Remote Office Client for NetRider

RCHost Installation and Use

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Preface

Overview

Purpose

This guide explains how to install and use the RCHost program.

Intended Audience

This guide is written for users who install and use the Remote Office Client for NetRider for MS-DOS and Windows RCViewer and RCHost programs. This guide assumes readers are familiar with the RCViewer program.

Conventions

This guide uses the following conventions:

Convention	Description
boldface text	Boldface text represents the name of a button, icon, or menu option.
`monospaced text`	Monospaced text represents commands that you type.
[key]	Text enclosed in brackets indicate keyboard keys that you press.

Chapter 1

Getting Started

Overview

In This Chapter

This chapter contains the following information:

- Product description
- Preparing for installation
- Installation procedure
- Starting the RCHost program

Product Description

Introduction

RCHost is a memory-resident program (TSR) that you must load on each machine that you want to control using the NetRider Remote Office Client for Digital RCViewer program. You can load the RCHost program into high memory on a 386 or above if you use DOS version 5.0 or higher, or a suitable memory manager.

Outside Access Options

Owners of host PCs (the PC that runs the RCHost program) have a number of options to control outside access to their machine, including the ability to:

- Lock out others at any time
- Set times during which outside access is permitted
- Require a password for access
- Beep whenever the RCViewer program takes or relinquishes control
- Beep while an RCViewer program has control
- Determine if a session is in progress, and which RCViewer station is currently connected
- Abort a session in progress

The owner of the host PC has access to these features by means of the Host Control Panel, which runs from MS-DOS or from Windows.

Preparing for Installation

Check Your Package

You need the following items to install RCHost on your PC:

- RCHost installation disk
- *Remote Office Client for NetRider for MS-DOS and Windows RCHost Installation and Use* (this book)

Other Items

The other items in your product package are for the different clients and the DECserver. The number of DECserver items in your package vary, depending on the type of DECserver your system or network administrator is installing.

Check the System Requirements

You need the following:

- Any generation of IBM PC running MS-DOS version 5.0 or higher.
- Approximately 36K of memory.

  You can load the application into high memory on 386 systems. The product provides special Windows drivers to allow control of a workstation while running Windows 3.0 or 3.1. RCHost supports all modes of Windows (Real, Standard, Enhanced).
- IPX network operating system installed.

Installing the Software

Procedure

Do the following to install the RCHost software on a host PC:

Step	Action
1	Exit Windows, if it is loaded.
2	Insert the installation disk in drive A (or B).
3	At the MS-DOS prompt, type **A:INSTALL** (or **B:INSTALL),** and press [Enter].
4	When you see the Remote Control Host Install screen, type a directory name to contain RCHost files, if you wish to use a directory other than C:\RCHOST.

Next Step

See the Starting RCHost section in this chapter for instructions about starting the program. See Chapter 2 for instructions about using the RCHost program.

Starting RCHost

Introduction

RCHOST.EXE is a 36K TSR that, once loaded, makes a PC a host that is available to RCViewer stations across the network.

Load IPX First

In order to successfully load RCHost, load IPX first. It is not necessary to be logged in to a server, or even to run the network shell (NETx.COM); all that RCHost requires is for IPX to be loaded.

Load RCHost

To load RCHost, switch to the directory in which it is installed, or make sure that directory is on the path, and type:

```
RCHOST
```

Alternate Load Method

You can also load RCHost by specifying a complete path; for example:

```
C:\RCHOST\RCHOST
```

If you want RCHost to load automatically at boot time, add the RCHOST command to your AUTOEXEC.BAT file.

Load into High Memory (Optional)

You can load the RCHost program into high memory on 386 or higher PCs running DOS version 5 or greater. When loaded into high memory, RCHost occupies memory between 640K and 1M, leaving more space for typical MS-DOS applications that reside below 640K.

To load RCHost into high memory, type:

```
LOADHIGH RCHOST
```

Memory Managers

You can also load RCHost into high memory using memory managers such as QEMM 386 or 386MAX. Refer to your memory manager documentation for details on loading TSRs into high memory.

Unloading RCHost

You can unload the RCHost program by entering the RCHOST command with the /U switch. From the DOS prompt, type:

```
RCHOST  /U
```

When You Unload RCHost

RCHost removes itself from memory. This memory becomes available to MS-DOS.

