

A1 400G 16-port Appliance

QSFP-DD Test Platform

400/200/100/50/40/25/10G

Network bandwidth needs continue to grow at a rapid pace. Network equipment manufacturers are developing highly flexible multi-rate products to support the latest generation of HSE devices. Service Providers and Hyperscale data centers are deploying multi-rate networking infrastructure solutions to meet this growing market.

With these multi-rate requirements, customers demand higher density test equipment. Flexibility is needed to validate the next generation of routers and data center fabrics.

Spirent A1 400G Appliance was developed to meet these specific needs with its industry-leading 2x density advantage for QSFP-DD from nearest competitor. Spirent's QSFP-DD platform is a 2U rack mountable appliance and can be configured to support per port (PAM4) 400/200/100/50G and (NRZ) 200/100/50/40/25/10G encoding.

The appliance also supports Auto Negotiation and Link Training for all speeds including 8x50G AN/LT. Trade-in programs are available for customers interested in upgrading existing hardware to support Auto Negotiation and Link Training and NRZ encoding. The A1 Appliance supports Spirent's Smart Port Technology, a licensed feature that allows single port and speed upgrades for maximum value and flexibility. A high-density 100G mode option is also available allowing support for 4xQSFP28 from a single QSFP-DD port achieving a maximum of 64x100G ports from a single 2U platform.

Applications

Cloud Computing/Streaming Services—Validate data plane QoS on thousands of flows at line rate and test complex routing, data center and access protocols on switches and routers.

Data Center ToR and EoR Switches and Fabrics—Validate forwarding performance, latency, MAC capacity and functional capabilities of ultra-high-scale, next generation enabled multi-terabit cloud data center fabrics. This platform will allow synchronized timing of 255 systems with no requirement for external timing devices or specialized cabling.

Terabit Routers—Test latest generation of core routers with high-scale, multiprotocol topologies.



Features

- 16x 400G ports per 2U high appliance, delivers the highest density high speed Ethernet solution
- Each port supports following:
 - PAM4: 1x400G, 2x200G, 4x100G, 8x50G
 - NRZ: 1x200G, 2x100G, 4x50G, 2x40G, 8x25G, 8x10G (optional licenses may be required to support NRZ encoding)
- Available single port upgrades
- High density 64xQSFP28 port option—requires external accessory and license
- Support for Ethernet (FEC), and Auto Negotiation (AN) and Link Training (LT) for all supported speeds and full breakouts including 8x50G AN/LT
- Protocol testing for L2/3 routing/switching and data center test cases

Benefits

- Industry's highest density QSFP-DD test appliance
- PAM4 and NRZ solution in one platform
- Provides large capacity testing for a variety of services

Productivity

- Intelligent Results™
- User definable Health Indicator views provide real-time health monitoring and error isolation capability that allows engineers to accurately and quickly pinpoint errors, even in the most complex test configurations. Customizable Time Series charts, overlaid with Events, provide correlation between real-time metrics and system events, allowing rapid debugging of problems and accelerating development
- High performance database underneath a modern web UI processes billions of real-time results to validate tests, identify problems, and provide customizable reports
- Delivers more results with tight correlation, and more information to find those obscure bugs. With more coverage and more information, Spirent answers questions faster, and in a single test run, where multiple runs are necessary with other test tools
- Interesting streams uses real-time results data mining to dynamically filter through mountains of data and display the results that matter
- Powerful automation with Command Sequencer (Visual Programming) and GUI to Script empowers the test operator to:
 - Construct sophisticated, stressful, automated test cases without programming experience
 - Combine numerous individual test cases into a single run to save regression test time
 - Develop a catalog of broad automated test cases in a fraction of the time
 - Export automated test cases to run from a command line for headless test execution that can be integrated with any automated regression system

Extensive, Flexible Reporting

Real-time statistics for critical variables across all protocols. Using Spirent's iTest platform, your device under test results can easily be correlated and compared with Spirent's results.

