

NComm RAISES THE BAR WITH LATEST WAN INTERFACE SOFTWARE

Packed with new features, TMS Release 6.4 adds complete North American ISDN support, a pre-ported Linux implementation and advanced APS features

SALEM, NH – August 23, 2004 – NComm, Inc., the industry leader in turnkey WAN software and source code, today announced the immediate availability of Release 6.4 of its market-leading Trunk Management Software™ (TMS) WAN interface solutions. Advanced APS features, support for real-time Linux and other operating platforms are now available along with complete Primary Rate Integrated Services Digital Network (T1 PRI ISDN) switch support for North America.

TMS provides WAN interface solutions for real-time operating platforms in the form of bundled turnkey software and source code. TMS enables telecommunications equipment vendors to add reliable T1/E1, T3/E3, SONET/SDH including Automatic Protection Switching (APS) and primary rate ISDN interfaces to their products rapidly, reliably and at substantial cost savings over internal development initiatives.

Comprehensive Primary Rate ISDN Support

Although all North American switches will eventually be migrating to NISDN-2 (or National ISDN 2), there are still many legacy switches actively in use today. NComm's NISDN-2 interface support in this release is complemented by support for the three major legacy switch types – 4ESS / 5ESS (Lucent) and DMS-100 (NorTel) – to make complete coverage for PRI North America (user side) available.

“With support for all major North American switch types, TMS 6.4 facilitates interoperability with incumbent backbone and edge switches. And Release 6.4 also provides a complete implementation of LAP-D and well-defined APIs that greatly reduce the inherent complexity of a PRI ISDN implementation and enable our customers to respond much more quickly to market demands from their users,” said John Brandte, NComm's vice president of marketing and business development.

NComm's primary rate ISDN (PRI ISDN) software stack provides Layer 2 Q.921 and Layer 3 Q.931 D channel signaling required for T1 PRI network interfaces. The Release 6.4 module includes easy-to-use APIs for all communications between the ISDN package and other parts of the vendor's platform and may be integrated with T1 TMS or other T1 implementations. This not only accelerates project completion, but also maximizes engineering flexibility.

“Reducing time to market and keeping development cost and risk to a minimum are critical to our ability to compete in today's market. NComm's PRI ISDN easily supports our hardware configurations and delivers a complete, standards-compliant PRI CPE interface ‘out of the box.’ And, since the PRI ISDN software was pre-integrated with NComm's T1 TMS for a Linux environment, our R&D cycle was even further reduced – saving us time, money and engineering headaches,” said Clay Bogusky, Director of Engineering at Spectel, Inc..

Real-time Linux support

Linux has become an increasingly viable for real-time communications applications, and NComm responded to customer demand by adding the Linux operating system as the newest standard “pre-ported” of its proven TMS software suite. Although TMS is OS-independent,

NComm offers the option of several pre-tested, “pre-ported” versions of TMS on VxWorks, PSOS, OSE and Nucleus Plus platforms, in addition to the newly available Linux suite.

“Initial customer response to our Linux suite has been tremendous. And based on the feedback of our customer base, we’ve added new features to our real-time Linux offering, which we’re also making available on all our other platforms,” added NComm’s Brandte.

Additional APS and Enhanced Usability Features For Linux and Other Platforms

Release 6.4 supports Automatic Protection Switching enhancements that improve reporting when simultaneous, conflicting events occur. And NComm now offers new features like a secondary APS controller option and keep-alive monitoring. Usability enhancements including alarm tracking, full E1 SA bit manipulation and the Robbed Bit Signaling model specified in EIA 464.

Packaging, Pricing and Availability

NComm’s fully pre-tested, standards-compliant TMS Release 6.4 is immediately available throughout North America. All NComm TMS software with delivered with full-function turnkey software and complete source code. Pricing for an NComm TMS license starts at US \$20,000. PRI ISDN pricing starts at \$30K.

ABOUT NCOMM TMS

NComm’s Trunk Management Software (TMS™) portfolio of products includes T1, E1, T3, E3, SONET, SONET APS and PRI technologies. Portable to any operating system, TMS is delivered with a fully functional device driver to interface with any industry standard framer. TMS is now available in multiple pre-ported versions, including Linux.

Telecommunications platform vendors, ranging from startups to industry giants, rely on NComm’s TMS software to enhance their products with reliable, standards-based WAN interfaces, allowing them to focus R&D dollars and resources on their core platforms. Using TMS, equipment vendors are able to shorten time to market and eliminate many of the risks and costs entailed in complex internal development of WAN software.

ABOUT NCOMM

NComm provides network equipment vendors with proven, standards-compliant Wide Area Networking (WAN) source code, software, and custom engineering. Its TMS trunk management suite enables faster time-to-market for network systems by reducing the development time for WAN interfaces from months to hours. The suite includes the turnkey software and source code to embed into WAN equipment, which performs all the framer, alarming, performance monitoring, line testing, and signaling functions that all WAN devices or products must have to operate. NComm, privately held and based in Salem, NH, has customers ranging from start-ups to well-established communications companies such as ADC (NasdaqNM:ADCT), Nortel (NYSE:NT), and Sonus (NasdaqNM:SONS). For more information, please visit the NComm website at www.ncomm.com.

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