Usually, you unload TSRs in the reverse order in which you loaded them. If you loaded other TSRs after loading RCHost, RCHost may not be able to unload when you enter the unload command. In this situation, it returns an error message. Try to unload RCHost by first unloading the TSRs you loaded after RCHost, in reverse order.

Chapter 2

RCHost Status and Settings

Overview

Introduction

The RCHost Control Panel lets you view and alter the host's status and settings.

In This Chapter

This chapter contains the following information:

- Displaying the RCHost control panel
- Using the Control Panel
- Installing RCHost Windows drivers
- RCHost settings overview
- Changing RCHost settings

Displaying the RCHost Control Panel

Introduction

You perform RCHost functions from the RCHost Control Panel.

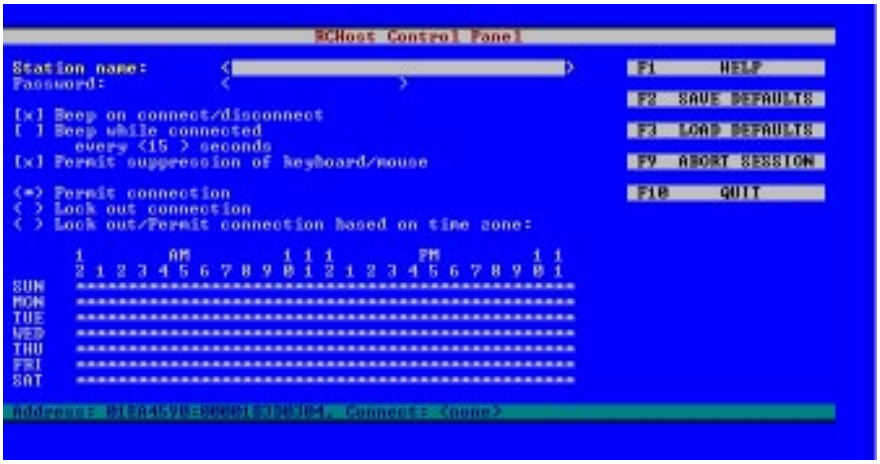
Displaying the MS-DOS Control Panel

To run the Control Panel from the DOS prompt, enter the RCHOST command using the /C switch as follows:

```
RCHOST   /C
```

MS-DOS Control Panel

The DOS Control Panel looks similar to the following screen:

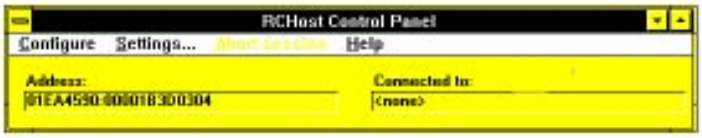


Displaying the Windows Control Panel

To run the Control Panel from Windows, use the Program Manager **File Run** command to run the program PHOSTWIN.EXE from the RCHost directory.

Windows Control Panel

The Windows Control Panel looks similar to the following window:



Control Panel Options

You can select the following options from RCHost Windows Control Panel:

Option	Description
Configure	Allows you to install and remove RCHost Window drivers
Settings...	Allows you to view and change RCHost settings
Abort session	Allows you to abort an RCViewer connection
Help	Allows you to access online help

Using the Control Panel

Basic MS-DOS Operations

The following table lists the most common RCHost operations you can perform using the RCHost MS-DOS Control Panel.

For This Operation:	Do This:
Issue a command	Press the appropriate function key.
Move to any setting	Use the up/down arrows, or click the setting with the mouse. The setting you select is highlighted and may be edited.
Edit a text setting	Start typing to overwrite the current entry, or use the arrow keys, [Backspace], and [Delete] to edit the current entry.
	To erase an entry entirely, press [Esc].
Toggle a [ ] checkbox	Press either [Space] or [Enter], or click the checkbox with the mouse.
Select from among several radio buttons ( )	Highlight the radio button you want to select and press either [Space] or [Enter]; or click the radio button with the mouse.
Edit the time zone map	Position the cursor with the arrow keys, then use:
	[*] or [+] to set PERMITTED [Space] or [-] to set LOCKED [Enter] to toggle between PERMITTED and LOCKED
Mark a rectangular range for editing	Press [F5] to set block mode, or hold down [Shift] while marking the block with the cursor keys.
Toggle any item	Use the mouse to click the item and toggle a range by clicking and dragging the mouse.

For This Operation:	Do This:
Save settings as the new defaults	Press [F2] before you exit to save the settings. If you do not do this, the changes you make are for this session only, and are lost once you reboot or unload RCHost.
Exit to MS-DOS	Press [F10] when you have performed whatever operations you want.

