

Tech Info Library

MacTCP: No Public Domain Version, but Workaround (4/93)

Revised: 4/28/93 Security: Everyone

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TOPIC -----

I'm looking for a "Public Domain" version of MacTCP. This may be a version 1.0 that was available, before we had site licensing issues.

Some questions:

- Is there a Public Domain version of MacTCP?
- Is it available now?
- Will it still work? (Or was it tied to a specific version of the OS?)

DISCUSSION -----

There isn't really a "public domain" version of MacTCP available.

Although you might be able to find a copy of the MacTCP 1.0 product and there might not seem to be a "legal" reason to not give it out, there is, however, a technical reason not to. That release of the software (and 1.0.1 also) will not work with newer releases of system software, notably 7.1.

Instead, we suggest that you get release 2.5 of NCSA Telnet. With this release you can support either MacTCP or direct Ethernet / AppleTalk connections. You would not need to use MacTCP at all. Also, at release 2.3 of NCSA Telnet there was one version that supported MacTCP and another that supported Ethernet / AppleTalk directly -- so even at that release level you are not forced to use MacTCP.

Please refer to the following excerpt from the ReadMe that accompanied the 2.5 release of NCSA Telnet:

..TIL12020-MacTCP-No_Public_Domain_Version_but_Workaround_4-93.pdf

IMPORTANT NOTES- June 1992

NCSA/BYU Telnet 2.5

There are some substantial changes with this release of Telnet. While all of these changes are described fully in the documentation, they are worthy of another mention here. If you do not already have the Telnet 2.5 documentation, please get it from anonymous ftp from: ftp.ncsa.uiuc.edu

NCSA/MacTCP drivers

NCSA Telnet previously came in two versions: NCSA driver version, and MacTCP driver version. However, in this release of Telnet, the two versions have been merged into one application. This allows greater flexibility, along with removing the need to have two different applications for basically the same program. You may select the NCSA drivers, by appropriately setting the hardware= line in config.tel to ether, or atalk.

To select the MacTCP drivers, you may set hardware=mactcp in the config.tel file. Also, since Telnet defaults to MacTCP, if there is no hardware= line, Telnet will still assume that MacTCP is to be used.

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