



Product Brief
Intel® Ethernet Server
Adapter X520-T2
Network Connectivity

Intel® Ethernet Server Adapter X520-T2

10 Gigabit BASE-T Ethernet Server Adapter Designed for Multi-Core Processors and Optimized for Virtualization

10 Gb Performance at the Low Cost of Copper

This 10 Gigabit X520-T2 Ethernet Server Adapter showcases Intel's third-generation standards-based 10GBASE-T adapter in a low-profile PCI Express* form factor. This new dual port adapter provides bandwidth-intensive applications highly affordable 10 Gigabit Ethernet (10GbE) network performance with cost-effective RJ-45 connections for distances up to 100 meters.

10GBASE-T is the most cost-effective deployment of 10GbE for connectivity and will be the primary media of choice for volume 10GbE deployments as data centers continue to drive to reduce costs through network consolidation, convergence, storage over Ethernet and virtualization while still providing increased application performance and availability.

Next-Generation 10 Gigabit Performance

The drive to 10 Gigabit Ethernet comes from the latest information technologies including virtualization, advances in storage architectures, network convergence, server clustering, new forms of information delivery using the Internet, and the next wave of digital and social media content.



At the heart of today's network infrastructure, 10 Gigabit Ethernet is the core of any virtualized data center. Data centers are demanding flexible and scalable I/O solutions to meet the rigorous requirements of running mission-critical applications in virtualized and unified storage environments. With the latest server platform from Intel, customers can now realize the full potential of 10 Gigabit Ethernet networking and realize up to 2.5 times the bandwidth supported by earlier generation platforms.

The new Intel platforms drive an unprecedented need for additional I/O support. With the Intel® Xeon® 7500 quad-socket system there is up to a 15:1 server consolidation rate, a 20x performance leap, and support for over 100 Gb/s of Ethernet bandwidth. What does all this mean? Customers will host more applications on a single, high-performing, virtualized server, driving more demand for network I/O. Simply put, GbE cannot scale up to meet the demands of these new servers. 10GbE is a must.

Performance-Enhancing Features for Multi-Core Environments

When implemented within multi-core processor environments, the Intel® Ethernet Server Adapter X520-T2 offers advanced networking features, Intel® I/O Acceleration Technology (Intel® I/OAT), for efficient distribution of Ethernet workloads across CPU cores. Load balancing of interrupts using MSI-X enables more efficient response times and application performance. CPU utilization can be lowered further through stateless offloads such as TCP segmentation offload, header replications/splitting, and Direct Cache Access (DCA).

Best Choice for Virtualization

Features

The Intel X520-T2 server adapter includes Intel® Virtualization Technology for Connectivity (Intel® VT-c) to deliver outstanding performance in virtualized server environments. Intel VT-c includes hardware optimizations that help reduce I/O bottlenecks and improve the overall server performance. These technologies

are Virtual Machine Device Queues (VMDq) and Single Root I/O Virtualization (SR-IOV). VMDq improves data processing by offloading the sorting and queuing functionality to the I/O controller from the VMM. SR-IOV provides direct connectivity to the VMs to deliver near-native performance and VM scalability. VMDc also provides flexibility with mobility by enabling VM migration between physical servers.

Unified Networking

The fast growth in storage capacity coupled with server virtualization has brought the need for Storage Area Network (SAN) to the forefront. To satisfy this growing demand, the Intel Ethernet Server Adapter X520-T2 supports iSCSI acceleration and provides advanced features for unified networking. Fast and reliable networked storage can be achieved via native iSCSI support with Microsoft, Linux,* and VMware operating systems as well as support for iSCSI remote boot. Intel's unified networking solutions enable cost-effective connectivity to the SAN; customers can use NAS or iSCSI to carry storage traffic over Ethernet.

