

Application Note: M204-NET in bridged mode

The M204-NET has the ability to extend your RS-485 communication bus via Ethernet using its bridged mode feature. A common application/use of bridging two M204-NET's would be if you had a controller or group of controllers in a remote part of a building where pulling communication cables would be cost prohibitive. If the location has a building Ethernet connection you can configure 2 M204-NET's to "talk" to one another to pass the RS-485 data back and forth. View an example of this topology in Figure 2 of this document.

To use the bridged mode, install two M204-NET's as per the M204-NET datasheet and verify communication to the controllers first before beginning the bridged mode configuration.

Once communication has been verified, set BOTH M204-NET's to RS485-2 wire in the port protocol section. Then choose either of the M204-NET's to configure bridged mode on. (Note: only one of the two bridged M204-NET's needs to be configured for bridged mode.)

Figure 1 shows the M204-NET configuration page used to bridge the M204-NET's. After opening the M204-NET configuration web page, click the "Connection" link under Channel 1. Change the "Active Connect" setting to Auto Start, both "Local Port" and "Remote Port" should be set to 10001 and the "Remote Host" should be set to the M204-NET you would like to bridge to. Click the "Ok" button at the bottom of the page. Then click the "Apply Settings" link to save the bridged mode configuration details.

Once an M204-NET is used in bridged mode, the module can no longer be used by the redirector.

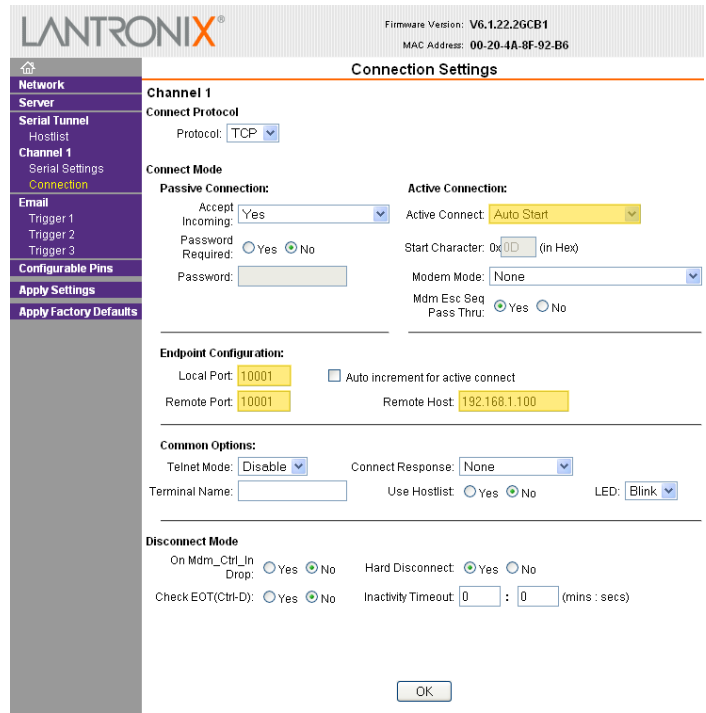


Figure 1

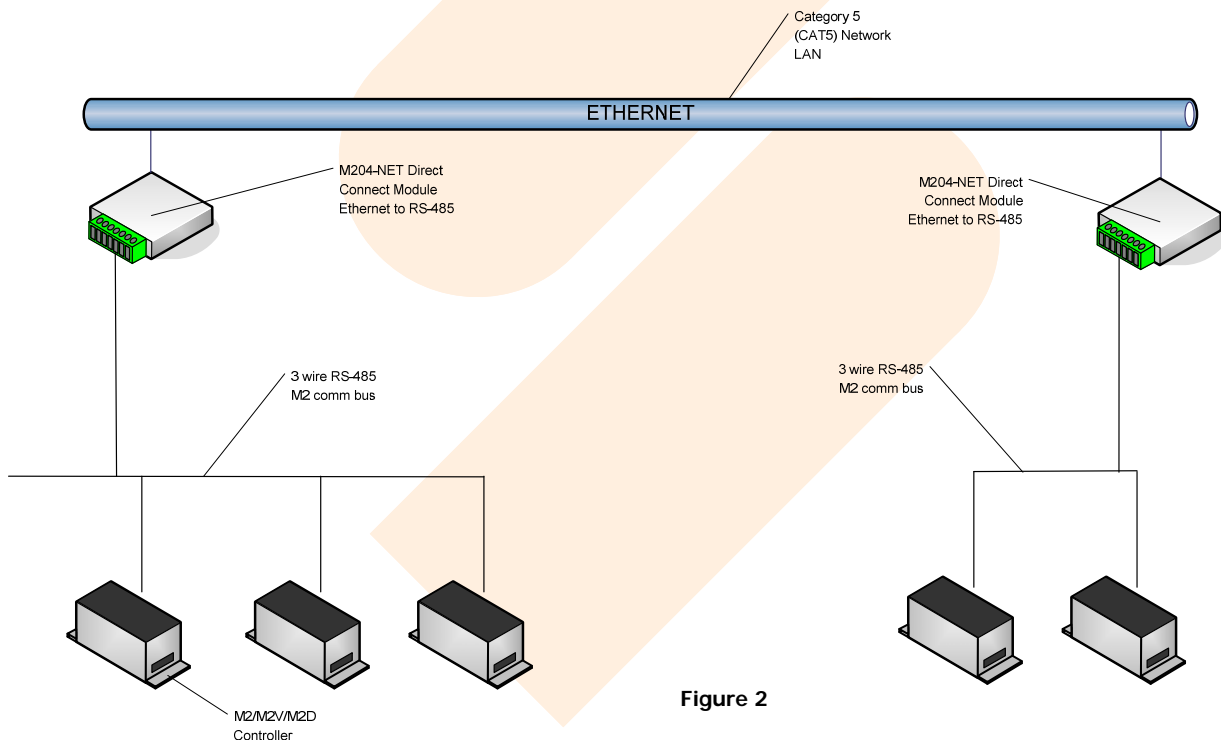


Figure 2