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QLogic 2-port 10Gb Converged Network Adapter (CFFh) for IBM BladeCenter
IBM BladeCenter at-a-glance guide

The QLogic 2-port 10Gb Converged Network Adapter (CFFh) for IBM BladeCenter offers robust 8Gb Fibre Channel storage connectivity and 10Gb networking over a single Converged Enhanced Ethernet (CEE) link. Because this adapter combines the functions of a Network Interface Card and a Host Bus Adapter on a single converged adapter, clients can realize potential benefits in cost, power and cooling, and data center footprint by deploying less hardware.

Figure 1 shows the QLogic 2-port 10Gb Converged Network Adapter (CFFh).

Figure 1. The QLogic 2-port 10Gb Converged Network Adapter (CFFh)

Did you know?

These Converged Network Adapters are backward compatible with many 4Gb storage targets and work with most existing LAN and SAN infrastructures, providing an investment protection when consolidating data centers. You can use this adapter with the 10Gb Pass-Thru Module and connect to a converged top-of-rack switch such as the Brocade 8000 or Nexus 5000. With this setup, you can reduce hardware, as well as power and cooling costs, while boosting performance by operating at 10Gb bandwidth.

The adapter connects to the midplane directly, without having to use cables or SFP modules. By eliminating these components for up to 14 servers, the resulting savings alone cover the BladeCenter chassis investment.

Part number information

Table 1. Ordering part number and feature code

Description	Part number	Feature code*
The QLogic 2-port 10Gb Converged Network Adapter (CFFh) for IBM BladeCenter	42C1830	3592 / 8275

* The first feature code listed is for configurations available through the System x sales channel. The second feature code listed is for configurations available through the Power Systems sales channel

These part numbers include the following items:

● One QLogic 2-port 10Gb Converged Network Adapter (CFFh)

● Documentation CD that contains the *QLogic 2-port 10Gb Converged Network Adapter (CFFh) Installation and User's Guide*

● Important Notices document

Features

The expansion card has the following features:

● Combo Form Factor (CFFh) PCI Express 2.0 x8 adapter
● Communication module: QLogic ISP8112
● Support for up to two CEE HSSMs in a BladeCenter H or HT chassis
● Support for 10Gb Converged Enhanced Ethernet (CEE)
● Support for Fiber Channel over Converged Enhanced Ethernet (FCoCEE)
● Full hardware offload for FCoCEE protocol processing
● Support for IPv4 and IPv6
● Support for SAN boot over CEE, PXE boot, and iSCSI boot
● Support for Wake on LAN
● Support for BladeCenter Open Fabric Manager for BIOS, UEFI, and FCode

Stateless offload features include:

● IP, TCP, and UDP checksum offloads
● Large and Giant Send Offload (LSO, GSO)
● Receive Side Scaling (RSS)
● Header-data split
● Interrupt coalescing
● NetQueue

IEEE standards compliance:

● 802.1Qbb rev. 0 (Priority-based flow control)
● 802.1Qaz rev. 0 (Enhanced transmission selection)
● 802.1Qaz rev. 0 (DCBX protocol)
● 802.3ae (10Gb Ethernet)
● 802.1q (VLAN)
● 802.3ad (Link Aggregation)
● 802.1p (Priority Encoding)
● 802.3x (Flow Control)
● 802.3ap (KX/KX4)
● IEEE 1149.1 (JTAG)

- IPv4 Specification (RFC 791)
- IPv6 Specification (RFC 2460)
- TCP/UDP Specification (RFC 793/768)
- ARP Specification (RFC 826)

Operating environment

The expansion card has the following physical specifications:

- Temperature:

  - 0 to 55 °C (32 to 113 °F) at 0 to 914 m (0 to 3000 ft.) operating
  - -43 to 73 °C (-40 to 163 °F) at 0 to 914 m (0 to 3000 ft.) storage

- Relative humidity: 5% to 93% (non-condensing)

Supported servers and I/O modules

The QLogic 2-port 10Gb Converged Network Adapter (CFFh) is supported in the IBM BladeCenter servers that are listed in Table 2.

