

e-Twin@x Controller™

Complete hardware and software solution that provides a secure Twinax-over-TCP/IP connection to a local or remote AS/400 – without SNA!



Rear view of e-TwinSt@r Controller, with RJ45 unit attached.

Overview

The e-Twin@x Controller is the only SNA-free, pure TCP/IP Controller in existence. It allows you to leverage your investment in Twinax by supporting all Twinax display stations and printers (both SCS and IPDS), as well as existing cabling. When used as a remote Controller, all SNA, AnyNet and MPTN traffic is eliminated, leaving your network with a single protocol: pure TCP/IP, which is easy to configure and maintain, and is routable. The e-Twin@x Controller also supports remote management via a Web browser, saving you valuable technical resources.

Advantages

- 1 Replaces SNA connectivity and Anynet protocol with simple, easy-to-configure TN5250e TCP/IP.
- 2 Serves as a secure, low cost connection from your remote branches to the AS/400 using the Internet, saving a fortune in leased line expenses.
- 3 Allows configuration and management from a standard Web browser that accesses the Controller via dial up or over the WAN; most changes can be done without restarting the Controller.
- 4 Includes a built-in 2- or 6-port* Remote Access Server (RAS), complete with AS/400 client RAS software, built-in firewall and support for RADIUS standards.
- 5 Housed in a compact 1U communications Controller that fits into standard 19" rack-mount communications cabinets.
- 6 Provides IP over Twinax connection to a local or remote AS/400, allowing Twinax-attached PCs to benefit from IP applications such as e-Mail, Web browsers and Microsoft Networking, while running up to 5 times faster when used with BOS IP over Twinax drivers.
- 7 Supports up to 112 Twinax devices; upgrades to expand the number of devices supported from 8 up to 56, are software-based and can be applied either on-site or remotely, via the Internet.
- 8 Provides an interface to Citrix Metaframe supporting Twinax technology or other corporate intranet computing for PCs using IP over Twinax.

* optional



Secure, Reliable, Low Cost Connection using the Internet

When the traditional SDLC connection is replaced with a Wide Area Network (WAN) connection using TCP/IP, the e-Twin@x Controller can be used to maintain legacy Twinax devices (such as high-speed printers and dumb terminals) at your remote sites. In this configuration, all the devices will appear on the AS/400 as TN5250 devices, and all PC devices can connect to the AS/400 either by using dumb terminal emulation or by installing the e-Twin@x version of BOSNOVA TCP/IP or IBM TCP/IP drivers to connect to the AS/400 over TCP/IP.

The e-Twin@x Controller can be connected to the AS/400 via the Internet, saving you a fortune in leased line expenses. Requirements are minimal:

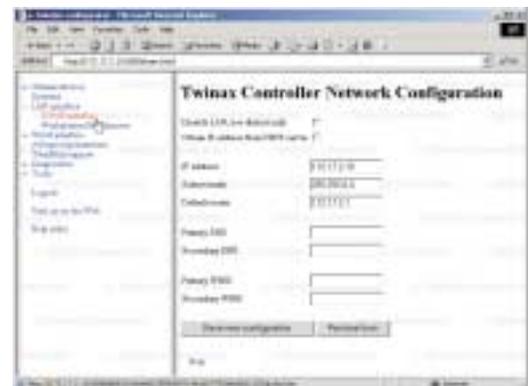
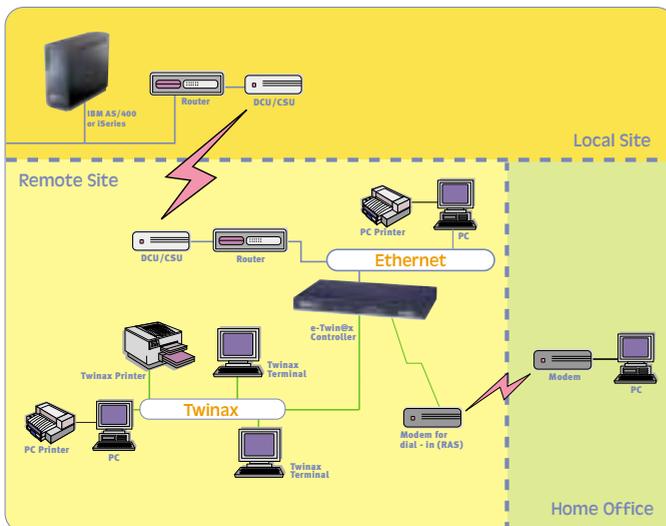
- 1 Local site: a fixed connection to the Internet and BOS' Java-based SECURIT-e Server™, which can be run on the AS/400, and any PC or Mini Computer with a Windows, Unix-based or Linux operating system.
- 2 Remote site: a connection to the Internet, either via a dial up account or using a leased line to a local ISP.

