

CenturyLink Frame Relay Service

Proven and reliable access for your enterprise

Today's business environment requires extending your reach beyond physical boundaries while controlling your costs. Stay competitive in today's global economy by using the right network to transmit all your mission-critical information. Our Frame Relay Service delivers a cost effective, high-speed and high-security network with the ability to expand as your business changes or grows.

Description

Frame Relay is a network transport service that allows you to deliver data, images, voice and Internet access over a highly-reliable, scalable and secure network. It uses high-speed networking technology to bundle information into packets, called frames. Rather than assigning fixed channels to specific applications, Frame Relay uses statistical multiplexing to allow you allocation of circuit bandwidth to priority applications as needed.

Frame Relay Service supports many different business applications within a network, prioritizing each application based on bandwidth needs. It supports physical layer connections from 56Kbps to 45Mbps based on traditional digital hierarchy services.

A Frame Relay network can be IP-enabled using optional Smart permanent virtual circuit (PVC) technology. Smart PVC offers network-based IP-enabled functionality that provides efficient, scalable, high-performance any-to any connectivity. Frame Relay Service requires the use of customer premises equipment (CPE) that functions as a multiplexer, router, hub or frame relay switch. CPE is purchased separately from Frame Relay Service and must conform to industry standards for physical digital hierarchy and frame relay logical termination.

Features

- Delivered over a redundant, secure and scalable network
- Connectivity to over 60 countries
- Flexible quality of service (QoS) objectives: VFR-rt, VFR-nrt, UFR
- Scalable port speeds: 56Kbps, 1.544Mbps, fractional 1.544Mbps and 45Mbps
- Inter-working with CenturyLink IQ™ Networking and ATM services
- Competitive service level agreements (SLAs)
- IP-enabled Smart PVC
- Web-based customer tools:
 - Control Center for instant access to statistics, alarms management and configurations (based on configuration and location)
 - E-Care for entering and monitoring your trouble tickets (based on configuration and location)

Benefits

- Cost-effective and reliable technology
- 24/7/365 proactive monitoring and network maintenance

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- Delivered over redundant and secure network
- Easy-to-increase bandwidth
- Ability to prioritize traffic based on application requirements
- Ability to burst to port speed
- Smart PVCs offer simplified, any-to-any connectivity provided via a single enterprise PVC at each of your location(s) (based on configuration and location)

How it works

Customer equipment sends the information from the local area network (LAN) in a Frame Relay format (frames) suitable for transmission over our Frame Relay Service network. The frames travel across a single, physical access link connecting your facilities to the corresponding Frame Relay port.

Our Frame Relay Service offers physical layer access speeds of DS-O, DS-1 and DS-3. At the Frame Relay port, information is sent across virtual logical connections (PVCs) to multiple destinations. The Frame Relay port speeds are 56/64Kbps, fractional DS-1 (where available), 1.544Mbps and 44.736Mbps. The PVCs are logical as they are defined in switch software. You may send data to any designated location using pre-established PVCs. Multiple PVCs can be provisioned on your single Frame Relay access link.

Why CenturyLink?

- Redundant world-class network operations centers (NOCs) and systems
- National fiber backbone featuring robust connectivity and inherent redundancy
- One of the most flexible Frame Relay Service offerings available
- Seamless Frame Relay-to-ATM inter-working
- Competitive, performance-based SLAs
- No distance-sensitive charges for Frame Relay PVCs
- Expert support to design, install and manage networks
- CenturyLink Total Advantage™ give you competitive discounts based on your total communications spending by location and configuration

Other available products

In addition to our Frame Relay Service, we offer other products to meet your networking needs, including:

- CenturyLink IQ™ Networking
- CPE
- Private Line
- Hosted VoIP
- ATM Service

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