

**Information Technology Policy  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Governor's Office of Administration/Office for Information Technology**

<b>ITP Number:</b>	<b>ITP-NET002</b>	
<b>ITP Title:</b>	<b>Network Router and Switch Technology Standards</b>	
<b>Issued by:</b>	<b>Deputy Secretary for Information Technology</b>	
<b>Date Issued:</b>	<b>September 13, 2005</b>	<b>Date Revised: December 20, 2010</b>
<b>Domain:</b>		
	<b>Network</b>	
<b>Discipline:</b>		
	<b>Physical Network</b>	
<b>Technology Area:</b>		
	<b>Network Router and Switch Technology</b>	
<b>Revision History</b>		
<b>Date:</b>	<b>Description:</b>	
<b>12/20/2010</b>	<b>ITP Refresh</b>	

**Abstract:**

This Information Technology Policy (ITP) establishes enterprise-wide standards for router and switch technologies and the proper utilization of those technologies in a production environment. In addition, this ITP will communicate the process of establishing a router and switch network within the enterprise and identify and maintain information applicable to new and existing router and switch network implementations. The uniform application of router and switch technologies will further enhance information confidentiality and integrity while establishing common equipment platforms and standards that will augment access to information.

**General:**

This ITP applies to all departments, boards, commissions and councils under the governor's jurisdiction (agencies). Agencies not under the governor's jurisdiction are strongly encouraged to follow this policy.

The Network Domain Team was engaged to recommend standards for router and switch equipment for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (CoPA). The domain team researched existing CoPA router and switch implementations and evaluated current and emerging technology, considering such factors as the projected market longevity; existing platform, technical and overall vendor support; performance and management functionality; and other relevant business and technical criteria to support the recommendation.

**Policy:**

Commonwealth agencies are to leverage existing router and switch technology whenever possible.

All Commonwealth router and switch technology implementations are to comply with the technology standards specified in STD-NET002A, *Network Router and Switch Technology - Product and Platform Standards* and listed according to the Commonwealth's Technology Life Cycle Classifications.

All Commonwealth router and switch technology implementations are to comply with the protocols and requirements and make use of the evaluation criteria listed in GEN- NET002B, *Network Router and Switch Hardware/Software Business Requirements*.

The Office of Administration / Office for Information Technology / Chief Technology Officer (CTO) and Bureau of Infrastructure Operations (BIO) will review and approve router and switch designs, changes, and implementations (and waivers, if applicable), in order to document the currently installed base and to determine the “risks” associated with non-standard implementations (if applicable).

All IT projects related to router and switch technology will be subject to review for compliance with this standard through the Communities of Practice Review and/or the Procurement Review Process, Bureau of Infrastructure and Operations and the Bureau of Enterprise Architecture.

**Refresh Schedule:**

All standards identified in this ITP are subject to periodic review and possible revision, or upon request by the Enterprise Architecture Standards Committee (EASC).

**Exemption from This Policy:**

In the event an agency chooses to seek an exemption, for reasons such as the need to comply with requirements for a federally mandated system, a request for waiver may be submitted via the Commonwealth of PA Procurement and Architectural Review (COPPAR) process. Requests are to be entered into the COPPAR Tool located at <http://coppa.oe.pa.gov/>. Agency CIO approval is required. Contact your agency [CoP Planner](#) for further details or assistance.

**Questions:**

Questions regarding this policy are to be directed to [RA-ITCentral@pa.gov](mailto:RA-ITCentral@pa.gov).

**Policy Supplements:**

[STD-NET002A](#) - Network Router and Switch Technology Product and Platform Standards  
[GEN-NET002B](#) - Network Router and Switch Hardware Software Business Req

**References:**

[Technology Life Cycle Classifications](#)