Features	Benefits	
Intel® 82599 10 Gigabit Ethernet Controller	 Industry-leading, energy-efficient design for next-generation 10 Gigabit performance and multi-core processors 	
Low-profile	• Enables higher bandwidth and throughput from standard and low-profile PCle slots and servers	
Load balancing on multiple CPUs	 Increases performance on multi-processor systems by efficiently balancing network loads across CPU cores when used with Receive-Side Scaling from Microsoft* or Scalable I/O on Linux* 	
iSCSI remote boot support	• Provides centralized Storage Area Network (SAN) management at a lower cost than competing iSCSI solutions	
Support for most Network Operating Systems (NOS)	Enables widespread deployment	
RoHS compliant, ² lead-free ³ technology	• Compliant with the European Union directive (effective as of July 2006) to reduce the use of hazard ous materials	
Intel® ProSet Utility for Windows* Device Manager	• Provides point-and-click management of individual adapters, advanced adapter features, connecti teaming, and virtual local area network (VLAN) configuration	
Compatible with x8 and x16 standard and low-profile PCI Express* slots	Allows each PCI Express* slot port to operate without interfering with the other	
I/O Features for Multi-core Processor Server	s	
MSI-X support	 Minimizes the overhead of interrupts Allows load balancing of interrupt handling between different cores/CPUs 	
Low latency	Based on the sensitivity of the incoming data, the adpater can bypass the automatic moderation time intervals between the interrupts	
Header Splits and Replication in Receive	Helps the driver focus on the relevant part of the packet without the need to parse it	
Multiple Queues: 16 queues per port	• Network packet handling without waiting or buffer overflow providing efficient packet prioritization	
Tx/Rx IP, SCTP, TCP, and UDP checksum offloading (IPv4, IPv6) capabilities	 Lower processor usage Checksum and segmentation capability extended to new standard packet type 	
Tx TCP segmentation offload (IPv4, IPv6)	 Increased throughput and lower processor usage Compatible with large-send offload feature (in Microsoft Windows* Server operating systems) 	
MacSec	 IEEE spec: 802.1ae Layer 2 data protection with encryption/authentication ability between devices (e.g., routers, switches) MacSec is designed into the network adapter hardware. These adapters are prepared to provide MacSec functionality when the ecosystem is ready to support this new technology 	
Compatible with x8 and x16 standard and low-profile PCI Express* slots	Allows each PCI Express* slot port to operate without interfering with the other	
Remote management support	Reduces support costs with remote management based on industry-wide standards	
RJ-45 connections over category-6A cabling	Ensures compatibility with cable lengths up to 100 meters	
RoHS-compliant, lead-free ³ technology	 Compliant with the European Union directive (effective as of July 2006) to reduce the use of hazardous materials 	

Renefits

Intel® PROSet Utility for Microsoft Windows* Device Manager	Provides point-and-click power over individual adapters, advanced adapter features, connection teaming, and Virtual Local Area Network (VLAN) configuration	
Intel backing	Backed by an Intel limited lifetime warranty, 90-day money-back guarantee (U.S. and Canada), and worldwide support	
Virtualization Features	Benefits	
Virtual Machine Device queues (VMDq)	 Offloads the data-sorting functionality from the Hypervisor to the network silicon, improving data throughput and CPU usage Provides QoS feature on the Tx data by providing round-robin servicing and preventing head-of-line blocking Sorting based on MAC addresses and VLAN tags 	
Next-Generation VMDq1 (64 queues per port)	 Enhanced QoS feature by providing weighted round-robin servicing for the Tx data Provides loopback functionality, where data transfer between the virtual machines within the same physical server need not go out to the wire and come back in, improving throughput and CPU usage Supports replication of multicast and broadcast data 	
PC-SIG SR-IOV Implementation (64 virtual functions per port)	Provides an implementation of the PCI-SIG standard for I/O Virtualization. The physical configuration of each port is divided into multiple virtual ports. Each virtual port is assigned to an individual virtual machine directly by bypassing the virtual switch in the Hypervisor, resulting in near-native performance Integrated with Intel® VTI for Directed I/O (VT-d) to provide data protection between virtual machines by assigning separate physical addresses in the memory to each virtual machine	
IPv6 Offloading	• Checksum and segmentation capability extended to the new standard packet type	
Advanced Packet Filtering	24 exact-matched packets (unicast or multicast) 4096-bit hash filter for unicast and multicast frames Lower processor usage Promiscuous (unicast and multicast) transfer mode support Optional filtering of invalid frames	
VLAN support with VLAN tag insertion, stripping and packet filtering for up to 4096 VLAN tags	• Ability to create multiple VLAN segments	

Specifications

General

J031P	
RJ-45 Copper	
Category-6A	
Standard	
100 m on Cat-6A, 55 m on Cat-6	
100 m on Cat-5e, Cat-6 or Cat-6A	
In a virtualized environment, packets dedicated to different virtual machines can be routed to different queues, thus easing the routing of these packets to the target machine	
16 exact-matched packets (unicast or multicast) 4096-bit hash filter for multicast frames Promiscuous (unicast and multicast) Optional filtering of invalid frames	
The I/O device activates a pre-fetch engine in the CPU that loads the data into the CPU cache ahead of time, before use, eliminating cache misses and reducing CPU load	

