

2804 Hybrid Packet Broker

Multi-functional Bypass Packet Broker

The Niagara 2804 hybrid packet broker uniquely combines multipurpose bypass functionality with a fully featured network packet broker. The 2804 hybrid packet broker supports up to 16 ports of 1/10Gb, plus additional eight fixed-configuration monitoring/Tap ports. The 16 ports of 1/10Gb come in configuration-segments of four ports each. This flexibility lets you configure the 2804 with up to four 1/10Gb multi-purpose bypass segments, or with up to sixteen 1/10Gb I/O packet broker ports, or any combination of bypass segments and packet broker ports.



Figure 1: 2804 front panel with sixteen 1/10Gb ports configured in 4-port segments (2*multimode, 2*single mode). Additional eight fixed configuration active monitoring/ Tap ports (on RHS)

Multifunctional Network Packet Brokers Segments

Each 4-port segment comprises two network and two appliance ports. The network ports offer direct single mode (SM) or multimode (MM) connectivity. The appliance ports utilize SFP+, giving the flexibility to connect appliances (tools) using 1Gb or 10Gb, whether SM, MM or copper.

Each of the segments' four ports can be configured as fully featured I/O packet broker ports. Dual rate, integrated 1/10Gb transceivers on the network ports connect the network traffic to a common, non-blocking backpanel switching fabric layer. Because all of the 2804 ports connect to this common non-blocking switch fabric backplane, inputs from any port can be used as outputs in any other port.



Figure 2: multi-purpose 4-port segment. Appliance ports can serve the hybrid functionality of fully-featured I/O packet broker ports.

Product Highlights

High Density:

Up to sixteen 1/10Gb ports configured in four, 4-port segments

Multi-functional Segments

Network ports support SX/SR and LX/LR

- Bypass for inline deployments
- Active Tap split mode
- Active Tap aggregate mode

Management:

- Robust command line interface (CLI)
- User-friendly, web-based user interface
- REST API for third-party integration and support
- Managed by Niagara Visibility Controller (NVC)

Integrated Monitoring/Tap Ports:

• Up to 8 additional fixed-configuration active Tap ports

Form Factor:

- 1U Rackmount
- Dual field-replaceable power supply



Fabric Flow: FabricFlow technology exposes network packet broker features enabling the user to map traffic from one

segment to any other segment (or from one port to any other port).

The fully featured network packet broker functionality includes:

- Aggregate traffic to single port
- Replicate traffic to multiple ports
- Sophisticated filtering—L2-L4, User Defined Byte (UDB)
- Tunnel and VLAN support
- Flexible multi-load balancing schemes
- User-configurable packet heartbeat (ms resolution)
- Ingress and egress filters

Network Bypass Technology

The two network ports in each 4-port segment have additional special capabilities. They can be used to configure the network ports to function as an active Tap or as a bypass.

When configured as a bypass our signature BypassP² Technology offer double-protection. A fail-safe optical relay on network ports, and user-configurable heartbeatgenerated packets on appliance ports.



Figure 3: Inline deployment

In Bypass/Inline deployment, traffic from one side of the network is forwarded to the inline appliance, and through the inline appliance to the other side of the network. This is the common network deployment for inline security devices such as firewalls and intrusion detection systems. Any two appliance ports from the network's port segment or from any other 4-port segments can participate in this configuration since all ports are connected to a common non-blocking switch fabric backplane.



Failsafe protection - protecting network traffic flow in the event of Network Packet Broker (NPB) failure. When power fails, as depicted in figure 4, the optical-relays ensure that the network flow continues uninterrupted. The optical relays can be configured fail open or fail close to meet specific deployment needs. An optical switch mechanism is the most reliable method for connecting inline devices to your network, while ensuring uninterrupted network services under all conditions.

Figure 4: Power Failure Mode

Heartbeat protection - protecting network traffic flow in case of appliance failures. The NPB transmits a user-configurable heartbeat on the appliance ports as depicted in figure 5. In the event of an appliance malfunction (such as a software crash, system failure or loss of power depicted in figure 6), the failure is detected, and the NPB bypasses the traffic intended for the inline appliance to the network ports, allowing it to continue to flow through the network link. This feature also enables the network appliances to be removed and replaced without network downtime. Once the system is back up, or the power is restored to the appliance, it is detected by the NPB's heartbeat mechanism, and network traffic is seamlessly diverted back to the inline device, allowing it to resume its critical functions.

