

## Suppliers' Information Note

*For The Openreach Network*

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# Ethernet Customer Interfaces

## Interface Characteristics

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## CONTENTS

<b>1. INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2. ETHERNET INTERFACE OVERVIEW</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>3. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION</b>	<b>4</b>
3.1. 10/100 MBIT/S	4
3.2. 1000 MBIT/S	4
3.3. 10000 MBIT/S	5
<b>4. PHYSICAL ARRANGEMENTS</b>	<b>6</b>
4.1. PHYSICAL LOCATION OF CONNECTORS	6
4.2. NTE POWER SUPPLY REQUIREMENTS	6
<b>5. REFERENCES</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>6. ABBREVIATIONS</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>7. HISTORY</b>	<b>7</b>
Table 1: Ethernet access rates	3
Table 2: Gigabit Ethernet NTE technical specification	5
Table 3: 10 Gigabit Ethernet LAN and WAN PHY NTE technical specification	5

## 1. Introduction

This Suppliers' Information Note (SIN) describes the characteristics of Ethernet customer interfaces to the BT Network. It specifies interface characteristics based on published versions of IEEE recommendations.

Other SINs contain details of services delivered over Ethernet interfaces.

## 2. Ethernet Interface Overview

The Ethernet interface provides a physical access using IEEE 802.3 <sup>[1]</sup> Ethernet framing and point-to-point logical connections between accesses.

Ethernet interfaces support IEEE 802.1q <sup>[2]</sup> encapsulation.

The Ethernet Maximum Transmission Unit (MTU) size supported will be a minimum of 1522 bytes. Larger packets up to 2,000 bytes may be supported for specific services.

Customers can if required use spanning tree packets (802.1d <sup>[3]</sup>, 802.1s <sup>[4]</sup> or 802.1w <sup>[5]</sup> control packets) across the Ethernet interface. The BT network will not participate with the spanning tree protocol, but will tunnel spanning tree packets between customer sites.

The access speeds currently supported are listed in Table 1. Note that for some services the contracted data rate may be below the access rate; in this case traffic should be shaped on egress at the CPE, and will be rate-limited on ingress to the network.

Ethernet Access Rates	Ethernet interfaces
10 Mbit/s	10Base-T electrical
100 Mbit/s	100Base-T electrical
1000 Mbit/s	1000Base-T electrical 1000Base-SX optical 1000Base-LX optical
10000 Mbit/s	10GBase-LR optical 10GBase-LW optical 10GBase-SR optical

**Table 1: Ethernet access rates**

**The access data rate of each Ethernet access will be 10, 100, 1000 or 10000Mbit/s as per the IEEE 802.3 <sup>[1]</sup> standard.**

The Ethernet interface will support Ethernet access with the following interfaces:

- Ethernet: IEEE 802.3 at 10Mb/s
- Fast Ethernet: IEEE 802.3 at 100Mb/s
- Gigabit Ethernet: IEEE 802.3 at 1000Mbit/s
- 10 Gigabit Ethernet IEEE 802.3 at 10000Mbit/s

### **3. Technical Specification**

Ethernet access connections support the following types of customer interface:

1. 10/100/1000 Mbit/s  
RJ-45 connection with IEEE 802.3<sup>[1]</sup> Ethernet at 10, 100 or 1000Mb/s, in full duplex mode.
2. 1000 Mbit/s  
1000Base-SX or 1000Base-LX optical presentation with IEEE 802.3<sup>[1]</sup> Gigabit Ethernet framing.
3. 10312.5 Mbit/s LAN PHY  
10GBase-LR or 10GBase-SR optical presentation with IEEE 802.3<sup>[1]</sup> 10 Gigabit Ethernet LAN PHY framing.
4. 9953.85 Mbit/s WAN PHY  
10GBase-LW optical presentation with IEEE 802.3<sup>[1]</sup> 10 Gigabit Ethernet WAN PHY framing.

#### **3.1. 10/100/1000 Mbit/s Electrical**

The interface is the Network Termination Point (NTP), i.e. the point of connection between the BT Network Terminating Equipment (NTE) and the CPE interface. The Customer Interface consists of a RJ-45 type socket. The customer provides the category 5 connecting cords between the NTE and their own CPE. The maximum cable length between the NTP and the Customer CPE is 100m.