Basic Windows Operations

The following table lists the most common RCHost operations you can perform using the RCHost Windows Control Panel.

For This Operation:	Do This:
Issue a command	Press the appropriate function key.
Move to any setting	Click the setting with the mouse. The setting you select is highlighted and may be edited.
Edit a text setting	Start typing to overwrite the current entry, or use the arrow keys, [Backspace], and [Delete] to edit the current entry. To erase an entry entirely, press [Esc].
Toggle a [ ] checkbox	Click the checkbox with the mouse.
Select from among several radio buttons	Click the radio button with the mouse.

For This Operation:	Do This:
Edit the time zone map	Use the mouse to highlight a rectangle and click Permit or Lock. **Alternative Method:** Tab to the time zone map, use the arrow keys to navigate and the following keys: [*] or [+] to set PERMITTED [Space] or [-] to set LOCKED [Enter] to toggle between PERMITTED and LOCKED
Mark a rectangular range for editing	Press the mouse button and drag it to highlight a rectangle.
Save settings as the new defaults	Click **Save Defaults** before you exit to save the settings. If you do not do this, the changes you make are for this session only, and are lost once you reboot or unload RCHost.
Exit to the Windows Control Panel	Click **Cancel** when you have performed whatever operations you want.

Installing RCHost Windows Drivers

Installing RCHost Windows Drivers

The **Configure** option on the Control Panel menu allows you to install or remove the special display, mouse, and keyboard drivers from your Windows configuration. You must install these drivers to allow your PC to operate as a Host while running Windows.

To install the drivers, select the **Configure** option from the RCHost Windows Control Panel, then select **Install**. The RCHost program:

- Creates special drivers for the display, mouse, and keyboard in your Windows directory based on the actual Windows drivers.
- Copies the PHOSTMON.EXE program into your Windows directory.
- Modifies your WIN.INI file to load the PHOSTMON program.
- Modifies your SYSTEM.INI file to load the newly created drivers.

Re-install Drivers After Running SETUP

If you ever need to use the Windows SETUP program to change either the display driver, keyboard driver, or mouse driver, you must re-install the drivers after running SETUP. Do the following:

Step	Action
1	From Windows, run SETUP to alter the Windows configuration to your liking.
2	Do the following: a) Run PHOSTWIN. b) Select **Configure**. c) Select **Install**. The RCHost reinstall the drivers appropriately for the new Windows drivers you selected.

Removing RCHost Windows Drivers

To remove the drivers from your Windows configuration, select **Configure** from the RCHost Windows Control Panel, then select **Remove**. The RCHost program:

- Removes its drivers from your Windows configuration.
- Restores your WIN.INI and SYSTEM.INI files to the original state prior to installing the drivers.

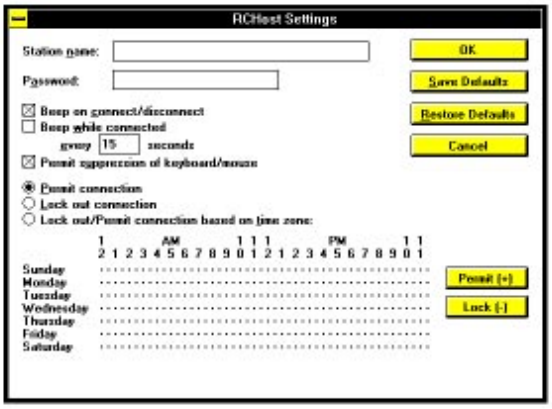
RCHost Settings Overview

Displaying MS-DOS Settings

After displaying the MS-DOS RCHost Control Panel, you can view or modify MS-DOS RCHost settings.

Accessing the Windows Settings Dialog

To view or modify Windows RCHost settings, use the **Settings** dialog. To open the **Settings** dialog, select **Settings** from the RCHost Windows Control Panel. You see a window similar to the following:



Changing RCHost Settings

Introduction

This section describes the control panel settings for the MS-DOS and Windows version of the RCHost program.

Interpreting Status Information

The current status of your PC appears on the bottom line of the Control Panel in MS-DOS, and on the main screen of the Control Panel in Windows. The status information displayed is:

Field	Meaning
Address	Indicates the IPX address, in the form network:node.
Connected to	Indicates the network address and NetWare user name of the RCViewer station that is currently connected, or <none> if there is no current connection. The RCViewer station must be logged in to a NetWare server in order for a user name to appear.

