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Coax/Twinax Card: Product Information (8/94)

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TOPIC -----

This article provides a description of the Apple Coax/Twinax Card.

DISCUSSION -----

Overview

The Coax/Twinax card is a 9-inch NuBus hardware product. The card is based on the National Semiconductor 8344 LSI chip, which provides the encode/decode of Coax Type A and Twinax cable signals. The chip supports full 3270 data streams for Control Unit Terminal(CUT) and Distributed Function Terminal(DFT) operations. The Twinax portion supports all 5250-type devices. (See the "Special Information" section at end of this article).

Apple Coax/Twinax Card

The Apple Coax/Twinax card uses the MCP card foundation with additional add-in components to provide coax encoding and decoding of coax commands. The encoder/decoder is National Semiconductor's NC 8344. The Motorola 68000 found on the MCP card manages the terminal session's 3270 presentation space and handles the API calls. The 500K RAM space is used to maintain 68000 code, 8344 code, and the presentation spaces.

The System software required to operate the Coax/Twinax card is the multitasking MCP/OS referred to as A/ROSE and the 3270 CDEV. There are no switches to set on the card. The card's self-test indicates pass/fail based on the status of two LEDs on the card edge. Green indicates the card is OK and Red indicates the card has failed the on-board diagnostic.

Special Information

SNA•ps 3270 software does NOT emulate 5250 terminals even though the hardware

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MCP card has that capability. It does include support for CUT and NLCA connections on the Apple Coax/Twinax Card. Andrew Corporation provides a product called MacMidrange which provides 5250 terminal services and operates on the Apple Coax/Twinax Card.

Article Change History:

03 Aug 1994 - Update article with SNA•ps 3270 rather than MacDFT and Andrew's MacMidrange product.

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