Ascend

Product Update

Java-Based Pipeline Configurator and Pipeline Companion CD-ROM

Ascend proudly announces the Java-Based Pipeline Configurator (JBPC) and the Pipeline Companion CD-ROM. With the JBPC, Pipeline end users and network administrators can now configure, save and restore configurations to a Pipeline 25-*Px*, 25-*Fx*, 50, and/or 75 from a PC, Macintosh or UNIX workstation.*

The JBPC allows configuration of the Pipeline over the same Ethernet connection that's used to pass traffic to and from the network. This means that users no longer need to be directly connected with a serial cable and a VT100 terminal or terminal emulation software to configure their units.

The JBPC is available to existing customers via Ascend's FTP site at "ftp.ascend.com" and is distributed on the Pipeline Companion CD-ROM with all new Pipelines. The Pipeline Companion CD-ROM also includes many other useful, free software programs such as: MAXLink Pro, MAXDial, Ascend's networking glossary, Microsoft's Internet Explorer, HTML Help Files (and other cool stuff!).

Applications

With the JBPC and the included QuickStart utility, Pipeline users can now have their units up and running in less than 15 minutes. The QuickStart utility is available for all models, and users are prompted for only the most basic information needed to configure and test their unit. Users are then offered the opportunity to immediately register their unit on-line with Ascend. By registering their product, users can test their Pipeline configuration and ISDN BRI line, as well as receive valuable information about upgrading software and other important Pipeline information. For network administrators or "power-users" who wish to configure units without the QuickStart utility, the full range of configuration options are available through an "advanced" setting that allows access to all Pipeline parameters. They can create a "template" configuration that can be saved as a file and updated to multiple Pipeline units, or it can be shipped on disk with field units as a "Start Here" file.

The main focus for the Pipeline Companion CD-ROM is ease-of-use with free value-added software. MAXLink Pro is complete cross-platform TCP/IP and IPX stack software with the most widely used file transfer, e-mail, web surfing and diagnostics applications. MAXDial allows LAN-based PCs to use the modems on a MAX WAN access switch to dial out and send faxes or connect to other modems. The Networking Glossary offers a tutorial on the most frequently asked networking questions. Microsoft's Internet Explorer is a powerful Java-capable web browser. Several outside vendors are offering free demo software which can be found in the "Other Cool Stuff" section of the Pipeline Companion CD-ROM.

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Features

Java-Based Pipeline Configurator

- Included free on the Pipeline Companion CD-ROM
- Offers complete cross-platform support—PC's, Macintosh, and UNIX*
- Runs within a Java-capable browser*
- Can be run as a standalone program for 32 - bit operating systems
- Eliminates the need for VT-100 terminal or terminal emulation software
- Quickstart utility gets users up and running in less than 15 minutes
- Enables users to save and restore configurations over Ethernet
- Allows users to save a "template" configuration for downloading to multiple Pipelines
- Downloadable from Ascend's FTP site at "ftp.ascend.com"
- Easy installation "wizard"—install in minutes!

Pipeline Companion CD-ROM

- Available free with all new Pipelines
- Includes useful software programs:
    - Java-Based Pipeline Configurator—with QuickStart
    - Java Virtual Machine
    - MAXLink Pro
    - MAXDial
    - Networking Glossary
    - Complete HTML-based Help files
    - Microsoft Internet Explorer
    - Other free software demos
- Separate install wizards for each included program

Market Positioning

Both the JBPC and the Pipeline Companion CD-ROM are designed to be useful for all Pipeline customers—from the corporate IS professional who needs to configure multiple units to the nontechnical end user who wants the Pipeline to be up and running in less than 15 minutes. All Pipeline customers will find the Pipeline Companion CD-ROM full of useful programs and facilities.

Product Information

New feature requests: prod-mgmt@ascend.com
Collateral and product information: info@ascend.com

Availability

Both the JBPC and the Pipeline Companion CD-ROM are available immediately. Updates to the programs included on the CD-ROM can be obtained via anonymous FTP from Ascend's FTP site at "ftp.ascend.com."

*   The first phase of the JBPC offers support for 32-bit operating systems only (WIN95 and Windows NT 3.51/4.0).
    Complete cross-platform and support for 16-bit operating systems is scheduled for the first quarter of 1997.

Remote Networking
Solutions That Work.™

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