

EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM

DVS-168 Digital E.A.S. Protocol used for Scientific-Atlanta's DNCS Server

The DVS-168 protocol for digital E.A.S. communications between the Emergency Alert System and the DNCS server was developed in 1998 by Trilithic, Inc. and Scientific-Atlanta® and offered to the SCTE in August of that year. Although never adopted as general standard, DVS-168 stands as a defacto-standard for the transfer of E.A.S. files and information onto Scientific-Atlanta's DNCS server. The connections and setup are simple. Your Emergency Alert System must utilize a network card (Ethernet) to transfer two files, a *.Wav* and a *.Txt* file to the DNCS for further processing, preparation, and spooling to the S-A, Pioneer, or equivalent settop box. In addition to the FTP file transfer, a socket is open on port 4098 and a descriptor is sent informing the DNCS of the current E.A.S. transaction sitting in its queue. See diagrams below showing approximately, the apparatus involved:

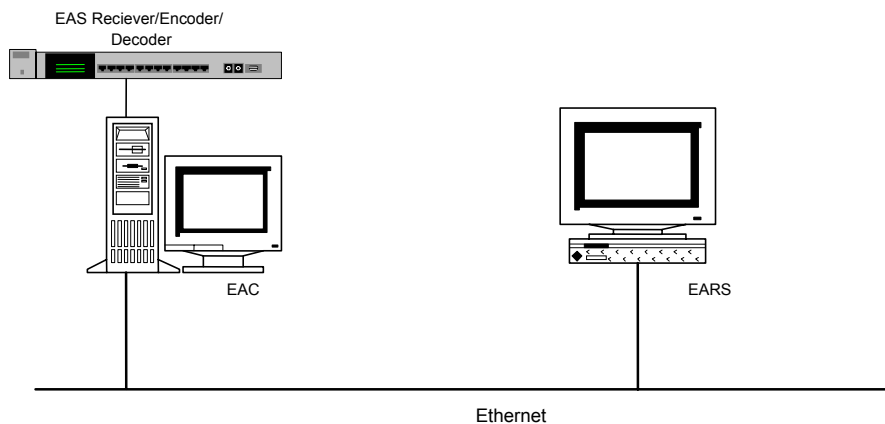


Figure 1. Physical Connection



Figure 2. Logical Flow of an EAM

Trilithic's legacy EASyNT software program running on its PSC-902 rackmount PC computer integrated both analog and digital E.A.S. via Microsoft's Windows NT operating system and network client services. In 2004, Trilithic converted the DVS-168 E.A.S. application used for the Scientific-Atlanta DNCS from its EASyNT package over to the newest EASy-PLUS Encoder/Decoder system. The EASy-PLUS is a complete and self-contained E.A.S. system in a 2U rackmount container, including two (2) radios. The EASy-PLUS will handle all of the functionality of the PSC-902 system and more. Additions to the EASy-PLUS include direct control over the SM-16/32 Trunk Multiplexer for E.A.S. county routing of messages on the analog

plant, and an *EASy-NIC*¹ network interface card (Ethernet) on-board. EASy-NIC has the primary function of serving up digital E.A.S. messages for both the DNCS as well as in-band E.A.S. messaging per the SCTE 18 (formerly DVS-208) for POD (the CableCard™) and POD-less hosts.

EASy NIC will provide new functionality to digital DNCS E.A.S. messaging in that now the “tune-to” capability will be available for crawl messages on digital channels. Telephone dial-in support is now available for force-tuning digital channels on the DNCS to an analog community-access emergency message.

EASy-NIC will also act as a WEB Server for remotely configuring your EASy-PLUS Encoder/Decoder via your network or via logging onto your EASy-PLUS through your Internet gateway. It will allow Ethernet/Internet based use of the EASy-NET Compliance Assistant program and will have the capability of running an email client so that E.A.S. alerts and FCC compliance issues can be emailed directly to your technical staff as they occur.

Call Trilithic’s technical support in North Carolina at (888) 344-3406 for further information, or to order call our Syracuse office at (888) 344-6838.

EASyNIC specifications subject to change without notice.

¹ EASyNIC network interface card is scheduled for delivery approximately the first quarter of 2005. Delivery date subject to change without notice.