Enhanced Performance Mode with Spirent XStream

The XStream Mode raises traffic generation and protocol scale capabilities to meet future increases in routing and switching testing needs, further protecting your investment in the 400G Appliance.

Technical Specifications

Spirent A1 400G 16-port Seven-Speed Appliance

Product Feature	Description
MSA Interface	QSFP-DD
Operational modes	PAM4 – 400/200/100G/50G; NRZ – 200/100/50/40/25/10G
Line clocking and packet time-stamping	Stratum-3 rated oscillator is the default time source. Transmit line clock is at the precise nominal Ethernet rate $\pm < 1$ PPM on initial shipment. Accurate to ± 4.6 PPM 15 years of operation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frame time-stamp resolution of 2.5ns • GPS and CDMA-based external time sources are supported • IEEE 1588v2 and NTP packet-based external time sources are supported • TIA/EIA-95B-based external time sources are supported
Appliance time synchronization	Appliance Features <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spirent-patented self-calibrating inter-chassis timing chain using dedicated port on chassis control • Appliance delivers precise synchronization ± 20ns • Ability to daisy chain up to 255 appliances for large density testing • Synchronization via external GPS or CDMA network • Using IEEE 1588 or NTP packet-based approaches • With TIS/EIA-95B timing inputs
Operating temperature range	Supported for 41° to 86° F (5° to 30° C) ambient temperature. 20% to 80% relative humidity
AC input range	180 – 264 VAC
Max power draw	Maximum of 4500W
Product Weight	Unit installed weight: 59 lb. (26.7 kg) Shipping weight: 73 lb. (33.12 kg)
Product Dimensions	29.5" (L) x 17.7" (W) x 3.35" (H) 74.9 cm (L) x 45 cm (W) x 8.5 cm (H)

Spirent TestCenter Layer 2-3 Generator and Analyzer

Number of streams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stats/Streams @400/200/100/50/40/25/10G: Tx=32K, Rx=32K (NOTE: TOP to TX=64K, RX=128K @400G with Spirent XStream license) • Stream fields can be varied to create billions of flows • Stats/Stream: Tx Count (frames), Rx Count (frames), Tx Rate (fps), Rx Rate (fps), Tx Rate (bps), Rx Rate (bps), Rx Sig Count (Frames), Avg Latency (us), Min Latency (us), Max Latency (us)
Number of Paths/Raw Streamblocks	255 when using list modifiers (NOTE: 511 @400G with Spirent XStream license)
Frame transmit modes	Port based (rate per port), stream based (rate per stream), burst, timed, step transmission, manual scheduler mode, random frame size with unique seed
Min/max frame size (w/CRC)	60 to 16,004
Min/max Tx rates	1 packet per 3.43 seconds to 101% of line rate
Real-time Tx stream adjustments	Change rate and frame length settings without stopping the generator or analyzer for truly interactive, cause and effect analysis
Per-stream statistics analyzed in real time	Tx and Rx frame counts and rates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tx and Rx Layer 1 byte counts and rates • Out of sequence errors • FCS errors and rate • Min, Max and Average Latency (32K streams) • Real Time Dropped Frame count • Adv Seq Stats
Flow Control	Support Priority Flow Control
Per-port statistics analyzed in real time	Tx and Rx frame counts and rates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tx and Rx Layer 1 byte counts and rates • Out of sequence errors • PRBS errors • FCS errors and rate
Transmit timestamp resolution	2.5 ns Tx timestamp resolution with intra-chassis and inter-chassis synchronization
Supported encapsulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Layer 2: Ethernet II, 802.1Q, 802.1ad, FCoE • Layer 3/4: IPv4, IPv6, TCP, UDP

Technical Specifications (cont'd)

Spirent TestCenter Layer 2-3 Generator and Analyzer (cont'd)

