



NC Tip #12: DECnet Support

Customer Requirement

A customer requires an X terminal that can communicate with his Compaq OpenVMS system via the DECnet protocol.

Solution

NCBridge supports the DECnet protocol, which allows the NC900 to communicate with either Compaq OpenVMS systems or the older DEC VAX VMS systems.

DECnet Overview

DECnet is a network protocol, which allows two computing devices the ability to communicate with each other over a network, such as Ethernet. An analogous example would be to think of the Ethernet as a phone line. For two people to communicate over the phone line, they both must speak the same language. The same is true for two computers communicating over Ethernet. Today's computers typically use the TCP/IP protocol to communicate with each other. However, there are still thousands of old DEC VAX VMS systems and the newer Compaq OpenVMS systems installed that require a device to support the DECnet protocol.

Configuration Hints

Besides ordering the NCBridge software for a VMS system (NCB40TS), the customer must order one NCF4N (DECnet license key) for each NC900 ordered. The NCF4N provides an authorization key, which allows the NC900 to use the DECnet protocol.

Benefit

The NC900 is the last X terminal that supports the DECnet protocol. Customers who have either older DEC VAX VMS systems or Compaq OpenVMS systems are eager for a device like the NC900 that can communicate via the DECnet protocol. These VMS systems are typically used for manufacturing, engineering or process control applications.

