
NAPLPS – A UNIFORM STANDARD

Because the medium uses a standard computer communications protocol, accepted throughout North America, and by the international telecommunications standards organization (CCITT), those who use the system today do so with the knowledge that the medium will remain free of the jungle of competing standards and protocols that entangles the personal computer and video format sectors.

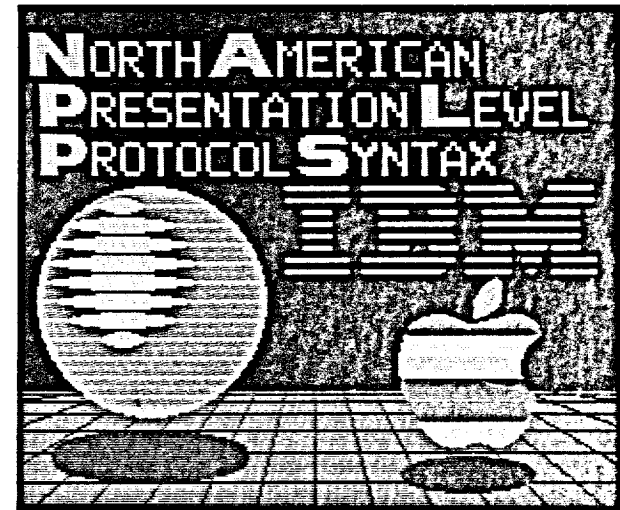
The power and flexibility of the medium provides for possibilities such as the electronic newspaper, at-home banking and shopping services, instantly obtainable on-line business services with full graphics, educational courses delivered to the home or school, two-way transactional services and many others.

ONE STANDARD – ONE PROTOCOL

One of the deficiencies of the electronic revolution, at least in its early stages, has been the lack of standards and the lack of compatibility among equipment, systems and services. But in North America, the problem of standards in the videotex industry has already been solved.

In North America and many other parts of the world, the accepted videotex standard is known as NAPLPS (North American Presentation Level Protocol Syntax).

The development of the NAPLPS videotex standard began in 1978 with the invention of Telidon in an Ottawa, Canada laboratory. Although other videotex protocols existed, Telidon was immediately recognized as a superior videotex system. For one, it allowed the creation of superb, high-quality, high-resolution graphics, while other systems generated primitive, "staircase" creations. In addition, the protocol was simple and elegant, requiring far fewer "bits" of information to create a screen display — a factor that becomes important in reducing transmission and storage costs. And, perhaps most important, the protocol was developed independently of any existing display technology. This means that as future display technology (such as high-definition or flat-screen TV) develops, Telidon – NAPLPS will not become obsolete. Information created today will still be accessible in the future.



Soon after Telidon was demonstrated in Canada, it drew the interest of many of the major computer communications and publishing fields — companies such as AT&T, CBS, IBM, Infomart, Times Mirror, Knight Ridder and Cox Communications. Since 1978, the technology has been refined and was accepted as the North American standard in 1983. Today, Telidon and the NAPLPS standard are identical.