Table 2. Supported servers

Expansion card	Part number	HS12	HS21	HS21 XM	HS22	LS21	LS22	LS41	LS42	JS12	JS21	JS22	JS23/JS43	QS22	PN41
QLogic 2-port 10Gb Converged Network Adapter (CFFh)	42C1830	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N

Figure 2 shows where the CFFh card is installed in a BladeCenter server.

CIOv connector for further I/O expansion

High-speed connector to bays 7 & 8

High-speed connector to bays 9 & 10

CFFh expansion card
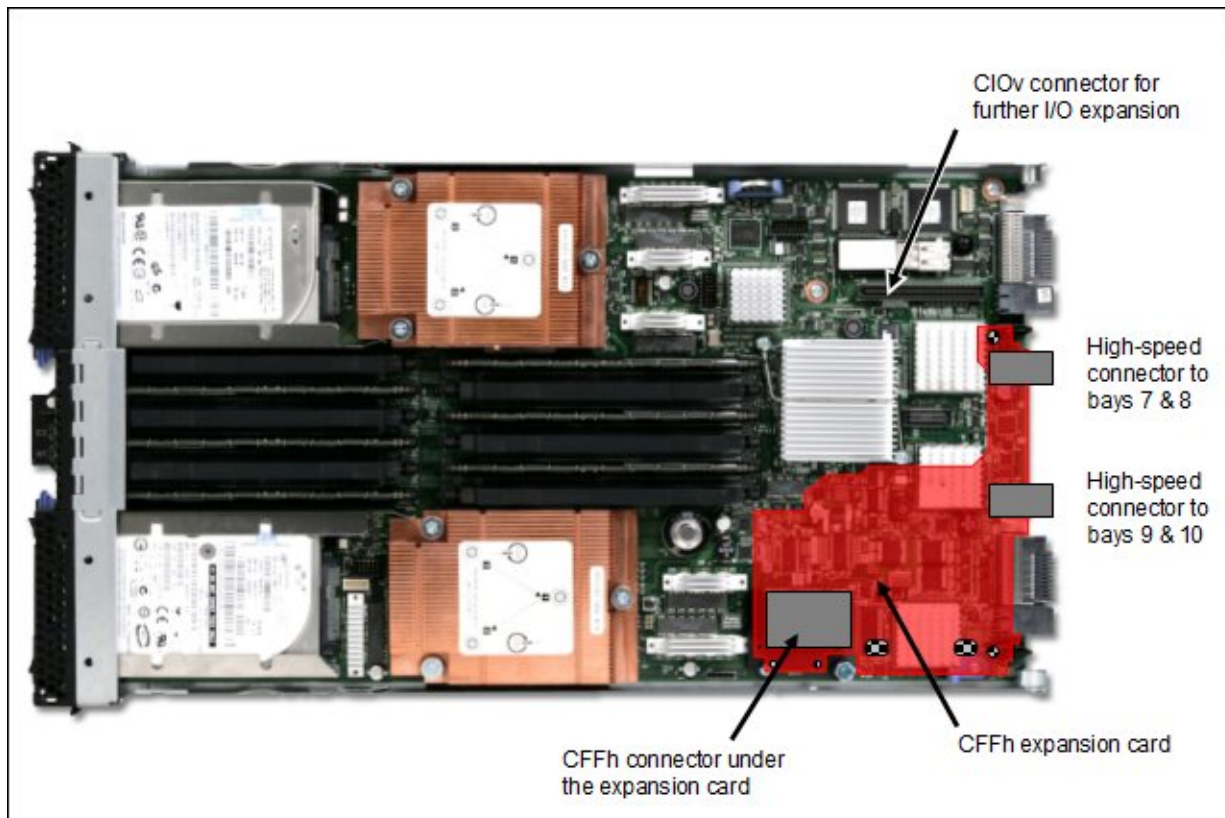
CFFh connector under the expansion card

Figure 2. Location on the BladeCenter server planar where the CFFh card is installed

IBM BladeCenter chassis support is based on the blade server type in which the expansion card is installed. Consult ServerProven to see in which chassis each blade server type is supported: http://ibm.com/servers/eserver/serverproven/compat/us/.

