

- **Ethernet** was invented in 1973 with the objective of **interconnecting desktops** and other equipment in **local area networks (LANs)** and today is used to interconnect billions of devices (**computers, printers, servers, routers**, etc.) worldwide.
- Most of today's **network traffic** is generated from **Ethernet interfaces**.
- **Simplicity, low cost and standard implementation** are the major reasons for the Ethernet popularity and the low cost concern has always be present in the subsequent developments of the technology.
- A **LAN** is a computer network that interconnects computers within a **limited area** such as a school, campus, office building, etc.
- Nowadays the application of Ethernet has extended to the **metro networks** (*Metro Ethernet*) and to **backbone networks** (*Carrier Ethernet*).