

# Is Your Network VoIP Ready?



Blue Platform

This document highlights the network components that must be in place before your VoIP service will work as intended. *For device specific requirements, please contact your Account Representative or vendor.*

## Firewall / Router



### What is it?

- Basic part of network security.
- Allows data identified as acceptable to enter your network.
- Blocks bad traffic from reaching network devices.

### How can I ensure my firewall is VoIP ready?

Your firewall should support NAT Secure Policy and Quality of Service (QoS).

## Network Switch



### What is it?

- Sends incoming traffic to specified endpoint.
- Provides improved security and efficiency compared to other network devices.

### How can I ensure my network switch is VoIP ready?

Your network switch should be managed and support QoS, ensuring voice is given priority over the network, in turn contributing to high call quality.

## Structured Cabling



### What is it?

- Category 5e (CAT5) and Category 6 (CAT6) are commonly used in Ethernet wiring, using a pair of twisted copper wires instead of coaxial or fiber optic cable. It is used to connect the end points to your network.

### How can I ensure my cabling is VoIP ready?

Using CAT5 or better provides superior signal handling to prevent signal noise or loss, while eliminating cross talk and signal bleeding.

## LAN Assessment



### What is it?

- Examination of your voice network's ability to support high quality voice traffic by assessing latency, jitter, lost or dropped packets, R-Factor, and Mean Opinion Scoring (MOS).

### How can I ensure my Local Area Network is VoIP ready?

Your network administrators should conduct a VoIP traffic study to understand your network's ability to support high quality VoIP voice traffic.

## Miscellaneous



### What else can I do to ensure my network is VoIP Ready?

- Provide sufficient IP transport.
- Remove all hubs and unmanaged switches.
- Upgrade all electronics to latest firmware/software versions.
- Ensure adequate CPU/memory/bandwidth for each network associated device.
- Establish back up power for all network attached devices.