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INTRODUCTION: Cel-Fi QUATRA

Cel-Fi QUATRA is a simple to install carrier approved active DAS that distributes RF over Ethernet (RFoE). A single system is comprised of one Network Unit (NU) and up to four Coverage Units (CU). The NU accepts Donor signals from either the outside cellular network or a locally installed Small Cell, and passes that service over Cat 5e (or better) cabling to CUs mounted where cellular service is needed.

The CUs contain their own transmit amplifiers and are powered from the NU using Power over Ethernet (PoE). This allows for flexible placement of the CU's since AC power at the site of each CU is not required.

With four (4) Coverage Units, a combined in-building coverage range of up to 50,000 sq.ft. per system can be achieved. For larger coverage areas up to 200,000 sq.ft., multiple Cel-Fi QUATRA systems may be used.

Cel-Fi QUATRA systems are self-configuring and can be fully managed from Nextivity's WAVE Portal. Status notifications and alarms are fully customizable.



IMPORTANT

We recommend watching the Cel-fi QUATRA videos on www.cel-fi.com/quatra as a quick way to learn about the system and how to install it.

Off-Air External

Antenna Mode

CONFIGURATIONS (Mode)





Off-Air Internal Antenna Mode

BEST FOR: Basic install if an excellent donor signal exists somewhere inside a rural building, and coverage is only needed for part of the building, or the building is smaller.

BEST FOR: Most off-air installations. This is the recommended use case of an off-air QUATRA system.

Small Cell Donor **BEST FOR:** Large scale Supercell deployments to add dedicated local capacity or to resolve interference issues. Use this configuration when connecting a small cell to one or more QUATRA systems.



OVERVIEW



PLANNING

Decide on your configuration and where QUATRA components will go, including NU to CU interconnect cables to make sure their lengths do not exceed 100 meters per CU (200m with QRE - QUATRA Range Extender).



Decide on the System Configuration (Mode)

Use the table below to determine the recommended system configuration for your installation site. Off-Air refers to the use of a donor antenna to receive and redistribute the outdoor macro network service where you need it indoors. Small Cell refers to the use of a dedicated small cell donor device (usually available through your operator) as the network signal source.

	Existing Service using your phone (bars of signal)	
Coverage Need	Weak Cellular service (0-2 bars), reliable calls where signal exists.	Signal exists but calls unreliable, or available small cell does not cover all required areas.
≤ 13,000 ft² open area	NU Internal Antenna (single CU)	NU External Antenna (single CU)
20,000 ft ² many walled rooms	NU External Antenna (multiple CUs)	NU Small Cell input (multiple CUs)
≤ 50,000 ft² open area	NU External Antenna (multiple CUs)	NU Small Cell input (multiple CUs)
≥ 50,000 to 200,000 ft²	Small Cell input to multiple QUATRAs	Small Cell input to multiple QUATRAs

Table 1 – Recommended Configuration

When amplifying the existing outdoor network, service is being shared with other users on the macro network (your outside cellular experience should become your inside cellular experience). When using a dedicated small cell input, capacity is being added to the operator's network at your install site which also helps resolve capacity or interference problems.

NU Placement based upon System Configuration

Off-Air Donor

For smaller rural building applications where an excellent indoor donor signal is available, the NU Mode may be set to Internal Antenna and a single CU may be used. For all other Off-Air applications, Mode must be set to External Antenna and up to four CUs may be used. To meet regulatory compliance and to assure optimum performance, an approved Cel-Fi External Antenna is required (refer to the Legal Insert for a list of approved antennas).

Donor antenna aiming is a simple guided process when commissioning the system.



For best results, test donor signal locations during normal peak usage hours.

- 1. Determine best existing Off-Air signal location in the building (using phone signal bars), usually near windows.
 - **a.** Test results for LTE are preferred over 3G results.
 - **b.** OPTION: Run a few speed tests on a phone at each location. Higher data rates indicate better signal quality.
 - **c.** ADVANCED: Evaluate signal quality parameters (Smartphone apps such as Network Cell Info Lite show this information).

QUALITY INDICATORS	POOR	BEST(MAX)
LTE RSRQ dB	<-15	-3
LTE SINR dB	<0	+30
LTE CQI	0	15
WCDMA Ec/lo dB	<-16	-3
WCDMA CQI	0	30

2. If an antenna is to be mounted outdoors, the installer is responsible for proper lightning surge protection and cable weatherproofing (sold separately).

TIPS FOR NU PLACEMENT

• Plan to mount the NU within power supply reach of an AC outlet, or install an AC outlet near the NU.



