# **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 datacenters continue to drive to reduce costs through network convergence and virtualization while still providing increased application performance and availability.

# **Next-Generation 10 Gigabit Performance**

The drive to 10 Gigabit Ethernet comes from 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 tomorrow's network infrastructure, 10 Gigabit Ethernet is the core of any next generation 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.



# 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**

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 Queues2 (VMDq) and Virtual Machine Direct Connect (VMDc). VMDq improves data processing by offloading the sorting and queuing functionality to the I/O controller from the VMM. VMDc 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. VMDc is based on the industry-standard PCI-SIG SR-IOV (Single Root I/O Virtualization).

# **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.

# **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

#### **Order Code**

Single unit: E10G42BT

Features	Benefits	
Intel® 82599 10 Gigabit Ethernet Controller	<ul> <li>Industry-leading, energy-efficient design for next-generation 10 Gigabit performance and multi-core processors</li> </ul>	
Low-profile	• Enables higher bandwidth and throughput from standard and low-profile PCle slots and servers	
Load balancing on multiple CPUs	<ul> <li>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*</li> </ul>	
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, <sub>2</sub> lead-free <sub>3</sub> technology	$\bullet$ Compliant with the European Union directive (effective as of July 2006) to reduce the use of hazardous materials	
Intel® ProSet Utility for Windows* Device Manager	• Provides point-and-click management of individual adapters, advanced adapter features, connection 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 Servers		
Intel® QuickData Technology¹	DIMA Engine: enhances data acceleration across the platform (network, chipset, processor), thereby lowering CPU utilization  Direct Cache Access (DCA): allows the processor to pre-fetch the data from memory, thereby avoiding cache misses and improving service level agreements (SLA) of the applications	
MSI-X support	<ul> <li>Minimizes the overhead of interrupts</li> <li>Allows load balancing of interrupt handling between different cores/CPUs</li> </ul>	
Low latency	• Based on the sensitivity of the incoming data, the adpater can bypass the automatic moderation of 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	<ul><li>Lower processor usage</li><li>Checksum and segmentation capability extended to new standard packet type</li></ul>	
Tx TCP segmentation offload (IPv4, IPv6)	<ul> <li>Increased throughput and lower processor usage</li> <li>Compatible with large-send offload feature (in Microsoft Windows* Server operating systems)</li> </ul>	
Receive and Transmit Side Scaling for Windows environment and Scalable I/O for Linux* environments (IPv4, IPv6, TCP/UDP)	• Enables the direction of the interrupts to the processor cores in order to improve the CPU utilization rate	
IPsec Offload	• Offloads IPsec capability onto the adapter instead of the software to significantly improve throughput and CPU usage (for Windows* 2008 Server and Vista*)	
LinkSec	IEEE spec: 802.1ae     Layer 2 data protection with encryption/authentication ability between devices (e.g., routers, switches)     LinkSec is designed into the network adapter hardware. These adapters are prepared to provide LinkSec functionality when the ecosystem is ready to support this new technology	

Virtualization Features	Benefits
Virtual Machine Device queues (VMDq)	<ul> <li>Offloads the data-sorting functionality from the Hypervisor to the network silicon, improving data throughput and CPU usage</li> <li>Provides QoS feature on the Tx data by providing round-robin servicing and preventing head-of-line blocking</li> <li>Sorting based on MAC addresses and VLAN tags</li> </ul>
Next-Generation VMDq1 (64 queues per port)	<ul> <li>Enhanced QoS feature by providing weighted round-robin servicing for the Tx data</li> <li>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</li> <li>Supports replication of multicast and broadcast data</li> </ul>
PC-SIG SR-IOV Implementation (64 virtual functions per port)	<ul> <li>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</li> <li>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</li> </ul>
IPv6 Offloading	• Checksum and segmentation capability extended to the new standard packet type
Advanced Packet Filtering	<ul> <li>24 exact-matched packets (unicast or multicast)</li> <li>4096-bit hash filter for unicast and multicast frames</li> <li>Lower processor usage</li> <li>Promiscuous (unicast and multicast) transfer mode support</li> <li>Optional filtering of invalid frames</li> </ul>
VLAN support with VLAN tag insertion, stripping and packet filtering for up to 4096 VLAN tags	• Ability to create multiple VLAN segments
Manageability Features	
Preboot eXecution Environment (PXE) Support	<ul> <li>Enables system boot up via the LAN (32-bit and 64-bit)</li> <li>Flash interface for PXE image</li> </ul>
Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP) and Remote Network Monitoring (RMON) Statistic Counters	<ul> <li>Minimizes the overhead of interrupts</li> <li>Allows load balancing of interrupt handling between different cores/CPUs</li> </ul>
iSCSI Boot	Enables system boot up via iSCSI     Provides additional network management capability
Watchdog Timer	• Gives an indication to the manageability firmware or external devices that the chip or the driver is not functioning

