

# ETHERNET SOLUTIONS CHECKLIST

After determining the answers to the questions below, you will be better prepared to decide if an Ethernet solution is best for your business.

## APPLICATIONS

- Do you need to integrate voice and video services?
- How many attendees will participate in video conferences, and from how many locations?
- What is the volume and amount of data associated with file transfers?
- Is large file upload as important as download?
- Do you work with CAD/CAM or other data-intensive apps?
- How many total users across how many locations?

## SPEED & CAPABILITY

- What are the speed options?
- Can I connect securely to the cloud?
- Can I run my phones with the same provider/lines?
- Do I need support for remote offices and can the provider connect to them?

## SCALABILITY

- Will the offered speeds allow scalability in the future?
- Will the scalability interface correctly with my network?

## PRICE

- Is the Ethernet solution priced competitively?

## PROVIDER

- How responsive is the provider?
- How reliable is the provider and service they provide?
- What is the responsiveness of the vendor, and how long would it take to fix or restore service?
- Is the provider locally based and supported?
- Do they have local teams and dedicated account managers?
- What do their SLAs entail?
- Is the Ethernet provider MEF certified?
- Does the provider offer end-to-end network monitoring?
- Is the provider available to support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year?

## REDUNDANCY

- Have you looked for single points of failure (SPOF) with hardware, services, and people?
- If you identify an SPOF, can you implement a backup or failover to take its place?
- Is the provider helping with the architecture of the network ensuring redundancy and scalability?
- Are you or the provider responsible for providing redundant network devices, power supplies, racks, etc?
- Do their SLAs address redundancy?