ZITHA TECH SPECIALTY CABLES (Pty) Ltd

Optical Cross-Connect Board and Optical Module



Overview

Optical Cross-Connect (OXC) Fundamentals Modern programmable OXCs use an all-optical backplane and electronic control plane (often under SDN) to fully Opti.

Key Takeaways

OXC boards and optical modules are key components in all-optical networks, enabling dynamic, high-capacity switching of optical signals without converting them to electrical form.Optical Cross-Connect (OXC) Overview

An Optical Cross-Connect (OXC) is a network device that switches optical signals between fiber inputs and outputs while remaining in the optical domain, preserving data-rate and protocol transparency . OXCs are widely used in telecom backbones, data-center interconnects, and high-performance computing networks to dynamically route wavelengths, improve resilience, and optimize bandwidth utilization .

OXC Boards

OXC systems are modular and typically consist of several types of boards:

• All-Optical Backplane: Provides system-level optical cross-connections in an integrated manner, eliminating the need for manual fiber patching. It interconnects multiple input and output fibers through a photonic switching matrix .

© 2026 ZITHA TECH SPECIALTY CABLES (Pty) Ltd - All rights reserved

• Optical Tributary Board: Handles local wavelength add/drop functions and supports features like CDG (Colorless, Directionless, Gridless) and CDCG, enabling flexible wavelength management .

• Optical Line Board: Transmits and receives optical signals along the line direction, integrating functions of traditional WSS (Wavelength Selective Switch) boards, optical amplifiers, OSC (Optical Supervisory Channel) boards, and FIU (Fiber Interface Unit) boards. It supports 1D1U deployment, meaning one optical line board per line degree . These boards collectively form a highly integrated, fiber patching-free switching resource pool, improving efficiency for large-granularity services and enabling rapid deployment and capacity expansion .

Optical Modules

Optical modules are pluggable devices that interface with OXC boards to transmit and receive optical signals. They include:

• Transceivers (SFP, QSFP, CFP, etc.): Convert electrical signals from client devices into optical signals for transmission over fiber and vice versa, though in all-optical OXCs, signals often remain optical within the switch .

• Wavelength-Specific Modules: Used in WDM/DWDM systems to handle specific wavelength channels, enabling precise routing through the OXC switching matrix .

• Amplifier Modules: Boost optical signal strength to compensate for losses in long-haul or high-capacity networks .

Key Benefits

• Protocol and Bit-Rate Transparency: Supports multiple client protocols over the same optical path .

• Dynamic Reconfiguration: Enables rapid rerouting of wavelengths for traffic engineering and protection .

• Scalability: Modular boards and optical modules allow growth in port count and wavelength capacity .

• Reduced Latency and Power Consumption: By avoiding O-E-O conversions, OXCs maintain high-speed, low-latency transmission while lowering operational costs .

Deployment Scenarios

OXCs with these boards and modules are deployed in:

• Telecom Backbones: Core and regional nodes for dynamic wavelength routing and protection .

• Data Centers: Interconnecting multiple switches or sites with high-bandwidth optical circuits .

© 2026 ZITHA TECH SPECIALTY CABLES (Pty) Ltd - All rights reserved

• High-Performance Computing and AI Clusters: Where ultra-low latency and energy efficiency are critical . In summary, OXC boards provide the structural and functional framework for optical switching, while optical modules enable signal interfacing, amplification, and wavelength management, together forming the backbone of modern all-optical networks .

Article Content

Optical Cross-Connect (OXC) Fundamentals

Modern programmable OXCs use an all-optical backplane and electronic control plane (often under SDN) to fully

Optical Cross-Connect (OXC) Technology in Modern

Discover how optical cross-connect (OXC) enables all-optical switching in DWDM/OTN

Optical Cross-Connect (OXC)

Based on the concept of integrated interconnection all-optical switching, an OXC system consists of the all-optical backplane, optical

Optical cross-connect

An optical cross-connect (OXC) is a device used by telecommunications carriers to switch high-speed optical signals in a fiber optic

OXC in WDM: Principles & Applications

The optical cross-connect matrix dynamically switches signals of different wavelengths,

Optical Cross-Connects – Optiwave

The development of wide-area WDM networks requires wavelength routing that can be reconfigure the network while

What is Optical Cross-connect (OXC)?

From a traditional architecture perspective, OXC consists of optical cross-connect matrix, input port, output output,

What is the OXC (Optical Cross-Connect)?

The wavelength optical signal passes through the optical connector and enters the optical

SCC & CROSS CONNECT BOARD IN DWDM SYSTEM

© 2026 ZITHA TECH SPECIALTY CABLES (Pty) Ltd - All rights reserved

In a **DWDM (Dense Wavelength Division Multiplexing)** system, **SCC (System Control & Communication)

Optical Cross-Connect Technology and Application

Optical cross-connect (OXC) addresses these problems by using the all-optical backplane in combination with the

Optical fiber connector

Optical fiber connectors are used in telephone exchanges, for customer premises wiring, and in outside

Modular MEMS-based optical cross-connect with large port-count

We describe and demonstrate a modular microelectromechanical systems (MEMS)-based optical cross-connect (OXC) architecture.

