Product Brief

NetEffect® Server Cluster Adapter Network Connectivity



NetEffect® Server Cluster Adapters

Low-latency 10 Gigabit Ethernet adapters for high-performance apps

Intel®'s NetEffect Server Cluster Adapters provide accelerated 10 Gigabit Ethernet processing to benefit some of the most demanding and latency-sensitive applications, including high performance computing (HPC) clustering and financial market data systems. The product line is optimized for scalability to take advantage of the multi-core environments typically used with these high performance computing applications.

Powered by the second-generation of accelerated 10 Gigabit Ethernet technology, the NetEffect NEO20 network controller provides the protocol processing required to deliver the low-latency, scalable performance that is required.

iWARP and Kernel-Bypass

The NetEffect Server Cluster Adapters support iWARP, or internet Wide Area RDMA Protocol. iWARP provides a low-latency, kernel-bypass solution on Ethernet by using RDMA (Remote Direct Memory Access) semantics. RDMA enables a remote memory capability that can be abstracted to various application APIs. iWARP is built on top of the TCP/IP protocol and therefore provides datacenter-compatible connectivity using standard network infrastructures. And it works on the standard IP-based management software and standard Ethernet-based switches used in datacenters today.

Kernel-bypass (or OS-bypass) is a key element of iWARP because of the RDMA semantics. But kernel-bypass can be utilized without iWARP. The NetEffect Server Cluster Adapters support a mode that implements the bypass operation without the RDMA protocol. This enables standard APIs, like UDP sockets, to be used with existing applications while also benefiting from latency improvements of kernel-bypass.

Both of these modes of operation provide lower latency and more deterministic latency jitter. The end result is a more efficient network implementation that delivers more performance to the application.



Multiple media types are supported:

| Connector Type | Interconnect Cabling | Maximum Distance | Notes |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| CX4 | Twinax CX4 Cables | 12 meters | Copper |
| SFP+ | 850 nm Multi- mode Fiber | 300 meters | Requires Fiber Optic transceiver |
| | Twinax Direct Attach Cables | 7 meters | Copper |

HPC Clustering

High-Performance Computing (HPC) describes a class of computing that extracts the most performance from the cluster's compute and fabric resources.

The majority of HPC implementations are now commodity x86 server clusters. In turn, Ethernet and InfiniBand are the prevalent commodity fabrics of choice.

Workload examples include: Computational Fluid Dynamics, Computational Chemistry & Material Sciences, Finite Element Analysis, Bio-Informatics, Climate & Weather Simulation, and Reservoir Simulation & Visualization.

iWARP provides a low-latency option for Ethernet. NetEffect Server Cluster adapters deliver an RDMA interface for various Upper Layer Protocols (ULPs) including Intel-MPI, Microsoft-MPI, Open-MPI, MVAPICH2, and uDAPL. For Linux, this is provided through the OpenFabrics Enterprise Distribution (OFED) open-source releases that are adopted from commercial distributors, like Red Hat*. For Windows*, Microsoft* supports the Network Direct interface in Windows HPC Server 2008.

Financial Market Data Systems

The main performance I/O bottleneck in the financial computing sector is latency. High-Frequency Trading (HFT) is the best example of this – the faster the trade in response to a market trend, the more the financial opportunity. Market data systems that can benefit from low-latency acceleration include: Feed Assemblers & Handlers, Matching Engines, Algo Engines, Smart Order Routers, Trading Gateways, and Risk Engines.

Ethernet is the typical interconnect in the financial industry because the exchange interface is Ethernet. This drives Ethernet as the first choice, but it must have the right low-latency characteristics. iWARP has value in the servers within the Exchange or within the Trading House/Security over a messaging layer, like NYSE's Data Fabric or Red Hat's AMQP. In the datapath between the Exchange and Trading House/Security, TCP and UDP sockets interfaces are used and a kernel-bypass solution, like Voltaire's VMA can be employed to accelerate the UDP multi-cast data.

Network-Ready Servers

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| Features | Benefits • Provides a power and performance efficient implementation of iWARP for low-latency Ethernet applications. | |
|---|---|--|
| NetEffect NE020 10GbE Ethernet Controller | | |
| Multi-core scalability | • Pipelining enables low-latency performance for applications that use all the cores/compute of the server. | |
| Intel Cluster Ready (ICR) | • Compliant with the Intel Cluster Ready program to deliver proven and stable iWARP implementations . | |
| Low profile | Small form-factor enables high-performance compute in dense applications. | |
| RoHS Compliant | Complies with the European Union directive 2002/95/EC to reduce the use of hazardous material. | |
| PXE Boot | • Network boot support for bare-metal installations, such as HPC cluster provisioning with Intel Cluster Ready. | |
| Intel backing | Backed by Intel's Itd. lifetime warranty, 90-day money-back guarantee (U.S. & Canada), and worldwide support | |

Specifications

Product Offerings

| Product Code |
|----------------------------------|
| E10G81GF2SR |
| E10G81G2P |
| E10G81GT2CX4 |
| |
| less than 6 µsec |
| over 18 Gbps (bi-directional) |
| |
| |
| |
| |

iWARP (RDMA over Ethernet) RDMAC v1.0 and IETF specification support

User-level and kernel-level direct access support

Direct payload placement into application memory

Up to 8000 simultaneous accelerated TCP/IP connections

Memory

ECC protected industry-standard DDR2 256 MB standard on-board

| Standards |
|--|
| IEEE 802.3-2005: 10GbE, link aggregation, link pause, management |
| IEEE 802.3ae 10Gb Ethernet over fibre |
| IEEE 802.3ak CX4 |
| IEEE 802.1p Priority Encoding |
| IEEE 802.1Q VLAN tagging, support for 4096 VLANs |
| IPv4 (all connections), IPv6 (unaccelerated connections) |
| IETF RFCs: 793, 1323, 2581, 3782 |
| Host Interface |

PCI Express v1.1 (x8)

Management

ACPI 2.0c and PCI Power Management 1.2 compliant

PXE boot support

APIs & Middleware

Sockets and standard NIC OpenFabrics* iWARP Verbs

Intel MPI, Platform Computing-MPI, Open-MPI,

MVAPICH2, Microsoft MPI

Voltaire Messaging Accelerator (VMA)

NYSE *, Datafabric *

Red Hat* AMQP

Operating Systems

Microsoft* Windows* HPC Server 2008 (via Network Direct)

Linux* Novell* and Red Hat* (via OFED*)

Physical & Environmental

| Operating temperature: | 0 to 60 °C | |
|--|---|--|
| Dimensions Length Width Full-height end bracket: Low-profi le end bracket: | 6.6 in. 2.5 in. 4.725 in. 3.12 in. | |

No fan or heat sink required

Power (typical)

| NE020 SFP+ (SR optical module) | 11.0 W |
|----------------------------------|--------|
| NEO20 SFP+ (pluggable/no module) | 10.0 W |
| NE020 CX4 (and Powered CX4) | 8.0 W |

Certifications

RoHS compliant PCI Express 1.1 compliant

FCC Class A

Intel Backing

Limited lifetime warranty

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

For More 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/qo/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.

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