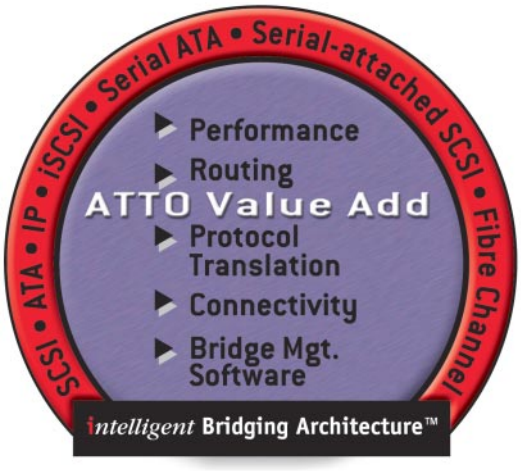
Exclusive *intelligent* Bridging Architecture™



ATTO's exclusive intelligent Bridging Architecture™, embedded within all ATTO FibreBridge™ and iPBridge™ products, is the platform for adding value. The unique way in which we design our products provides many opportunities for added customer value. Specific to the iPBridge™ 2500C/R/D are several areas in which intelligent Bridging Architecture benefits our customers. From product performance to flexibility and scalability, the benefits of ATTO's intelligent Bridging Architecture are substantial.

Flexibility and Scalability

While today's storage application requirements are critical, our customers can take comfort in the fact that ATTO's intelligent Bridging Architecture enables the iPBridge to maintain flexibility for tomorrow's storage needs. The intelligence of the ATTO iPBridge resides within our proprietary firmware, developed and maintained to provide peak storage-centric performance. We have the ability to flex or tune our implementation for future application requirements. Off-the-shelf TCP offload engine (TOE) users have little control over product direction and are subject to changes implemented by the TOE manufacturer. In addition, ATTO has the power to generate alterations for custom OEM applications. In fact, with intelligent Bridging Architecture, ATTO can implement an additional layer of customization, allowing OEMs to provide unique configurations to multiple customers – additional value-add for long-term customers and partners.

Performance

The most significant contribution of ATTO's intelligent Bridging Architecture is witnessed through the available bandwidth of our products. While standard products utilize off-the-shelf TOE, the iPBridge utilizes ATTO's exclusive offload technology. The benefits of this approach are two-fold.

First is our single copy approach – from the IP side to (iPBridge) memory, and then out the SCSI side – which significantly reduces overhead associated with TCP transfers. Standard TOE (which is used in other products,) would require dual copy which includes additional transfer from TOE specific memory to (product) memory, greatly increasing TCP overhead.

Second is the Xilinx TCP acceleration that is specific to our TCP/IP stack. The ATTO iPBridge is able to break down TCP/IP stacks in a manner that is useful to the iPBridge firmware, while other products need to reformat the TOE output before handoff to product firmware. In essence, reduced overhead in multiple areas translates into exceptional product performance and higher bandwidth. As a result, iPBridge users are able to meet the demands of their applications, connect more back-end storage (SCSI) devices, and reduce system costs with fewer bridges required per drive.

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