

COMPUTER NETWORKING STRAND

It was our intention to develop a sample lesson set for introducing the concepts of computer networking through basic peer-to-peer network construction. We considered the varying equipment and operating systems available to instructors in public schools and decided to focus on the Windows 98 operating system. While not a network operating system (NOS) like Windows 2000 Server or Windows NT, we nonetheless felt that the fundamentals of sharing resources over a computer network could be adequately demonstrated using the Windows 98 platform. This platform can also be used on older computers that may be located readily and acquired at little or no charge.

We also considered the budgetary restrictions that many programs must function under and endeavored to locate materials that could be acquired without cost

We included a number of web site locations that we found useful in preparing our samples. Those sites are cited in the materials being distributed. There are other sites available and our team encourages instructors to search the Internet for additional materials as their time and inclination dictates.

We were in agreement that the introduction of networking principles using the Windows 98 platform was well within the scope of any instructor with even a minimum exposure to networking since the materials found on the Internet were well prepared and easy to understand. The number of how-to articles available on the Internet was also impressive.