

NETWORK WORLD

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Racal unit unites rival LAN worlds

By Laura DiDio
Senior Editor

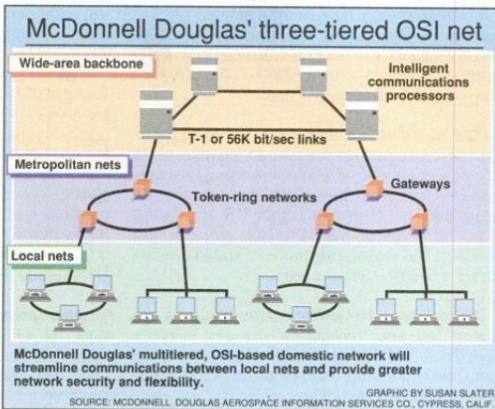
BOXBOROUGH, Mass. — Racal InterLan last week beat other vendors to market with a product that integrates Novell, Inc.'s NetWare and OS/2 LAN Manager environments.

LMN Server will enable NetWare users to access LAN Manager servers as if they were NetWare servers. Workstations in LAN Manager environments initially will only be able to copy files from NetWare servers.

Racal InterLan said the software, which runs on an OS/2 LAN Manager server, is available now. By contrast, Novell last month announced plans to forge a link between NetWare and LAN Manager by supporting the Named Pipes programming interface. The company will not ship its NetWare Requester for OS/2 until the first quarter of 1990 ("Software lets Novell users support OS/2 applications," *NW*, July 31).

Jim Fennessey, director of information systems and services at Johns Hopkins University's School of Public Health in Baltimore, a beta user of LMN Server, said this type of product is becoming a necessity for organizations with heterogeneous nets.

"Short-term, I can support
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McDonnell Douglas builds hierarchical OSI network

New architecture promises to reduce number of data links between sites, improve net security.

By Wayne Eckerson
Staff Writer

CYPRESS, Calif. — In an effort to streamline internal communications, McDonnell Douglas Corp. has begun building a three-tiered domestic network based on Open Systems Interconnection standards.

The new hierarchical architecture is expected to increase network flexibility, reduce the number of data links between company sites and improve network security, according to Lionel Gillerman, manager of network technology at the aerospace company.

The network, which is scheduled for completion next year, will replace a tangled web of circuits that is becoming increasingly unmanageable as users connect with a growing number of local networks, according to Gillerman.

"If we hadn't done something soon, we would have had a mish-mash of circuits, networks, protocols and hardware akin to a Tower of Babel," he said.

The architecture will feature a wide-area backbone network interconnecting a series of metropolitan networks and scores of
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IBM refines NetView, closes Siemens deal

NetView gets graphic interface, PBX links.

IBM outlines plans to merge 9751, Saturn.

By Paul Desmond
Senior Writer

NEW YORK — IBM last week teamed up with other vendors to expand its line of NetView-related products, adding a long-awaited graphical user interface and support for a wider range of private branch exchanges.

IBM said at a press conference here that it acquired a graphical user interface developed by US West Network Systems, Inc. (NSI). IBM also announced it will market third-party NetView/PC application development software and a NetView/PC-based package that forwards alarms to NetView from a range of PBXs.

In addition, IBM expanded its customer network support program to include network design, construction and operation. Previously, IBM would assume responsibility only for problem tracking and resolution, said Ellen Hancock, vice-president and general manager of IBM's Communications Systems division.

Users and analysts were split on IBM's third-party NetView alliances. Some said the announcements indicate that IBM's internal development is stalled, but others applauded the company for seeking help to make needed
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By Bob Wallace
Senior Editor

NEW YORK — IBM and Siemens AG last week finalized their Rolm PBX partnership and outlined their product strategy and distribution plans.

The consummation of the alliance, originally announced last December, capped eight months of user uncertainty and confusion during which IBM and Siemens said many of their customers halted or delayed private branch exchange purchase decisions.

The signing of the deal comes just one week after IBM introduced a series of products and enhancements for its flagship 9751 PBX line. The announcements included enhanced switch software and a new low-end model of the 9751, as well as new T-1 and Inte-

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User weighs 3+Open for LAN venture

By Paul Desmond
Senior Writer

DANBURY, Conn. — A task force within Union Carbide Industrial Gases, Inc. has recommended that the company adopt 3Com Corp.'s 3+Open LAN Manager as the foundation for a major local network project.

Although details of the project are still being finalized, the company plans to install nearly 20 token-ring networks based on LAN Manager to support some 1,200 workstations at several sites. The nets will be linked to a corporate-wide X.25 backbone.

The local net operating system was recommended because it will allow Union Carbide Industrial Gases to build client/server-type applications that distribute processing between workstations and servers, said Bryce Morgan, manager of communications.

3+Open also fits in with the company's plan to migrate toward Open Systems Interconnection net standards. Version 1.1 of
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NETLINE



USERS FEAR LABOR strikes against four RBHCs could thwart major networking projects. Page 2.

ASHTON-TATE'S dBase IV program for SQL Server is delayed again, and company finances grow worse. Page 2.

USERS SHIFT EDI TRAFFIC to private nets as they become

more dependent on trading electronically. Page 4.

UNDERSEA CABLE OUTAGES have users questioning cable reliability and rethinking international net strategies. Page 5.

HP'S DAN WARMENHOVEN discusses his company's role in today's networking market. Page 41.

FEATURE

HP: pilgrimage to profits on rocky, 'open' road

By Bruce Guptill
Features Writer

In a world of conflicting connectivity theologies, Hewlett-Packard Co. has chosen to follow the prophets — and profits — of the Open Systems Interconnection model.

The company was among the first to embrace the philosophy of openness; it announced support for OSI in 1985. At that time, migration of its product development from proprietary operating and processing sys-
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