



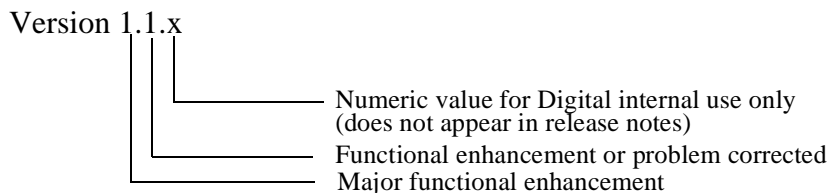
DECconcentrator 900MX Release Notes
Firmware Version V3.3
January 1997

These release notes contain firmware and software requirements, and list known conditions and restrictions that apply to the operation of the DECconcentrator 900MX module.

Additional release notes can be found online. Refer to the section that is titled Accessing Online Information for information about retrieving online release notes.

As warranted, Digital changes the firmware of this device to make functional enhancements or to correct reported problems. These release notes identify enhancements and changes to the firmware that impact end-user operations. They also contain firmware and software requirements, and list updates in this release as well as known conditions and restrictions that apply to the operation of the DECconcentrator 900MX module.

The following example describes the firmware version number:



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Firmware Requirements

Digital Equipment Corporation requires that you use DEChub 900 MultiSwitch firmware version 4.0, or higher, to manage the DECconcentrator 900MX running firmware version 3.3.

Software Requirements

If you are using MultiChassis Manager to manage the DECconcentrator 900MX, Digital Equipment Corporation suggests that you install MultiChassis Manager software version 5.0, or higher.

If you are using HUBwatch to manage the DECconcentrator 900MX, Digital Equipment Corporation requires that you install HUBwatch, version 4.1 or higher.

Known Conditions and Restrictions

The module's conditions and restrictions are described in the following sections.

Single-Mode Fiber (SMF) ModPMD Support

There are two single-mode fiber (SMF) ModPMD models.

The DEFXS-AA SMF ModPMD is not supported.

The DEFXS-BA SMF ModPMD can be installed into adjacent ModPMD ports without restriction. No restrictions apply to the number of DEFXS-BA SMF ModPMD modules that can be installed.

Use of Optical Bypass Relay

For ANSI-compliant operation from an Optical Bypass Relay (OBR), the OBR must connect to the A and B ports of the same module.

When installed into a DEChub ONE-MX, only the OBR on the DEChub ONE-MX is active.

Enable/Disable Request to Send (RTS)

When the DECconcentrator 900MX is installed into a docking station, users can choose, via the setup port, to have the OBM port's RTS asserted all the time or only when a packet is to be transmitted. With firmware version V3.3, data terminal read (DTR) and RTS are asserted/deasserted together, as shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Enable/Disable RTS

| Enable/ Disable RTS | Packet to Transit | RTS | DTR |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Disabled | No | Asserted | Asserted |
| Disabled | Yes | Asserted | Asserted |
| Enabled | No | Deasserted | Deasserted |
| Enabled | Yes | Asserted | Asserted |

Power Supply Requirements in a DEChub 900 MultiSwitch

When using three power-supply modules, of any model, you can install eight DECconcentrator 900MX modules in a DEChub 900 MultiSwitch.

Problems Solved by this Version

This firmware version (V3.3) resolves the following problems found in earlier firmware versions.

- **Problem:** If a restricted token ring is seen on the ring, the concentrator will either crash with a watchdog timeout error or will become very sluggish in responding to SNMP traffic.

Solution: Restricted tokens are now correctly handled.

The FDDI SMT Rev 7.3 recommends that the ring be immediately initialized if a restricted token is seen on the ring. However, the concentrator will allow a restricted token conversion to last up to 1 second before initializing the ring.

- **Problem:** The concentrator would not respond to a ping with 1462-1471 bytes of data.

Solution: The concentrator will now respond to a ping with a data field up to 1471 bytes.

- **Problem:** All error log entries had a timestamp of 0. This could falsely trigger the thrash protection code, causing all stored configuration information to be deleted from NCSH.

Solution: The error log entries now have the correct time stamp.

- **Problem:** If a station sent an illegally large frame (greater than 4500 bytes) to the concentrator, the concentrator could crash.

Solution: All frames larger than 4500 bytes are rejected and not processed.

- **Problem:** Occasionally, connections to a CISCO device would not come up. This was due to an EBUFF error on phy initialization. Previous versions re-initialized the phy if an EBUFF error was seen. This could cause the cycle of phy initialized-EBUFF error-phy initialized to repeat forever.

Solution: The EBUFF error is now simply counted, without re-initializing the phy.

- **Problem:** The autodisconnect feature did not work properly following a power failure.

Solution: Power failures are now correctly handled.

Changes Implemented by this Version

The LER cutoff value for UTP ports now defaults to 5 instead of 8. This was changed to be consistent with FDDI UTP adapters made by Digital.

MIB and RFC Information

The DECconcentrator 900MX module supports the following MIBs and RFCs:

- Built-in SNMP agent supports the following management information bases (MIBs):
 - MIB II, RFC 1213
 - FDDI MIB, RFC 1512
 - Digital Extended MIB V3.0
 - PCOM MIB, June 1995
- Support for SMT 7.3 Station Management (X3.229-1994)

Accessing Online Information

Network Product Business Web Site

Further information on this network product or topic is available on Digital's Network Product Business Web Site as well as its Bulletin Board System. Both systems maintain a common, rich set of up-to-date information on NPB's products, technologies, and programs.

The Web Site can be reached at geographic locations via the following URLs:

| | |
|--|---|
| Americas Network Product Business Home Page | http://www.networks.digital.com/ |
| Europe Network Product Business Home Page | http://www.networks.europe.digital.com/ |
| Australia Network Product Business Home Page | http://www.digital.com.au/networks/ |
| Digital Equipment Corporation Home Page | http://www.digital.com/ |

To get firmware and MIB information, please choose the "Products and Technology" link, and from there choose the "Technical Data" link.

To connect to the Network Product Business Bulletin Board System, you need a PC and a modem. Dial 508-486-5777 (U.S.A.). Set your modem to 8 bits, no parity, 1 stop bit.

Using Electronic Mail

The DDN Network Information Center (NIC) of SRI International provides automated access to NIC documents and information through electronic mail. This is especially useful for users who do not have access to the NIC from a direct Internet link, such as BITNET, CSNET, or UUCP sites.

To use the mail service, follow these instructions:

- 1 Send a mail message to **SERVICE@NIC.DDN.MIL**.
- 2 In the SUBJECT field, request the type of service that you want, followed by any needed arguments.

Normally, the message body is ignored, but if the SUBJECT field is empty, the first line of the message body is taken as the request. The following example shows the SUBJECT lines you use to obtain DDN NIC documents:

```
HELP
RFC 822
RFC INDEX
RFC 1119.PS
FYI 1
IETF 1IETF-DESCRIPTION.TXT
INTERNET-DRAFTS 1ID-ABSTRACTS.TXT
NETINFO DOMAIN-TEMPLATE.TXT
SEND RFC: RFC-BY-AUTHOR.TXT
SEND IETF/1WG-SUMMARY.TXT
SEND INTERNET-DRAFTS/DRAFT-IETF-NETDATA-NETDATA-00.TXT
HOST DIIS
```

Requests are processed automatically once a day. Large files are broken into separate messages.