The RJ-45 type connector is as specified in the 10Base-T and 100Base-T, 1000Base-T IEEE 802.3u/x/ab<sup>[6][7][12]</sup> specifications. Attention is drawn to the Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) set out in the preface of this agreed International standard. It is the responsibility of the CPE supplier to ensure that they have the necessary rights from the owner of the IPR. The IPR owner has stated that they are willing to negotiate licences under reasonable and non-discriminatory terms and conditions with applicants throughout the world.

#### **3.2. 1000 Mbit/s Optical**

Gigabit Ethernet conforms to the IEEE 802.3<sup>[1]</sup> standard.

The interface is the Network Termination Point (NTP), i.e. the point of connection between the BT Network Terminating Equipment (NTE) and the CPE interface. The Customer Interface consists of either a Dual SC type or a FC/PC type or Dual LC type fibre interface port, operating at multimode (1000Base SX) or single-mode (1000BaseLX)(**not both on a single NTE**). The customer provides the fibre patch connectors between the NTE and CPE, the maximum fibre length is shown in Table 2. In some cases the NTE will include a patch panel, which then forms the NTP.

The SX and LX type interface is as specified in the Gigabit Ethernet IEEE 802.3z<sup>[8]</sup> specifications. Attention is drawn to the Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) set out in the preface of this agreed International standard. It is the responsibility of the CPE supplier to ensure that they have the necessary rights from the owner of the IPR. The IPR owner has stated that they are willing to negotiate licences under reasonable and non-discriminatory terms and conditions with applicants throughout the world.

<b>Protocol</b>	Gigabit Ethernet IEEE 802.3z <sup>[8]</sup>
<b>Line Rate</b>	1.25 GBaud (or 1Gbit/s)
<b>Maximum Bit Error Rate</b>	10 <sup>-12</sup>
<b>Power Requirement</b>	See Section 4.2
<b>Customer Fibre Connector</b>	SC type or FC/PC type or LC type
<b>SX Fibre (Customer provided)</b>	Multimode 850nm, 50/125 or 62.5/125 micron
<b>SX Fibre Maximum Delivery Distance</b>	220 m from NTE's SX port for 62.5/125 fibre or 550 m from NTE's SX port for 50/125 fibre
<b>LX Fibre (Customer provided)</b>	Single-mode 1310nm, 9/125 micron
<b>LX Fibre Maximum Delivery Distance</b>	3000 m from NTE's LX port
<b>Laser Safety</b>	Class 1 under all conditions as per IEC 825-1 <sup>[9]</sup>

**Table 2: Gigabit Ethernet NTE technical specification**

### 3.3. 10000 Mbit/s

10 Gigabit Ethernet conforms to the IEEE 802.3 <sup>[1]</sup> standard.

The interface is the Network Termination Point (NTP), i.e. the point of connection between the BT Network Terminating Equipment (NTE) and the CPE interface. The Customer Interface consists of a pair of SC type fibre interface ports (transmit and receive). The customer provides the fibre patch connectors between the NTE and CPE, the maximum fibre length is shown in Table 3.

The 10GBase-LR, 10GBase-SR and 10GBase-LW type interface is as specified in the 10 Gigabit Ethernet IEEE 802.3ae <sup>[11]</sup> specifications. Attention is drawn to the Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) set out in the preface of this agreed International standard. It is the responsibility of the CPE supplier to ensure that they have the necessary rights from the owner of the IPR. The IPR owner has stated that they are willing to negotiate licences under reasonable and non-discriminatory terms and conditions with applicants throughout the world.

<b>Protocol</b>	10 Gigabit Ethernet IEEE 802.3ae <sup>[11]</sup>
<b>Line Rate</b>	10.3125 Gbit/s for 10GBase-LR and 10GBase-SR (LAN PHY). 9.95328 Gbit/s for 10GBase-LW (WAN PHY)
<b>Maximum Bit Error Rate</b>	10 <sup>-12</sup>
<b>Power Requirement</b>	See Section 4.2
<b>Customer Fibre Connector</b>	SC type (SC/PC) or LC type
<b>Customer interface Fibre (Customer provided)</b>	Single-mode 1310nm, 9/125 micron for 10GBase-LR and 10GBase-LW. Multimode 850nm, 62.5/125 or 50/125 micron for 10GBase-SR
<b>Customer interface Fibre Maximum Delivery Distance</b>	10km from NTE's 10GBase-LW or 10GBase-LR port. For 10GBase-SR refer to table 4.
<b>Laser Safety</b>	Class 1 under all conditions as per IEC 825-1 <sup>[9]</sup>

**Table 3: 10 Gigabit Ethernet LAN and WAN PHY NTE technical specification**

Multimode Cable Bandwidth (MHz•km)	Maximum Operating Distance (m)
160	26
200	33
400	66
500	82
2000	300

**Table 4: Multimode cable operating distances for 10GBase-SR interface**

## **4. Physical Arrangements**

### **4.1. Physical Location of Connectors**

The User–Network Interface (UNI) is located at the connector on the BT Network Terminating Equipment (NTE) with a connector on the Customer side as described in the relevant part of Section 3 of this document.

