

How NetEx/IP™ Works



6420 Sycamore Lane North #300
Maple Grove, MN 55369
www.netex.com

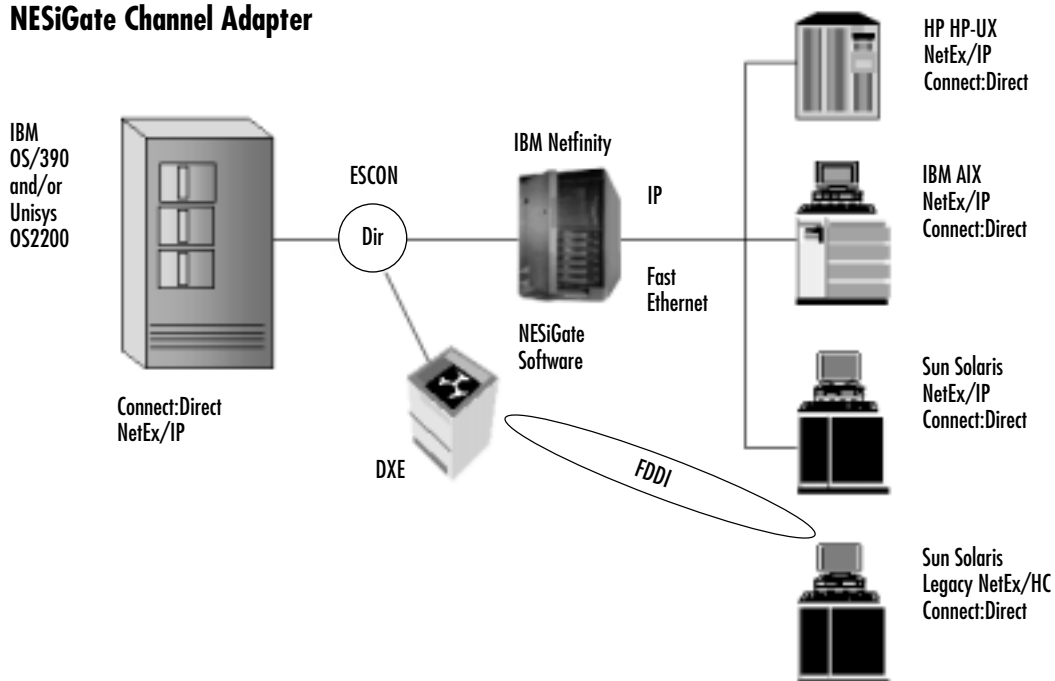
How NetEx/IP™ Works

NetEx/IP as a protocol has been decoupled from proprietary DXE hardware and networks. This allows current customers to implement IP networks without having to change their existing applications. Using NetEx/IP with IBM Netfinity®, existing applications remain unchanged, thereby eliminating the need to rewrite mission-critical applications.

Applications such as Connect:Direct®, USER-Access™, BFX™, PFX™ and TPS will continue to operate the same way they did with DXE, except that IBM Netfinity provides the replacement platform for DXE where Bustag or ESCON attachments are required.

In order to make it all work, NESiGate content software is loaded on each Netfinity in the configuration for routing control, IP mapping and configuration-specific feature functionality. The NetEx/IP that resides on UNIX systems is very similar to the original FDDI NetEx design, except that IP is used instead of HYPERchannel FDDI. For these systems, NetEx/IP operates directly over IP-based network interface cards. The diagram below shows how an IBM OS/390 or Unisys OS2200 system may communicate with one or more UNIX systems.

NESiGate Channel Adapter



NetEx/IP has the ability to simultaneously drive HYPERchannel and IP networks. This is extremely important as customers implement changes from HYPERchannel to IP networks. By simultaneously supporting DXE and Netfinity, customers do NOT have to replace all of their DXE connections at one time. This helps avoid an “all or nothing” conversion.

For those customers who have NetEx applications residing on systems that are no longer supported by the platform vendors or are using Peripheral Interface (PI) cards from Network Systems/StorageTek, IP connectivity is still possible. The HYPERchannel IP Gateway (see diagram below) allows legacy NetEx traffic to be converted to NetEx/IP and enables file transfer over IP-based networks, such as Fast Ethernet.

HYPERchannel to IP Gateway Adapter

