

IP Multicasting using the COM200 Chassis

When using IP multicasting to distribute content with a COM1000 system utilizing the COM200 chassis there are special considerations that you need to know about and understand to help you with your COM1000 multicast distribution. Please read the document titled *COM1000 IP Distribution Application Note 31 OCT 2013* if you have not already done so before continuing with this document.

The backplane in the COM200 chassis has an unmanaged Ethernet switch that has been configured such that multicast traffic in the standard multicast address range of 224.0.0.0 – 239.255.255.255 will not flood all switch ports but will only show up on the gigabit port on the back of the COM200 chassis. An exception has been programmed into the backplane switch firmware for our MDNS traffic to discover all the cards in the system. The MDNS traffic is sent on IPv4 address 224.0.0.251:5353. Because of the 5 bit ambiguity that occurs when converting multicast addresses to MAC addresses the exception that allows our MDNS traffic through the switch to all ports actually allows 32 different addresses to pass to all COM200 switch ports. That address group is:

```

224.0.0.251
224.128.0.251
    . . . . .
    . . . . .
    . . . . .
239.0.0.251
239.128.0.251
    
```

It is important that these addresses not be used for content distribution as they will contribute to port flooding of the COM24 cards in the system.

Many features are not available in older code releases and many of the newer code releases contain fixes for numerous cases of unexpected behavior seen in different configurations and on various televisions. When seeing something you don't understand or that is undesirable behavior for a given configuration always verify you are running the latest code version in all Technicolor hardware and if not, update to the latest version(s) and re-evaluate.

For more information about the COM1000 system please check our website. www.technicolor.com/mcs

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