



Technology Area

DEFINITION

<i>Name</i>	Network Hardware
<i>Description</i>	<p>A network is a group of computers and associated devices connected together to share information and peripherals (like printers). Network Hardware is the specialized equipment that connects the devices together.</p> <p>Network hardware is used to create a Local Area Network (LAN) where computers are geographically close together (i.e., in the same building). Network hardware is also used to join multiple LANs together to form a Wide Area Network (WAN), when the computers are farther apart and must be connected by a variety of telecommunications services.</p> <p>Some examples of Network Hardware include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hubs: to manage receipt and transmission of data from individual network devices. • Bridges: to link different network segments together. • Routers: to connect remote LANs across a WAN, and determine the best route for information to take through a complex network of many LANs. • Switches: to link LANs and route data between them. • Muxes: to combine multiple signals for transmission over a single line, separating them at the receiving end. • Content Services: to build Web networks optimized for content delivery and e-commerce. <p>Generally, networks in medium or large organizations depend upon combinations of many different types of Network Hardware in order to operate.</p>
<i>Rationale</i>	Network Hardware is at the core of an organization's computing infrastructure. Without it, the network would not exist.
<i>Benefits</i>	Network hardware makes a network possible. Once a network is in place, many services can be provided, such as Internet access, email, file sharing, printer access, and security.

ASSOCIATED ARCHITECTURE LEVELS

<i>Specify the Domain Name</i>	Infrastructure
<i>Specify the Discipline Name</i>	Network

KEYWORDS

<i>List Keywords</i>	Network hardware, wireless, switches, hubs, MUX, multiplexor, bridge, router, converter, content services
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ASSOCIATED COMPLIANCE COMPONENTS

List the Compliance Component Names

Wireless LAN
Switches
Hubs
Muxs
Bridges
Routers
Converters
Content Services
Access Control Servers

ASSOCIATED PRODUCT COMPONENTS

List the Product Component Names

N/a

CURRENT STATUS

Provide the Current Status

In Development *Under Review* *Approved* *Rejected*

AUDIT TRAIL

Creation Date

3/25/04

Date Approved / Rejected

4/13/04

Reason for Rejection

Last Date Reviewed

Last Date Updated

Reason for Update