5250 traffic, encrypted via industry-standard algorithms, flows from the Controller to the Java-based server, where the data is deciphered and sent to the AS/400. The e-Twin@x Controller can initiate the dial-up to the Internet when the first user tries to access the AS/400. It also supports two parallel connections to two different ISPs, allowing increased bandwidth, speed and reliability.

Configuration and Maintenance with Ease

The e-Twin@x Controller is managed via a standard Web browser, which enables all of the units to be managed from a central point anywhere on the network, or via a modem dialed in to the RAS. Configuration can also be done using a dumb terminal attached to any of the ports. The Controller software can also be updated over the network or via dial-in. Terminals, PCs or printers can be added to the Controller very simply using a plug-and-play feature in Auto mode. The device name can be changed at any time, without restarting the Controller. The Controller also verifies the host connection, including which PTFs are installed for each OS version.

The e-Twin@x Controller as an IP gateway with enabled RAS feature.



Configuration and management can be done via a standard Web browser from anywhere on the network.

e-Twin@x Controller as an IP Gateway

The e-Twin@x Controller connects to the network using a standard network hub, which is attached to the local office via a standard IP router. Ethernet PCs can be connected to the same network hub as the Controller for mixed Ethernet and Twinax infrastructures.

With the TCP/IP drivers loaded on the PC, the user can take full advantage of the WAN, and get: support for e-Mail; printer and file sharing on the network; access to Internet applications; and support for Citrix Metaframe.

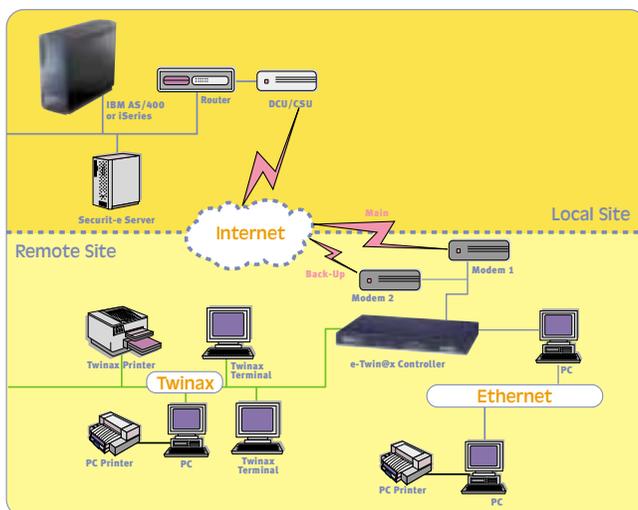
Overcome Network Instability and Printing Problems

Dial Backup *

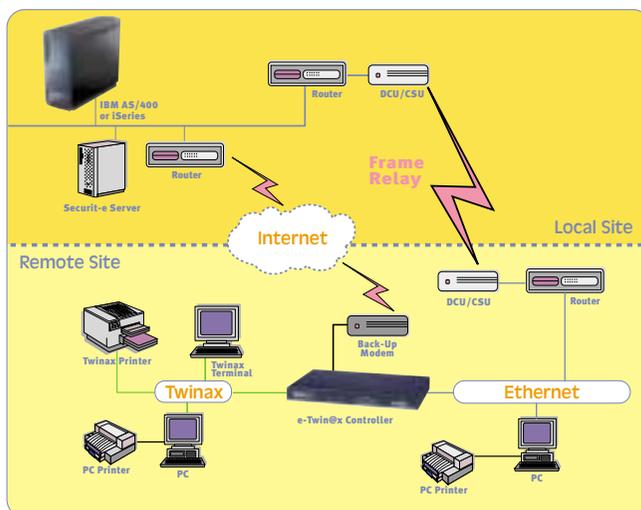
The Dial Backup feature ensures improved uptime for Controllers that are connected to an AS/400 using a LAN connection (via the Internet routers or a separate Frame Relay network). If the LAN connection fails, the Dial Backup provides (via an attached modem) an additional method to connect to the AS/400.

