

OmniClient

January 1995

User-friendly connectivity from Acorn

- Connectivity to NTServer, LanManager, Windows for Workgroups and NFS solutions
- Client for Level 4 and Acorn Access use
- Software-only solution
- No additional server end hardware or software required
- Maintains all server security aspects
- Enables simultaneous sharing with Acorn, PC and Apple Macintosh platforms
- Displays all file servers through common hardware and software interface

Connectivity

OmniClient is a universal RISC OS client for use in connecting Acorn platforms to solutions such as NT Server and NFS. This is achieved by means of software that is loaded onto the RISC OS client end and performs all of the necessary tasks to enable the storage of RISC OS based information on servers using alternative operating systems.

Acorn 

Server requirement

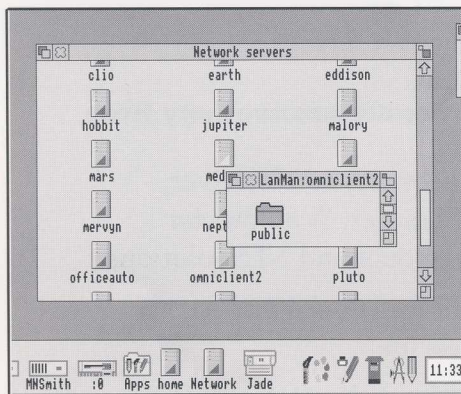
No changes are required to the server software to allow connectivity via OmniClient, so 'off the shelf' solutions can be used.

Client specifications

OmniClient is a software only solution that will operate on any Acorn platform running RISC OS 3.1 or later with 2MB of main memory and independently of the existence of a local hard disc.

Ethernet technology

OmniClient uses industry standard Ethernet technology, which makes for a fast and efficient network.



Other solutions

All current and planned Acorn networking solutions, including Acorn Access, Access release 2, Access+, Level 4, TCP/IP and other Internet-related products, will happily co-exist with OmniClient.

Storage

The information is stored on the 'server' in the format applicable to the host operating system. So, for example, RISC OS directories created at the client end are represented in 'native' format at the server and vice versa. This enables

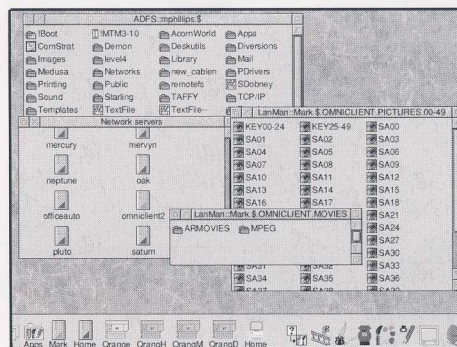
management of data to cross operating systems and provides effective management of data whether created by the client or the server.

Gaining access

All the user has to do when using OmniClient is select the relevant protocol or 'Show all' which gives access to all known file servers on the physical Ethernet network. Using OmniClient, RISC OS platforms will be able to have information stored and managed on alternative servers. This allows them to make use of the storage and protection schemes provided by the server, and gain access to CD-ROMs and printers that the server controls. Access rights are maintained across client/server boundaries.

Whole-site networks

An OmniClient network would enable RISC OS machines, PCs and Macs to exist seamlessly on the same network and make maximum use of server hardware, printers and software that are located throughout the site. Using any of the solutions mentioned above, a user could serve the whole of the network. Access could be gained by all users to 'common files' such as JPEGs,



MPEGs and text files.

This information can then be used by RISC OS applications such as desk-top publishing packages.

Using OmniClient, Acorn machines can exist in a network environment and make use of the storage space, printers on a PC, Unix or Mac 'server', whilst retaining all of the user-friendly characteristics of RISC OS on the client machine. OmniClient enables Acorn machines to take advantage of 'alternative' server options whilst retaining Acorn's commitment to quality, performance and ease of use.

RISC OS users could also gain access to GIFs and TIFFs created on 'alternative' platforms and use them within RISC OS applications.

Scalable solution

The 'initial' set of OmniClient protocols is scalable to allow the addition of other protocols as they become available. It might include the Apple Macintosh protocols to allow seamless connectivity to solutions such as Apple Talk in the near future. A solution for Netware is also planned for the OmniClient set of protocols. This enables users to achieve immediate connectivity with the base product and to expand their requirements and range of server solutions.

Ordering information

When ordering OmniClient from Acorn, the following product code should be given:

Order OmniClient AES 65

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