Table 3 lists the I/O modules that can be used to connect to the QLogic 2-port 10Gb Converged Network Adapter (CFFh).

Table 3. I/O modules supported with the QLogic 2-port 10Gb Converged Network Adapter (CFFh)

I/O module	Part number	BladeCenter S	BladeCenter E	BladeCenter H	BladeCenter T	BladeCenter HT	MSIM	MSIM-HT
10Gb Ethernet Pass-Thru Module	46M6181	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	N
BNT Virtual Fabric 10Gb Switch Module	46C7191	N	N	Y*	N	Y*	N	N

* Support is planned.

The I/O module that is listed in Table 3 is supported in BladeCenter H and BladeCenter HT chassis only.

In BladeCenter H, the ports of CFFh cards are routed through the midplane to I/O bays 7, 8, 9, and 10, as shown in Figure 3. The BladeCenter HT is similar in that the CFFh cards are also routed through the midplane to I/O bays 7, 8, 9, and 10.
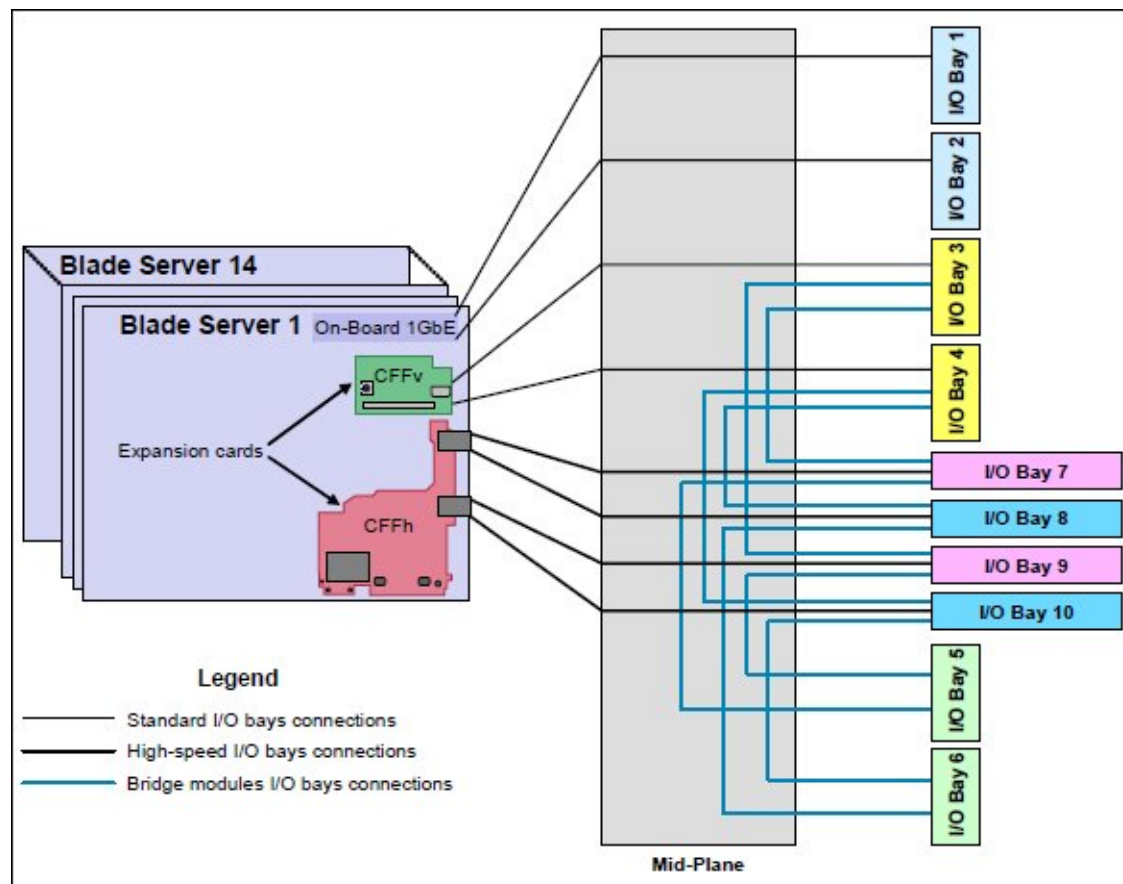

