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AppleTalk Phase 2: Upgrade Utility

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TOPIC -----

What is the AppleTalk Phase 2 Upgrade Utility? What does it do?

DISCUSSION -----

The AppleTalk Phase 2 Upgrade Utility makes it possible for AppleTalk Phase 1 routers to operate concurrently in an Internet with the AppleTalk Internet Router. The AppleTalk Phase 2 Upgrade Utility is an INIT that is installed in the System Folder of the Macintosh running the AppleTalk Internet Router software.

Why the AppleTalk Phase 2 Upgrade Utility Is Necessary

The AppleTalk Internet Router sends out AppleTalk Phase 2-style Routing Table Maintenance Protocol (RTMP), Name Binding Protocol (NBP), and Zone Information Protocol (ZIP) packets. AppleTalk Phase 1 routers cannot interpret the data within these packets.

With the AppleTalk Phase 2 Upgrade Utility installed, any RTMP, NBP, or ZIP packet about to be sent out over a cable with an AppleTalk Phase 1 router on it, will be sent as an AppleTalk Phase 2-style packet and will be converted by the AppleTalk Phase 2 Upgrade Utility and sent out as an AppleTalk Phase 1-style packet as well.

Note: Only RTMP, NBP, and ZIP packets are converted to AppleTalk Phase 1-style packets. No other packets types need to be converted.

The AppleTalk Phase 2 Upgrade Utility also makes it possible for the AppleTalk Internet Router to receive AppleTalk Phase 1-style RTMP, NBP, and ZIP packets. When the AppleTalk Phase 2 Upgrade Utility INIT is installed,

it throws a switch in the AppleTalk Internet Router that lets the router accept and process AppleTalk Phase-1-style RTMP, NBP, and ZIP packets. The AppleTalk Phase 2 Upgrade Utility does not convert these packets. The AppleTalk Internet Router has code built into it that lets it interpret these packets properly.

What the AppleTalk Phase 2 Upgrade Utility Does Not Do

It does not convert all outgoing AppleTalk Phase 2 packets to AppleTalk Phase 1 packets. This is not necessary--only RTMP, NBP, and ZIP packets need to be converted.

The AppleTalk Phase 2 Upgrade Utility does not work with any third-party router; it works only with the AppleTalk Internet Router.

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