Aborting the Current Connection

If the RCViewer program is in control of your PC, you can abort the connection with the Abort session command.

- In MS-DOS, press [F9].
- In Windows, select **Abort session** from the RCHost Windows Control Panel.

Interpreting the Station Name

The Station Name identifies your PC to the RCViewer software which may want to connect to it.

You can assign a station name that makes it easy to identify the PC. Combining the name of the person who uses the PC with the PC brand or type is usually a good practice; for example, “George’s 386/25” or “Gracie’s Model 60.”

Assigning a Password

If you want to restrict access to your PC to only certain RCViewer users, you can assign a password. Whenever an RCViewer user tries to connect to your PC, the user must supply the correct password before the connection is accepted.

The password can be any sequence of up to 16 characters. The password is never displayed on screen; as you edit it, asterisks appear in place of the characters you type. You can change the password at any time.

If you do not want to require a password for access, leave this field completely blank.

Setting Beeps

You can set RCHost to alert you whenever an RCViewer makes or breaks a connection with your PC, and to periodically beep while a session is in progress. You can set the following:

If You Check This Box:	Then:
Beep on connect/disconnect	You hear a quick series of three tones rising in pitch whenever an RCViewer user connects to your PC, and another series of tones falling in pitch when it disconnects.
Beep while connected	You hear a short tone periodically while an RCViewer user is connected to your PC. You can set the interval between beeps to any number of seconds between 1 and 999.

Suppressing the Local Keyboard/Mouse Suppression

One of the options of the RCViewer program is to suppress the local keyboard and mouse of the host PC while connected. This places the host PC in total control of the RCViewer user.

To allow your host PC to prevent its own keyboard and mouse from being suppressed, uncheck the **Permit suppression of keyboard/mouse** box. The RCViewer option to suppress the local keyboard/mouse only works if this box is checked.

Setting the Conditions for Connection

A set of three radio buttons control whether an RCViewer user is permitted to establish a connection with the host PC. You can select any of the following:

Button	Description
Permit connection	While this button is checked, RCViewer users are welcome to connect to this host PC.
Lock out connection	While this button is checked, RCViewer users are unconditionally denied permission to connect to this host PC.
Lock out/Permit connection based on time zone	While this button is checked, RCViewer users are permitted or denied permission to connect based on the day of the week and the time of day, as specified in the time zone map.

Changing the Time Zone Map

If you check the **Lock out/permit based on time zone** button, the time zone map determines when an RCViewer user is permitted to connect to the host PC.

The time zone map is divided into half-hour time slots for each day of the week. Each half-hour time slot is marked with either:

- An asterisk (*), indicating connection is permitted
- A blank, indicating connection is locked out

Editing the Time Zone Map

Do the following to edit the time zone map:

Step	Action
1	Do one of the following: • Use the mouse to highlight a rectangle, then click **Permit** or **Lock.** • Tab to the time zone map, then use the arrow keys to navigate and press **[+]** or **[-]** to set any entry to PERMITTED or LOCKED.
2	After you modify the settings to your liking, click **OK.**
3	To preserve the settings for future sessions, click **Save Defaults** before you exit. Otherwise, changes you make are for this session only, and will be lost once you reboot or unload RCHost.

Saving and Restoring Defaults

The default settings are the ones that are automatically loaded whenever you load RCHost.

Any changes you make to the settings take effect immediately, whether or not you save them as the default. Your changes remain in effect for the rest of your session, or until you change them again. But once you reload RCHost after rebooting, the default settings are automatically reloaded.

Modifying Default Settings

Do the following to modify the default settings:

Step	Action
1	Change the settings as necessary.
2	Select **Save Defaults** to save these settings as the default. Each time you load RCHost, these settings automatically take effect.

If you changed some settings but want to undo your changes and revert to the default settings, select **Load Defaults**. The default settings are reloaded.

Chapter 3

Customizing RCHost Operations

Overview

In This Chapter

This chapter contains the following information:

- Using the Host Loader (PHL.EXE)
- Loading RCHost for Windows only
- Creating banks of host PCs
- Display mode support

Using the Host Loader (PHL.EXE)

Description

The Host Loader, PHL.EXE, is a TSR that takes up less than 8K and can be loaded instead of RCHost on systems that are short of memory for TSRs. The Host Loader allows a Proxy Master to establish a connection to a host workstation, **provided that it is at the MS-DOS prompt**. Once connected, the Host Loader loads RCHost to do the actual work of remote control.