Niagara's heartbeat mechanism is an integrated configurable sub-second-rate mechanism that is available independently for each segment. The number of missed heartbeat packets before entering bypass mode is configurable, so too is the number of received heartbeats to determine that the appliance is back on-line. NPB heartbeat does not require additional drivers to be installed on connected appliances.



Note: In the figures, the appliance ports (A1, A2) depicted belong to the same 4-port segment as the network ports (N1,N2). However, any two appliance ports from any other 4-port segments can participate in this configuration, since all ports are connected to a common non-blocking switch fabric backplane.

Figure 5: Normal inline Operation Mode

Figure 6: Appliance Failure Mode

Active Tap (aggregation)

In Active Tap, traffic on the network side is always maintained. Each appliance port receives a copy of the Rx from both sides of the network. This mode economizes on monitoring tool ports, if the total traffic throughput from both network sides is below that of the single appliance port. Any appliance port from any of the other 4-port segments can participate in this configuration, since all ports are connected to a common non-blocking switch fabric backplane.



Figure 7: Active Tap (aggregation)

Active Tap (split)



In this Active Tap mode, traffic on the network side is always maintained. Each appliance port receives a copy of the Rx from one of the network ports. Any appliance port from any of the other 4-port segments can participate in this configuration since all ports are connected to a common non-blocking switch fabric backplane.





Configuration Flexibility

The 2804 offers maximum flexibility with four hybrid segments per chassis. In addition to these four hybrid segments, the 2804 is configured with eight fixed-conflagration active monitoring/Tap ports



Figure 9: 2804 front panel depicting four segments, and eight additional, integrated fixed-configuration monitoring/Tap options

Integrated Active Monitoring/Tap

The eight monitoring/Tap ports provide an additional, fixed Tap configuration on top of those available as part of the bypass segment. The user can configure which traffic from N1(Rx), N2(Rx) etc, or aggregation of traffic is output to each one of the eight integrated active monitoring/tap ports (T1 through T8), as depicted in Figure 10. This provides the flexibility to have an additional integrated Tap for more tools. If the power fails, the network traffic flow is maintained, however the integrated active Tap point losses its visibility.



Figure 10: Integrated active monitoring/Tap functionality

Specifications			
Height	1.74 inches (44.20 mm)	Max Raw Power	173.75 Watts
Length	19.98 inches (507.49 mm)	Max Power Consumption	139 Watts
Width	17.25 inches (438.15 mm)	Airflow	Front to back
Weight	19 lbs (8.62 kg)	AC	100-240V, 50/60 Hz., 5.29-2.2 A
Operating Temp	32 to 113 °F (0 to 45 °C)	DC	36-72V, 5A
Operating Humidity	5 to 95%		

Emissions	Immunity
FCC Part 15B, ICES 003, EN55032	EN55024

Safety	Certifications	
UL/CSA 60950-1, EN 60950-1, IEC 60950-1 CB Scheme with all country differences	North America (NRTL) European Union (EU) VCCI (Japan)	2014/35/EU Low Voltage Directive 2014/30/EU EMC Directive 2011/65/EU RoHS Directive 2012/19/EU WEEE Directive

Part Number	Description	Ordering Details
2804-MN-8ATP-yy	2804 Hybrid packet broker main chassis with integrated monitoring/Tap ports. Supports four 4-port segments (selected separately). Two redundant power supply units and four fan units.	yy – user should specify preferred power supply option AC – Dual AC redundant power supply DC – Dual DC redundant power supply
2800-SG-xx	4-port segment for 2804.	xx - users should specify network side fiber type: SR – multimode 50/125 SR5 – multimode 62.5/125 LR – singlemode Transceivers for appliance ports ordered separately

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About Niagara

Niagara Networks provides high performance network visibility solutions for seamless administration of security solutions, performance management and network monitoring. Niagara Networks products provide advantages in terms of network operation expenses, downtime, and total cost of ownership.

A former division of Interface Masters, Niagara Networks provides all the building blocks for an advanced Visibility Adaptation Layer at all data rates up to 100Gb, including Taps, bypass elements, packet brokers and a unified management layer. Thanks to its integrated in-house capabilities and tailor-made development cycle, Niagara Networks are agile in responding to market trends and in meeting the customized needs of service providers, enterprise, data centers, and government agencies.

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