Figure 3. IBM BladeCenter H I/O topology showing the I/O paths from CFFh expansion cards

Two I/O module must be installed in the chassis for each Ethernet port that you wish to use on the expansion card. Table 4 lists the specific I/O bays in the chassis.

Table 4. Locations of I/O modules required to connect to the expansion card

Expansion card	I/O bay 7	I/O bay 8	I/O bay 9	I/O bay 10
10Gb Ethernet Pass-Thru Module	Supported I/O module	Not used	Supported I/O module	Not used

Popular configurations

Figure 4 shows the use of 10Gb Ethernet Pass-Thru Modules to route two Ethernet ports from QLogic 2-port 10Gb Converged Network Adapter (CFFh) installed into each server. Two 10Gb Ethernet Pass-Thru Modules are installed in bay 7 and bay 9 of the BladeCenter H chassis. All connections between the controller, card, and the switch modules are internal to the chassis. No internal cabling is needed. External (top of rack,TOR) switches that support FCoCEE and cabling are required for the pass-thru module to operate.
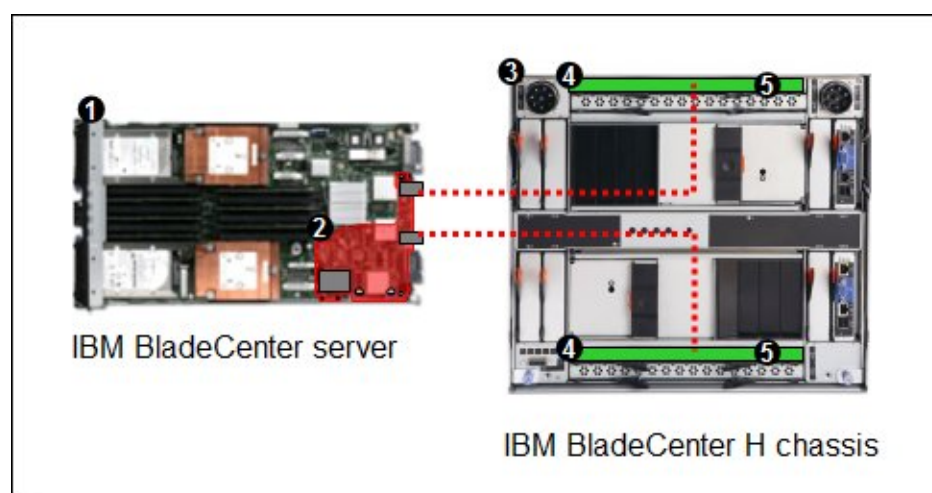

Figure 4. A converged 20Gb solution using two 10Gb Ethernet Pass-Thru Modules

The components used in this configuration are listed in Table 5.

Table 5. Components used when connecting QLogic 2-port 10Gb Converged Network Adapter (CFFh) to two 10Gb Ethernet Pass-Thru Modules

Diagram reference	Part number/machine type	Description	Quantity
❶	Varies	IBM BladeCenter HS22 or other supported server	1 to 14
❷	42C1830	QLogic 2-port 10Gb Converged Network Adapter (CFFh)	1 per server
❸	8852 or 8740/8750	BladeCenter H or BladeCenter HT	1
❹	46M6181	10Gb Ethernet Pass-Thru Module	2
❺	44W4408	IBM 10GBase-SR SFP+ Transceiver	Up to 28*

*The 10Gb Ethernet Pass-Thru Module has 14 external 10Gb ports. You must have one transceiver for each 10Gb port in an I/O module.

