AICK and Telecom 3.0 Connect Speed Issue (1/97)

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TOPIC ---

When configuring the Internet Dialer, the port speed setting for a GeoPort
defaults to 14.4 kbps. If I'm running Apple Telecom 3.x or the Express Modem 3.x
update, why do I not get connect speeds greater than 14.4 kbps? I think that I
should set this to 115k or at least 57k. With v.34/.42 protocols, I would want
the port speed to be higher than the connect speed to take advantage of
compression.

Also, will this setting really have an affect on the speed I will see. When I
connected to the AICK (Apple Internet Connection Kit) registration server, I got
a connect speed of 28.8 kbps. Why is it connecting at 28.8 kbps speeds when the
port appears to be set for 14.4 kbps? That should not happen should it? I have
not checked the default settings but I thought connect speed would be dependent
on port speed.

DISCUSSION ---

The serial port speed setting determines the communication speed between the
serial port and the modem and, in order to take advantage of the full bandwidth
of your modem connection that's using compression, your port speed should be set
higher than the expected speed from modem to modem. However, the GeoPort modem
isn't really using the serial port in the same way. If you read page 115 of the
Express/Fax Modem manual that came with the GTAK I it states:

 "Traditional modems-external modems or even modems that plug into a slot
  on a main logic board-use an RS-232-like serial connection protocol
  between the CPU (Data Terminal Equipment-DTE) and the modem (Data
  Communications Equipment-DCE). Your modem does not use this type of
  serial connection.

  Since your modem has no DTE-DCE serial interface, commands related to
  the serial interface have no effect, but still exist for script
  compatibility reasons."

The fact that the other modems may set the serial port speed to 57.6 kbps
indicates to me that the AICK team just chose that modem speed to put there.

On why the modems connect at higher than 14.4 kbps anyway. By default, modems
will attempt to connect at the highest speed they are capable of (providing the

other end can support the same speed). Therefore, even if the port speed is set
to 14.4 kbps, the modem is still negotiating V.34 protocols. However, as you
point out, it is desirable to have your serial port speed higher than your modem
speed to take advantage of the compression (for traditional style modems).

Keywords: knts

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