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LocalTalk PC Card: A Description (Discontinued May 1991)

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TOPIC---

This article describes the discontinued LocalTalk PC Card, now updated and
marketed by Farallon Computing, Inc under the product name: PhoneNET PC Card.
To obtain Farallon contact information, use "Farallon" as a search string.

DISCUSSION--

The LocalTalk PC Card lets you to attach MS-DOS computers to the
AppleTalkPersonal Network, the fastest-growing personal computer LAN.

You can enhance documents produced with PC-based applications by incorporating
fonts, styles, and graphics that were previously unavailable. And you can print
documents of near-typeset quality.

The LocalTalk PC Card translates documents into the PostScript page description
language, allowing you to access PostScript features for creating your own
custom graphics and layouts. The LocalTalk PC Card supports applications such as
WordStar, MultiMate, and Lotus 1-2-3; and the PostScript, Diablo 630, and ASCII
print file formats.

The LocalTalk PC Card establishes a standard from which developers can create
MS-DOS applications for AppleTalk. Two such applications are InBox PC from Think
Technologies and EtherSC from Kinetics. InBox PC features electronic mail and
file transfer between a Macintosh Plus and an MS-DPS system. EtherSC is an SCSI
Ethernet Interface that allows a Macintosh Plus to run AppleTalk over a directly
connected Ethernet.

To use the LocalTalk PC Card you need:

- An AppleTalk Personal Network

- One LocalTalk Connector Kit

- An MS-DOS-compatible computer with:
  - a minimum of 256K
  - two double-sided floppy disk drives or
    one hard disk and one floppy disk drive
  - PC-DOS Version 3.1 or later

- One LaserWriter or LaserWriter Plus printer.

Technical Specifications

AppleTalk Protocol Support
ALAP,DDP,ATP,NBP,ZIP,Echo, PAP RTMP

Interfaces
RS-422 serial prot (230.4 kilobaud data transfer rate); DMA interface to host PC

Drive Interface
Accessed through software interrupt with parameter block

Configuration
Selectable Interrupt Request (IRQ),DMA Request and Acknowledge (DRQ and DACK), and I/O Address; default configuration corresponding to PC COM2 device

Processor
65C02; 1.8 MHz clock speed

Power Consumption (typical)
4 watts at 5 volts DC

Memory
8 kilobytes RAM, 8 kilobytes ROM

AppleTalk communications controller
Zilog 8530 SCC

Accessible Fonts
Courier, Helvetica, and Times Roman (directly from PC LaserWriter Plus fonts (Using PostScript commands)

PostScript Programming Access
PostScript programming additions may be made directly within the text of a file so that programming additions can be made available to all documents

Article Change History:
10 March 1994 - Updated article to include discontinued information
                and Farallon info.

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