

SuperSwitch



Low cost serial and parallel data switch

Interconnects up to 9 CPUs and peripherals

Expandable 64K byte buffer

7 serial and 2 parallel ports

Features and Benefits

- Connects any port to any port
- Easy menu-driven configuration
- Status command shows all jobs by origin, destination, status, priority, timeout, and buffer used
- Cancel command clears any job
- Programmable initialization strings for each port
- Can automatically send a form-feed on each port
- Each serial port can be programmed for individual baud rate, word size, parity, stop bits, and flow control
- Each parallel port can be programmed to be either an input or an output
- LEDs on the front panel display buffer capacity, data flow, and busy status
- Automatic job termination timeout adjustable from 1-255 seconds
- Advance and select switches control LED display and access diagnostics
- Each port can be configured with a name
- Configuration stored in non-volatile memory

The SuperSwitch™ Advantage...

The SuperSwitch™ is a powerful and versatile, yet low cost, microprocessor controlled switch. This peripheral-sharing unit interconnects up to nine computers and peripherals using common serial and parallel interfaces.

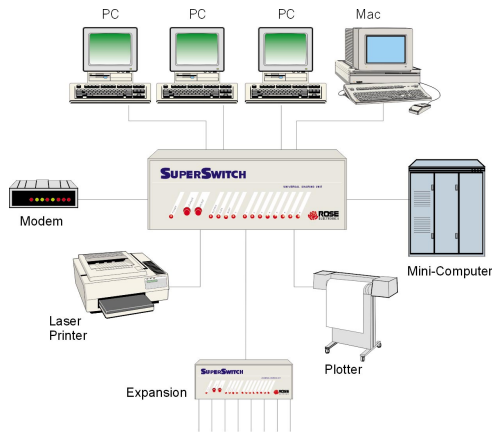
The SuperSwitch allows several computers or terminals to have shared access to peripheral devices, such as a printer, a plotter, a modem, or host computer. Peripheral device selection is done either automatically by sending data to the default destination or by sending a code to select a new destination. Any port may communicate to any other port. Pairs of ports may communicate simultaneously.

The units can be daisy-chained for expansion. The versatility of the SuperSwitch makes it a practical investment for the budget-conscious.



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Typical Application



Introduction SuperSwitch, a powerful, yet low-cost, peripheral sharing unit, interconnects up to nine computers and peripherals using common serial and parallel interfaces. Here are some of the features that make it a practical investment for the budget-conscious.

Basic Concepts This versatile microprocessor controlled switch has seven serial and two parallel ports for connecting any combination of computers and peripherals. Destinations are selected using an easy pop-up menu, keyboard commands, batch files, or by other ways. SuperSwitch activates the port connection when you send data from your application or print program. Data from each port is sent to its destination immediately if the destination device is available. If the destination device is busy, the data is queued by priority for its turn to access the device.

Buffer Memory The SuperSwitch buffer is dynamically allocated. As the data in the buffer is sent to its destination, the buffer is reclaimed to be used again. Allocating memory in this way protects against lockout and ensures that large jobs always have adequate memory available. It also maximizes productivity by returning control of the computer to the operator faster and by significantly reducing printing time. SuperSwitch's 64K buffer is expandable to 1Mb.

Cables You connect SuperSwitch to your equipment using standard cabling with DB25 serial connectors and 36 pin female Centronics parallel connectors. Cables are ordered by length and the type of device that is being connected. Please refer to the cabling section for further information.

Configuration SuperSwitch is configured through a PC connected to port 0 using simple installation software provided. A pop-up configuration menu displays setup parameters for all ports and allows you to change them as needed. You choose whether each port is to be connected to a computer, printer, plotter, or modem. Other settings for each port are its name, default destination, and priority. For serial ports you also assign its communication settings. Configuration is stored in the switch's non-volatile memory.

Front Panel LEDs alternately display buffer capacity, data receive and transmit, and data flow conditions. Displays can be stopped and resumed by pressing the Select and Advance switches. You can also enter diagnostic modes through the switches.

Commands SuperSwitch offers versatile job control through the use of seven commands. For example, you can enter one of these codes to select a new port destination, display the status of all jobs, or remove the last job from the queue. By entering the status command, you can view queued

jobs by source, destination, status, priority, and length. The status field shows whether a job is transmitting, receiving, queued, canceled, or is actively connected. Commands are also used to set the protocol of a port and to enable or disable "timeout" for continuous connection.

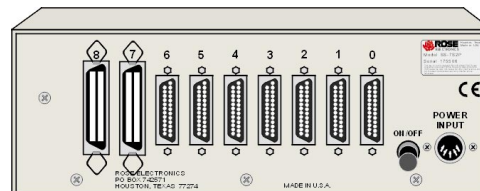
MasterLink Each unit comes with MasterLink™, a pop-up PC program that makes it easy for you to send commands and access menus. You can pop-up it up in any application or it can be accessed from Windows. MasterLink presents you with a list of programmable items that you can do, such as select a new printer, cancel a job, view the queue status, or put the printer into landscape mode. Hitting the corresponding function key executes the command. MasterLink also has a terminal emulator program that provides pop-up interactive communication with the switch. MasterLink can also be used to choose between a printer attached directly to your PC or one connected to the Super Switch.

Part Numbers

SS-9	Peripheral sharing unit with 7 serial ports and 2 parallel ports, supplied with 64K buffer
/2	256K buffer option
/5	512K buffer option
/10	1Mbyte buffer option
/RM	19" x 5.25" black anodized rack mount
/RM23	23" rack mount
/422	RS422 option for serial models
/220FM	220 VAC floor mount adapter

Specifications

Size	10.5" W x 5.0" D x 3.5" H (26.7 x 12.7 x 8.9 cm.)
Weight	8 lbs
Power	110VAC, 10VA wall adapter, 220 VAC optional
Connectors	Power: DIN5 Serial: DB25 Female Parallel: 36 pin Female Centronics Field upgradable to 1MB
Memory	Fully shielded, tan painted steel
Chassis	LEDs: Buffer, Data, Busy, Ports 0-8
Front Panel	Controls
Controls	Advance and Select switches
Serial protocol*	EIA asynchronous RS232D
Parallel protocol**	TTL Centronics
Serial flow control	DTR/DSR or* XON/XOFF to buffer; DSR/DTR sent through for modem
Parallel flow control	STB/ACK/BUSY
Serial baud rate	50 - 19,200 BAUD*
Word Size	5, 6, 7 or 8
Parity	None, odd, even, mark, space
Stop Bits	1 or 2*
Environmental	0-55° C, 0-80% non-condensing rel. humidity
* Each port is individually programmable	
** Each parallel port is programable as a computer port or printer port	



Rear view, SuperSwitch model SS-7S2P

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