Release Notes 93000221AC for PORTSERVER II Operating System

PORTSERVER II Operating System 40001260AB Version 3.1.9

Software Manual P/N 92000246C Software Manual P/N 92000271B September 27, 2001

I. Introduction

These release notes provide information on PortServer II OS version 3.1.9.

II. Summary

- A. Pre-3.0 Incompatibility Notice.
- B. Pre-Rev K Model ROM Limitations.
- C. Limitations for Systems with 2 Mbytes of Memory.
- D. Upgrading flash ROM.
- E. Bug fixes in this release.

III. Details

A. Pre-3.0 Incompatibility Notice

This version (v3.1.9) of the PortServer II OS is incompatible with versions older than v3.0. Certain parts of the non-volatile storage formats used to store configuration information have been changed. Consequently, if you want to use this version of the OS and preserve your current configuration, you must use the 'cpconf' command to save your configuration to a host and then reload it once the new version of the PortServer II OS has been installed.

B. Pre-Rev K Model ROM Limitations

The addition of Frame Relay to v3.0 and later have caused the size of the boot image to exceed the space available in the PortServer II flash ROM for units built prior to the Rev K models. Consequently, if you want to use v3.0 or later OS with these older units, you must do one of the following:

- Boot PortServer II via TFTP over the Ethernet port.
- Acquire a smaller version of the OS, which does not have Frame Relay, this is available from the Digi ftp site.

Note: Versions above and including v3.1.0 will no longer be available in the smaller non-frame version.

C. Limitations for Systems with 2 Mbytes of Memory

Testing has determined that the PortServer II's previously standard 2 Mbytes of installed memory is inadequate in the following instances and is likely to require an expansion to at least 4 Mbytes.

- Full 64 port configurations in which more than 50 asynchronous and/or TCP users are simultaneously using the PortServer II. This includes users accessing the PortServer II via the Ethernet connection or any type of connection using the serial ports.
- Sites with heavy traffic on serial ports. The problem is simply throughput degradation of performance may indicate that additional memory is called for.

D. Upgrading Flash ROM

In some instances parameters from previous releases (e.g. v3.1.8) may not translate properly into v3.1.9. In order to insure that the parameters are correct the user can save their parameters from the previous

releases by doing a 'cpconf tohost' and reload the parameters back into the PortServer II after 3.1.9 is loaded.

- The recommended procedure for upgrading Flash ROM is:
 - 1. Obtain the new version of the software from Digi and place it on your TFTP server.
 - 2. Save your current configuration using 'cpconf'. This is recommended to maintain a backup of your current configuration when re-writing a sizable portion of flash.
 - 3. Boot with the new OS (v.3.1.9) via TFTP by using 'set config boothost=<hostip> bootfile=<filename> tftpboot=yes', and then reboot your PortServer II. See command 'set config' in User's Guide and Reference Manual for more details. This step ensures that you have a good copy of the new OS, and also that you can still boot your PortServer II in the unlikely event that your flash image gets corrupted in the process of writing it.
 - 4. After booting your PortServer II via TFTP, load the new OS onto the flash ROM by using the command 'boot load=<host>:<filename>'. If all goes well, the PortServer II will reply "The image now in flash memory appears valid."
 - 5. Reset the PortServer II to factory default by using either the two-button reset or 'boot action=eewrite'.
 - Note: 'boot action=eewrite' will leave some IP configurations intact to insure the PSII can be reached and booted from the network.
 - 6. Configure the IP configuration settings. As a minimum define the PortServer II's IP Address and Submask.
 - 7. Load the 'cpconf' files from your TFTP server. Note: This may generate warnings.

E. Bug Fixes

- 1. 6455: Using a TCP Socket, Remote Shell or 'connect' connection, to transmit data through a PortServer, may result in data loss when the connection is closed quickly. The PortServer will wait for all data to be transmitted before a serial port is closed.
- 2. 7286: A test utility was mistakenly included in the release version of the PortServer II Operating System. The PortServer II will appear to stop functioning when this utility is used. This utility has been removed.