

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

ATTO XstreamCORE 8100T Intelligent Bridge



Q: What is an XstreamCORE 8100T intelligent bridge?

A: XstreamCORE 8100T is a purpose-built and accelerated intelligent bridging device that extends simple, scalable, and shareable access to SAS tape drives over an iSCSI Ethernet Network.

Q: How many tape drives can I connect to the 8100T?

A: XstreamCORE 8100T is designed to connect up to 4 SAS Tape drives (not including media changers).

Q: What versions of LTO tape drives does the bridge support?

A: SAS LTO 7 (or) later.

Q: Can the bridge support more than 5 tape drives?

A: XstreamCORE 8100T is designed to support up to 4 SAS tape drives per bridge. To support additional tape drives we recommend using either an additional 8100T (or) the XstreamCORE ET 8200T.

Please note that use of SAS expanders is NOT supported by the XstreamCORE 8100T

Q: What SAS connector does the bridge use?

A: The 8100T features a single x4 12Gb miniSAS HD SFF 8644 External SAS connector.

Q: What are the Ethernet network requirements for the 8100T?

A: The bridge extends SAS tape storage connectivity through two independent 10Gb Ethernet links across an iSCSI SAN.

Please note that iSCSI is only accessible on the 10Gb Ethernet data ports.

Q: What type of network interfacing is offered today on the bridge?

A: We carry two different SKUs based on the network connectivity requirements –

- [XCET-8100-TSO](#) - Optical
- [XCET-8100-TNO](#) – Copper RJ45.

Q: Are SFPs included with the XstreamCORE 8100T?

A: Yes, all XstreamCORE 8100T SKUs are shipped with short range SFPs preinstalled.

Q: Are there any recommended Ethernet NICs for use with the bridge?

A: ATTO FastFrame NICs were tested for support and compatibility with the XstreamCORE 8100T.

We highly recommend using our ATTO 360 Ethernet Tuning and Monitoring Software to get the most out of your Ethernet infrastructure.

Q: Can the Ethernet ports be on the same subnet?

A: When using both Ethernet data ports on the XstreamCORE 8100T each port must be assigned to an independent subnet in order to achieve full bandwidth. The XstreamCORE's Ethernet management port must also be assigned to an independent subnet.

Please refer to the [Product Installation and Operations Manual](#) for more information on best practices.

Q: Does the bridge have a management port?

A: Yes, the bridge features a 1GbE RJ45 Management port for CLI over SSH and File transfer over SFTP.

Please note that iSCSI is not supported on the management port. SFTP firmware updates are supported by the Ethernet interface. Also note, that management features are supported by both the data and management ports on the XstreamCORE 8100T.

Q: How can I locate the device identification number?

A: Device serial number and MAC address is located at the bottom of the 8100T enclosure.

You may also locate the serial number and UPC code on product packaging label.

If you are still unable to locate the serial number, please contact our Tech Support team.

Q: What is the maximum MTU size supported by the Ethernet data ports?

A: It is recommended under all configurations, to use 9000 MTU on both data ports.

Please note that the switch and host MTU sizes match that of the data ports on the 8100T.

Q: How can I identify device status on the bridge?

A: The rear side on the bridge features LEDs to indicate device, link, and power statuses.

Please refer to the [Product Installation and Operations Manual](#) for information on how each of these LEDs respond to various network and device events.

Q: How many initiators can login in to the bridge?

A: XstreamCORE 8100T supports 4 iSCSI logins at a time.

Q: How many iSCSI Sessions can the bridge support?

A: For best performance, it is recommended to have one iSCSI session per target device.

Q: Is there a recommended command size?

A: The recommended command size for maximum performance is 1MB.

Q: What operating systems does the bridge support?

A: All leading operating systems – Windows, Linux, macOS and more (any OS with an iSCSI Initiator).

Q: What backup software packages are supported by the 8100T?

A: XstreamCORE 8100T is ISV agnostic and was tested with leading backup software packages such as Archiware, HedgeCanister, YoYotta, Veeam, Veritas, and Commvault.

Q: Does the bridge support LTFS and SAS Transport Layer Retries (TLRs)?

