

Connection issue on any 1735-XXX

Configuration Example



Situation description for the above example

User 1 connects via the 1735-2GX either locally or remotely to server Srv 1 that is attached to port P1 and manages it. At a later point in time User 2 tries to connect remotely with the Virtual Console Software (VCS) to server Srv 2 which is also connected to port P1 via Srv 1 (daisy chained). By doing so, User 1 gets disconnected from the 1735-2GX unit. However User 2 can access and manage Srv 1 that is attached to Port P1.

Technical background and Explanation

Blocking: Blocking takes effect at the port level. If several servers are chained together on the same port, users can access the same server in the chain (if share mode is turned on) but not different servers in the chain.

When a user connects to a specific server via a specific port then the only connection that is possible during this session is the one to this server. This means if a different user connects at a later point in time to the 1735 unit then this user can either manage any

IBM @server System x - KVM / ACT Units

server on a different port or only same server to which the previous user is currently connected.

Ways to manage blocking

(LOCAL) Preemption: Setting the preemption warning

Administrators and users with certain access rights can preempt (disconnect) KVM sessions and take control of the target device. You can choose whether or not to warn the first user that the session will be preempted and specify how long the appliance will wait for the first user to respond to the warning. For more information about preempting sessions and preemption settings, see the Virtual Console Software Installation and User's Guide.

To view or change the preemption warning settings, complete the following steps:

- 1. Press Print Screen. The Main window opens.
- 2. Click Setup > Preempt.
- 3. Enter a number of seconds in the Timeout Seconds field.
 - If you enter a value of 0 to 4 seconds, the first user will not be warned before the session is preempted.

IBM	Preempt	? ×
Preempt	Timeout ——	
<u>T</u> imeout	Seconds:	10
Input 5 to 120 to enable. Less than 5 will disable.		
		<u>0</u> K



• If you enter a value of 5 to 120 seconds, the first user will be warned and will be allowed to continue using the target device for up to the amount of time in the Timeout Seconds field. The session will be preempted when the user clicks OK, or when the specified time elapses.

🔢 Preempt Warning 🛛		
The Remote Administrator is requesting to preempt your connection. You have the time shown below to accept prior to preemption. 25 seconds		
Press ESC or click the exit box to reject, or click OK to accept.		
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4. Click OK to save the settings.

(Remote) IBM Virtual Console Software

Using preemption

Preemption provides a means for users with sufficient privilege to take control of a target device from another user with lesser or equal privilege. All users sharing the connection that is being preempted are warned, unless the target device is connected to an RCM appliance. If the primary user has the corresponding access rights, they can reject the preemption.

Chapter 4 of the IBM Virtual Console Software Installation and User Guide outlines the preemption scenarios and detailed scenarios in which preemption requests can be rejected.

Session Types	
Active sharing: (primary)	You are the first user to connect to the target device, and you have allowed other users to share the KVM session.
Active sharing: (secondary)	You can view and interact with the target device while sharing the KVM session with a primary user and, possibly, other secondary users.
Passive sharing:	You can view the video output of the target device, but you are not allowed to have keyboard and mouse control over the target device.

IBM @server System x - KVM / ACT Units

Stealth:	You can view the video output of the target device without the permission or knowledge of the primary user. You cannot have keyboard and mouse control over the target device. This session type is available for administrators only.
Scanning:	You can monitor up to 16 target devices in thumbnail view. No status indicator icon is visible when in scan mode.

Chapter 4 of the IBM Virtual Console Software Installation and User Guide goes into great detail about these session types and how to use them.

Solution

This situation is not a problem or a bug. If a remote management Advanced Connectivity Technology (ACT) unit i.e., 1735-2GX or 1735-4GX is in use then the settings of the Virtual Console Software does play a role - shared mode or not. This is how the units have been designed. This design feature will not be changed.

It has to be taken into consideration that the connection from any 1735 port to any target server attached to that port is not an Ethernet connection but rather a special form of KVM connection. In contrary to Ethernet connections KVM connections can not be shared.

This information applies to all 1735 ACT units shipped by the IBM xSeries / System x group.

Additional Information

- The behaviour of the 1735 ACT unit depends on its configuration, see the hardware User's Guide for the unit. Refer to the chapters discussing cooperative and preemptive usage of the ACT
- If necessary consider re-arranging the current setup of the 1735 environment for managing attached units
- Obtain the latest Virtual Console Software from IBM support for remote manageable 1735 units
- Read the Virtual Console Software Installation and User's Guide and check the section (Chapter 4)discussing on how to share sessions exclusive mode vs. digital share mode vs. stealth mode, if applicable