Supported Tx signature capability	Fully compatible with Spirent hardware; contains sequence number & highly accurate timestamp
Capture buffer size	8 MB per port
Capture buffer controls— Spirent TestCenter's unique capture capability allows maximum effectiveness when debugging hard to find hardware or protocol problems	Several modes of operation that include: Filter by protocol fields, filter by byte offset and range; store slices or full-frames; store signature or all frames; store tx/rx control plane with data plane; real-time mode for control plane traffic; wrap or stop buffer at end. User defined pattern definitions can logically combine 8 filters of up to 32 total bytes. Patterns can be applied to start, filter (quality) or stop capture. In addition to user-patterns, filtering, starting and stopping capture contains the following pre-defined events: FCS, PRBS, IPv4 checksum, TCP/UDP/IGMP checksum, and sequence errors; undersize, oversize, jumbo, and user-defined frame length; IPv4, IPv6, TCP, UDP and IGMP packets; test signature present and test stream ID match. Each event can be independently set to ignore, include or exclude. Support UDC (user defined counters), Capture byte offset mode, Capture pattern matching.
Latency modes	Benchmark tests support LIFO, LILO, FIFO or FILO latency calculation methods
Route Insertion Table (RIT) entries per port	1M 4-byte entries for dynamic label or random IP/MAC address assignments
RIT or List VFD entries per stream	8 RIT insertions per stream and 6 VFD insertions per stream

Layer 1 Functionality

QSFP/QSFP-DD Interconnects	CR, SR, LR, FR, DR, PSM4, ZR, and ZR at multi-rate (400/200/100/50/40/25/10G) NOTE: For transceivers that consume more than 20 watts of power, please consult the factory for additional information before using these optics in the system.
Media support and FEC options	<p>PAM4 support varies by speed mode</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 400G: 400GBASE-SR8, 400GBASE-DR4, 400GBASE-FR4/FR8, 400GBASE-LR4/LR8, 400GBASE-ZR and ZR+ plus additional MSA PMDs • 200G: 200GBASE-SR4, 200GBASE-DR4 200GBASE-FR4/LR4, plus additional MSA PMDs • 100G: 100GBASE-CR2 (Active Electrical Copper Cable) • RS-544 (KP4) FEC all speeds • Direct Access Copper and Active Optical Cable breakouts <p>NRZ support varies by module speed mode and license</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 200G: 200GBASE-SR8 • 100G: 100GBASE-SR4, 100GBASE-CR4, 100GBASE-LR4, 100GBASE-DR, 100GBASE-FR1, 100GBASE-LR1 plus additional MSA PMDs • 50G: 25/50G Consortium 50GBASE-CR2 • 40G: 40GBASE-SR4, 40GBASE-CR4, 40GBASE-LR4 • 25G: 802.3by 25GBASE-CR, 25GBASE-CRS, 25GBASE-SR • 10G: 10GBASE-SR, 10G Copper DAC • QSFP28 to SFP28 breakout cable options • Clause 74 BASE-R FEC, Clause 91 RS-FEC, and Clause 108 RS-FEC • 25/50G Consortium 50GBase-R FEC CL74, 25/50G Consortium 50GBase RS-FEC CL91 • IEEE 25GBASE CR CL74, CL108, CR-S CL74, SR FEC CL108 • 25/50G Consortium 25GBase-R FEC CL74, 25/50G Consortium 25GBase RS-FEC CL91
AN/LT (Enable/Disable)	Direct Attach Copper (DAC), AN/LT supported for all speeds including 8x50G mode
Layer-1 debug tools & features	Tx Emphasis settings, Rx Eye view, FEC Counters, PRBS Gen/Check, Front-end L1 Summary Status, Transceiver management interface access, PCS monitoring, PCS skew, FEC error injection, PCS random error injection, L1 Transceiver Auto Tune Command

