

MacTerminal and Macintosh-to-VAX Connectivity

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TOPIC -----

I need to connect approximately 300 Macintosh workstations (on LocalTalk) to a VAX/VMS system using FastPath 5 routers. Only 50 or so simultaneous sessions need be supported. I am looking for software that will allow this to happen.

Currently, all the Macintosh computers have MacTerminal 3.0 and are accessing through a serial connection. I would like to retain the substantial investment we have in MacTerminal.

A product like TSSnet sounds like it will do the job. Are there comparable products that do not include a terminal emulation package (as TSSnet does)?

DISCUSSION -----

There are many options to connect Macintosh computers on LocalTalk to a VAX. However, since you already own MacTerminal 3.0 and want to retain that investment, this list narrows down a bit. One option is software from Synergy described here:

VersaTermServer is a Macintosh CommToolBox-based application which allows any Macintosh to act as terminal server. It supports 24 output ports, and two different input methods. Inputs can be AppleTalk ADSP Tool over LocalTalk, VersaTerm Telnet Tool over Ethernet, and Apple Modem Tool over serial line. Outputs can be LAT Tool to VAX hosts, Telnet Tool to UNIX hosts, or Modem and Serial Tools. Your Macintosh computers on LocalTalk can use the AppleTalk ADSP Tool to the VersaTermServer, and then LAT from the Server to the VAX. Each supports 24 output ports so you will need two servers running.

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