

Why must I install the IPX protocol on certain PC-Topp stations?

IPX is required for the proper functioning of Conversion Machine Planning.

PC-Topp uses the IPX protocol for two different purposes. Without IPX, neither of them can function.

IPX is responsible for the synchronisation of the conversion machine schedules on the various stations in Planning and on the shop floor. Without IPX, changes to the planning might occur on outdated schedule data. In that case

a change done on one of the stations would be wiped out by a change happening on another station somewhere else.

Secondly, IPX transmits the live information from the machine terminals to the Plant Overview. If a machine is shown as offline there, then the missing IPX protocol may be the cause.

Why is it necessary to follow a special procedure when installing IPX?

IPX is a legacy protocol that was once created by a company called Novell; normally, it is used to handle the traffic between Novell NetWare clients and servers.

When a PC using "NetWare Client Access" is started, that client will try to locate a NetWare

server somewhere on the network by sending out broadcast messages.

In a modern network, those broadcast messages can create "avalanches" of messages when network switches multiply those messages on all their ports.

IPX Configuration under Windows 2000

1. Verify

In the Properties of "My Network Places", right click on "Local Area Connection" and choose Properties.

If the "NWLink IPX/SPX/Netbios Compatible Transport Protocol" is installed, but the "Client Service for NetWare" is missing, then *uninstall* the NWLink protocol.

2. Install then deselect the Client Service for NetWare

Click on "Install" and install the "Client Service for NetWare". Then, uncheck the little checkbox next to the newly created client entry.

Close the Local Area Connection Properties with OK.

Answer with "No" when the system suggests a re-boot.

3. Deactivate the Client Service for NetWare

Choose "Start" – "Settings" – "Control Panel" – "Administrative Tools" – "Services".

Choose the "Client Service for NetWare" and access its Properties. Select the Startup Type "Disabled", then click OK.

Reply with "No" when the system wants a re-boot. The IPX protocol will work right away.