to fit the opening of the Macintosh card slot. Using either the Nevada Western or the Belkin Type 3 connectors designed specifically for the Macintosh resolves the issue.

Using the incorrect cable may induce problems within the Token Ring. The following list describes what various color coding symbolizes.

- Green cables indicate a normal (straight-through, pin-to-pin) cable. This is the standard Type 2 cable.
- A yellow (or possibly red) stripe on the cable indicates that the cable has a built-in Type 3 filter. Type 3 filters are used when phone wire is the physical layer of the Token Ring.
- A yellow cable indicates that the transmit and receive pairs are swapped in the cable. This cable is used ONLY when connecting two Token Ring repeaters.

- An IBM adapter card, which has a green DOT on it, indicates that this connection is for an adapter cable (a DB-9-to-Data Connector adapter cable).

For more complete information on Token Ring connectors, refer to the IBM document #GA27-3677-0x, Token Ring Planning Guide.

For more details, search the Tech Info Library under "Belkin" and "Nevada Western."

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