



I-3308 Channel Switch for IBM Systems

The electronic channel switch I-3308 is a configuration management tool for sharing channel attached printers, tape systems, tape libraries, disk systems, terminal control units, front/end processors and other devices among multiple physical or logical hosts with Bus/Tag and ESCON-interfaces.

Resource Management

Connectivity of host attached I/O resources are centrally managed via the I-3308 channel switching system, permitting rapid I/O reconfiguration for disaster recovery, I/O unit sharing and hardware migration. Sharing I/O subsystems between multiple hosts can reduce operational costs and enhance system availability by implementing redundant links.

IBM S/370 and S/390 Compatibility

The I-3308 channel switch system is IBM 3814 compatible and supports the systems IBM S/370, S/390 and compatible systems such as an Amdahl, Compaq, HDS, Siemens and Unisys. Interlock mode and data streaming up to 4.5 MB/s is maintained for IBM block and byte multiplex channels, FIPS-60 channels and the Siemens Channel Type 2.

ESCON and Bus/Tag Support

An ESCON fiber optic interface with integrated ESCON to Bus/Tag converter is available as an optional feature. Switch input ports can be equipped with Bus/Tag interfa-

ces and/or ESCON interfaces. Coexistence of both channel types allow sharing of Bus/Tag peripherals among hosts with different channel architectures, protecting hardware investments and enabling smooth migration to ESCON.

AS/400, RS6000 and S/38

Sharing high performance tape systems and tape libraries among multiple mid-range systems and mainframes enhances system availability and reduces operation costs.

Supported are the AS/400 interface features 2604, 2622 and 2644, the S/38 interface feature 7970 and the block multiplex interface feature for the RS/6000. The SCSI type interface (2621, 2729, 6501, 6534) for AS/400 and RS/6000 are supported by Intercoms I-2200 switch series.

System configuration

The I-3308 modular switching system is a 19" rack mountable unit for installation in an IBM 9309 system rack, any other 19" rack or under the computer rooms raised floor.

Highlights

Configuration

- 2 to 64 Channels
- 1 to 64 Control Unit Strings

S/370- S/390 Parallel Channel

- IBM Block / Byte Multiplex
- Siemens Channel Type 2
- OEMI Channel
- FIPS 60 Channel

AS/400 Interface Features

- 2604, 2622, 2644, 7970

Connector Types

- 48 Pin Serpent
- 78 Pin D-Type

ESCON Channel

- Converter integrated

Control

- Manual Panel, local or remote
- PC based
- Host based

Supported Hosts

- IBM S/390, S/370
- Siemens BS/2000

Form Factor

- 19" rack mountable

The basic switch module provides a 4 x 4 switch matrix. Supported are up to four host interfaces and up to four I/O strings with one to eight control units each. Two modules may be cascaded to form matrixes of 4 x 8 or 8 x 4. Four modules will form a 8 x 8 switch. Multiple switches build a distributed switching system to meet a wide variety of switching needs.

Data integrity is maintained by monitoring I/O activity on the channel and synchronous switching is performed during channel idle time. Asynchronous switching can be forced.

A fault tolerant power system and a transparent switch matrix is available as an optional feature.

48 Pin Serpent and 78 Pin D-Type Connectors

The I-3308 switch supports traditional dual 48 pin serpent connectors, used in the IBM mainframe environment and 78 pin D-type connectors, used with AS/400 and IBM 3490-C cartridge tape systems. Both connector types can coexist in the same switch, eliminating the need for Y-cables.

Enhanced Control Systems

A manual control panel provides operator control of I/O data paths, immediate identification of data path connections and visual channel activity. An optional remote panel may be placed up to 300 ft (100 m) away.

Centralized, remote control of one or multiple switches is supported by a personal computer based control system.

For automated operation, the switch may be controlled by any attached host, using Intercoms Host Control Software.

Specifications

Switch Matrix

| | |
|--------------------|---------|
| Basic switch | 4 x 4 |
| Cascaded switch | 8 x 8 |
| Distributed switch | 64 x 64 |

Supported Channel Types

IBM Block Multiplex Channel
Siemens Channel Type 2
OEMI Channel
ESCON Channel (input only)

Supported Channel Mode

Block Multiplex Channel
Byte Multiplex Channel
Selector mode
Data streaming up to 4.5 MB/s

ESCON Channel Support

ESCON FX mode
Converter integrated

Connector Types

2 x 48 pin Serpent
78 pin D-type
ESCON (input only)

Control

Manual local panel
Manual remote panel
Host control
PC control

Optional Features

ESCON input channels
Redundant switch matrix
Redundant power
EPO/SPS power control

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