Network Management

Wired for Management (WfM) baseline v2.0 enabled for servers		
DMI 2.0 support, Windows Management Instrumentation (WMI) and SNMP		
Remote Installation Services (RIS)		
PXE 2.0 enabled through boot Read-Only Memory (ROM)		

Supported Operating Systems

Windows 2003/R2
Windows Server 2008/R2
Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5.4 and RHEL4.8
SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 10, SLES 11 Gold (64-bit only)
Citrix XenServer 5.0 w/ Hot Fix 2, 5.1, and 5.6
Solaris 10 U8, SP6
VMware ESX Server 3.5 U4/U5, ESX4.0/U1 & ESX 4.1

Intel Backing

Limited Life Warranty	
90-day, money-back guarantee (U.S. and Canada)	

Advanced Software Features

Adapter Fault Tolerance (AFT)
Switch Fault Tolerance (SFT)
Adaptive Load Balancing (ALB)
Teaming support
IEEE 802.3ad ⁵ (link aggregation control protocol)
PCIe Hot Plug/Active Peripheral Component Interconnect (PCI)
IEEE 802.1Q VLANs
IEEE 802.3 2005 flow control support
Tx/Rx IP, TCP, & UDP checksum offloading (IPv4, IPv6) capabilities (Transmission control protocol (TCP), User Datagram Protocol (UDP), Internet Protocol (IP))
TCP segmentation/large send offload
MSI -X supports Multiple Independent Queues
Interrupt moderation
IPv6 offloading

Technical Features

Data rate(s) supported per port	1 Gigabit and 10 Gigabit
Bus type	PCI Express 2.0 (5.0 Gtps)
Bus width	x8 lane PCI Express, operable in x8 and x16 slots
Bus speed (x8, encoded rate)	20 Gbps uni-directional; 40 Gbps bi-directional
Interrupt levels	INTA, MSI, MSI-X
Hardware certifications	FCC B, UL, CE, VCCI, BSMI, CTICK, KCC
Controller-processor	Intel® 82599EB

10 Gb/s Power (PCle edge)

	Watts	
Cable Length (m)	Typical	Maximum
2	18.31	20.15
30	18.62	20.40
80 and over	20.17	22.33

Companion Products

Consider these Intel® products in your server and network planning:

- Intel® Ethernet Server Adapter X520 Series for 10GbE SFP+ PCle v2.0 (5 GT/s) performance
- Intel® PRO/1000 Server Adapters
- Copper or fiber-optic network connectivity, up to four ports per card
- Solutions for PCI Express,* PCI-X,* and PCI interfaces
- Intel® PRO/1000 Desktop Adapters for PCI Express and PCI interfaces
- Other Intel® PRO Desktop and Server Adapters
- Intel® Xeon® Processors
- Intel® Server Boards

Dell Part Number

Single unit: J031P

Network-Ready Servers

Top PC and server manufacturers offer Intel® adapters in their new products. Specify or ask for Intel® Network Connections with your next PC, server, or mobile PC purchase. For a list of preferred suppliers, visit us at www.intel.com/buy/networking/adapters.htm.

Customer Support

Intel® Customer Support Services offers a broad selection of programs including phone support and warranty service. For more information, contact us at support.intel.com/support/go/network/adapter/home.htm. Service and availability may vary by country.

For Product Information

To speak to a customer service representative regarding Intel products, please call 1-800-538-3373 (U.S. and Canada) or visit **support.intel.com/support/go/network/contact.htm** for the telephone number in your area. For additional product information on Intel Networking Connectivity products, visit **www.intel.com/go/ethernet**.

To see the full line of Intel Network Adapters for PCI Express, visit www.intel.com/go/ethernet or contact your Dell sales representative.

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¹Intel® QuickData Technology requires operating system support.

²Lead and other materials banned in RoHS Directive are either (1) below all applicable substance thresholds the EU or (2) an approved/pending exemption applies.

³Lead has not been intentionally added, but lead may still exist as an impurity below 1000 ppm, or an approved RoHS exemption applies.

⁴Intel[®] VMDq requires operating system support.

⁵Available only when used with a capable switch.

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0910/MBR/PMSI/PDF 324319-001US



