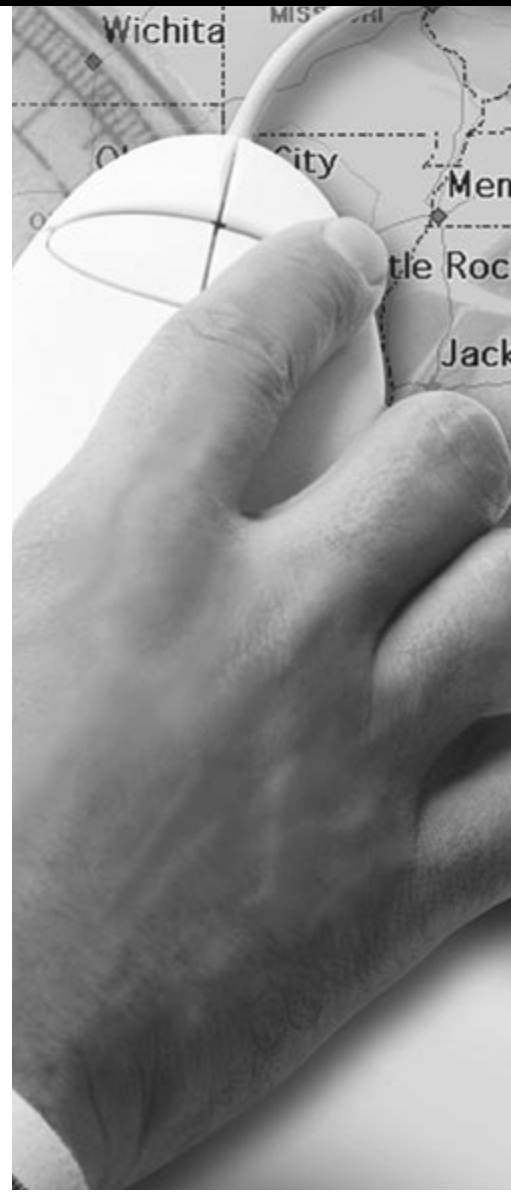




COMMAND for Windows

User Guide



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Chapter 5 | Documenting Your Network

You can do the following network documentation operations with COMMAND for Windows:

- Adding equipment. Initially, when your organization sets up the COMMAND Network Documentation System, you can use COMMAND for Windows to do bulk-add operations to help load the repository. After that, you can add equipment to the repository at any time.
- Editing equipment attributes. You can edit equipment attributes in tables already set up for you. You can edit attributes as you add equipment to the repository, or later, when you want to change information stored in attributes for equipment already in the repository.
- Moving equipment. You can move equipment from one location to another and from multiple locations to one location, or you can move equipment into or out of the LOST&FOUND location for your project.
- Changing equipment. COMMAND for Windows lets you perform changes. You can add ports, rename equipment and ports, and delete equipment.
- Connecting ports between devices or within one device. You can do one-to-one, one-to-many, and many-to-many connections. As you make the connections, you can choose whether to use new or existing standard cables, or generic cables.
- Disconnecting ports. You can select ports to disconnect, or you can disconnect all ports on selected devices.

COMMAND for Windows helps a variety of users perform their network documentation tasks. For example, help desk personnel can use COMMAND for Windows to trouble-shoot network problems. Field technicians can plug into the network and use COMMAND for Windows to get the information they need for tasks such as adding devices to equipment closets. And network planners can use the program to find the detailed information they need for analysis and reporting tasks.

Moves, Adds, and Changes

COMMAND for Windows is a powerful tool to assist you as you perform the moves, adds, and changes (MACs) that are essential operations in working with network components. You use the COMMAND Network Documentation System to document all the MACs you do so that you can capture, track, find, and analyze crucial information about network components and relationships among them.

