Generated using Ami Pro 3.0 September 17th 1992

Author: Mara Frega 18 Receivelt St Pequannock, NJ 07440 201-694-2436 Voice Mail 201-694-0623 Voice 201-694-5081 BBS 201-226-2675 BBS

201-831-6633 BBS

201-343-3496 BBS

201-473-2703 BBS

201-627-1835 BBS

Technical and Reference information Regarding STS

Synergy Teleconferencing System

Developed by: Lightspeed Electronics Inc.

- 1) History
- 2) My involvement
- 3) System specifications and General run on sentences.

1) STS was arested by a sysop and friends who saw the need to improve a drastically behind the times software package known as Diversi Dial. Diversi Dial was written Bill Basham for the Apple 2 + and 2e systems. It utilized the card slots and allowed for 7 modems or less to be accessed by the program. As far as I know, it was the first "CB" simulator to reach the marketplace and the first one I had ever seen. Because of its limitations and lack of suport by the author. A company known as Lightspeed electronics dealded to areste their own version of this software using low cost IBM compatible machines and peripherals. One of Lightspeeds owners was running a Diversi dial and used their common structure as a model for the new "Synergy" system. STS was well accepted by other Diversi dial sysops and many converted

to the new system. STS is now more popular than Diversi dial ever was ... in the US and Canada.

- 2) I am an operator of a STS system and have been since May 1991. I run the largest STS system to date with 15 lines. I started in 1989 by taking over an existing Diversi dial and converted to STS. I wish to see the advancement of STS to the kind of operator base that Major BBS has achieved. (Galacticomm) I am in close contact with the authors and run an official STS support station.
- 3) STS runs on IBM compatible based systems such as 8088,80286, or 80386 systems. I assume it will run on a 486, but I have never heard of it. Being run on a 486. Im sure that it will be made compatible if it isnt already. STS is a licensed product. Upon purchase of the STS 10 line package, you are expected to adhere to their rules and regulations as an operator. You can run the system anyway you like but they can limit the area to which you are licensed. The 10 line system somes with a serial card manufactured by lightspeed and is software specific to this card. STS is planned to support only their serial card. The card has 8 cables with male ends. While the card only handles 8 modems, STS supports com1 and com2 with default IRQ settings. Most external modems of a quality brand will function properly. Its suggested that the

And the second s

Comt and Com2 ports are external modems also for reasons of quality and to ensure the life of the computer. STS supports up to 9600 Baud on each of the 10 ports and will allow 300-9600 on each line selectively. Configurations for each line are for hayes or generic command sets. As well as V.42 or MNP settings. The modem configurations are well—thought out as compared to most other systems. Another attractive—feature is having local terminals via Null modem. Local terminals—are completely supported up to 9600 Baud.

STS can run 10 lines on a single XT 10MHz system without slot of trouble. Factors to consider are:

Speed of your computer. Reccommend at at least 10Mhz.

Speed of your hardrive. Below 28Ms

Speed of your modems. 2400

I would suggest a 286 or better for all 2400 band operation and a fast harddrive. The faster the speed of your modems, the faster your computer should be. I have run to lines on an XT with 5 2400 band and 5 at 1200 band. Their were no noticeable problems but, it was with an earlier version of the software which is now a more trying version.

Right now I am running 15 lines and I terminal using a 16 MHZ 286 machine with 512K EMS and an IDE 18 MS 20 mag hard drive.

The system rarely pauses because of the EMS. STS can support up — to 4 megs of Expanded mem. The pauses are when the system writes to the disk drive. Pauses are few and far between and aren't ever a problem.

A disk eache will probably be the most reliable setup.

The maximum configuration you can run is limited to the amount of memory and 8 bit slots you have in your computer. While no one has run over 18 lines, it can be done.

Each Comeand has the ability to support 8 modems. The additional comeands will attach via eable to the first installed Comeand.

STS allows any authorized person to go into terminal mode on any line. While dialing out of course, the person is restricted by the capabilities of the STS software. STS strips the 8th bit and — renders it unable to download or transfer data vis 8 bit protocols.

Syzop terminal is reffered to as slot 0. Slot 0 shows each line and a symbol describing the feature the line is using or if its empty. There is a serolling list of users online across the top. Band rate is adjustable for slot 0. There is no acrollback for slot 0. Slot 0, is like a dedicated network server. There are no DOS options for slot 0 as it is not able to exit to dos at all. Eventually the system is supposed to run independent of DOS. All screen writes are currently direct to display. All slot 0 sysops screens are available from remote except for Function key macros definitions, since they can't be used from remote.

The STS program is only one executable less than 120K. Upon execution, it creates a number of data files formatted at 32k each. There are also a number of text and anal files that are used by sysops to detail help and membership information. Each user account that is created will—generate a 32k file. That file holds mail and info that is to or from that account. All data stored in any accounts are scrambled in order to prevent anyone from actually reading the data on backups.

As a test station I have seen many upgrades. Upgrades of STS can be downloaded from the Lightspeed people. Also if you want to upgrade from a remote sight, its possible to set up STS to be able to boot its self into a term program, then update itself and reboot back into operation.

STS runs completely self sufficient and is delagned to be run from remote just as well as being at slot 0. The system doesn't have any daily maintenance or downtime as a result of any of its functions.

STS is protected in many inventive ways to keep it from being circulated to others as well as being able to be decompiled. Of course I won't tell how or what is protecting it, but im sure no one could ever successfully get it

to work without buying their own version. Currently the version I am running is 1.8G. The release version of STS is 2.0 From what I understand, it is close to completion. Upon completion it will have a press release and some limited publicity to get some public attention in the BBS world!

Features of the STS systems are unmatched. STS is incredibly realiable and it works! All STS systems are capable of linking to each other and allowing real time chat and E-mail. Its the best example of networking I have seen as far as BBS systems go, by far. All commands are command—line and simple. There are no menus and bulky command prompts. Its like being in an operating system. All systems have an exclusive address much like an internet address or Compuserve Id. Links between systems are done via special protocol that encode all data so that it cant be read while in a data service that doesn't sllow exclusive use. For example: If an STS system that you want to link to isn't local to you, but you are local to a Galacticomm and so is the other STS, then both systems could call that local Galacticomm and link incide of a chat on that system. Now since Galacticomm isn't a private system, you don't want that systems systems except to read what you are saying right? Well thats why STS encodes everything in its link protocol, to insure—its users privacy. No other system can do that.

Linking is what makes STS thrive the most in my opinion. With links, users can communicate with other parts of the US or world as if they were on our system. The systems can send and receive mail scross the links. Private messages can go scross links, you can even check when a user was online or read his mail scross a link. STS has the best linking features of any system.

Privacy is of great importance to me. While sometimes I would like to know what another user is saying in a private conversation, I believe that all conversation believed as being private, should be private. STS doesn't allow any sysop to read any users mail, private conversations, chats, or anything meant to be private. This is important if the relationship between sysop and users is meant to be pleasant.

Privacy is a huge consideration of the software developer. Even if account files were read, they are scrambled to prevent people from reading them, if they were to get their hands on a backup copy. A sysop can't even boot an additional copy of STS on another machine to read anothers mail because STS wont run without the STS card.

If you are interested in running STS in your area, call me for more information anytime. STS will only sell license to operate in approved areas. If you are directly local to a current STS, then you may not be eligible to run a system..

Have a day.

STS = Synergy Teleconferencing System. Copyright Lightspeed Electronics

1988-1992

en de la composition La composition de la La composition de la 

Maria de la companya La companya de la co