

Broker

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1. Broker

A broker is an N:N device that connects many (an indefinite number of) nodes to many other nodes. Its primary purpose is message routing, although it may use local store as a message pool. Messages will be routed according to a local policy, part of which will be determined by the specific brokering module used and part of which will be configured in some manner, usually by a configuration table. Where necessary, a broker will perform protocol translation in routing a message.

Where a node is behind a organizational firewall, it may be that messages to and from that node may have to be routed indirectly, through a nearby broker.

A broker has much the same functionality as an Internet **router**. It would be possible for brokers to exchange routing information, exactly as Internet routers do.

Throughout this document, the term **broker** will always mean an XLattice broker as described in this section, except where otherwise qualified.