Adding Equipment

The add equipment function in COMMAND for Windows lets you add devices such as workstations, frame relay cards, cables, and hubs to the repository. When the COMMAND Network Documentation System is being set up at your site, you can use COMMAND for Windows to load the repository in bulk-add operations. Bulk-add operations make use of name patterns that increment the equipment IDs for multiple devices. For example, you can perform bulk-add operations to load the repository with multiple workstations and Ethernet cards. You can use other methods besides the Add Equipment function to help load the repository. These other methods include importing equipment or connections from a file or cloning an existing equipment configuration and importing it from a file. Please see also “Importing Equipment or Connections” and “Cloning Equipment and Connections” in Chapter 4, Loading Information into the Repository.

Once the COMMAND Network Documentation System is running at your site, you can perform and document MACs on your network components. When you get new equipment, you can use the add

equipment function in COMMAND for Windows to add individual devices such as a new hub. For example, if 20 people join your organization and you purchase a new hub to support their work on the network, you can use Add Equipment to add the new hub to the repository.

You can add one or more devices to one location, or to multiple locations. For example, you can use a name pattern such as `NYC-HUB-~~` to add five hubs named `NYC-HUB-01` to `NYC-HUB-05` in one location, and five more hubs named `NYC-HUB-06` to `NYC-HUB-10` in a second location.

As you add equipment, you can edit attributes for devices you add. You can use these attributes to track information such as maintenance contracts. The attribute tables must be set up for you with COMMAND Administrator before you begin editing attributes.

To add a single device

You can add a single device to the repository, or you can add multiple devices.


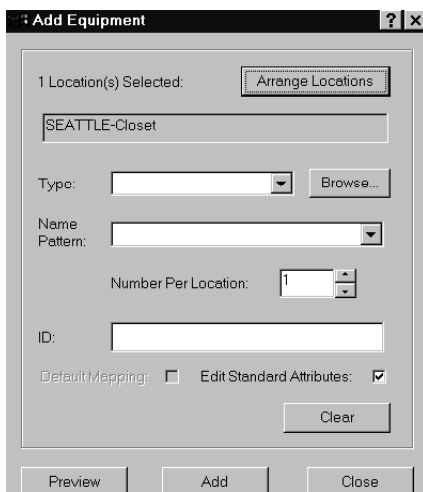
1. Select a location to which you want to add a single device.
2. Click  on the toolbar, or choose Equipment from the Components menu, and then choose Add from the submenu.

FIGURE 5-1 ADD EQUIPMENT DIALOG



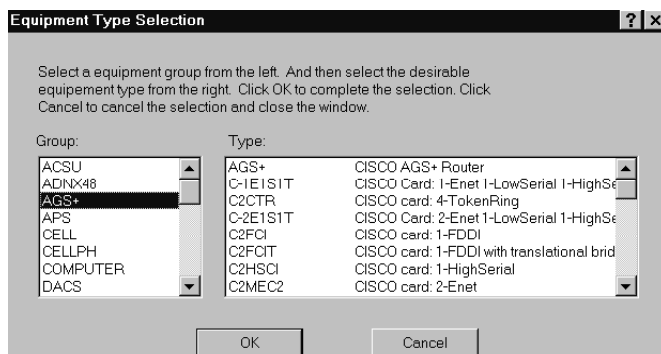
- In the Add Equipment dialog, you must set the type of equipment that you want to add.

In the Type box, enter a specific type, or select an existing type from the drop-down list.

OR

Click Browse to select from a list of groups of equipment types. In the Equipment Type Selection dialog, select an equipment group on the left, and then select an equipment type in the list on the right. Click OK when you have selected the type you want.

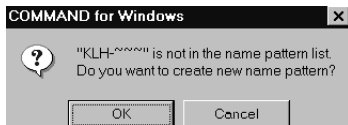
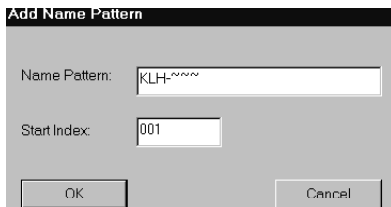
FIGURE 5-2 EQUIPMENT TYPE SELECTION DIALOG



The type you entered or selected is added to the Type box in the Add Equipment dialog.

