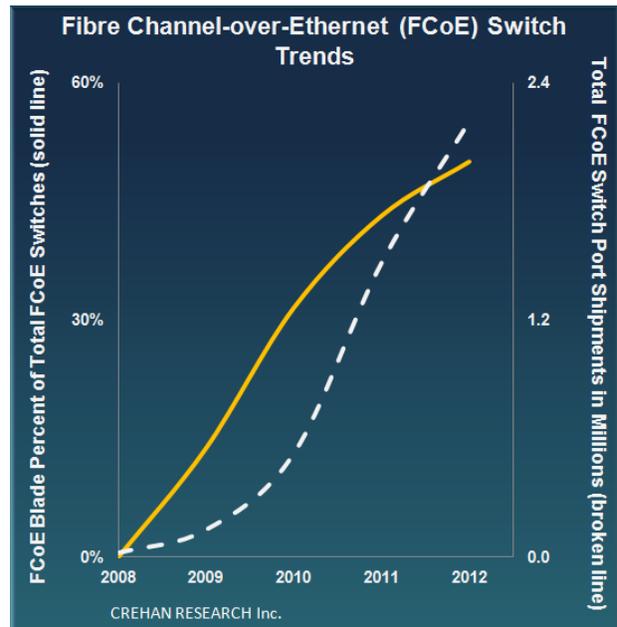


Blade Server Interconnects Drive Fibre Channel-over-Ethernet Market, According to Crehan Research

Cisco's UCS and HP's Virtual Connect FlexFabric Are Market Makers

SAN FRANCISCO, CA, June 4, 2013 — According to the most recent Data Center Switch Report from [Crehan Research](#), in 1Q13 the Fibre Channel-over-Ethernet (FCoE) segment posted greater than 20% shipment growth this quarter over the year-ago quarter. Blade server interconnects, which account for less than a fifth of the total market, continue to drive the market's growth and now comprise more than half of all FCoE port shipments, as illustrated in the accompanying figure.

“Given the importance of space, cable, power and component savings within blade servers and their chassis enclosures, and the fact that FCoE and convergence offer improvements across all these vectors, it's not surprising that FCoE adoption has been strongest in the blade server segment of the market,” said Seamus Crehan, president of Crehan Research. “This growth is further bolstered by the fact that some parts of the FCoE solution are being offered at no additional price premium,” he said.



The report also shows that in contrast to FCoE growth, the Fibre Channel switch market experienced a decline in 1Q13, with shipments falling 7% both quarter-over-quarter and year-over-year. Weakness at some of the large storage OEMs, in addition to a pause in purchasing by Cisco's customers in anticipation of its recently announced MDS 9700 platform, were contributors to the quarter's soft results.

Because 10 Gigabit Ethernet (10GbE) is the central technology in enabling the strong FCoE and convergence value proposition in blade servers, [10GbE has seen very strong adoption in the blade server segment.](#)

About Crehan Research Inc.

Crehan Research Inc. produces reports with very detailed statistics and information on the Data Center Switch and Server-class Adapter & LOM/Controller markets. The company's reports are supported with rich insights and context to deliver increased value. For more information about Crehan Research Inc. email info@CrehanResearch.com, phone 650-273-8400, or visit www.CrehanResearch.com.

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