- Plan cabling from the NU to the CUs (use existing unused LAN distribution cables from a central patch panel, or plan to run new cables).
- If using internal NU antennas, it is best to not run or coil the cabling immediately behind the NU to avoid effects of metal close to the antennas.

Small Cell Donor:

This configuration connects one or more NUs directly to a small cell through a Small Cell Interface (SCIF) for signal distribution. Plan to mount both the small cell, SCIF and NU next to each other, and where there is easy access to LAN cabling and routing (such as an IT closet with pre-existing LAN patch panels).





Cabling Between the Small Cell and QUATRA

The QUATRA Small Cell Interface (SCIF) shown above contains the proper amount of signal attenuation and port isolation needed when connecting up to four (4) small cell RF ports to the RF ports of one or two QUATRA NUs. Choose the small cell to match the overall capacity you need and match the QUATRA system size to achieve the coverage you need. If more than two (2) QUATRA systems are to be used, contact your supplier or **www.cel-fi.com/quatra** for more information.

Installation Considerations for NUs and the SCIF:

- Plan to mount all NUs and the small cell in the same location so they may be properly interconnected using the SCIF.
- The SCIF should be mounted above the small cell within reach of the SCIF Input RF cables.
- Make sure there is a suitable power outlet within reach of the NU power supply.
- Make sure there is room to route CU, LAN, power, and RF cables.
- Allow adequate ventilation.
- Do not place the NU close to other transmitting antennas.
- NU Faceplate LEDs should be clearly visible.

CU Placements





Off-Air Mode CU Placement

For Off-Air installs, mount Coverage Units where the macro network does not reach. Example, if a 100,000 sq. ft. warehouse only lacks service in a few locations, then CUs only needed in those locations.

Small Cell Mode CU Placement

For Small Cell donor configurations, mount the CUs to create continual coverage to ensure all areas benefit from the added small cell capacity.

Approximate Service Area (Coverage Unit)	Approximate Coverage Radius (Isolated Coverage Unit)	Distance Between Coverage Units (Contiguous Coverage)
Open areas	33 meters	50 meters
(warehouse, parking structure)		
Open office plan (cubicles)	21 meters	32 meters
Closed office plan (framed walls)	14 meters	21 meters
Closed room plan (masonry walls)	11 meters	16 meters

Table 2 - General CU coverage estimates

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TIPS FOR CU PLACEMENT

- Only a single CU is allowed if NU Mode is set to Internal Antenna. Otherwise up to four CUs are allowed.
- Do not mount a CU near the NU or NU antenna. Greater NU to CU isolation improves signal gain (if no walls separate the NU and a CU, the recommended minimum NU-CU distance for best performance should be 45 ft for Small Cell Mode, 100 ft for External Antenna Mode, and 150 ft for Internal Antenna Mode. Each separating wall may reduce this distance by an additional 30%.
 - CUs should be placed at ever increasing distances from the NU.
- Begin CU planning with CUs furthest from the NU.
- · For best performance, mount CUs in open areas near the ceiling.

OPTIONAL: CU External Antennas

CUs contain internal omnidirectional MIMO antennas, and they are also equipped with external antenna ports in the event that a directional MIMO antenna is desired, or if the signal needs to be split to feed multiple service antennas (splitter and cable losses will result in lower transmit power at the service antennas).



Cabling Cel-Fi QUATRA Cabling considerations

Once NU and CU locations are determined, have your IT professional or cable installer recommend cable routes and lengths (use a QRE for any CU cable length over 100m). Rather than running new cable, sometimes existing LAN cables may be re-purposed.

NU Power

• The NU should be located within reach of an AC power output.

NU LAN Management port (located on back of NU)

- The NU LAN port connects QUATRA to the WAVE Portal through your LAN/ISP.
- The LAN OUTPUT port is for daisy chaining additional NUs.

NU to CU cables

- Cat 5e (or better) must be used.
- Maximum NU to CU cable length is 100m for Cat5e, however longer CU cables may be used for Cat6 if cable performance meets qualification testing for 1000Base-T.
- If longer cabling is needed (Cat5e or Cat6), a Cel-Fi QUATRA Range Extender (QRE) may be used for up to 200m total cable length.
- These cables must be dedicated to each CU.
- Passive cable interconnects may be used when routing the cables (such as a punch-down block or patch panel).
- Active Ethernet LAN hardware may not be used because Cel-Fi QUATRA uses proprietary signaling.





