400GE Deployment Update

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6th SIG-NGN Meeting
13th December 2021
ESnet6 — abstracted view (snapshot as of 9th Dec 2021)
Provides connectivity to all of the DOE labs, experiment sites, and user facilities

ESnet Portal
https://my.es.net
ESnet6 — abstracted view (snapshot as of 9th Dec 2021)

Provides connectivity to all of the DOE labs, experiment sites, and user facilities

First 400GE in production
11th October 2021
(migrated from 100GE → 400GE)
ESnet6 — abstracted view (snapshot as of 9th Dec 2021)
Provides connectivity to all of the DOE labs, experiment sites, and user facilities

Second 400GE in production
26th November 2021
ESnet6 — abstracted view (snapshot as of 9th Dec 2021)
Provides connectivity to all of the DOE labs, experiment sites, and user facilities

Third 400GE in production
3rd December 2021
400GBASE-FR4 deployment
(router-to-router over dark fiber)

Six pairs of 400GBASE-FR4 in production today

ESnet operates 2 routers at ORNL interconnected by site-owned fiber which are not pictured.
400GE support for SC21 (November 2021)

SC21 STLS – SCinet WAN Overview


Diagram source: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rH4Yvy3zGgQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rH4Yvy3zGgQ) (8:56 mark) Brenna Meade - SC21 WAN Design

2x400GBASE-FR4 over 2 400G DWDM λ
Outcomes and Lessons Learned

Interoperability, Reliability, and Stability:

- It was a concern given early interop reports by vendors at conferences.
- ESnet opted for vendor-supported 400GBASE-FR4 optics for routers.
  - No issues were expected or encountered (single-vendor solution).
- AOCs present a challenge — which vendor to purchase from?
  - ESnet opted to use AOC cables offered by the transponder vendor.
  - The router is agnostic to third-party pluggables.
  - Diagnostic & management capabilities are fully visible in router CLI.
- First deployments of new hardware often come with some hassles.
  - Some AOC link stability issues encountered, investigations ongoing.
Short-Term Plans and Lab Testing

Nationwide production deployment of 2nd transponder vendor

- 84 additional 400GE backbone circuits, deployed as 400GE from day-1
- Again using transponder-vendor AOCs between transponder/router
- 95 GBaud symbol rate

High-order modulation: 2x400GE over 1x800G DWDM on short metro links

- Deploying in field, will be placed into production after acceptance testing

Lab testing: 400GE client over 2 adjacent 200G DWDM wavelengths

- Tested successfully in lab over short distances, not yet field tested
- Inverse multiplexing for long-haul 400GE transport
Later Migration Plans (for remaining 100GE clients)

The ESnet6 backbone still has over 100 100GE client circuits in production. After the Waveserver 400G waves are deployed, we will go back and migrate groups of N x 100GE G30 circuits to 400GE in late 2022 using a similar process:

- Pre-install 400GBASE-SR8 AOC transceivers
- During maintenance window, drain traffic, disable 100GE client
- Swing electrical cross-connects to the 400GE ports
- Testing and acceptance (hardware BERT across the new 400GE path)
- Place circuit into production, monitor for stability and errors
Thank you!

Questions/comments?
Backup Slides
IGP Metric Rework

Our IGP metric algorithm is based on combination of link bandwidth and measured one-way latency.

100GE links had been using metrics in the lowest possible range
• 100G over a very short distance had a metric as low as 10

With the introduction of 400G, bandwidth scalars had to be adjusted
• Current production scheme accounts for link speeds up to 1 Tbps
• Defines scalars for speeds between 100G-1T, in increments of 100G
• 1 Tbps link over shortest distance — results in metric of 10
• 100G link over shortest distance — results in metric of 1000
New Features

ESnet’s 100GE deployment did not include any of the 100GE variants that featured FEC at the Ethernet layer.

The introduction of 400GE brings FEC to the routers, as shown to the right. (operating mode is CL119 or Clause 119)

Monitoring capabilities seem to be limited to CLI at this point.

For more info see: Baseline Proposal for 4-lane Interleaved 100G FEC