### **4.2. NTE Power Supply Requirements**

The NTE is locally powered and will require a local mains 50 Hz AC supply. It will be mounted in accordance with standard BT practices in agreement with the customer.

Where the NTE is powered by a customer provided –50 Volts, the NTE will be supplied with a connection lead which will be presented as wires only. As power supplies can vary slightly in output voltage and characteristics, the NTE will function with customer provided power supplies which are in accordance with the British Telecom Network Requirement, (BTNR) 2511 <sup>[10]</sup>.

## **5. References**

[1]	IEEE 802.3, Standards for Local Area Networks: CSMA/CD Access Method
[2]	IEEE 802.1q, Recommendations for Virtual LANs
[3]	IEEE 802.1d, Media Access Control (MAC) Bridges
[4]	IEEE 802.1s, Virtual Bridged Local Area Networks – Amendment 3: Multiple Spanning Trees
[5]	IEEE 802.1w, Media Access Control (MAC) Bridges – Rapid reconfiguration
[6]	IEEE 802.3u, Standards for Local & Metropolitan Area Networks – Supplement: Media Access Control (MAC) Parameters, Physical Layer, Medium Attachment Units and Repeater for 100Mbit/s Operations, Type 100Base-T
[7]	IEEE 802.3x, Standards for Local & Metropolitan Area Networks: Specification for 802.3 Full duplex
[8]	IEEE 802.3z, IEEE standards for Gigabit Ethernet in the LAN/WAN, 1998
[9]	IEC 825-1, International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) Standard – Safety of Laser products Part 1
[10]	BTNR 2511 - Interface of telecomms equipment with a nominal 48v negative dc power supply
[11]	IEEE 802.3ae, IEEE standards for 10 Gigabit Ethernet in the LAN/WAN, 2002
[12]	IEEE 802.3ab, IEEE standards for 1000Base-T, 1999

## **6. Abbreviations**

BT	British Telecommunications plc
CPE	Customers' Premises Equipment
CSMA	Carrier Sense Multiple Access
FC/PC	Fibre Connector/Planar Convex
IEC	International Electrotechnical Commission
IEEE	Institute of Electronic and Electrical Engineers [USA]
IPR	Intellectual Property Right
LAN	Local Area Network
MAC	Medium Access Control
MTU	Maximum Transmission Unit
NTE	Network Termination Equipment
NTP	Network Terminating Point
SC/PC	Subscription Channel/Physical Contact
SIN	Suppliers' Information Note [BT]
UK	United Kingdom
UNI	User-to-Network Interface
VLAN	Virtual Local Area Network
VPN	Virtual Private Network
WAN	Wide Area Network

## 7. History

Issue	Date	Revision changes
Issue 1.0	21 <sup>st</sup> July 2000	First published as 'GigaBit Ethernet for the BT Network'
Issue 2.0	31 <sup>st</sup> July 2003	Scope of declaration broadened to include 10/100 Mbit/s
Issue 3.0	22 <sup>nd</sup> June 2004	Scope of declaration broadened to include 10000 Mbit/s
Issue 4.0	19 <sup>th</sup> April 2005	Addition FC/PC type connector for 1000 Mbit/s
Issue 4.1	December 2012	2.0) Large packet MTU size amended to 2000 bytes. 3.2) Dual LC type fibre interface port added to 1000Mbit
Issue 4.2	December 2014	Change SINet site references from <a href="http://www.sinet.bt.com">http://www.sinet.bt.com</a> to <a href="http://www.btplc.com/sinet/">http://www.btplc.com/sinet/</a>
Issue 4.3	March 2016	Update to EAD 10000Mbit/s interface information and addition of maximum operating distance table for 10GBase-SR interface.
Issue 4.4	April 2017	Updated to include 1000-BaseT



Issue 4.5	May 2020	Change SINet site references from <a href="http://www.btplc.com/sinet/">http://www.btplc.com/sinet/</a> to <a href="https://www.openreach.co.uk/org/home/helpandsup">https://www.openreach.co.uk/org/home/helpandsup</a>
Issue 4.5	September 2021	Annual Review – no changes required – issue remains unchanged.

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