Memory permitting, it is preferable to have RCHost loaded, rather than the Host Loader. RCHost enables an RCViewer to connect with the host system at any time, regardless of whether the host is at the MS-DOS prompt or running an application program.

Loading the Host Loader

To load the Host Loader, switch to the RCHost directory and issue the following command from the MS-DOS prompt:

```
PHL
```

You can also place this command in the AUTOEXEC.BAT file to automatically load PHL.EXE.

Loading in High Memory

Like RCHost, you can load the Host Loader into high memory on 386 or higher PCs with MS-DOS version 5 or a memory manager. Use the following command:

```
LOADHIGH PHL
```

Do not load PHL if you already loaded RCHost. Attempting to do so results in an error message.

Command Switches

The Host Loader recognizes the same switches as RCHost:

Command	Description
`PHL /U`	Uninstall the Host Loader
`PHL /C`	Run the RCHost Control Panel

Loading RCHost For Windows Only

Using a Batch File

If you want to make a host PC available to RCViewer users while the host PC is running Windows, but you want to avoid having to keep the RCHost TSR loaded while in MS-DOS, set up a batch file to run Windows that loads RCHost on entry and unloads it on exit.

Batch File Example

The following example shows a batch file called RUNWIN.

```
C:\RCHOST\RCHOST
WIN
C:\RCHOST\RCHOST /U
```

When you type `RUNWIN` from the MS-DOS prompt, RCHost loads and Windows starts. This PC is available to RCViewer users as long as you stay in Windows. When you exit Windows, RCHost unloads.

Creating Banks of Host PCs

Description

One of the typical uses for the RCViewer program is to provide a computing resource that can be made available to the entire network. For example, you might set up one or more high-powered PCs as hosts that various people might take over in order to do CAD or database queries. Or, you might have several modem-equipped host PCs that can provide communications service to anyone on the network.

If you have more than one PC performing the same type of function, you can set them up as a bank of interchangeable PCs, with similar names. Since users do not care which of the several PCs they connect to, they can use wildcards in the station name. The connection is made to the first available PC in the bank.

Example

In this example, you have three PCs you want to make available as CAD servers. You assign them the station names “CAD–1,” “CAD–2,” and “CAD–3.” You can then set up an RCViewer icon on the remote PC that connects to any one of the available CAD machines with the following command line:

```
RCVIEWER CAD-*
```

Display Mode Support

Description

The RCViewer program can reproduce the display of the host PC while it is in a wide variety of display modes, both in MS-DOS and Windows.

RCViewer's ability to render colors accurately depends on the capabilities of the Windows display driver. The most accurate color reproduction occurs when the RCViewer's color capability matches or exceeds that of the host PC. For example, an RCViewer running in a Windows session with a 16-color display driver can render a host PC running Windows with a 16-color display driver perfectly. However, if the host PC's display driver is 256-color, the RCViewer approximates some colors as best it can.

For accuracy in color rendering, it is better to use a 256-color than a 16-color Windows display driver on the RCViewer machine. The 16-color display driver gives significantly better performance, while still providing a range of colors that is adequate for most purposes.

The display resolution of the RCViewer machine is less critical, since RCViewer can display host PC screens of any size by resorting to scroll bars. However, you may find it convenient to use a high-resolution display driver for the RCViewer machine, such as 800 x 600 or 1024 x 768, so that you can render most host PC displays in their entirety without scroll bars.

Host Display Modes—Windows

RCViewer can display a host PC running Windows provided the Windows display driver of the host is either monochrome, 16-color, or 256-color. Note that, due to technical limitations, host PCs running Windows in monochrome mode may display in full-color in the RCViewer window.

Host Display Modes—MS-DOS

While the host PC is in MS-DOS, RCViewer can render its display while it is in any of the following modes:

mode	description
0/1	40 x 25 16-color text
2/3	80 x 25 16-color text
4/5	320 x 200 4-color graphics
6	640 x 200 monochrome graphics
7	80 x 25 monochrome text
D	320 x 200 16-color graphics
E	640 x 200 16-color graphics
10	640 x 350 16-color graphics
11	640 x 480 monochrome graphics
12	640 x 480 16-color graphics
13	320 x 200 256-color graphics

If the host PC enters a display mode which RCViewer cannot render, the window is blank until the host PC enters a display mode that RCViewer can handle.

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