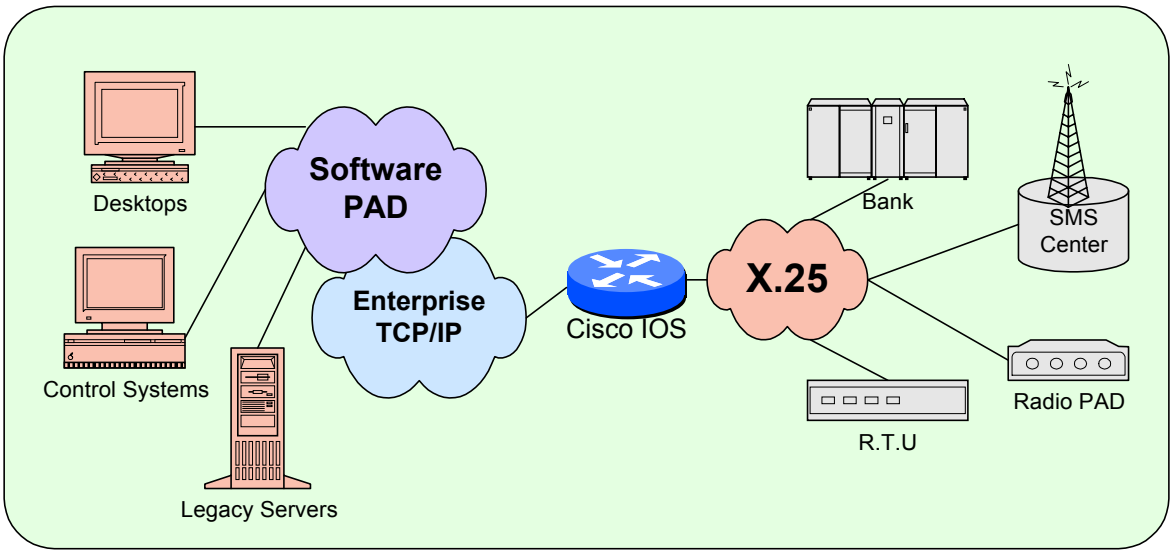
Software PAD



FEATURES

- **Replace Existing Legacy Equipment**
- **Replace multiple PAD ports and Async Multi-port Cards.**
- **Virtual Comport Support over TCP/IP using standards based RFC 2217.**
- **Extensible and Expandable**
- **Resilience**
- **Lower per port costs.**
- **Supports windows NT/95/98/2000.**
- **Runs as a Standalone program or as NT Service.**
- **Future support for X.25 over TCP (XOT)**

GGR Communications Software PAD provides legacy X.25 access across the IP Enterprise network.

In the past access to X.25 networks with multiple serial port applications involved interfacing asynchronous ports with legacy PAD devices with the same number of ports.

High-density solutions required racks of PAD equipment with all the associated cabling. These solutions are hard to manage and often lack any form of resilience.

Increasingly manufacturers' support for legacy PADs on the decline. For new systems, applications can be written that use TCP/IP socket to X.25 solutions, however for legacy applications this is not possible. Legacy applications are typically written only around communications port support and require specific control signals and responses.

Development

Software PAD was developed with Regional Electricity Companies to overcome the use of Legacy equipment during the deployment of new SCADA control systems. When deploying the new systems they needed better management and the ability to integrate this within their TCP/IP network.

TCP/IP Sockets

Software PAD uses TCP/IP sockets to perform all communications between application communications ports and X.25 calls. This allows Software PAD to be installed on the same machine as the application or anywhere within the TCP/IP network.

X.25 Gateway

Software PAD currently uses any Cisco IOS router to provide the physical interface to the X.25 network. Future support for XOT will allow any XOT router to be used for the gateway.

Virtual Comport Support

Software PAD provides an interface compliant with the COMPORT control protocol in accordance to RFC 2217. Using Tactical Software Dialout products it is possible to create virtual communication ports that map to software PAD. These redirected ports are supported through both windows and DOS applications. The ports have full control of interface signals and data rates. Dialout provides full trace of communication port activity including control lines giving excellent management and fault tracing.
Up to 256 ports can be configured on each machine.

Interface Signaling

Through the Software PAD GUI, a combination of control signals configured to support as required by the application. These control signals are used by the legacy application for X.25 call control and status information. Different systems require control signals to be handled in different ways. Software PAD allows you to configure the way Carrier Detect, Data Terminal Ready, Data Set Ready, and Ring Indicate respond.

PAD Prompt Configuration

Many Legacy applications have been written around specific legacy equipment. Often applications are written to expect specific prompts and responses. Replacements for this legacy equipment often have slightly different prompts or responses stopping the application from working. For this reason software PAD allows configuration of all PAD prompts and responses permitting emulation any legacy PAD.

Resilience

With the use of Cisco IOS gateways and TCP/IP networking it is possible to build resilience using TCP/IP resilience. Features including routing protocols and Hot Standby Router Protocol can be used to provide automatic recovery in the event of a failure.

Extensible and Expandable

Software PAD can be initially configured with just a few ports, but without any further hardware additions the port count can be increased. This allows, for example, application servers to be added without any further need for communications equipment or configuration. Previously to increase the port count it was necessary to purchase further PAD ports and more serial port boards. In addition this meant more cabling in your racks.

Platform Support

Software PAD will run on Microsoft Windows 95 / 98 / NT / 2000. It can be setup to run either standalone or as a Windows NT service. Future support will include Unix Platforms.

Remote Management

Software PAD can be monitored from any web browser on the network. Through configuration, the port number for web access can be configured.

Total Solution

GGR Communications Limited are Cisco Premier partner and additionally a distributor of Tactical Software for UK and Europe. This allows GGR to provide the total solution to *LEGACY* application access in *TODAYS* Enterprise networks.

Typical Applications

- SCADA Control Systems
- Radio PAD access
- Credit Card Clearing Applications
- X.25 host access
- Remote Telemetry
- Short Message Service
- Remote data collection

Further Information

For further information please contact your nearest GGR office.

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