Operating system support

The expansion card supports the following operating systems on the HS and LS blades:

- Microsoft Windows Essential Business Server 2008 Premium Edition
- Microsoft Windows Essential Business Server 2008 Standard Edition
- Microsoft Windows Server 2003, Web Edition
- Microsoft Windows Server 2003/2003 R2, Datacenter Edition
- Microsoft Windows Server 2003/2003 R2, Datacenter x64 Edition
- Microsoft Windows Server 2003/2003 R2, Enterprise Edition
- Microsoft Windows Server 2003/2003 R2, Enterprise x64 Edition
- Microsoft Windows Server 2003/2003 R2, Standard Edition
- Microsoft Windows Server 2003/2003 R2, Standard x64 Edition
- Microsoft Windows Server 2008, Datacenter x64 Edition
- Microsoft Windows Server 2008, Datacenter x86 Edition
- Microsoft Windows Server 2008, Enterprise x64 Edition
- Microsoft Windows Server 2008, Enterprise x86 Edition
- Microsoft Windows Server 2008, Standard x64 Edition
- Microsoft Windows Server 2008, Standard x86 Edition
- Microsoft Windows Server 2008, Web x64 Edition
- Microsoft Windows Server 2008, Web x86 Edition
- Microsoft Windows Small Business Server 2003/2003 R2 Premium Edition
- Microsoft Windows Small Business Server 2003/2003 R2 Standard Edition
- Microsoft Windows Small Business Server 2008 Premium Edition
- Microsoft Windows Small Business Server 2008 Standard Edition
- Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5 Server Edition
- Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5 Server Edition with Xen
- Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5 Server with Xen x64 Edition
- Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5 Server x64 Edition
- SUSE LINUX Enterprise Server 10 for AMD64/EM64T
- SUSE LINUX Enterprise Server 10 for x86
- SUSE LINUX Enterprise Server 10 with Xen for AMD64/EM64T
- SUSE LINUX Enterprise Server 10 with Xen for x86
- SUSE LINUX Enterprise Server 11 for AMD64/EM64T
- SUSE LINUX Enterprise Server 11 for x86
- SUSE LINUX Enterprise Server 11 with Xen for AMD64/EM64T
- SUSE LINUX Enterprise Server 11 with Xen for x86

Support for operating systems is based on the combination of the expansion card and the blade server in which it is installed. See IBM ServerProven for the latest information about the specific versions and service packs supported: http://ibm.com/servers/eserver/serverproven/compat/us/. Select the blade server and then select the expansion card to see the supported operating systems.

The expansion card supports the following operating systems on the Power Systems blades:

- AIX 5.3 with the 5300-11 Technology Level, or later
- AIX 6.1 with the 6100-04 Technology Level, or later
- SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 10 Service Pack 3 or later
- Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5.4 or later
- VIOS 2.1.2.0 (also for IBM i support)

Note: IBM i support is limited to Ethernet traffic only

Related publications

For more information refer to these documents:

- *QLogic 2-port 10Gb Converged Network Adapter (CFFh) for IBM BladeCenter Installation and User's Guide* (You will need to download the "publication release" EXE file and run it to unpack the PDF)
  http://www.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?uid=psg1MIGR-5081072

- Software and firmware for the adapter
  http://driverdownloads.qlogic.com/QLogicDriverDownloads_UI/Product_detail_new.aspx?oemid=395

- IBM US Announcement Letter
  http://ibm.com/common/ssi/cgi-bin/ssialias?infotype=dd&subtype=ca&&htmlfid=897/ENUS109-331

- IBM BladeCenter Interoperability Guide
  http://www.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?uid=psg1MIGR-5073016

- IBM Redbooks publication *IBM BladeCenter Products and Technology*, SG24-7523
  http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/sg247523.html

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