



Tech Info Library

3270 Async Terminal Emulation and File Transfer Needed

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Security: Everyone

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TOPIC -----

I am looking for a package to duplicate the capabilities of IBM's FT Term. It runs on PCs and includes 3270 terminal emulation running over async lines with support for 5 DFT sessions and file transfer on a single call. Does any package for the Macintosh duplicate this functionality?

DISCUSSION -----

The PC/HOST File Transfer and Terminal Emulator Program (FTTERM) provides 3270, DEC VT100, DEC VT220 and 3101 terminal emulators, along with 3270 and ASCII file transfer capabilities. In addition, FTTERM Version 2.1 expands its connectivity options to let an IBM Personal Computer or Personal System/2 operate on an IBM Token-Ring Network or a Broadband IBM PC Network local area network (LAN).

When operating on the LAN, it uses the Enhanced Bios Interface Programs and communicates through the IBM Local Area Network Asynchronous Connection Server Program (LANACS), to connect to ASCII Hosts, dial Information Providers, and obtain the use of Protocol Converters to allow access to IBM hosts. File transfer is supported to ASCII hosts or IBM Hosts. FTTERM Version 2.1 also supports an asynchronous connection for IBM Professional Office System (PROFS) (TM) Applications Support Feature (PASF) Version 2.2.2 (non-Token-Ring LAN configurations) and GDDM-PCLK 1.1 through the FTHLLAPI (FTTERM High Level Language Application Program Interface) facility.

The actual session management is controlled at the 3174 and not by FTTERM.DFT emulators like Personal Communications/3270 control sessions within the PC. In previous microcode levels, an ASCII display connected to the Async Emulation Adapter (AEA) was able to have only two sessions, although Coax-type CUT terminals were allowed up to 5 sessions. Microcode level B2 has extended that support to ASCII displays and the AEA.

We have not found a similar application with these functions on the Macintosh. Simware offers a multi-session 3270 terminal emulators and file transfer over asynchronous lines, if used in conjunction with their host software Sim3278 VM or VTAM. RELAY provides only file transfer over async lines to a mainframe running RELAY Communications' RELAY/VM or RELAY/TSO. MacBLAST software for IBM mainframe also transfers text or binary files via async ports or protocol converters. DCA (formerly Avatar) MacMainFrame DX provides only single-session terminal emulation and file transfer over asynchronous lines.

To locate a vendor's address and phone numbers, use vendor name as a search string.

Article Change History:

26 July 1993 - Company title changed from Avatar to DCA (Digital Communication Associates).

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