A: Yes, the bridge supports both LTFS and SAS TLRs

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Q: What is the average power consumption of the bridge?

A: The maximum power consumption of the bridge is under 30W.

Q: Does XstreamCORE offer disk support?

A: The 8100T does not support SAS/SATA disks.

If you are interested in disk support today, please refer to XstreamCORE ET 8200 and XstreamCORE FC 7600.

Q: What is included in the product packaging?

A: One XstreamCORE 8100T bridge (Either Optical/Copper depending in the SKU), two SFP modules preinstalled in the bridge, a power adapter, a power cable, and a guide to access getting started documentation.

Q: Is the bridge powered by a battery?

A: No, 8100T is a battery free design that requires a 12V DC power supply. Device warranty will be voided if alternate power supplies are used.

Q: How can I setup and configure the bridge?

A: You can access the Quick Start manual on the [Getting Started Page](#) for information on how to easily setup and configure the 8100T.

Please refer to the [Product Installation and Operations Manual](#) for additional information.

Q: How can I ensure secure access to tape drives connected to the bridge?

A: The 8100T supports iSCSI CHAP (Challenge Handshake Authentication Protocol) and ACLs (Access Control Lists) to ensure secured logins and access.

Access Control Lists (ACLs) must be enabled on a target basis to prevent initiators from discovering a particular XstreamCORE target.

We highly recommended that LAN/ Management and storage traffic be separated from each other; i.e. run storage traffic on a separate network. Please refer to Product Installation and Operations Manual on how you can configure the bridge to limit target visibility and control to specific initiators.

Q: How many tape drives can be accessed via a single Ethernet data port?

A: When multiple tape devices are expected to be used at the same time it is recommended to map a single tape device per iSCSI target. Automatic mapping mode on XstreamCORE, if enabled, does this.

Evenly split access to multiple tape devices across both data ports. For example, if accessing two tapes across two iSCSI targets, log into one iSCSI target using the portal on data port 1 and the other using the portal through data port 2.

Q: Can the 8100T power a tape drive?

A: No, the XstreamCORE 8100T standalone device does not supply power to turn on a tape drive(s).

Q: How can I reset the bridge?

A: The 8100T bridge features a 'RESET' push button accessible through a pinhole, provided at the rear end of the metal chassis. Upon pressing the reset push button for greater than 5 seconds, restores the 8100T to default factory settings.

Q: Is there a recommended iSCSI initiator for macOS?

A: ATTO XtendSAN iSCSI initiator is a gold standard in macOS environments and is highly recommended for use with the XstreamCORE 8100T.

Q: Does ATTO provide SAS cabling with the bridge?

A: For ease of compatibility, ATTO certified and tested SAS cabling are available for purchase separately on our webstore.

Q: Can I use an off-the-shelf SAS cable with the bridge?

A: We highly recommend using the bridge with ATTO certified and tested SAS cabling for better compatibility and performance.

Q: What are the dimensions of the bridge?

A: The bridge is identical to, but slightly longer than our ThunderLink enclosures.

- Dimensions: 4.0" W x 9.4" L x 1.2" H (103.5mm x 240mm x 30.5mm)
- Weight: 2.05 lbs (with SFPs); 2.00 lbs (without SFPs)

Q: Is the bridge rack mountable?

A: Yes, you can easily mount the unit(s) using [ATTO FlexRack™](#) that accommodates up to 4 bridges in a 1U shelf.

Q: What are the terms and conditions of the device warranty?

A: XstreamCORE 8100T ships with a standard manufacturer's warranty for three years. Additional extended warranty programs can be purchased separately.

Q: How can I reach you if I have any additional questions?

A: For general product related inquiries, please reach out to us via phone at:
+1 (716) 691 1999
Monday through Friday
8:00 AM – 6:00 PM EST.

You may also fill the contact form, for any inquiries beyond our normal business hours.

For any technical support (or) questions, please contact our tech support team either via phone at:
+1 (716) 691 1999
Monday – Friday
8:00 AM – 6:00 PM EST (or) e-mail us at techsupp@atto.com

You can also reach us via fax at
+1 (716) 691 9353.