SYSTEM INSTALLATION

STEP 1: Record Cel-Fi QUATRA NU and CU serial numbers by location

The QUATRA Management tools will reference the NUs and CUs by serial number during commissioning, and allow the assignment of personalized names to each unit.

STEP 2: Mount Cel-Fi QUATRA Hardware

WALL MOUNT

Network Unit or Coverage Unit

Mark screw holes using plastic mount (A) onto wall. OPTIONAL: Trace rectangular area (B) if you are planning to run the cables through the wall.



Drill holes into wall. Use a hammer to insert dry wall anchors. OPTIONAL: Cut rectangular area for cables with a dry wall saw.



Attach the plastic mount to the wall with drywall screws. OPTIONAL: Route cables thought wall cutout.



Plug cables into BACK side of unit and place BACK side of unit against plastic mount. Align the four holes over the four hooks and press downward until unit snaps into place.



Network Unit Metal Stand-off Brackets

Temporarily attach metal brackets to plastic mount with machine screws. Mark screw holes on metal brackets onto wall.



Drill holes into wall. Use a hammer to insert dry wall anchors.



Attach the metal brackets to the wall with drywall screws.



Attach the plastic mount to the metal brackets with machine screws.



Plug cables into BACK side of unit and place BACK side of unit against plastic mount. Align the four holes over the four hooks and press downward until unit snaps into place.



CEILING MOUNT

Coverage Unit Ceiling Tile Mount

Attach plastic mount on to the FRONT side of the ceiling tile with screws. The screw ends will be exposed on BACK side of ceiling tile. Attach metal plate on to the BACK side of the ceiling tile using the exposed screws.



Create a hole in the ceiling tile in the cutout area of the plastic mount to run the CU cable through.



Plug cable into BACK side of unit and place BACK side of unit against plastic mount. Align the four holes over the four hooks and press downward until unit snaps into place.

Accessories

To install accessories, please refer to the installation instructions included with the accessory.

STEP 3: Route and connect all Cat 5e (or better) cables NU to CU Cabling

Connect CUs in order CU1, CU2... (recommended)

If unsure of CU placement, leave extra cable to allow for CU relocating.



LAN Cables are not provided with unit. End-use installer must choose correct LAN / PoE cables. The LAN cable must be as per requirements of CEC / NEC.

NU

NU Management Connections

If multiple NUs are used at a Site, all LAN LAN management ports should be connected to the same Subnet, or daisy chained using the LAN and LAN OUTPUT ports as shown.



Optional QRE

CU

IMPORTANT

Remember to set Mode when commissioning the system. Choices are: Internal Antenna, External
Antenna, or Small Cell.

STEP 4: Power the Network Unit and Commission the System

IMPORTANT



Cel-Fi QUATRA commissioning using QMT or the Cel-Fi WAVE portal is required for operation.
 Make sure that NU Mode is properly set to Internal Antenna, External Antenna, or Small Cell using QMT or the Cel-Fi WAVE Portal (you can access your system record using the NU serial number).
 If using a small cell, verify that the small cell is commissioned and transmitting before

- commissioning QUATRA.
- A. Once a donor signal is available to the NU and the CUs are connected, plug in the NU power supply.
- B. Download and launch the Cel-Fi QUATRA Management Tool (QMT) app from Google Play or the Apple App Store (you can also find and commission your system using the Cel-Fi WAVE portal).



- C. Follow the on-screen prompts to connect to the Cel-Fi QUATRA system over Bluetooth and complete the guided Commissioning steps (you must be within Bluetooth range of an NU or CU).
- D. If an NU External Antenna is used, you will be guided through Antenna Positioning (aiming) steps at this time.
- E. Once Commissioning is completed, your Cel-Fi QUATRA system should be providing service (the NU and CU front panel LEDs should be solid Green). If an LED is blinking green, wait for setup to complete. If any red LED indications persist, see Troubleshooting.





