TEST REPORT VCON MXM 2.01

GENERAL

The Media Xchange Manager (MXM) of VCON is a system which can be used to administrate VCON end devices running in the MXM mode completely. The MXM used as a gate keeper is available for VCON end devices not running in the MXM mode and also for other H.323 Video Conference Systems. It runs on a Windows-NT-Server. The essential part of the MXM is its gatekeeper functionality.

The test was carried out in July 2002 with a 30 day test license which allows to administrate or log on 10 end devices. Together with the VCON Conference Bridge (VCB) it is possible to realize a more-point-conference with a maximum of 8 participants.

MXM

Mainly we tested the gatekeeper functionality. The following systems were logged on at the MXM and were reachable among each other without problems during point-to-point connections: Polyspan: Viewstation 512 (SWV 7.2) and ViaVideo 3.0; VCON: Escort 25 (MeetingPoint 4.61 XP), Cruiser 384 (MeetingPoint 4.6), ViGO Professional (MeetingPoint 4.6 Beta), MC 8000 (MeetingPoint 4.6 Beta), MC 9000, Falcon IP DUAL (Software Version 0201.M03.D24.H10); Netmeeting 3.01; SunForum 3.2.

During the logon at the MXM an end device number is assigned within the MXM to every end device which uses the MXM as a gatekeeper (not MXM mode). These numbers start at a defined initial value and are incremented in order of the logged on devices. They are unknown for the VC system. A modification of the number in the MXM is not visible for the user at the end device. End devices are connected among each other with these numbers by the MXM.

All logged-on end devices are listed in fixed directories which cannot be moved or modified. Logged-off devices (also logged-on devices whose H.323 name was modified) appear with a cancelled red cross in the register for not logged-on anymore. Those can be deleted only manually.

At the set-up of other zones (gatekeeper) which start with zero you have to assign in Attendant under Hunting Groups a value different from zero in advance. Thus zero becomes free and the entries mentioned above can be defined. Unfortunately the whole DFN zones are not reachable by devices applying the MXM as a gatekeeper when using the DFN prefix (0049...). Also devices logged-on at the DFN gatekeeper cannot call devices logged-on at the MXM. But if you use a prefix for the DFN gatekeeper which is not part of the DFN prefix set while the definition of the zones in the MXM the interaction of MXM and DFN gatekeeper is working. It is unlogical but it works. The DFN zone is reachable.
VCB

More-point-conferences are possible together with the VCON Conference Bridge. The VCB Software has to be installed on another computer. No other program should be active while using it. We tested two conferences with 4 and 5 participants or devices, respectively (2x ViaVideo 3.0, VCON Cruiser 4.6, Escort 4.61 XP, Falcon IP) in the Continuous Presence Mode. The sound quality was satisfactorily. The video quality was partly characterized with fixed-images lasting some seconds, not runny video and block images. ViaVideo transmitted and received up to 10 images per second. While the start of the conference via invitation over the VCB some crashes of the user interface MXM2.01 occured when updating with F5(Refresh mxm Data). A dial-in from end devices is possible but not provided implicitly by the producer's point of view.

CONCLUSION

The Media Xchange Manager is qualified well for the administration of VCON devices in the MXM-Mode because those can be set up and managed completely remotely. All other devices tested by us, which do not belong to the VCON product range, use the gatekeeper functionality and cannot be set up remotely.

The MXM operates together with a hierarchic gatekeeper structure such as the one used at the Service DFNVideoConference.

It has the condition that the prefix (0049...) of the master gatekeeper does not occur when defining the zones in the MXM.

Technical Data
Manufacturer: VCON

| General   | H.323  |
| Sound Coding | G. 711  |
| Video Coding | H.261, H.263 if voice activated  H.261 if continuous presence  |
| Video Format | CIF, QCIF if voice activated  QCIF if continuous presence  |