

WORKNET II™ LOCAL AREA NETWORK (LAN)

▲ The Altos WorkNet II™ LAN is a combination of hardware that is built into all Altos 16 and 32-bit systems and software that transforms UNIX™ and XENIX® systems into a transparent distributed processing environment.

Using WorkNet II, users can share data across the network without changing programs. Using WorkNet II, they can also provide LAN connectivity for the entire Altos family of multi-user systems.

Users with a large investment in IBM PC's and PC compatibles can also use WorkNet II in conjunction with another Altos product, Altos PC Path II™ to take advantage of the powerful XENIX/UNIX environment, thus enhancing that investment.

Features

- ▲ Availability on all Altos computer systems
- ▲ Links up to 30 Altos systems
- ▲ Supports transparent distributed Altos processing, applications run without modification
- ▲ Network Access to mainframe gateways
- ▲ No special hardware, uses standard network port
- ▲ Low cost 4-wire twisted pair cabling for easy installation
- ▲ Software-selectable .8 Mbps or 1.4 Mbps network speeds
- ▲ Maximum network length of 500 meters. (1500 meters with Repeater 422)
- ▲ Adheres to XENIX/UNIX security methods
- ▲ Efficient CSMA/CA network management protocol

▲ **WorkNet II Software**

WorkNet II makes all of the systems on the network appear as if they are part of a single system; all resources on all systems on the network appear to users and programs as part of the local system. Because of this network transparency, applications written to run on a single system can run without change across the network.

WorkNet II transparency extends to communications software. A single Altos system running SNA, BSC, X.25, or other communications software can act as a gateway for other systems on WorkNet II. The gateway machine can continue to run applications.

WorkNet II operates by extending the standard UNIX or XENIX file system hierarchy to include multiple systems across the network. Data, programs, peripherals, or communication gateways on any Altos system on the network are accessed remotely with the extended pathnames. With symbolic links – an Altos extension to pathnames – file and directory names on the local system can be linked to files and directories on remote systems. Standard operating system permissions are automatically enforced across the network. With support for up to 30 machines, a single network could connect several hundred users.

WorkNet II uses the RS-422 networking port that is standard on all Altos 16-bit and 32-bit systems. Up to 30 systems can be networked across an easily installed 4-wire twisted pair cable. Network access is managed using a Carrier Sense Multiple Access/Collision Avoidance (CSMA/CA) protocol. CSMA/CA guarantees all systems efficient access to the network without the need for expensive contention management hardware. The standard network speed of 1.4 Mbps is software selectable to .8 Mbps for compatibility with other Altos products.



S P E C I F I C A T I O N S

▲ Hardware

Network Architecture	Baseband, Bus
Transmission Protocol	RS-422
Access Link Protocol	CSMA/CA
Data Rate	.8 Mbps or 1.4 Mbps (software selectable)
Cabling	Shielded, 4-wire (dual twisted pair)
Maximum Systems per Network	30
Maximum Network Length	500 meters (1500 meters with Repeater 422)
Altos Computers Supported	3068, 2086, 1086, 886, 486, 986(T), and 586(T)

▲ Software

Operating System	XENIX 3.0 Rev. A or later; UNIX System V Rel 2.2 WorkNet II Rel .3.2fs0 Rev. C (2086/1086, 886) WorkNet II Rel .3.0s0 Rev. C [486, 586(T), 986(T)] WorkNet II Rel .3.0 Rev. C (3068)
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▲ Documentation

Altos WorkNet II User's Guide

▲ Ordering Information

Contact your Altos Reseller to order the Altos WorkNet II software or other related products. Be sure to specify the Altos hardware model on which WorkNet II is to be installed.



Altos Computer Systems
2641 Orchard Parkway
San Jose, CA 95134
(408) 946-6700

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