TROUBLESHOOTING: Cel-Fi QUATRA

For detailed diagnostics, use the QMT app or the Cel-Fi WAVE Portal

IMPORTANT



LED	ISSUE	TRY
	Notwork Upit orror	Reset the Network Unit by unplugging the power supply, wait 5 seconds, then plug it back in.
	Network officentor.	Verify Network Unit software is up to date (using QMT or cloud portal).
		If the problem persists, return Network Unit for service.
	Network Unit overheating.	Make sure that the vents (the small openings in the plastic housing) on the units are not blocked. Move the unit to a cooler area. The system will start working normally when it cools down.
		Reset the Coverage Unit by unplugging it and then plugging it back in.
		Verify Coverage Unit software is up to date (using QMT or cloud portal).
SOLID RED	Coverage Unit (CU) Error	Make sure that the LAN cabling to each Coverage Unit is dedicated (not combined with other active LAN hardware such as routers and switches). Passive connectors may be used (i.e. punch-down blocks) but the maximum cable distance may be reduced. If a Cel-Fi QUATRA Range Extender is used to lengthen the 100 meter maximum Network Unit to Coverage Unit
		Ethernet distance, make sure only a single Cel-Fi QUATRA Range Extender (QRE) is used per Coverage Unit. QRE is proprietary and other extenders will not work. See QRE Troubleshooting.
		Uninstall Coverage Unit and plug it into back of Network Unit with a short Ethernet cable that is known to work. If the Coverage Unit works properly, troubleshoot the original Ethernet cable (or QRE if used).
		If the problem persists, return Coverage Unit for service.
	overheating.	a cooler area. The system will start working normally when it cools down.
	Problem with donor signal or	add and Enable external antennas in Settings.
	Mode setting.	If external antennas or a small cell donor signal are used, check Mode setting, donor source, and cable connections to the NU RF ports.
	Registration required.	Product Registration is required for your system to operate (system is new or has been moved to a new address). Please follow the registration instructions using QMT or the WAVE portal.
	Check Mode and number of CUs.	If NU Mode is set to Internal Antenna, only one CU may be used. More connected CUs will result in system Disable. Disconnect additional CUs, or set NU Mode to External Antenna and connect an External Antenna.
	No CU connected.	Connect at least one CU to the NU.
	CU too close to NU.	A CU is too close to the NU. Move the closest CU further away from the NU.
	CU Disabled.	Use QMT or the Cel-Fi WAVE portal to Enable the CU if it is Disabled.
BLINKING		The Network Unit is receiving too strong a donor signal and may operate with reduced gain (the signal source could be any Operator's cell tower if close enough, or it could be another indoor cellular solution in close proximity to the Network Unit donor antennas).
RED	Input signal too strong.	If internal antennas used, move the Network Unit to another location. You might need to move your system to the other side of your building.
		If external antennas used, move or re-aim the external antennas away from the strong cellular signal source.
		If a Small Cell donor is used, make sure the coaxial connections to the Small Cell have the supplied attenuators installed.
	Location Lock – Registration Required	Your system has been moved from its previous Registration location. Please reregister your system at its new location using QMT or the WAVE portal, or move the system back to its original location.
	System disabled.	The system has been remotely disabled. Please check for a notification message and contact your Operator or Vendor.
		A Coverage Unit LAN cable may be shorted. Unplug all Coverage Units, power cycle the system, and plug Coverage Unit cables back in one at a time to check where fault occurs (fault could be in cabling, a Cel-Fi QUATRA Range Extender, or a Coverage Unit).
All RJ45 port LEDs	Port keeps resetting	If Cel-Fi QUATRA Range Extenders are used, verify that LAN cable length on either side of the Extenders does not exceed 100 meters.
repeatedly		If none of the above works, try another power supply.
		If none of the above works, try another Network Unit.
	Management	Verify that a live LAN Ethernet cable is connected to the Network Unit LAN port (not the LAN OUT port which is used to daisy-chain to another Network Unit LAN port).
QM1/WAVE	Connection Error	Check LAN firewall settings to the cloud (contact your IT Administrator). The NU uses port 443 for management traffic.
		Verify system performance and WAVE cloud portal connectivity using QMT (QMT must have an active internet connection).
		Wait. System is in a setup state. If a red error indication occurs on the NU, CU LEDs may stay in the setup state until the NU error is cleared.
	Setup in progress	

BLINKING GREEN



Phones have signal but can't make calls Phone not seeing boosted signal. Slow software update.

If using a Small Cell donor, make sure the small cell is commissioned and transmitting. Make test calls using just the Small Cell signal to verify its operation (temporarily connect small cell antennas). Verify handset settings and compatibility against boosted channel bands and 3G/4G technologies. Due to network resource balancing, a handset may be directed by the network to use an unrelayed channel if that channel is adequate. This is normal and should not cause a service interruption. Software updates using QMT may take an hour or more due to Bluetooth limitations. Connect your NU LAN (Management) port to the Internet for faster updates.

