



Lab 5.1.7 Hub and NIC Purchase – Instructor Version

Objective

- Introduce the variety and prices of network components in the market
- Gather pricing information for hubs and Ethernet NICs for a small network

Background / Preparation

A friend has asked for help putting together a price list for a small LAN to be set up in a very small business. Rapid growth is not really a concern. The business has computers, but it has not networked the computers together. They are getting a DSL connection, so that they can access the Internet. They have been told that all they need is a small hub and connections to each computer to complete the project. Each machine is running a version of Windows that will work on a peer-to-peer network. The lab will use the Web site www.cdw.com, but any local source, catalog, or Web site can be used. The requirements include the following:

- 1 – Ethernet Hub
- 2 – Ethernet NICs for existing laptop PCs
- 3 – Ethernet NICs for existing desktop PCs
- 4 – Ethernet Category 5e jumper cables – length 6.1 meters (20 feet)

Step 1 Research equipment pricing

Use at least three other sources for technologies and pricing. For Web searches, try www.cdw.com, www.google.com, or any other search engines that are preferred. Look at the prices for small hubs and how much more would it cost to use a small switch. Compare the cost to a wireless implementation.

Some examples are:

Linksys EFAH05W 5-port Auto-Sensing Hub
5-port 10/100BASE-TX Fast Ethernet unmanaged hub
138572 Same Day\$38.93

NETGEAR DS104
4-port 10/100BASE-TX Fast Ethernet unmanaged hub
138519 Same Day\$40.00

3Com OfficeConnect Dual Speed Hub - 8 Port
8-port 10/100BASE-TX Fast Ethernet Hub
339575 Same Day\$64.00

NETGEAR DS108
8-port 10/100BASE-TX Fast Ethernet unmanaged wall-mountable hub
108249 Same Day\$64.34

Linksys EtherFast 10/100 Auto-Sensing Hub
8-port 10/100BASE-TX Fast Ethernet unmanaged hub

109898 Same Day\$57.65

NETGEAR DS116 Dual Speed Hub

16-port 10/100BASE-TX Fast Ethernet unmanaged hub

231724 Same Day\$119.77

Linksys EtherFast 10/100 Auto-Sensing Hub

16-port 10/100BASE-TX Fast Ethernet unmanaged stackable hub

109900 Same Day\$89.71

NETGEAR FS105 5-Port Fast Ethernet Switch

5-port 10/100 Fast Ethernet switch

190786 Same Day\$47.75

NETGEAR FS108 8-Port Fast Ethernet Switch

8-port 10/100Mbps Fast Ethernet switch

141956 Same Day\$63.00

Step 2 Compile one page summary of the results

Use Microsoft Excel, Word, or any comparable products to compile a one page summary of the results. A comparison table should show the choices and the features or factors that were compared, such as number of ports, features, price, performance, and so on.

NO. of Ports	Speed	Hub	Price	Switch	Price	Notes
5	10/100	<u>Linksys EFAH05W</u>	38.93	<u>NETGEAR FS105</u>	47.75	Auto sensing

Sample entry shown.