- You can enter a new name pattern, use an existing pattern, or enter a specific name for the new device's equipment ID. The pattern or name for the equipment ID can be up to 64 alphanumeric characters.

If you want to enter a new name pattern, enter it in the Name Pattern box, using tildes (~) anywhere in the pattern to increment the ID. Then press Tab. A message asks you to confirm the new pattern. Click OK. In the Name Pattern dialog, click in the Name Pattern box if you want to change the pattern you entered, or click in the Start Index box and enter a starting number for the pattern. Click OK. The new name pattern is displayed in the ID box in the Add Equipment dialog.

FIGURE 5-3 NEW PATTERN MESSAGE**FIGURE 5-4 ADD NAME PATTERN DIALOG**

OR

If you want to use an existing name pattern, select a name pattern from the drop-down list in the Name Pattern box. The name pattern is displayed in the ID box.

OR

If you want to enter a specific name, enter it in the ID box.

5. Select the Default Mapping option if you want to set default mapping on for ports on the device.
6. Select the Edit Standard Attributes option if you want to edit the existing attributes for this device.
7. You can preview the equipment you're adding with the Preview button, or click Add to add the equipment to the locations you selected. When you click Add, a progress bar below the grid shows the progress of adding equipment, and then a message asks if you want to review the results. If you encounter errors, you should check the status. You can continue adding equipment, or click Close to close the Add Equipment dialog.

To add multiple devices

You can add a single device to the repository, or you can add multiple devices.


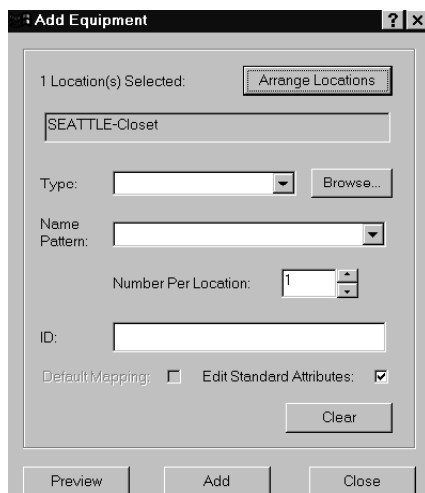
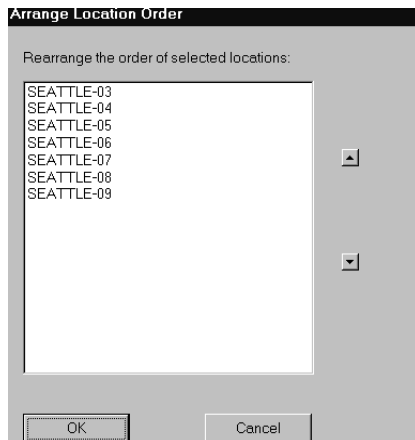
1. Select a location or locations to which you want to add multiple devices.
2. Click  on the toolbar, or choose Equipment from the Components menu, and then choose Add from the submenu.

FIGURE 5-5 ADD EQUIPMENT DIALOG



3. In the Add Equipment dialog, you can click Arrange Locations if you want to rearrange the order in which locations are associated with equipment IDs. In the Arrange Locations dialog, use the up and down arrow buttons to set the order of the locations in the list box, and then click OK.

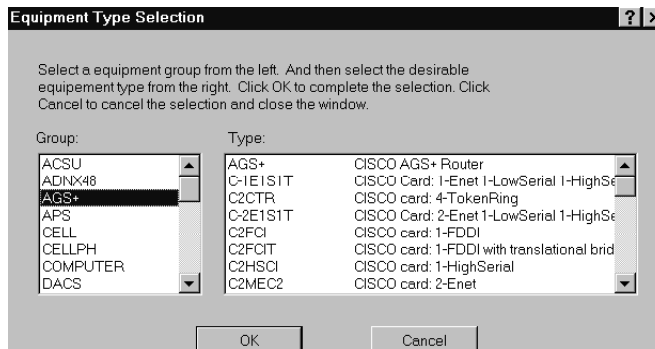
FIGURE 5-6 ARRANGE LOCATIONS DIALOG

4. In the Add Equipment dialog, you must set the type of equipment that you want to add.

In the Type box, enter a specific type, or select an existing type from the drop-down list.

