

Gcom® Protocol Appliance 3G Series



The Third Generation Gcom® Protocol Appliance (GPA 3G) is a powerful, flexible, and cost-effective, X.25/SNA/Bisync-to-IP protocol conversion solution.



GPA 3G competitive advantages

- **No API programming** – The GPA 3G is a simple plug/configure/play solution for most protocol conversion needs.
- **True protocol conversion** –The GPA 3G is not a protocol tunneling solution. Which is why it's needed on only one end of a connection, not both ends.
- **One-to-many support** – Unlike one-converter-card-per-device solutions, a single GPA 3G can support multiple IP devices or multiple legacy protocol devices.
- **Powerful Resilient Hardware** – Hot swappable power supplies, dual RAID drives and multiple CPUs.

Ideal GPA 3G protocol conversion scenarios

You need to:

- **Upgrade/Migrate to an IP host but keep your legacy protocol end-user devices.**

For example: You're modernizing your network; however, you still have Automated Teller Machines (ATMs), ticket counter terminals, etc., for which you cannot find suitable IP-compatible replacements. Or you're phasing in IP hosts to start offloading applications from your legacy protocol mainframe.

Install a GPA 3G at each branch location to connect multiple legacy protocol devices to your IP host.

- **Maintain your legacy protocol mainframe but add IP end-user devices.**

For example: Current budgetary restrictions prohibit an end-to-end IP network. Nevertheless, you must deploy IP-compatible ATMs, point-of-sale (POS) terminals, etc., to enhance your customers' experience.

Install a GPA 3G at your mainframe location to add connectivity capability to multiple IP devices.

- **Connect a legacy protocol mainframe to an IP host.**

For example: Corporate, which provides critical functionality, is changing its connectivity requirements to IP. Giving up your mainframe is not an option. Giving up functionality is also not an option.

Install a GPA 3G at your mainframe location to add IP connectivity capability.

You can also use the GPA 3G to:

- Connect two different legacy protocol networks. For example: Both companies survived the merger, but neither will give up the stability and security of its legacy network. Your mission: Merge the two networks.
- Replace aging legacy protocol hardware or software. For example: Your current vendor plans to discontinue support for your IBM 3745 front-end processor (FEP) and you can't risk the potential down time associated with obsolete technology.

Key features

Rack mount form factor

Secure, high-MTBF, small-footprint unit

Synchronous ports supporting SNA, X.25, Bisync, Frame Relay, Link Layer, and other legacy protocols

Zero-, two-, four-, eight- and twelve-port versions

Easy updates and *personality transfers* (for disaster recovery purposes) via USB pen drive

Advanced remote diagnostics

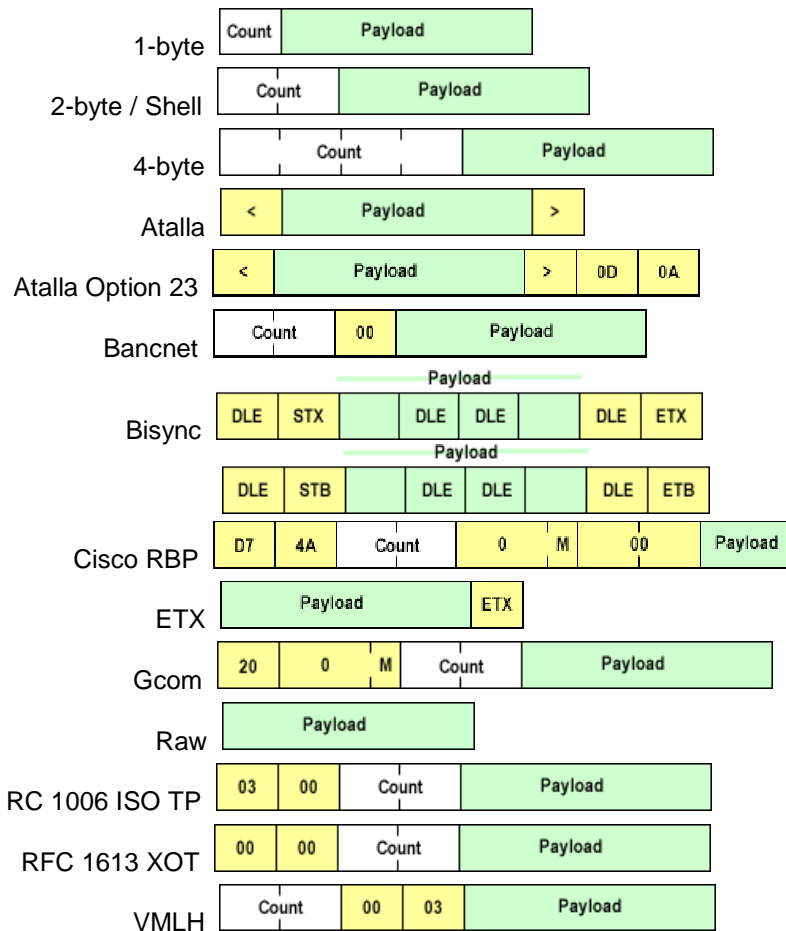
Full technical support



The key: Encapsulated payload data

Encapsulated payload data is payload data with delimiters added to preserve logical message boundaries needed to send payload data over a byte stream connection such as TCP. A delimiter may be a header or a header/trailer combination.

Not only does Gcom offer a wide variety of delimiter formats called *encapsulations*, but we're constantly adding new encapsulations.



Gcom has the solution!

Gcom creates products that connect older mainframe-class computers, such as IBM, Tandem, and Unisys, to modern, TCP/IP-based servers and applications.

Why choose Gcom?

Legacy protocol expertise – Gcom has been designing and developing data communications solutions since 1979.

Product quality, longevity, and viability – Gcom products:

- Have been used in mission-critical environments for over 25 years.
- Are used in thousands of locations across the globe.
- Have been fine-tuned over the decades to fit real-world situations.

Easy implementation –

Gcom's flagship product is a simple plug/configure/play solution for most customer needs. Gcom offers several options if you need more control of a legacy protocol connection, ranging...

- From Gcom development of custom solutions for you
- To free programming resources that eliminate the legacy API learning curve, thereby shortening your development cycle