

Ethernet Transceivers: Require Hub Termination

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TOPIC -----

We have problems selecting EtherTalk with the NB card, LC card, or built-in Quadra cards. The usual message is "An error occurred while trying to install the selected AppleTalk connections. The built-in LocalTalk port will be used instead."

We know that we have to plug in the transceiver before starting the Macintosh. Do twisted pair transceivers also require hub termination?

DISCUSSION -----

The Ethernet NB card driver performs three loopback tests before enabling user services. If any one of these tests fail, the card won't allow you to use the attached network. The initial two tests check the card's internal communications paths. However, the third test performs a loopback test using external parts of the network. If any part of the external network fails to function properly (this includes 10baseT links), the test fails and your port switches to the built-in LocalTalk port.

Concerning 10baseT hub termination, you definitely need to have hub termination before the driver allows you to select user services.

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