Optical Cross-Connect（OXC）

An Optical Cross-Connect (OXC) is a key device in optical transport networks (OTN) that enables the switching and

What You Need To Know About Fiber Cross Connect

A simple guide to what you need to know about fiber cross connect. Its benefits, challenges,

The technological evolution of optical cross-connect OXC!

As the core switching unit of the optical network, the scalability and economic efficiency of the optical cross-connect

Optical cross-connects

Optical Cross-Connects – Part 2: enabling technologies discusses the different optical switching technologies and

OXC in WDM: Principles & Applications

The optical cross-connect matrix dynamically switches signals of different wavelengths,

Optical Cross-Connects – Optiwave

The development of wide-area WDM networks requires wavelength routing that can be reconfigure the network while

What is Optical Cross-connect (OXC)?

© 2026 ZITHA TECH SPECIALTY CABLES (Pty) Ltd - All rights reserved

From a traditional architecture perspective, OXC consists of optical cross-connect matrix, input port, output output,

What is the OXC (Optical Cross-Connect)?

The wavelength optical signal passes through the optical connector and enters the optical

SCC & CROSS CONNECT BOARD IN DWDM SYSTEM

In a **DWDM (Dense Wavelength Division Multiplexing)** system, **SCC (System Control & Communication)

Optical Cross-Connect Technology and Application

Optical cross-connect (OXC) addresses these problems by using the all-optical backplane in combination with the

Optical Cross-Connect (OXC) Fundamentals

Modern programmable OXCs use an all-optical backplane and electronic control plane (often under SDN) to fully

Optical Cross-Connect (OXC) Technology in Modern

Discover how optical cross-connect (OXC) enables all-optical switching in DWDM/OTN

Optical Cross-Connect (OXC)

Based on the concept of integrated interconnection all-optical switching, an OXC system consists of the all-optical backplane, optical

Optical cross-connect

An optical cross-connect (OXC) is a device used by telecommunications carriers to switch high-speed optical signals in a fiber optic

Optical Cross-Connects: The Ultimate Guide

Discover the fundamentals and applications of Optical Cross-Connects in optical materials and their impact on modern

What is Optical Cross-connect (OXC)?

From a traditional architecture perspective, OXC consists of optical cross-connect matrix, input port, output output,

Optical Cross-Connect Technology and Application

Optical cross-connect (OXC) addresses these problems by using the all-optical backplane in combination with the

© 2026 ZITHA TECH SPECIALTY CABLES (Pty) Ltd - All rights reserved

OXC and Optical Switches: core components for building efficient ...

From a traditional architecture perspective, OXC consists of optical cross-connect matrix+, input interfaces, output

Optical Cross-Connection (OXC): The Backbone of Optical Transport

Within OTN, one of the most critical building blocks is the Optical Cross-Connection (OXC), a technology that enables

What is the OXC (Optical Cross-Connect)?

From the perspective of traditional architecture, OXC is composed of optical cross-connect

Optical Cross-Connect (OXC) Fundamentals

Modern programmable OXCs use an all-optical backplane and electronic control plane (often under SDN) to fully

Optical Cross-Connect (OXC) Technology in Modern

Discover how optical cross-connect (OXC) enables all-optical switching in DWDM/OTN

Optical Cross-Connect (OXC)

Based on the concept of integrated interconnection all-optical switching, an OXC system consists of the all-optical backplane, optical

Optical cross-connect

An optical cross-connect (OXC) is a device used by telecommunications carriers to switch high-speed optical signals in a fiber optic

Optical Cross-Connects: The Ultimate Guide

Discover the fundamentals and applications of Optical Cross-Connects in optical materials and their impact on modern

What is Optical Cross-connect (OXC)?

From a traditional architecture perspective, OXC consists of optical cross-connect matrix, input port, output output,

Optical Cross-Connect Technology and Application

Optical cross-connect (OXC) addresses these problems by using the all-optical backplane in combination with the

OXC and Optical Switches: core components for building efficient ...

© 2026 ZITHA TECH SPECIALTY CABLES (Pty) Ltd - All rights reserved

From a traditional architecture perspective, OXC consists of optical cross-connect matrix+, input interfaces, output

Optical Cross-Connection (OXC): The Backbone of Optical Transport

Within OTN, one of the most critical building blocks is the Optical Cross-Connection (OXC), a technology that enables

What is the OXC (Optical Cross-Connect)?

From the perspective of traditional architecture, OXC is composed of optical cross-connect

Related Video Reference

This video was associated with the source search result. Verify technical details against current product documentation and project requirements.

Contact Us

Continue your research online:

Website: https://zithatech.co.za
Technical inquiry: https://zithatech.co.za/contact.html

This document is for preliminary research. Verify specifications against current standards, product documentation and project requirements.

© 2026 ZITHA TECH SPECIALTY CABLES (Pty) Ltd - All rights reserved