Ordering Information	
Part Number	Description
Base Package Bundle Description	
A1-400-QD-16-350A	A1 16-PORT QSFP-DD 200G/100G/50G PAM4 BUNDLE
A1-400-QD-16-400A	A1 16-PORT QSFP-DD 400G PAM4 ONLY
A1-400-QD-16-550A	A1 16-PORT QSFP-DD 400G/100G/50G PAM4 BUNDLE
A1-400-QD-16-700A	A1 16-PORT QSFP-DD 400G/200G/100G PAM4 BUNDLE
A1-400-QD-16-750A	A1 16-PORT QSFP-DD 400G/200G/100G/50G PAM4 BUNDLE
A1-400-QD-16-825A	A1 16-PORT QSFP-DD 400G/200G/100G/50G/40G/25G/10G PAM4 & NRZ BUNDLE
A1-400-QD-16-T1P	A1 16-PORT QSFP-DD 400G/200G/100G/50G T1 APPLIANCE
Hardware Upgrades (available as add on after purchase of initial base package bundle)	
HWO-A1-400-QD-16-100G	100G PAM4 HARDWARE SPEED OPTION FOR A1-400-QD-16-T1P
HWO-A1-400-QD-16-200G	200G PAM4 HARDWARE SPEED OPTION FOR A1-400-QD-16-T1P
HWO-A1-400-QD-16-400G	400G PAM4 HARDWARE SPEED OPTION FOR A1-400-QD-16-T1P
HWO-A1-400-QD-16-50G	50G PAM4 HARDWARE SPEED OPTION FOR A1-400-QD-16-T1P
HWO-A1-400-QD-16-NRZ100G	100G NRZ HARDWARE SPEED OPTION FOR A1-400-QD-16-T1P
HWO-A1-400-QD-16-NRZ10G	10G NRZ HARDWARE SPEED OPTION FOR A1-400-QD-16-T1P
HWO-A1-400-QD-16-NRZ200G	200G NRZ HARDWARE SPEED OPTION FOR A1-400-QD-16- T1P
HWO-A1-400-QD-16-NRZ25G	25G NRZ HARDWARE SPEED OPTION FOR A1-400-QD-16- T1P
HWO-A1-400-QD-16-NRZ40G	40G NRZ HARDWARE SPEED OPTION FOR A1-400-QD-16- T1P
HWO-A1-400-QD-16-NRZ50G	50G NRZ HARDWARE SPEED OPTION FOR A1-400-QD-16- T1P
HWO-A1-400-QD-16-PORT	SPIRENT A1-400-QD-16-T1P SINGLE PORT ENABLEMENT
HWO-A1-QSFP-DD-16-4QSFP28*	HARDWARE OPTION FOR A1-400-QD-16-T1P 400G PAM4 to 4x100G QSFP28 NRZ
Software Upgrades (available as add on after purchase of initial base package bundle)	
HWO-A1-400-QD-16-100G-XS	4X100G XSTREAM ENHANCED SCALE ON A1-400-QD-16- T1P
HWO-A1-400-QD-16-400G-XS	400G XSTREAM ENHANCED SCALE ON A1-400-QD-16- T1P
SWO-A1-400-QD-16-MACSEC	MACSEC SOFTWARE ON A1 16-PORT 400G APPLIANCE

Requirements

- Windows-based workstation with 10/100/1000 MB Ethernet NIC; mouse and color monitor required for GUI operation
- Linux- or Windows-based workstation for scripting
- Mac-, Linux-, or Windows-based workstation for Rest API support

* 100G (QSFP28) high density 64x100G license (requires ACC-1067A accessory).

About Spirent Communications

Spirent Communications (LSE: SPT) is a global leader with deep expertise and decades of experience in testing, assurance, analytics and security, serving developers, service providers, and enterprise networks. We help bring clarity to increasingly complex technological and business challenges. Spirent's customers have made a promise to their customers to deliver superior performance. Spirent assures that those promises are fulfilled. For more information visit: www.spirent.com

Americas 1-800-SPIRENT

+1-800-774-7368 | sales@spirent.com

Europe and the Middle East

+44 (0) 1293 767979 | emeainfo@spirent.com

Asia and the Pacific

+86-10-8518-2539 | salesasia@spirent.com