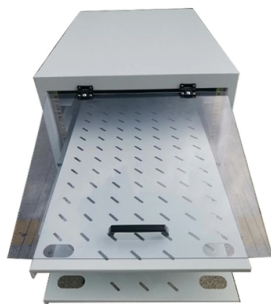


CPO Optical Module Concept



Overview

Next-Gen Optical Modules: A Technical Comparison of Compare CPO, NPO, and XPO optical modules for 800G/1.6T data centers. Evaluate power efficiency, integr.

Key Takeaways

Co-Packaged Optics (CPO) integrates optical engines directly with switch ASICs to reduce power consumption, increase bandwidth, and improve data center efficiency. What is CPO?

CP

O, or Co-Packaged Optics, is a technology where the optical engine (lasers, modulators, photodetectors, drivers, and TIAs) is integrated directly with the switching ASIC on the same substrate or interposer, rather than being a separate pluggable module. This tight integration drastically shortens the electrical signal path from centimeters to millimeters, reducing latency and insertion loss while improving signal integrity. Evolution of Optical Packaging CPO represents the ultimate stage in optical packaging evolution: Pluggable Modules: Traditional optical transceivers that connect via front panels and external SerDes channels.

Near-

Packaged Optics (NPO): Optical engines mounted on the same PCB as the ASIC, reducing electrical path length.



Co-

Packaged Optics (CPO): Full integration of the optical engine and ASIC within the same package, achieving maximum performance and energy efficiency.

Key Benefits

Power Efficiency: By minimizing the distance between optics and electronics, CPO can reduce power consumption by up to 50–65% compared to pluggable modules, significantly lowering data center energy costs. **Bandwidth and Performance:** Direct integration allows higher data rates, improved throughput, and lower latency, supporting next-generation data center speeds like 800G, 1.6T, and beyond.

Scalability: CPO enables high-density interconnects, allowing data centers to handle more nodes and larger AI or HPC workloads efficiently. **Compact Design:** The co-packaged approach reduces the physical footprint of optical interconnects, enabling more data to fit in smaller spaces.

Core Technology Enablers

Silicon Photonics (SiPh): Provides compact, high-speed optical components. **Advanced Packaging:** 2.5D/3D integration techniques allow ASICs and optical engines to share substrates.

High-

Density Substrates: Silicon interposers or organic packages support tight integration and thermal management. **Challenges** CPO introduces manufacturing and thermal challenges due to the high integration density. Cooling solutions and precise packaging techniques are critical to maintain reliability and performance.

Additionally, unlike pluggable modules, CPO optics are not hot-swappable, making maintenance and replacement more complex. **Practical Applications** CPO is increasingly adopted in data centers, cloud infrastructure, and AI compute clusters, where high bandwidth, low latency, and energy efficiency are essential. For example, systems integrating multiple silicon photonics optical engines with high-speed ASICs demonstrate significant power savings and improved throughput compared to traditional pluggable modules.

Summary CPO represents a paradigm shift in optical module design, moving from discrete, pluggable transceivers to fully integrated optical-electronic packages. By co-locating the optical engine with the ASIC, CPO achieves higher performance, lower power consumption, and greater scalability, making it a key technology for next-generation data centers and AI infrastructure.

Article Content

Next-Gen Optical Modules: A Technical Comparison of

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A CPO optical module integrates optical and electronic components to boost data center speed, efficiency, and bandwidth while reducing power use.

Optical Interconnect Technology Analysis: LPO, NPO, CPO

The basic structure of a CPO includes an electrical chip (such as an ASIC or GPU), an optical engine module, a silicon interposer, and an optical fiber interface:

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CPO Technology Nvidia: Death of Optical Modules and the Future of

Analysis of Nvidia's announcement from June 3, 2026: why CPO is killing optical module suppliers, who the beneficiaries are (TSMC, Marvell) and what awaits InnoLight.

Silicon Photonics CPO Breakthrough: The 2nd Optoelectronics

As optical communication speeds continue to evolve, traditional solutions may encounter bottlenecks in speed and size, and the need to reduce costs and consumption is becoming increasingly prominent.

The Rise of Co-Packaged Optics (CPO) and Silicon Photonics in

As generative AI models scale, traditional pluggable optical transceivers face a power-performance wall. Co-packaged Optics (CPO) and Silicon Photonics address this by integrating

What is an Optical Module?

Explore the world of optical modules, essential components in optical fiber communication. Learn about the different types of optical modules, their functions, packaging, and key technical concepts like

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Optical Interconnect Technology Analysis: LPO, NPO, CPO

NPO NPO, or Near-Packaged Optics, is a highly integrated optical interconnect solution that falls between traditional pluggable optical modules and CPO.

Understanding Micro LED CPO in One Article

The research report points out that Micro LED CPO has disruptive advantages in high bandwidth, low power consumption, and miniaturization, which can reduce the overall power consumption of optical

DSP, LPO, NPO, CPO: The Four Optical Architectures and the Light

This piece lays out the four optical architectures, DSP, LPO, NPO, and CPO, in a way a non-specialist can absorb in one read, then maps where Lumentum, Coherent, AAOI, and Sivers

Evaluating Co-Packaged Optics (CPO) Performance

At the same time, to achieve larger capacity and higher integration, development of optical interfaces using Co-Packaged Optics (CPO) technology, which are fundamentally different from current

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