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Apple Internet Router 3.0: Overview and Packaging (2/93)

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TOPIC ---

This article gives an introductory overview and packaging information of
the Apple Internet Router 3.0.

DISCUSSION --

Introduction

The Apple Internet Router is designed to be a cost-effective, scalable
workgroup router. Because it doesn't require a dedicated machine, it will
run concurrently with other applications or services, such as file servers
and mail servers.

Apple has two major reasons for creating the Apple Internet Router:

• To add scalability and flexibility to AppleTalk networks.

• To provide a platform for validating Apple's and third parties'
  implementations of the AppleTalk Update-Based Routing Protocol (AURP).

Product Overview

Apple Internet Router is an AppleTalk Phase 2 router, so it can coexist on
AppleTalk networks with current Phase 2 routers, including AppleTalk
Internet Router 2.0. The only protocol additions or changes are those
protocols used for private communications between cooperating AURP routers.

Apple Internet Router improves on version 2.0 in several areas. The most
significant of these are:

• It's a System 7 compatible application (rather than a desk accessory like

version 2.0). The administrator can start up, shut down, or reconfigure the router without having to restart the Macintosh.

• It supports wide area network connectivity in the forms of tunneling across non-AppleTalk network systems and half-routing between modems.

• It supports internets of up to 65,279 networks (the architectural maximum of AppleTalk).

• It supports SNMP network management.

Packaging

Apple Internet Router consists of three separate products, allowing each customer to pick only those that are appropriate for a particular installation. These products are:

• The Basic Connectivity package, which contains the router application, the half-routing extension, the SNMP Router Agent, and all functionality necessary to support other extensions.

• The AURP-TCP/IP WAN extension, which enables TCP/IP tunneling. This package includes MacTCP and the IPTunnel ADEV. The Basic Connectivity package must also be installed.

• The AURP-X.25 WAN extension, which enables X.25 tunneling. The Basic Connectivity package must also be installed.

There also will be a toolkit for developers, which will contain the AURP specification, API specifications for the router, and various test tools including an AURP simulator.

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