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SNA•ps Gateway, SNA•ps 5250, and IBM 5494 Controller (2/94)

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TOPIC -----

I need to install a SNA•ps Gateway and SNA•ps 5250 which will attach to a remote IBM 5494 mod.2 controller equipped with Token Ring. The IBM 5494 is connected to an AS/400 through an X.25 line. The SNA•ps Gateway Macintosh will connect through Token Ring to the IBM 5494.

Is it possible to do this? If it is, how should I configure the IBM 5494 controller, the devices on the AS/400, and the SNA•ps Gateway?

DISCUSSION -----

This is possible to do with the SNA•ps Gateway and SNA•ps 5250.

This is a complex configuration mostly because the IBM 5494 is very different from all previous IBM mid-range controllers. The IBM 5494 is an APPC LEN device (similar to that of a SNA•ps Gateway). It attaches to the AS/400 using special code included with OS/400 V2R2M0, which requires the IBM 5494 to connect to the AS/400 as a Token Ring or SDLC based APPC controller. (X.25 connection for SDLC is just fine). The Twinax devices on the physical IBM 5494 have to be associated with some remote Workstation controller on the AS/400 which manages the LU 4-7 sessions used by the Twinax ports. The connection between the APPC connection and the Remote Workstation controller is done by an AUTOCONFIGURED APPC parallel session between the APPC 5494 connection and the Remote workstation controller. If the IBM 5494 configuration is setup to support downstream PU 2.1 and passthru to the AS/400, (such as a SNA•ps APPC gateway), then there is just an APPC controller passing through the IBM 5494 to an APPC controller on the AS/400. The IBM 5494 just provides the pipeline to the AS/400. This is quite similar to how a SNA•ps Gateway in 3270 environments is a PU 2.0 downstream from IBM 3174 Cluster Controller.

Through all of this you need to know AS/400 Network IDs, Remote LUs, and Local LUs for the SNA•ps APPC connection, and use known Mode descriptions.

That is all very basic information to a knowledgeable APPC system manager.

The most difficult to understand in the configuration of the SNA•ps Gateway in this setup were the XIDs to be used. The Gateway XID in the SNA•ps Gateway config can be anything, we used 050 00000. BUT the XID for the Partner (the IBM 5494 in this case) HAS to be 073 00000, which is the default value given the IBM 5494 if it is configured with downstream support for PU 2.1 on Token Ring. Also, the Link address in the SNA•ps config is the Token Ring address of the IBM 5494 controller which is placed in the IBM 5494 when customization is done. The IBM 5494 does not care about the Token Ring address of the SNA•ps Token Ring card (the address in the Apple Token Ring Control Panel).

We would suggest that you carefully read the IBM 5494 documentation, and get a copy of the current IBM RedBook on configuring 5494 to AS/400 - P/N GG24-3828-00. We found it to be very helpful.

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