

## What is GigAffinity™?

GigAffinity™ is a cost-effective solution for companies whose productivity depends on fast network response times. GigAffinity™ increases system speed while decreasing file and application data transfer times.

*Translation:*

GigAffinity™ increases productivity by maximizing the speeds at which your data files are transferred back and forth across your network.

## Who is GigAffinity™ for?

The answer is simple – any business or organization that:

- Shares (or wants to share) files between computers,
- Accesses programs that are hosted on a file or application server,
- Wishes to increase the speeds of files being transferred across their network,
- Is dissatisfied with the reliability or performance of their current networking solution, and
- Is looking for a cost-effective solution.

## Why GigAffinity™?

- Stability
  - The hardware selected for each GigAffinity™ implementation is robust, solid, and stable. Using major brand-name, high-end devices that have been proven and tested, we can ensure the highest possible level of stability available in the industry.
  - One of the leading issues with faulty and “flaky” networks is the readily available (and curiously cheap) networking equipment found on the shelves of nationwide wholesalers and department stores. Even though your network may not be crashing, you’ve surely notice that some days are just slower than others, and you’re not quite sure why. There’s a good chance it’s your networking equipment.
  - Affinity uses top-grade network switches, cables, and internal network cards designed specifically to work in a coordinated fashion. We’ve selected heavily tested equipment that has proven itself in the most taxing environments to be certain that our solutions will work for you – and will remain reliable at all times.
- Productivity and Performance Increase
  - Standard 10/100-BaseT networks severely limit file transfer capabilities, and most office work environments use centralized storage (such as a file server) to store data and host applications. When files are accessed and modified regularly, the transfer rates between your computers and your file server come into play. With hosted applications such as QuickBooks™, shared database programs, and custom software applications, these transfer rates truly limit productivity, and can often times be a source of much frustration. The GigAffinity™ solution dramatically increases transfer rates, significantly reduces wait times, and increasing productivity.

## GigAffinity™ - Integrated Gigabit Networking

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- Most internal networks – specifically those more than a few years old – use old 10/100-BaseT architectures. Said networks are designed to handle basic networking needs – and they may have done a good job back in the day, but with today’s increasing demands and expanding program requirements, it’s just not enough. Many file servers (and even some newer desktop and laptop computers) support Gigabit – that is, 10/100/1000-BaseT – networking, but if any one part of the network isn’t operating that way, it negates the entire concept.
- A GigAffinity™ implementation can dramatically alter the operating conditions of any existing network. By ensuring that all of your network’s computers and devices are equipped with quality Gigabit equipment and connected directly to one of our network switches, the speed, stability, and reliability of your computer system can be maximized and your long login or program transfer times can be a thing of the past. Perhaps it’s time for you to get a new business network up and going? Look no further.
- There are some who have taken the initiative to upgrade their equipment to Gigabit – but that \$50 router from the department store doesn’t do it. It may slightly increase the throughput rate, but it’s not doing the job the right way. We’re all familiar with the old adage, “You get what you pay for.” Guess what? It applies here as well.
- Warranty and Support
  - The network switches used in each GigAffinity™ implementation are purchased by Affinity and leased to you, allowing us to provide complete support, remote administration, and replacement in the case of hardware failure – for as long as you lease them. Replacement parts are always kept in stock. This allows us to provide a same-day response to any problems that you might encounter.
  - Remote management, preemptive repairs, proactive maintenance, and onsite service are all part of our warranty. This is our way of ensuring that your GigAffinity™ system is a pain-free and refreshing experience.
  - The Gigabit network switches used in GigAffinity™ implementations are leased to the customer to improve support, both for immediate and long-term needs. Though the hardware is robust, meeting and exceeding industry standards, all technology is subject to unannounced failure. With the ability to remotely update and monitor each network switch, Affinity is the first to be notified of an impending hardware fault.
  - Our network switches are entirely covered by the Affinity Warranty and, along with your existing hardware equipment, are attached to an uninterruptible power supply/surge protection (UPS) unit. The UPS unit protects your network and investment from power spikes, surges, and direct lightning strikes.
- ALBS Integration Compliance
  - GigAffinity™ technology was designed from the beginning to optimally support the Affinity Linux Backup Server. With integrated Gigabit networking functionality, the server, when paired with GigAffinity™, provides lightning-fast response times and virtually eliminates the typical network “bottleneck” of standard 10/100 networking. To learn more about the Affinity Linux Backup Server, visit [tech.affinity.tc/albs](http://tech.affinity.tc/albs).

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- The Affinity Linux Backup Server, or ALBS™, is our flagship technology solution, which allows for complete file, printer, and application sharing, along with internal and off-site backups, all for a fraction of the cost of a standard file server. ALBS™ was designed from the ground up to run optimally and securely within a GigAffinity™ implementation. The combination of the two technologies is an extremely cost-effective and powerful solution, highly recommended by Affinity to handle the bulk of your technology needs.
- With its integrated Gigabit networking infrastructure, ALBS™ is capable of maximizing the throughput of a GigAffinity™ system, eliminating existing networking bottlenecks and allowing connected workstations to access applications and shared files with virtually zero hesitation in the network.
- Security
  - Incorporating GigAffinity™ into your network by replacing outdated equipment is one more step toward total system security. If you have an obsolete network router (or don't have one at all), Affinity will provide you with current equipment and secure it entirely. The network switch devices provide an additional layer of security as well, so your sensitive data is better protected from attackers and their unwanted eyes.
  - Our network switches have additional layers of network security to protect your systems from intruders. As part of our agreement, a state-of-the-art router will be implemented (if not already existing in your network) to provide necessary protection from outside attackers. Affinity will secure the router appropriately, allowing for our remote access so that we may monitor your system at no additional cost to you.
  - As an additional precautionary measure, we will secure any wireless routers and devices to protect a vulnerable network from granting unauthorized access. We also have the added ability to regularly monitor network traffic and can be alerted in the case of any suspected intrusion.
- Compatibility
  - GigAffinity™ is completely unfettered by software and is therefore compatible with any hardware infrastructure – even if it's intermingled with Windows, Mac, and Linux. In very rare cases – specifically situations that involve very old computers – some substitutions must be made.
  - Unless the computer is more than eight or nine years old (and even then it's not necessarily out of the question), all hardware architectures and operating systems – that is to say, all computers – are compatible with the GigAffinity™ technology. Affinity will perform an extensive analysis of the computers, devices, and printers in your network to verify that the implementation to be rolled out will be 100% optimal – and this is done at no additional cost.
  - Contact Affinity today to discuss your specific needs so that we can design the most cost-effective GigAffinity™ solution for you.

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