



QuickFAST

The open source, standards based solution for market data.

What is FAST?

The FAST [SM] (Fix Adapted for STreaming) protocol was developed by FIX Protocol Limited [FPL] (<http://www.fixprotocol.org/fast/>) as a way to reduce the bandwidth and network-latency required to distribute market data without incurring excessive CPU costs. It is being widely adopted in the finance industry. Adoption of FAST as a standard will commoditize market data and lower costs.

What is QuickFAST?

It is an open source C++ implementation of FAST developed by OCI. Additionally it is available wrapped with .NET to enable managed code developers to utilize the FAST libraries in a more familiar manner. The open source code, with compile and installation instructions is freely available for download from <http://www.quickfast.org>. The licensing model for QuickFAST is "Berkeley," also known as BSD, and is also non-viral.

Comprehensive support offered by OCI includes training classes, 24 by 7 software support, and assisting with the integration of your applications and their market data models with FAST, ensuring optimal performance.

QuickFAST is currently supported on Linux and Windows. Our use of platform abstraction techniques will enable us to add other platforms should you wish. (Note: OCI also supports in a similar manner, OpenFAST, an open source Java implementation.)

How does QuickFAST perform?

On a fairly old 3.2Ghz Xeon computer, we experienced around 29 thousand messages per second (K MPS). This translates to less than 34 microseconds latency added by the decoding process. Other clients have experienced over 120K MPS "out of the box" performance with faster/later hardware (8 core, 64 bits). QuickFAST responds well to investments in CPU technology.

Because open source software enables code changes another way to improve performance is to customize QuickFAST to more closely reflect your data models. In one case, by targeting a client's use of ARCA we improved the rate to 381K MPS. This gives an effective decoding latency of 3 microseconds.

Call OCI (01*314*579*0066) for more information or visit www.ociweb.com