

Definity-G(x) Demystified:
By Walt Medak

Q: This question comes from Curt Hannaman from Treasure Island Resort and Casino. We have a number of bridged appearance buttons throughout our facility, including the executive/assistant scenario. If the assistant happens to press the bridged appearance button while the executive is on a call, she is added to the call just like a conference. If the executive happens to look at his phone, he can see that the display now shows the call is a conference. Is there a way to make the system play some kind of tone to make it more obvious that someone has joined in on a call in such a way?

A: Thanks for the question Curt; this was a fun one to experiment with. Here's what I figured out. The first thing you need to verify is that the option "Conference Tone?" is turned on in the System-Parameters Features form. Once that is verified, you would use the command "change system-parameters country-options". When you scroll down to the fourth page of that form, you will see where you can create your own custom tone. In this case, under "Tone Name", you would enter "conference". The next column is where you actually create the tone you want the system to play. There are a number of options for different frequencies and dB levels (volume), as well as the duration to play the tone in milliseconds. There are fifteen steps available to play a combination of different tones and pauses, so you can create a tone that is as simple or as complicated as you'd like.

Q: We are in the process of adding a number of analog phones to our Definity. The problem I have is that all of the slots in our switch are full. I purchased a few 24 port analog circuit packs (TN793B) to replace the 16 port packs (TN746B) we've had in the switch for a long time. I know the wiring on the backboard is different on everything above the fourth pair, so I decided to start by replacing a card that only had the first three ports assigned. I knew I had a problem when the alarm light on the new circuit wouldn't go out after I put it in the slot. I ended up putting the original 16-port circuit pack back in. What else do I need to do to get the 24-port card to work?

A: You are correct in that the port-for-port wiring is the same for a TN746B and a TN793B up to the fourth pair. The problem is that the switch, in this case, is too smart for it's own good. Because you have those stations assigned to that 16-port pack, the switch will remember what kind of circuit pack is supposed to be in that slot. When you tried putting the new TN793B board in that slot, the switch detected a conflict between what it thought should be there, and what was actually inserted. If you plan on permanently removing a circuit pack, or swapping one type of board out for another, you need to remove all programming associated with that board first. In this case, you wouldn't have to completely remove the stations from the translations. You could get by just as well by assigning them to an "x-port" instead of an actual, physical port in the switch. Once you have removed all of the programming, you can remove the circuit pack from the switch. If at this point you run a "list configuration all", or "display circuit-packs" command, you shouldn't see any pack assigned to the carrier and slot you are

working with. Assuming that is the case, you would then be able to insert the new circuit pack, and reprogram the stations to the appropriate ports.

Q: I found an article on a website that described how someone set up an H.323 trunk between their Definity and a piece of hardware from another manufacturer that provides conference call capabilities beyond what the Definity itself can accomplish. I believe the article said this person had a version 10 or 11. We have a version 9.5. I would really like to know if I could set up H.323 trunks on my switch since I have been looking at the same exact piece of conference equipment they were talking about.

A: Yes, your version 9.5 is capable of providing H.323 trunks. You do need to make sure that in your System-Parameters Customer-Options form, the options "H.323 Trunks?" and "ISDN-PRI?" are both set to "y", and that the option "Maximum Administered IP Trunks:" is set to a number higher than zero. You would also need to have a C-LAN circuit pack (for example, a TN799C), and an IP Media Processor circuit pack (TN2302AP). Once you know all of those things are in place, actually programming the trunks is fairly simple, as they are set up much like an ISDN-PRI circuit. The main differences are that on the trunk group form, the Carrier Medium is "IP" instead of "PRI/BRI", and the trunk members are assigned to "IP" rather than a physical port on a DS1 circuit pack like on a PRI.