

ROSE X.25 Network Growth

Thomas A. Moulton, W2VY

Radio Amateur Telecommunications Society

Introduction

The ROSE X.25 Packet Switch has been a developing project over many years. There have been many groups that have aided in the testing of the software. Without the efforts of these groups the switch would not have been as successful as is now is.

Last Year

A year ago there were a couple of switches operational in NJ and maybe a dozen of other switches running throughout the US and Canada. There were a few low level problems that would cause the software to be unreliable. The general reports were "When it works it works good, but it crashes". Overall the switches have been very reliable since the beginning of the year.

The Bug

At the end of the 1988 a bug was found that dealt with an interaction between the I/O routines and the C compiler. This was "THE BUG!" that was causing a high majority of the crashes. Once THE BUG was repaired the development was able to proceed forward once again.

Current Networks

There are now large scale networks in operation in NJ, KY, Australia and Central America. (See attached maps) There are other networks in PA, AZ, CA, AK, FL, IN, OH.

The performance of a ROSE X.25 Network is better than other schemes. The timing parameters are set up to provide fair sharing of user access channels.

The BBS operators notice higher reliability for longer connect paths as well as higher throughput. They also can access any system within the network with a single command, which makes the connect scripts simpler. This also eliminates the need to make changes in the scripts when there are changes internal to the network.

The Network System Manager has greater freedom to make changes within the network. The only time they need to notify users and BBS operators of changes is when network end points are being removed. Expansion or addition of backbones and other internal changes are transparent to the users as long as the connectivity is maintained.

Conclusion

These are just the major advantages of using a ROSE X.25 Network, there are many other subtle changes that combined with these make a ROSE X.25 Network the best solution for Amateur Networking.

Try it, You'll Like it!





