



ENTREX BINARY SYNCHRONOUS COMMUNICATION FEATURE

Concept

ENTREX provides its Binary Synchronous Communications (BSC) Feature to meet the growing demand for distribution or decentralized data processing. This feature comprises a solid state controller (Model 620 BSC Controller) and appropriate software enabling system-to-system communication between one ENTREX Central Control Group and one of a selected set of business computers (for example, IBM 360/370).

Communication takes place using the Binary Synchronous protocol over the switched telephone network or a leased line, at speeds up to 9600 BPS.

The source of data for transmission may be a set of batches stored on disk, or a previously recorded tape; data may be received on tape, into a set of files on disk, or directly on the printer.

In keeping with ENTREX philosophy of data entry, communication proceeds without interruption to data entry. On larger systems, one Central Control Group easily controls Data Entry/Verification, concurrent with communication and printing.

Auto-answer may be utilized at remote sites, permitting a supervisor to prepare a remote system for unattended operation.

Operating Parameters

A variety of modems may be used, for example the Bell 201A synchronous data set, which operates in half-duplex mode at 2000 bits per second over dialed telephone circuits. Telephone companies and modem manufacturers provide faster modems for higher volume requirements.

The modem selected must conform to the following specifications:

- Internal clock (clock supplied by the modem),
- EIA interface,
- With alternate voice capability (Data Access Arrangement or the modem handset),
- Auto-Answer Capability,
- Half-duplex operation,
- Exclusion of New-Synch feature.

Compatible communication is permitted between an ENTREX Controller, and any mainframe or terminal device equipped to support the Binary Synchronous protocol and the IBM 2780 Remote Batch Terminal.

Sample hardware configurations for communication are illustrated in Figures 1 and 2.

