

Industrial-grade standard industrial switches



Overview

What Makes a Network Switch "Industrial Grade"?

Learn what makes a network switch industrial grade: durability, reliability, low latency and advanced features.

Key Takeaways

Industrial-grade switches are designed to meet rigorous standards for durability, environmental resilience, and network reliability, including certifications like IEC 61850-3, EN 50155, and IEC 62443-4-2. Key Standards and Certifications IEC 61850-3: Ensures electromagnetic compatibility and operational reliability in power substation environments, protecting switches from electrical interference and ensuring stable data transmission.

E

N 50155: Certifies switches for railway applications, covering resistance to temperature extremes, vibration, and shock, making them suitable for transportation and rail systems.

IE

C 62443-4-2: Specifies technical security requirements for industrial automation systems, enhancing cybersecurity and protecting critical infrastructure from unauthorized access.

Environmental and Operational Requirements

Industrial switches are built to withstand harsh conditions that commercial switches cannot, including:

- Temperature extremes: Operating ranges from -40°C to +85°C in some models.
- Humidity and dust resistance: Often rated with IP30 or higher for protection against moisture and particulate ingress.
- Vibration and shock tolerance: Designed for factory floors, railways, and other high-vibration environments.

Electromagnetic interference (EMI) protection: Ensures stable operation in electrically noisy industrial settings.

Technical Features Industrial-grade switches often include:

- Rugged construction: Metal housings, DIN-rail or rack-mountable designs.
- Power resilience: Dual power inputs, wide voltage ranges (12-57 V DC), and failover mechanisms.

Network redundancy: Support for protocols like Rapid Spanning Tree (RSTP) and Ethernet Ring Protection (ERPS) to minimize downtime.

Management and monitoring: SNMP, remote diagnostics, and centralized management for efficient network oversight.

Power over Ethernet (PoE): Optional support to power devices directly through Ethernet cables, simplifying deployment.

Classification

Industrial switches are classified by layer and management type:

- Layer 2: Forward data based on MAC addresses, suitable for local device interconnection.
- Layer 3: Include routing functions for multi-subnet networks, supporting VLANs and QoS policies.
- Layer 4: Manage traffic based on transport layer ports, ideal for prioritizing critical industrial applications.

Managed vs. Unmanaged: Managed switches allow configuration and monitoring, while unmanaged switches are plug-and-play for simpler networks.

Conclusion

Selecting industrial-grade switches requires careful consideration of environmental conditions, network topology, redundancy, security, and compliance with international standards. By adhering to standards like IEC 61850-3, EN 50155, and IEC 62443-4-2, industrial switches ensure reliable, secure, and long-term performance in demanding industrial environments.

Article Content

What Makes a Network Switch "Industrial Grade"?

Learn what makes a network switch industrial grade: durability, reliability, low latency and advanced features for mission-critical networks.

Industrial Ethernet Switches

Built for diverse industrial applications, these switches feature all-gigabit, high-density, all-copper or mixed copper and fiber ports, PoE options, and resiliency protocols.

Durable Industrial Switches

With their strong build, the whole family of DIS industrial switches are certified against vibration, shock and free-fall. We're so confident in the quality of their hardened build that they come with our D-Link

Industrial Switches (ISW) | Extreme Networks

Extreme Industrial Switches are an excellent choice for industrial environments, including intelligent transportation systems, utilities, and smart cities. Full redundant ring technology creates fault-

Industrial Switch: Understanding Industrial Ethernet Switch ...

An industrial Ethernet switch is a type of network switch designed to operate in harsh industrial environments. Oil rigs, railways, manufacturing plants, and similar applications require industrial

Industrial Grade Ethernet Switches -

Discover what industrial grade Ethernet switches are, their unique features, real-world applications, key differences from regular switches, and where to buy.

Industrial Ethernet Switches

Westermo industrial Ethernet switches are designed to deliver reliable and secure communication in harsh and demanding environments. Our industrial Ethernet switches enable the creation of cost

Distinguishing Industrial Switches from Regular Switches: An In

2. Port configuration flexibility: Industrial switches provide various port types and configuration methods to adapt to different industrial field needs. In contrast, regular switches mainly

Comprehensive Analysis of Industrial Switches

September 5, 2025 Comprehensive Analysis of Industrial Switches Comprehensive Analysis of Industrial Switches: An In-Depth Guide to Types, Pros and Cons, and Application Scenarios In the wave of the

Industrial Switches | D-Link UK

D-Link's Industrial Switches have industrial-grade resilience to maintain your network uptime despite extreme hot and cold temperature variances. With

Industrial switches demystified: Types, materials used and design ...

Explore the comprehensive guide on industrial switches covering types, materials used in their construction, and design highlights that make them suitable for demanding industrial environments.

Industrial Network Switches

Industrial network switches are purpose-built to meet the demands of environments where standard networking equipment might falter. Whether you're upgrading the infrastructure of a manufacturing

How should I choose an industrial grade Ethernet switch?

In modern industrial automation, Industrial Ethernet Switches (IES) have become a key component. Correctly selecting the right industrial grade switch is crucial to ensure the stability and

How to choose industrial switches

Blog January 6, 2025 How to choose industrial switches Industrial switch selection factors to ensure efficient and stable industrial networking In the application scenario of industrial IoT, it is crucial to

Distinguishing Industrial Switches from Regular Switches: An In

May 31, 2024 Distinguishing Industrial Switches from Regular Switches: An In-depth Analysis Distinguishing Industrial Switches from Regular Switches: An In-depth Analysis In the rapid

Ethernet Switches

Moxa provides a wide range of industrial Ethernet switches that feature industrial-grade reliability, network redundancy, strengthened security, easy management, and competitive price-to

Comprehensive Analysis of Industrial Switches

Unlike commercial switches, industrial switches must confront harsh environments such as extreme temperatures, strong electromagnetic interference, and dust corrosion. Their design must

Industrial Ethernet Switches

Advantech's managed Ethernet switches allow users to expand their industrial network quickly and efficiently, while their rugged industrial-grade design assures

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