
This addendum is added to the 8580 Data Modem User Guide, Codan part number 15-04022, Issue 1, December 1992.

Introduction

The software of the 8580 modem has been modified to include the Data Terminal Ready (DTR) Monitor option. The DTR Monitor option allows the modem to monitor the hardware signal from the PC and determine whether the line is active or not. The DTR line is only active if the 8580 modem is connected to a PC and is running a communications application, such as the 9102 Fax and Data Controller software. When the DTR line is active the 8580 is ready to accept incoming messages.

Purpose

The purpose of the DTR Monitor option is to notify the sender whether or not the receiving station is fully operational and can receive messages. The link will fail when a message is sent to a station that is not connected to a PC.

Without the DTR Monitor option, the sender may believe a call has been established and the message has been sent successfully when it has not been received because the PC at the receiving station is switched off or has been disconnected.

Equipment

To implement the DTR Monitor option, the 8580 serial cable must be modified. An unused conductor in the cable is used to connect pin 14 of the 15-way D type connector to pin 4 of the 9-way D type connector. This connection allows the DTR signal to be transferred from the PC to the 8580 modem to allow the activity of the DTR line to be monitored.

Setting the DTR Monitor Option

The DTR Monitor option can be switched on or off by changing DIP switch 4 inside the modem unit. The default setting for the DTR Monitor option is ON, indicating the option is enabled and calls will be ignored if a PC is not connected to a modem. When the DTR option is on, there is 1 stop bit for serial communications. The DTR Monitor option can be disabled by setting switch 4 to the OFF position. When the DTR Monitor option is off, there is 1.5 stop bits for serial communications.



The difference in the length of the stop bits will not affect the operation of the modem with a PC and the 9102 software.

The current state of the DTR line is indicated by a LED indicator on the front panel of the 8580 modem.

Table 1: The features of the DTR Monitor Option

| DTR monitor option | Line | LED | Comment |
|---------------------------|-------------|------------|--|
| Enabled | Inactive | Flashing | 8580 will not receive calls |
| | Active | On | 8580 will receive calls |
| Disabled | Inactive | On | 8580 will receive calls, so the sender will not be aware that the call has not been received |
| | Active | On | 8580 will receive calls |

Testing the DTR Monitor Option

To test the operation of the DTR Monitor option and the cable connections, start 9102 and exit 9102. The LED should remain lit when 9102 is running, indicating incoming calls will be received. The LED should flash when 9102 is not running, indicating incoming calls will not be received.

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