Automatic Session Recovery

In the event that a router on a frame-relay network disconnects and then re-connects, users of remote Twinax-attached devices can choose to resume their current session. The e-Twin@x Controller can be set to automatically recover the session, within a user-defined time period, ensuring smooth and efficient operations even in cases of network instability.



Secure connection via the Internet using modem(s) for a mixed Twinax and LAN environment.



LAN (Frame Relay) connection with Dial Backup feature.

Customized Object for Specialty Printers

The e-Twin@x Controller supports a wide variety of Twinax printers, including label and barcode printers that are often called upon to deal with special printing requirements such as oversized fonts, graphics, and unusual page sizes. A parameter can be set to instruct the host to send a pure data stream through the e-Twin@x Controller, allowing it to override the original complex formatting commands with simplified commands that are supported by most printer models, before releasing the job to the destination printer.

e-TwinSt@r Series Eliminates Need for Active Star Hubs

The e-TwinSt@r Series Controller includes a built-in unit featuring 8 (or 16) RJ45 sockets. Twinax devices working over CAT5 lines are connected directly to the Controller, saving the cost of an active star hub and eliminating the need for power sources and additional space in the communications closet, as well as the extra set-up and maintenance time.

E-mail on Dumb Twinax Terminals *

Basic e-mail functionality, known as TwinMail, is supported on dumb Twinax terminals. In addition to sending and receiving e-mail, TwinMail includes a personal address book that can be organized according to user-defined preferences.

PC Remote Access

The e-Twin@x Controller supports a 2- or 6-port* Remote Access Server (RAS), providing remote PC users with network access in addition to AS/400 access. Remote users can dial in to the e-Twin@x Controller and gain access to the network using the RAS. This RAS includes a firewall for restricting access per user to specific IP devices or ports (e.g. one group of users may be allowed access to the AS/400 for display emulation, but not file transfer). The RAS also automatically logs all remote access activity. The RAS component can use the services of any RADIUS server for authentication, if required.

* optional

Technical Specifications

Devices Supported

Supports virtually any Twinax-attached terminal, although for the later models not all features are supported (such as shared addressing, mouse support, imaging, etc.). Here is a partial list: 5251, 5291, 3179-2, 3180, 3196, 3197C, 3197D, 3477, 3476, 3486, 3487

Printers

- 1 SCS Printers: all models supported
- 2 IPDS Printers: all models supported

Workstations: Supports all PCs with TDLC emulation and BOS, IBM or IBM-compatible ISA emulation cards.

Host System Requirements

- 1 OS/400 V3R2 or higher
- 2 For device naming and SCS printing functionality the correct PTF must be installed. (See Web site for details.)
- 3 Ethernet LAN connection

Physical Specifications

Electrical: Universal input 100v-240v, 0.6A, 50/60Hz

- 1 Width: 17.4" / 44.1 cm; with brackets: 19" / 48.3 cm
- 2 Height: 1.64" / 4.16 cm (1U)
- 3 Depth: 9.8" / 25 cm
- 4 Weight: 5.1 lbs / 2.3 kg

Ordering Information

e-Twin@x Controller Remote Models

4693	Supports up to 3 Twinax devices (includes 2 port Y-cable)
4608	Supports up to 8 Twinax devices (not for sale in North America)
4610	Supports up to 10 Twinax devices (includes 2 port Y-cable)
46xx	Where xx represents the number of Twinax devices supported: 16, 28, 56 or 12 (for 112)

e-Twin@x Controller Local Models

4756	Supports up to 56 Twinax devices connected to local hosts
4712	Supports up to 112 Twinax devices connected to local hosts

e-TwinSt@r Series

48xx Where xx represents the number of Twinax devices supported: 08, 16, 28, 56 or 12 (for 112)

Additional Options

4600	8-port Twinax connector brick
4601	4-port RAS: Remote Access Server for e-Twin@x Controller – Provides additional 4 ports (pre-requisite: 4602)
4602	SECURIT-e Server: Secure access to AS/400 over the Internet (includes 2 port RAS)
4604	TwinMail: e-Mail Support for Dumb Terminals
4605	Dial Backup Communications Option (pre-requisite: 4602)
4800	RJ45 Connection Option (8 outputs)
4801	RJ45 Connection Option (16 outputs)

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