

Introduction

The VCO/4K Ethernet communications software supports Ethernet TCP/IP communications between a VCO/4K and one or more host computers.



Note

The VCO/4K system is limited to communication within a single Ethernet LAN. It cannot act as an Ethernet gateway, nor can it route messages through an Ethernet gateway.

The hardware for basic VCO systems includes a single thickwire DB-15 port for an Ethernet transceiver. The transceiver converts the VCO interface to thinwire or twisted pair. Cisco Systems recommends that you use an Attachment Unit Interface (AUI) cable between the DB-15 connector and the network transceiver. Your Ethernet network determines the transceiver type. Cisco Systems, Inc. does not provide cables, transceivers, and other link components to implement Ethernet links.

The Ethernet package uses stream-oriented TCP protocol. TCP error handling includes checksum verification of messages, sequential message delivery, and protection against message duplication. TCP is also a connection-oriented protocol, typically involving a connection between a client and a server. The VCO/4K acts as the server in this client/server TCP model.

The VCO/4K Ethernet software supports a single physical link with multiple logical connections (sockets) which are the interface between the Ethernet communications protocol and the application. The VCO/4K supports up to eight simultaneous socket connections.

Ethernet Communication Package Contents

The Ethernet Communication package includes the following components:

- Ethernet Software, 3.5-inch diskette
- *Cisco VCO/4K Ethernet Guide* (this document)

Hardware and Software Requirements

The following are the hardware and software requirements for running Ethernet software.

- VCO Series switch
- Attachment Unit Interface (AUI) cable (ordered separately)
- System Software Version V4.x or later

Firmware Requirements

There are no firmware requirements for Ethernet software other than the firmware required to run the VCO/4K system software. For a list of system software firmware requirements, refer to the *Cisco VCO/4K System Software Release Notes*.