

MicroRouter 900i Operating System Restoration

There are two known conditions under which the Compatible Systems MicroRouter 900i can lose its operating system. The following paragraphs give a description of the circumstances and what we need you to do to restore the router to its operational state.

You will know that the router has lost its OS if LED's 3, 4, 7 and 8 are fast flashing in unison. In this state, it is executing from ROM (static) and can do little more than accept a software download. The software download writes the system OS into non-volatile FLASH ROM (re-writable).

One known way that the router can get into this state is if the router is power cycled while it is either compressing or writing the FLASH ROM.

Both the system OS and the configuration information are kept in a single FLASH ROM. In order to update either of these, the router must write the existing information to dynamic RAM, erase the FLASH, and then write the RAM information back into the FLASH ROM.

If the router loses power after starting to erase the FLASH ROM and before it has had a chance to complete writing the information into the FLASH ROM, the contents of the FLASH ROM will be incomplete and unusable by the router. Hence, the reason it boots from ROM.

The other condition is when a 900i is powered on and connected to an Astrocom 2356 or 2364 CSU/DSU while the telco runs a CSU latch test. When the telco latches the CSU/DSU the MicroRouter MUST be disconnected from the CSU/DSU otherwise the MicroRouter may lose its OS and configuration. While we are not sure of the exact reason for the problem, Compatible Systems is in the process of adding code to protect the FLASH ROM.

In order to reload the router operating system, we will need to have one of the following setups using the Ethernet port on the router:

- An Ethernet cable with the transmit and receive rolled, and a PC or Mac with an Ethernet card. If using the above scenario, connect the two directly.
- A PC or Macintosh with an Ethernet card and an Ethernet hub.
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The router has a default IP address of 198.41.12.1 so we are going to have to assign the PC or Mac an address of 198.41.12.2. Launch RouterView from the PC or Mac that you are using. The default password is letmein.

PC Instructions

1. Choose Administration-TFTP Download.
2. For IP address of Unknown Router put 198.41.12.1
3. Put the Windows diskette labeled MicroRouter 900i in floppy drive and choose the only *.dld file that should exist there
4. Click on OK.

Macintosh Instructions

1. Choose Administration-Download Software.
2. Put the Macintosh diskette labeled MicroRouter 900i in the floppy drive and choose the MR900i_v3.0.0 file that should exist there.
3. Click on OK.