

50G Optical Module Industry Standard



AI Overview

50G optical modules, including SFP56 and QSFP28 types, support high-speed 50G Ethernet with PAM4 or NRZ modulation, various link distances, and digital diagnostics for data center and telecom applications.

Form Factor and Standards

SFP56: Small Form-Factor Pluggable, compatible with 25G NRZ or 50G PAM4 optical interfaces, compliant with IEEE 802.3cc, 802.3cn, 802.3cd, 802.3by, and CPRI V7.0 standards (Cisco).

QSFP28: Quad Small Form-Factor Pluggable, supports 50G Ethernet, 5G network mid/backhaul, and data center applications, compliant with QSFP28 MSA, SFF-8636, and SFF-8679 standards.

Modulation and Data Rate

PAM4 modulation: 50G links using 25.78125 GBd or 26.5625 GBd PAM4 signaling (MACOM PRISM-50 device).

NRZ modulation: 25G NRZ interfaces supported for backward compatibility.

Link Distance and Fiber Type

SFP56-SR-50G: Up to 100 meters over OM4 multimode fiber (LC duplex connector).

QSFP28-ER-50G: Up to 40 km over OS2 single-mode fiber (LC duplex connector).

ZR2 modules (HiSilicon OM9380ZS100): Up to 80 km over single-mode fiber with 2-lane optical transmitter and receiver.

Connectivity and Cables

Direct-attach copper (DAC): SFP56 to SFP56 25/50GBASE-CR1 cables for short links (0.5–5 m), with FEC requirements depending on length and mode.

LC duplex connectors: Standard for both multimode and single-mode fiber modules.

Digital Diagnostics and Management

Digital Diagnostics Monitoring (DDM): Real-time monitoring of temperature, voltage, bias current, and optical power via I2C or 2-wire serial interface.

On-board management processors: Simplify module implementation and reduce BOM costs (MACOM PRISM-50).

Power and Performance

Low-power design: Optimized for high-density data center deployments.

High-speed connectivity: Ensures reliable 50G Ethernet performance with RS-FEC or BASE-R FEC depending on cable length and mode.

Applications

Data centers, high-performance computing networks, enterprise core/distribution layers, campus networks, metropolitan networks...

Article Content

10G, 25G, 50G and 100G Optical Transceivers and

This article continues the series on legacy optical transmission standards and legacy transceivers, moving from older formats to modern high-speed Ethernet. It is

50G QSFP28/SFP56 Cable and Transceiver Modules Data Sheet

The QSFP28-ER-50G Module supports up to 40km link lengths over OS2 SMF via a LC duplex connector. The built-in digital diagnostics monitoring (DDM) allows access to real-time

Optical Module MCUs Become Critical as AI Data Centers Drive

Industry observers note that the domestic optical module MCU market has largely completed localization, with Chinese manufacturers now positioned to compete directly with

The Evolution of 400G, 800G, and 1.6T Optical Modules

With the rapid advancement of AI, HPC, and cloud computing, the demand for high-speed optical modules such as 400G, 800G, and even 1.6T is

Marvell Technology, Inc. | Essential technology, done right

Designed for your current needs and future ambitions, Marvell delivers the data infrastructure technology transforming tomorrow's enterprise, cloud, automotive,

Arista Optics Modules and Cables

To accommodate an increasing spectrum of applications, Arista offers a wide choice of OSFP, QSFP-DD, QSFP, SFP, SFP-DD and DSFP transceivers and cables that comply with industry standards,

Cisco 50GBASE SFP56 Modules Data Sheet

Cisco SFP-50G-SL Short Link Modules are a replacement for traditional AOCs (Active Optical Cables). They are suitable for very short distances and offer a cost-effective way to connect within a rack and

eoguar EGCRM-100M-A Weak-Light Coherent Receiver Module

Overview The eoguar EGCRM-100M-A Weak-Light Coherent Receiver Module is an engineered optical front-end solution designed for high-sensitivity coherent detection of low-power optical signals in

Overview of 400G Optical Modules

The demand for Ethernet standardization and optical parallelization will significantly promote the development of photonic integration technologies.

800G Optical Transceivers: The Guide for AI Data Centers

The complete guide to 800G Optical Transceiver standards (QSFP-DD vs. OSFP). Overcome supply shortages and scale your AI data center with Utmel Electronic.

QSFP28 50G ZR2 | HiSilicon Optoelectronics

This module contains 2-lane optical transmitter, 2-lane optical receiver and module management block including 2 wire serial interfaces. The optical signals are

Introduction to 400G Optical Modules · KAD

A clear, engineer-friendly overview of 400G optical modules, including standards, packaging formats, functions, and market outlook for next-generation

Optical Modules

Overall, optical modules are evolving from a “standard commodity device” into a platform-type industry that tightly integrates chip design,

50G PAM4 Technical White Paper

50G PAM4 optical modules use mature 25 Gbit/s optoelectronic chips to deliver cost-effective solutions. In 50GBASE-LR (10 km) scenarios, uncooled direct modulated laser (DML) transmitter optical

ITU-T Rec. G.9804.3 (09/2021) 50-Gigabit-capable passive optical ...

Recommendation ITU-T G.9804.3 describes a 50-Gigabit-capable passive optical network (50G-PON) system in an optical access network for residential, business, mobile backhaul and other

Optical Module Technology Roadmap | 800G to 3.2T Evolution

Explore the future of optical module technology from 800G to 1.6T, 3.2T and beyond. Comprehensive roadmap covering silicon photonics, CPO, coherent datacom, and AI-optimized

Cisco 50GBASE SFP56 Modules Data Sheet

The Cisco® 50GBASE SFP56 (Small Form-Factor Pluggable) portfolio offers customers a wide variety of high-density and low-power 50G and 25G Gigabit Ethernet connectivity options for

The Most Comprehensive Guide Of Optical Modules

Explore the ultimate guide to optical modules. Learn types, functions, performance metrics & how to choose the right module for your fiber network.

800G Client Optics in the Data Center

The next key development is 800G, and the industry is already gearing up to deploy this next generation of client optics in hyperscale data centers. Developments in three distinct areas are needed for 800G

50G SFP56 ER EML 1310nm 40km Optical Transceiver (Industrial

This series of products uses a pair of single-mode optical fiber transmission, the center wavelength is 1310nm, the distance can reach up to 40km, and the working temperature range of industrial grade is

Top 10 Optical Module Brand & Manufacturers

Find the Top 10 Optical Module brand, manufacturers, and exporters. Get the contact details and addresses of companies producing Keywords.

4 Types of 50G SFP56 Transceivers Introduction

The international standard of 50G SFP56 dual-fiber bidirectional optical module for forward transmission has not yet been released, and optical

The Ultimate Reference Table for SFP & QSFP Optical Transceiver ...

The definitive guide to SFP, QSFP, and QSFP-DD standards for 2025. Compare 400G/800G optics, understand PAM4 complexity, and master QSFP-DD vs OSFP deployment

Explore the Features and Applications of FS 50G

Additionally, the FS 50G SFP56 optical module adheres to industry standards such as SFF-8402, SFF-8472, and OIF-CEI-04.0, and is certified with

Global Optical Transceiver Market Strategic Audit 2026

The current super-normal profits generated by 800G modules have incentivized aggressive brownfield capacity expansions. As upstream optical chip yields improve and assembler

NVIDIA Optical Interconnect 2026, \$500M Ayar Labs Round

Optical Interconnect Projects, NVIDIA \$4 B Investment, and 1.6 T Module Adoption
The industry has shifted from identifying the optical interconnect bottleneck before 2025 to pursuing aggressive, large

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