Software Product Description

DESCRIPTION

PATHWORKS Conferencing for DOS is based on a client/server model. The PATHWORKS Conferencing for DOS application software permits character cell DOS clients to access the VAX Notes (refer to SPD 27.06.xx) server computer conferencing software.

VAX Notes is a computer conferencing software product designed to provide users with the capability of creating and accessing enterprise-wide, on-line conferences or meetings. Computer conferencing is a proven, computer supported, electronic messaging technology that lets users participate in open discussions with people in different locations and at different times. VAX Notes helps save travel time and money because participants can join in a discussion from their own desks at a time of their own choice.

VAX Notes can be used for a variety of applications such as an electronic bulletin board, collaborative document authoring and review, and internal classes or seminars. One major advantage of VAX Notes is that the conference maintains a detailed record of the proceedings of a discussion. These records can later be searched by a variety of criteria, such as name of participant, subject, or keyword. VAX Notes eliminates duplication of effort by providing a mechanism for sharing expert knowledge across the enterprise. In general, VAX Notes enhances the communication flow across the corporate hierarchy.

Features

Distributed Access

PATHWORKS Conferencing clients can access VAX Notes conferences on any VAX Notes server node in a DECnet network, thus offering true distributed processing capability. A DECnet connection to the server, via PATHWORKS for DOS (SPD 55.07.xx), is required.

PATHWORKS Conferencing users do not need an account on the node where the conference is located in order to participate in a discussion.

Moderator Support

A moderator is a person responsible for managing a conference. PATHWORKS Conferencing allows both public and private conferences.

For private conferences, the moderator can restrict access to a specific group of participants by specifying name and network location. Public conferences have no restrictions on who may participate.

The moderator can send announcements of new conferences to participants and has the sole ability to delete notes entered by other participants. Moderators can also create special notices that are displayed for all participants each time the conference is accessed.

Ease-of-Use

PATHWORKS Conferencing for DOS is designed with a Character Oriented Window interface which presents a Windows™-like interface on a character cell DOS PC. All functions can be accessed by easy-to-use pull down menus or push buttons. Dialog boxes are used to input information.

PATHWORKS Conferencing for DOS is designed for inexperienced users. On-line Help and tutorial documentation assists in familiarizing new users with PATHWORKS Conferencing quickly and easily.

Topics and Replies

The structure of a conference is simple—a topic followed by replies to that topic. There is no difficult hierarchy to navigate. A conference can have more than 50,000 topics, and each topic can have a similar number of replies. Directory listings show all topics by author, title, date, and the number of replies posted to each topic. All notes can be read either sequentially or at random. Also, users can read only those notes they have not yet seen. PATHWORKS Conferencing allows the user to search for various topics and replies using the SEARCH, DIRECTORY, and KEYWORD functions.

Notebook

The Notebook is a user's personal list of conferences of interest. Users can easily add or delete conferences from their Notebook. The Notebook allows users to define personal names for Conferences and, in a distributed environment, allows remote conferences to be accessed through a DECnet node specification.

Keywords

Keywords allow the user to group notes that are concerned with a particular subject or do not have other attributes (such as title, author, or time of entry) in common. Keywords are useful for grouping notes that may not have the keyword in the note text or title, but that do address the subject the keyword represents.

Imported Text

PATHWORKS Conferencing allows topics and replies to be created outside of the PATHWORKS Conferencing application (using any editor that can produce ASCII output files) and then later imported into the conference.

Mail Integration

PATHWORKS Conferencing uses PATHWORKS MAIL to allow users to send notes to other users on the network.

HARDWARE REQUIREMENTS

Processors and/or hardware configurations as specified in the System Support Addendum (SSA 41.57.00-x) are supported.

PATHWORKS Conferencing for DOS, Version 1.0 has been tested on several supported configurations (refer to SSA 41.57.00-x). If a customer problem with PATHWORKS Conferencing for DOS software can be reproduced by the customer on one of these supported configurations, Digital will work the problem to resolution on these supported configurations. If the customer problem cannot be reproduced by the customer on one of these supported configurations, it will be the responsibility of the customer to resolve the issue.

SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS

MS–DOS® Operating System

The PATHWORKS Conferencing software is designed for use in a server/client environment. The following server products are required:

VAX Notes (SPD 27.06.xx)
PATHWORKS for VMS (SPD 27.50.xx)

A DECnet connection to a VAX Notes Server is required. The following communication software is required:

PATHWORKS for DOS (SPD 55.07.xx)

ORDERING INFORMATION

Software License, Media and Documentation:
QB-MPN*A-SA
Software Licenses: QL-MPN*G-2B
Software Media: QA-MPN*A-HB
Software Documentation: QA-MPN*A-GZ
Software Product Services: QT-MPN*-**

*   Denotes variant fields. For additional information on available licenses, services, and media, refer to the appropriate price book.