OR

Click Browse to select from a list of groups of equipment types. In the Equipment Type Selection dialog, select an equipment group on the left, and then select an equipment type in the list on the right. Click OK when you have selected the type you want.

FIGURE 5-7 EQUIPMENT TYPE SELECTION DIALOG

The type you entered or selected is added to the Type box in the Add Equipment dialog.

- Set a name pattern for the new equipment. The pattern for the equipment IDs can be up to 64 alphanumeric characters.

If you want to enter a new name pattern, enter it in the Name Pattern box, using tildes (~) anywhere in the pattern to increment the ID for each device. Then press Tab. A message asks you to confirm the new pattern. Click OK. In the Name Pattern dialog, click in the Name Pattern box if you want to change the pattern you entered, or click in the Start Index box and enter a starting number for the pattern. Click OK.

FIGURE 5-8 NEW PATTERN MESSAGE

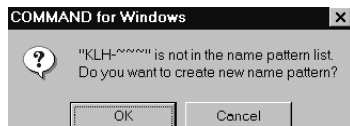
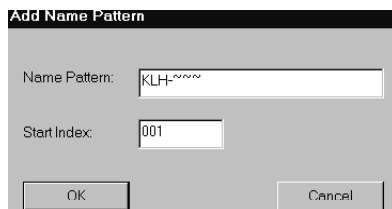


FIGURE 5-9 ADD NAME PATTERN DIALOG



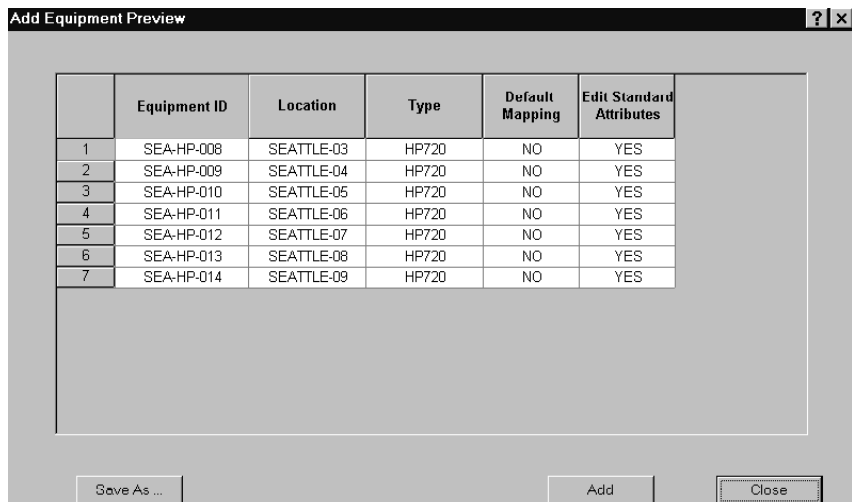
OR

If you want to use an existing name pattern, select a name pattern from the drop-down list in the Name Pattern box.

The name pattern you entered or selected is displayed in the ID box in the Add Equipment dialog.

- Set the number of devices to add to each location in the Number Per Location box.

7. Select the Default Mapping option if you want to set default mapping on for ports on the equipment.
8. Select the Edit Standard Attributes option if you want to edit the existing attributes for this equipment.
9. You can preview the equipment you're adding with the Preview button, or click Add to add the equipment to the locations you selected. When you click Add, a progress bar below the grid shows the progress of adding equipment, and then a message asks if you want to review the results. If you encounter errors, you should check the status. You can continue adding equipment, or click Close to close the Add Equipment dialog.

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