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AppleShare PC: NetBIOS Interrupt Problem

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Security: Everyone

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TOPIC -----

I am currently trying to run an IBM-XT as a gateway/router between the AppleTalk network and MS-DOS on Ethernet.

This is to support an electronic mail system for use in both the DOS and Apple environment.

The standard NetBIOS call is performed through INT 5Ch. When the Ungermann-Bass or Excelan network is started, this software interrupt is enabled as part of the standard Microsoft network software. AppleShare PC steals this interrupt away from the standard Microsoft NetBIOS.

This allows using the predefined network interface with AppleShare PC but does not allow it to coexist with the normal PC LAN software.

DISCUSSION -----

AppleShare PC uses the standard Microsoft redirector that communicates with other processes via interrupt 5C. If a process similar to AppleShare PC does not properly share this interrupt with the other processes trying to get access to the redirector, the symptoms you describe occur. AppleShare PC has been written to coexist with other "interrupt 5C friendly" programs.

Try running AppleShare PC as the last of your startup programs. It will try to maintain the interrupt for another process that isn't as "friendly" in the use of interrupt 5C. This often works, because AppleShare PC looks at the previously installed vectors for that interrupt; when it gets information not belonging to it, it passes it along the chain to whoever was there before it.

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