



GALACTICOMM

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The GalactiBox™: 16 COM1/COM2
devices in a single expansion chassis
for your XT, AT, or 386-compatible.

Modem: (305) 583-7808
Voice: (305) 583-5990

The photo shows two GalactiBoxes, one open and the other closed, with the PC-interface card for one of them in the foreground. The open box contains an assortment of modem and serial cards, 12 short and 4 long.

What will it do for me?

You can service up to 16 callers at one time, per GalactiBox. You can use standard, inexpensive *internal* PC-modem cards or serial cards for multi-user electronic mail, file upload/download, and teleconferencing. Application software is available for multi-user customer support systems, file libraries, online shopping malls, and entertainment-oriented Bulletin Board Systems (including several types of "chat" and multi-player real-time games).

Offer your customers 24-hour technical support via modem. Or, keep in touch with your field sales force better, by hosting an electronic mail hub. Bring together scattered branch offices, user groups, or brainstormers in an online teleconference. Or, customize your own applications using our C source code and programmer tools as a starting point.

Why is it better?

The "other" way to connect large numbers of modems to your PC, at comparable cost, uses multi-port serial cards and external modems. Each external modem has three cables attached: the multi-port card RS-232 cable, a power cord, and the RJ-11 cable to the telephone line... a total of 48 cables for a 16-user system. With the GalactiBox, there are only 18 cables: one cable connecting the 'Box to the PC, one power cord for the 'Box itself, and 16 RJ-11 cables to the telephone lines. You don't have to worry about stacks of modems getting knocked over, or giant tangles of cable in the back of your PC. Plus, the GalactiBox is more general-purpose, being adaptable to future multi-FAX and multi-voice-I/O applications.

With the GalactiBox, you can start small, and grow as your requirements grow. Begin with just 2 or 4 lines, and install additional modem or serial cards as you need them. At the high end, you can connect up to 4 GalactiBoxes to a single AT or 386, and service up to 64 users simultaneously!

Isn't this just an Expansion Chassis?

No. If you tried to plug 16 internal modems into an ordinary expansion chassis, none of them would work. You would have

I/O addressing conflicts, and maybe interrupt conflicts.

The GalactiBox solves the problem of limited I/O addressing on the PC bus two ways. In the "GalactiBox mode", the high-order 6 bits of each I/O address are treated as a chassis address, and, within each chassis, a slot address. In the "Universal mode", you can directly enable or disable any slot through software, using the "universal disable register".

The GalactiBox also has two 8259A Programmable Interrupt Controllers to handle up to 16 interrupt sources -- one from each expansion slot. You can jumper-select each expansion slot to input bus interrupt 2, 3, 4, or 5. You can then jumper-select the output interrupts in either of two ways: (1) a single interrupt, presented to the main CPU as level 2, 3, 4, or 5 (with full edge-regeneration for edge-triggered operation, as required by DOS); or (2) two separate interrupts from 2, 3, 4, and 5, one for the "low 8" slots, the other for the "high 8".

16 Internal Modems in One Chassis??

Future Potential...

At the moment, the only available off-the-shelf application software for the GalactiBox is our multi-user Bulletin Board System, The Major BBS, and its various extensions and third-party add-ons. For programmers, we also offer our multi-channel communications toolkit for DOS applications, the GSBL.

The field is wide open, though, for development of device drivers for UNIX, QNX, XENIX, OS/2, PC-MOS/386, and other multi-user operating systems. Also, "modem server" software for Novell Netware and other LANs has enormous market potential. The possibilities are not restricted to modems and serial ports: applications involving 16 internal FAX cards per GalactiBox, or 16 WATSON's, are just screaming to be written... LAN FAX servers, for example, or multi-line voice-mail systems!

The situation is this: Galacticomm has solved the I/O hardware component of the multi-user PC problem. Most of the software, however, has yet to be written. If you have ideas for these or other applications, now is the time to get in touch with us.



SPECIFICATIONS

- 16 I/O expansion slots per GalactiBox
- Up to 16 interrupt sources (max 1 per slot)
- Each slot configurable by DIP-switch for Universal mode or Galactibox mode
- Up to four GalactiBoxes can connect to a single host computer
- Compatible with the IBM PC, PC/AT, and EISA bus.
- Compatible with the IBM PC/XT/AT and IBM PS/2 Model 25 or 30 computers
- Automatic wait-state generation: select 0 to 15 wait-states
- Input power selectable to 110 or 220 volts AC, standard
- 150 watt power supply:
 - 15.0 amps at +5 volts
 - 5.5 amps at +12 volts
 - 0.5 amps at -12 volts
 - 0.5 amps at -5 volts

Environmental specifications

- Operating temperature: 10 to 35 degrees Celsius (50 to 95 degrees Fahrenheit)

- Storage temperature: 0 to 45 degrees Celsius (32 to 113 degrees Fahrenheit)
- Relative humidity: 20% to 80%, non-condensing

GalactiBox does not support:

- Memory
- DMA (Direct Memory Access)
- Bus arbitration
- Interrupts 0,1,6,7

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