

# Frame Relay

American Telesis utilizes a public frame relay service based on the Cascade WAN Switch Platform. This platform was selected due to the low cost per port and the scalable architecture of the switch.

The Frame Relay switch is a large factor in network performance, but the network design also makes a difference. American Telesis employs a single, flat, non-hierarchical network. This allows all of the switches to see each other and route via the shortest path, providing for the most efficient and timely delivery of data while minimizing hops in PVC routing. The flat network design benefits all protocols, but has the biggest impact on time sensitive traffic. Multiple parallel networks create a hierarchical perspective for the switches and add complexity for the network provider and additional delay for the customer. They can no longer see all of the switches as peers. They must gateway through designated switches that tie the parallel networks together, increasing the number of hops through frame relay switches and adding delay to data delivery. American Telesis' flat network design allows for maximum network performance and minimum network delay.

American Telesis will work with customers to understand their network requirements. To minimize network latency, we will recommend port speeds and PVCs to meet the requirements. American Telesis will also re-address port speeds and PVCs to optimize the customers network after it is installed. We guarantee that a PVC will traverse no more than four nodes.

The American Telesis network routing on the Cascade platform is based upon an enhanced version of the OSPF routing algorithm. This routing algorithm allows the network to look at many variables, including available bandwidth and round trip delay, to most efficiently switch customer traffic.

**American Telesis' Frame Relay Service  
allows for maximum network performance  
and minimum network delay.**

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