# **Specifications**

#### General

E10G42BT	
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**

Hardware certifications
Controller-processor

Maximum power consumption

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

# Network Operating Systems (NOS) Software Support

Microsoft Windows Server 2003\*

Microsoft Windows Virtual Server 2005\*

Red Hat Enterprise 4\* or later

SUSE SLES 10\* or later,
Professional 9.2 or later

FreeBSD 5.x\* or later

VMware ESX 3.x\* support

Fedora\*

EFI 1.1

Intel Backing

Limited lifetime warranty

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

Interrupt levels

INTA, MSI, MSI-X

FCC B, UL, CE, VCCI, BSMI, CTICK, KCC

Intel® 82599EB 25.0 W Maximum

Advanced Software Features	
Adapter Fault Tolerance (AFT)	
Switch Fault Tolerance (SFT)	
Adaptive Load Balancing (ALB)	
Teaming support	
IEEE 802.3ad <sup>5</sup> (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))	
IEEE 802.1p	
TCP segmentation/large send offload	
MSI -X supports Multiple Independent Queues	
Interrupt moderation	

Checksum and segmentation capability extended to new standard packet type
1 Gigabit and 10 Gigabit
PCI Express 2.0 (5.0 Gtps)
x8 lane PCI Express, operable in x8 and x16 slots
20 Gbps uni-directional; 40 Gbps bi-directional
INTA, MSI, MSI-X
FCC B, UL, CE, VCCI, BSMI, CTICK, KCC
Intel® 82599EB

# **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/network/connectivity.

3183/10-003116

# To see the full line of Intel Network Adapters for PCI Express\*, visit www.intel.com/go/ethernet

<sup>1</sup>Intel<sup>®</sup> QuickData Technology requires operating system support.

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

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

<sup>4</sup>Intel® VMDq requires operating system support.

<sup>5</sup>Available only when used with a capable switch.

INFORMATION IN THIS DOCUMENT IS PROVIDED IN CONNECTION WITH INTEL® PRODUCTS. NO LICENSE, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, BY ESTOPPEL OR OTHERWISE, TO ANY INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS IS GRANTED BY THIS DOCUMENT. EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN INTEL'S TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE FOR SUCH PRODUCTS, INTEL ASSUMES NO LIABILITY WHATSOEVER, AND INTEL DISCLAIMS ANY EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTY, RELATING TO SALE AND/OR USE OF INTEL PRODUCTS INCLUDING LIABILITY OR WARRANTIES RELATING TO FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, MERCHANTABILITY, OR INFRINGEMENT OF ANY PATENT, COPYRIGHT OR OTHER INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHT. UNLESS OTHERWISE AGREED IN WRITING BY INTEL, THE INTEL PRODUCTS ARE NOT DESIGNED NOR INTENDED FOR ANY APPLICATION IN WHICH THE FAILURE OF THE INTEL PRODUCT COULD CREATE A SITUATION WHERE PERSONAL INJURY OR DEATH MAY OCCUR.

Intel may make changes to specifications and product descriptions at any time, without notice. Designers must not rely on the absence or characteristics of any features or instructions marked "reserved" or "undefined." Intel reserves these for future definition and shall have no responsibility whatsoever for conflicts or incompatibilities arising from future changes to them. The information here is subject to change without notice. Do not finalize a design with this information.

The products described in this document may contain design defects or errors known as errata which may cause the product to deviate from published specifications. Current characterized errata are available on request. Contact your local Intel sales office or your distributor to obtain the latest specifications and before placing your product order. Copies of documents which have an order number and are referenced in this document, or other Intel literature, may be obtained by calling 1-800-548-4725, or by visiting Intel's Web Site at http://www.intel.com/.

Copyright © 2010 Intel Corporation. All rights reserved.

Intel, the Intel logo, and Xeon are trademarks of Intel Corporation in the U.S. and other countries.

\*Other names and brands may be claimed as the property of others.

Printed in USA 0110/SWLI



