Tech Info Library

MacX25: Description

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TOPIC ---

This article describes MacX25 software.

DISCUSSION --

MacX25 software links Apple Macintosh personal computers to packet-switched
data networks (PSDN) supporting CCITT Recommendation X.25.

MacX25 server software allows you to set up a Macintosh as a single entry
point to the PSDN. Access to host computers and end-user services on the
PSDN is distributed from the server to Macintosh computers over the
AppleTalk network system.

MacPAD software, included with MacX25, works in conjunction with the server
software and provides packet assembler/disassembler (PAD) connectivity to
the PSDN. MacPad is implemented as a connection tool for the Macintosh
Communications Toolbox, and it allows terminal applications using the
toolbox to connect to host systems on the PSDN.

MacX25 features an administrator's application that facilitates
configuration and administration of the server. An address service allows
administrators to set addressing details on the Macintosh server,
presenting MacPAD users with a menu that lists available hosts and end-user
services by name. Users connect to services simply by selecting the
appropriate name -- they aren't required to know PAD commands and address
numbers.

The MacX25 Programming Library (available separately) works in conjunction
with the MacX25 server to provide X.25 access to applications, enabling
developers to create Macintosh solutions that give users access to packet-

switched networks.

Features

- X.25 network access

- Conformance to International Telegraph & Telephone Consultative Committee
  (CCITT) recommendations

- Support for System software versions 6.0.7 and 7.0

- Server-based access

- Packet assembler/disassembler facility (MacPAD)

- Transfer of 8-bit characters using MacPAD

- Easy-to-use Address Book with a graphics-based user interface

- Graphics-based Administrator application

- User passwords

Benefits

- Provides Macintosh computer users with reliable wide area network
  connectivity.

- Provides universal interoperability with other X.25-conformant systems.

- Makes it easy to migrate from version 6 to version 7.

- Makes it easy to add and administer users.

- Reduces costs by maximizing use of expensive resources such as leased
  lines.

- Supports asynchronous terminal access to packet-switched networks.

- Allows use of MacX25 on international sites with European languages.

- Allows users to select an available service by name without having to
  learn traditional PAD commands.

- Facilitates software installation and administration of user access.

- Prevents unauthorized users from accessing the server.

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