

T1 vs. Business Ethernet

WHICH IS BETTER FOR YOUR BUSINESS?

Many businesses ask “Is Ethernet or T1 better for my business?” Each technology type has advantages, making it critical to evaluate usage patterns, speed requirements, budget, and your proximity to the provider’s Central Office (CO).

	T1 AND BONDED T1	BUSINESS ETHERNET	DIFFERENCES
Symmetry	Symmetrical Bandwidth	Symmetrical Bandwidth	
Speeds	T1: 1.5 Mbps Bonded T1: 3, 4.5, 6, 7.5, 10.5, 12 Mbps	2, 3, 5, 8, 10, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, and 45 Mbps. 1 Gbps, 10 Gbps, 100 Gbps	Ethernet over Copper (EoC) offers higher bandwidth at a lower cost.
SLAs	99.99% uptime SLA	99.99% uptime SLA	
Scalability	Requires additional equipment and is more costly.	Customer CPE does not need to be changed to increase bandwidth.	Business Ethernet is easier, faster, and less expensive to scale than a T1 or DS3.
Reliability	Link bonding; older technology with less throughput. An impediment in any one of the lines can impact the whole connection.	Loop bonding; newer technology with greater throughput. If one loop fails, bandwidth remains available (i.e., it doesn't impact the entire connection).	Loop bonding delivers more efficient bandwidth use and overall improved reliability.
Availability	Available nationwide in 365 metropolitan areas.	Available nationwide. EoC is distance-dependent from the CO. Ethernet over DS1 (EoDS1) provides the same speeds regardless of the distance from the CO.	EoC has distance limitations. EoDS1 and T1 do not.
Quality of Service (QoS)	QoS with VoIP	QoS with VoIP	Similar performance on both.
Speed Fluctuation	Dedicated speed will not fluctuate	Speed will not fluctuate. The maximum speed of EoC depends on distance from the CO; once delivered, the speed does not fluctuate.	The maximum speed of EoC depends on the distance from the CO; once delivered, the speed does not fluctuate.
Access Connectivity	T1 voice and data line is a form of Internet connection	Builds upon standard Fast Ethernet LAN technology for simplicity and ease of connecting devices.	Ethernet simplifies device connections.
Equipment	All required hardware provided by Fusion Connect.	Uses your existing infrastructure and requires only one piece of hardware – a less expensive router.	Ethernet typically requires a low cost router.

*This table compares Ethernet over Copper and Ethernet over DS1 w/ T1. Fusion Connect also offers asymmetrical Ethernet, not represented here.