Definity-G(x) Demystified:
By Walt Medak

Q: I am trying to get the programming ready for a new PRI circuit that is going to be installed in a couple weeks. I installed a TN767E DS1 circuit pack and a 120A that we had from a previous circuit. I used the "change circuit-packs" command to add the circuit pack and did the programming. However, when I do a "list config all" command, that slot shows TN767E, but "no board". I tried reseating the board in the slot, but it still shows "no board". I can't run a test on the board because it doesn't think the board is there. What can I try next?

A: A couple things come to mind. First, you should not have to use the "change circuit-packs" command to add the board. If the board is good, the system should detect it automatically when it is inserted into the slot. I would try simply installing the board into an unused slot and then run a "list config all" to see if the board is detected. If it is detected in a different slot, you could have some bent pins on the backplane of the slot you tried first. If not, the board is probably bad.
Second, you said you installed the DS1 board and the 120A CSU. The correct procedure is to connect the 120A CSU to the back of the switch before inserting the circuit pack into the slot. Connecting or disconnecting the CSU from the switch with the circuit pack inserted can damage it because the DS1 board provides power to the amphenol connector when it is connected to the backplane.
One last thing for you to check. There was a batch of 120A CSU's that were known to be defective, and can damage circuit packs. They can be identified by their serial number. The serial numbers look like "yyDRmmxxxxxx". The "yy" is the year, and the "mm" is the month. The defective CSU's were made from September 2001 through April 2002, so the serial numbers would be in the range of 01DR09xxxxxx through 02DR04xxxxxx. Make sure the CSU you have isn't in that range before connecting it to another board.

Q: We have a number of extensions set up as x-port stations to use for remote call forwarding a DID number to an employee's cell phone. I tried to add another one of these stations, and found out we had reached the maximum number of ports for our system. We have an older Definity G3V4. I was not aware that an x-port station counted against the maximum port count, but apparently it does. Is there any way to get around this besides upgrading?

A: Unfortunately, you are correct in that x-ported stations do count against your total number of subscribed ports. And, in the case of your G3V4, there aren't a lot of options except doing a thorough audit of your system and getting rid of any unused stations. In the newer systems (G3V9 or so), there is an option called "*Station as virtual extension*" that allows you to do things just like you are doing without counting against your port count. In the station form, the set type is "*virtual*", and there is no port associated with the station, unlike the "*x*" port on your system.