

Madge Mobile Token-Ring Adapters

Most modern mobile computers have PC Card slots that support the CardBus standard. This is a 32-bit bus standard that supports fast data transfer to and from the PC. These PC Card slots will in general take either a PCMCIA adapter or a CardBus adapter. PCMCIA is a legacy 16-bit bus standard which is slower (and requires more CPU overhead) than the CardBus standard. Older mobile computers have PC Card slots that only support PCMCIA adapters. These older PCMCIA slots will not support CardBus adapters.

Until recently Madge supplied three different types of Token-Ring mobile adapter with the following four part numbers:

Part Number	Adapter Type	Token-Ring Speeds	Connectors	Converters	Status
20-01	PCMCIA	16/4 Mbps	UTP (RJ-45) & STP (9-way D-Type)	RJ-45 to RJ-45	Obsolete
20-03	CardBus	16/4 Mbps	UTP (RJ-45)	RJ-45 to RJ-45	Shipping
3221 3010	PCMCIA	16/4 Mbps	UTP (RJ-45)	None	End of life (limited availability)
3221 9723	PCMCIA	16/4 Mbps	UTP (RJ-45)	RJ-45 to (STP) IBM Type 1	End of life (limited availability)

The 20-01 is now obsolete; the alternatives are therefore the 20-03 or the 3221.

All mobile cards are supplied complete with at least one cable: one end connects to the adapter itself and the other end to the Token-Ring equipment (e.g. hub or switch) using either Unshielded Twisted Pair (UTP) or Shielded Twisted Pair (STP) connectors. Most cards are also supplied with converters that either convert from UTP to STP or allow 'gender changing' between UTP cables. In cases where you wish to convert between UTP (RJ-45) and STP (IBM Type 1) connectors Madge can supply a suitable converter (Madge part number: 3650 4854).

The Madge supplied Windows driver supports all four adapter variants. Once the driver is installed in a PC, any one of the adapters can be used without needing to install new drivers (one exception to this is Windows NT where the driver will need to be installed for each type of adapter).

The approval status of the adapters is as follows:

- 20-03: CE, FCC, UL (US and Canada) and C-Tick approval.
- 3221 (both variants): CE and FCC approval.

Visit the Madge web-site for further information (www.madge.com). Select Token-Ring Adapters from the Products menu at the top of the page. Full data sheets are available on the web-site.