Note: The availability of these software product options and services may vary by country. Customers should contact their local Digital office for information on availability.

SOFTWARE PRODUCT SERVICES

A variety of service options are available from Digital. For more information, contact your local Digital office.

SOFTWARE WARRANTY

Warranty for this software product is provided by Digital with the purchase of a license for the product as defined in the Software Warranty Addendum of this SPD.

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™   Windows is a trademark of Microsoft Corporation.

™   Intel is a trademark of Intel Corporation.

™   The DIGITAL Logo, PATHWORKS, VAX, DEC, ALL–IN–1, VAX Notes, VMS, DEPCA, DECnet and ALL–IN–1 are trademarks of Digital Equipment Corporation.

System Support Addendum

**PRODUCT NAME: PATHWORKS Conferencing for DOS,   SSA 41.57.00-A
Version 1.0**

HARDWARE REQUIREMENTS

The systems, components, and peripherals specified below are supported except as noted for specific software components.

Minimum Supported Configuration

- An Intel™ 80286-, 80386-, 80486-based personal computer, IBM® or compatible.

- 640K RAM.

- A 20 MB hard disk with 4 MB free space.

- A Hercules™ or MOA monochrome display and monitor.

- One network connection, either asynchronous or via an Ethernet controller that is supported by PATHWORKS. More than one communications device may be installed in a system subject to system limitations. If use of another device is required, the system may need to be rebooted.

- In a PC local area network, at least one base system must have one diskette drive capable of reading 3.5 inch (720 KB) diskettes to load the distribution media. (To create a floppy key disk, a disk greater than or equal to 720 KB is required for booting purposes.)

- In an asynchronous network environment, every base system must have at least one diskette drive capable of reading 3.5 inch (720 KB) diskettes (to load the distribution media) and 2 MB of free hard disk space.

- A system power supply that provides at least 130 watts (for IBM XTs with a DEPCA).

- Standard keyboards that come with Intel 80286-, 80386-, 80486-based personal computers that are LK250 compatible and function in enhanced mode are supported.

Disk Space Requirements

Disk space required for installation: 1.5 MB

Disk space required for use (permanent):   1.5 MB

These counts refer to the disk space required on the system disk. The sizes are approximate; actual sizes may vary depending on the user's system environment, configuration, and software options.

Storage space requirements increase as more topics and replies are added to the conference; sufficient disk space must be allocated to allow these files to grow as needed.

OPTIONAL HARDWARE

Expanded Memory Specification, Version 4.0 Support

SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS

MS–DOS® Operating System V3.1 at a minimum
PATHWORKS for DOS V4.0, V4.1 at a minimum
SEDT editor (Contained in PATHWORKS for DOS)
A DECnet connection to a VAX Notes Server is required. For a network environment, the following products are required:

VAX Notes Server V2.1
PATHWORKS for VMS V4.0, V4.1 at a minimum

GROWTH CONSIDERATIONS

The minimum hardware/software requirements for any future version of this product may be different from the requirements of the current version.

DISTRIBUTION MEDIA

RX24 3-1/2 inch Floppy Diskette

digital™

ORDERING INFORMATION

Software License, Media and Documentation:
QB-MPN*A-SA
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Software Media: QA-MPN*A-HB
Software Documentation: QA-MPN*A-GZ
Software Product Services: QT-MPN*-**

*   Denotes variant fields. For additional information on available licenses, services, and media, refer to the appropriate price book.

Note: The availability of these software product options and services may vary by country. Customers should contact their local Digital office for information on availability.

SUPPORTED CONFIGURATIONS

The PATHWORKS Conferencing software has been tested on Intel 80286-, 80386-, 80486-based personal computers. Support of a particular model as a client is subject to the requirements stated in the *HARDWARE REQUIREMENTS* and *SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS* sections of this document.

Each system is supported in a native hardware configuration only and with its native operating system; that is, supported configurations are those in which the hardware components and operating system software are supplied by the base system vendor. The supported operating system versions are listed in the *SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS* section of this document.

If a customer problem with PATHWORKS Conferencing software can be reproduced by the customer on one of these supported configurations, Digital will work the problem to resolution on these supported configurations. If the customer problem can not be reproduced by the customer on one of these supported configurations, it will be the responsibility of the customer to resolve the issue.

The above information is valid at time of release. Please contact your local Digital office for the most up-to-date information.

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