TROUBLESHOOTING: Accessories

LED	ISSUE	TRY
QRE – ALL LEDs FLASHING		Unplug the INPUT cable, wait 5 seconds, and plug it back in. If the condition persists the unit needs to be replaced.
Any RJ45 green LED is off between NU/QRE/CU	Link is down	CU is not connected or cannot be seen. Check QRE to CU cable and/or CU. CU may be checked by plugging directly to back of NU or QRE Output with LAN test cable. Check NU – QRE – CU cables lengths (must not exceed 100 meters each, and use of patch panels may reduce maximum length).

SPECIFICATIONS

Supported Bands	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 12, 13, 20	
WCDMA Bandwidth per Band	3.84, 5, 10, 15, 20MHz contiguous UMTS/HSPA channels	
LTE Bandwidth per Band	5, 10, 15, 20MHz contiguous (up to band max)	
Channel Selection	Full Auto with self-learn Scan	
Downlink TX Power max (conducted)	10dBm per 5MHz (max 16dBm per band per antenna)	
Uplink TX Power max (conducted)	Max 24dBm per band per antenna	
Max boost bandwidth (all channel)	75MHz	
Maximum System Gain	100dB	
System Gain dynamic range	0-100dB (real time echo controlled)	
Internal MIMO antenna gains	0-2dBi (band dependent) V-H polarization	
External RF connections	50 ohm QMA female Quick-Connect	
Ethernet ports	Shielded Fast Ethernet ports (RJ45)	
Maximum NU-CU cable length	100 meter (200 meter with QUATRA Range Extender accessory)	
NU-CU LAN cabling	Cat 5e or better	
Bluetooth (NU and CU)	Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) v4.1.2	
User Interface	Red/Green LEDs, QMT Smartphone App, WAVE Cloud Portal	
Input Power (NU only)	54 VDC @ 2.22 Amp via external supply (51.3 to 56.7 VDC tolerance).	
External Power Supply (NU only)	100 to 240 VAC, 47 – 63Hz.	
Cooling	Natural convection	
Network Unit dimensions	264mm (W) x 185mm (H) x 62mm (D)	
Coverage Unit dimensions	225mm (W) x 185mm (H) x 36.5mm (D)	
Network Unit weight	1.2kg (40.8 oz.)	
Coverage Unit weight	0.83kg (29.2 oz.)	
Operating temperature	0° to 40°C	
Storage temperature	-25° to 60°C	
Relative humidity	0% to 95%, noncondensing	
IP Rating	IP20	
Compliance	RoHS II 2011/65/EU	
	3GPP TS 25.143 Rel.10	
	3GPP TS 36.143 Rel.10	
	EN 301 489-1	
	EN 301 489-17	

TERMINOLOGY

Active DAS	A powered DAS (Distributed Antenna System) Network.
Attenuator	An electronic device that reduces the amplitude of a signal.
Coverage Unit (CU)	The Cel-Fi unit that broadcasts cellular service where coverage is needed (Service signal).
Donor Antenna	Receives and transmits signals with the existing cellular network.
External Antenna	Antennas external to a device and connected with RF cables.
Gain, or System Gain	The amount of amplification that may be applied to the source signal.
iBwave	A solutions planner that allows you to perform complete RF distribution
	designs with hardware such as Cel-Fi products.
Interference	Locations usually between multiple cell sites that may be interfering with
	each other and reducing network capacity.
Isolation	Separating donor-service antennas to limit feedback potential.
MIMO	Multiple-Input Multiple-Output antenna scheme that improves capacity.
	Cel-Fi QUATRA is a 2x2 MIMO system, using two antennas per NU or CU.
Network Unit (NU)	The Cel-Fi unit that connects to the existing cellular network (Donor signal).
Pilot Pollution	See Interference.
PoE (Power over Ethernet)	To pass electrical power along with data on Ethernet cabling.
QMA connector	A spring loaded quick connect small-size RF connector used to join
	coaxial cables.
QMT (QUATRA Management Tool)	A Smartphone App and cloud-based management system that allows local and remote management of QUATRA systems.
QRE (QUATRA Range Extender)	Allows Cel-Fi QUATRA NU to CU interconnect cable lengths to 200m.
RFoE	The transport of RF signals over Ethernet cable.
Service Antenna	Receives and transmits signals amongst local user devices (phones/tablets etc)
SMA Connector	A common small (Sub-Miniature A) 50 ohm RF cable connector.
Small Cell	Low-powered cellular radio access node.
Splitter (Divider/Combiner)	Splits a single coaxial cable to/from multiple cables.
Supercell	A hybrid small cell and active DAS system.
Cel-Fi WAVE	A cloud portal system for managing Cel-Fi systems.

WARRANTY

For warranty information please visit us at www.Cel-Fi.com

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