



# Review Reprint

[http://www.world-of-adsl.com/hardware\\_review\\_ix66.html](http://www.world-of-adsl.com/hardware_review_ix66.html)

## IX66-edflc ADSL+PF

The test unit was provide for us by C.S.Fordyce Associates Ltd.

C.S.Fordyce Associates Ltd is a design bureau creating innovative designs and services to the benefit of its customers. C.S.Fordyce Associates Ltd represent Intertex Data AB within the UK, supplying the company's range of analogue and broadband products to both home and business users alike.

Intertex Data AB is a Swedish company with 18 years' experience in the development of high-quality communication and security products. Intertex has a unique know-how, combining real-time and application programming with analogue and digital hardware design skills. The result is the highly appreciated series of broadband access products, analogue modems and Smart Card readers now available on the market. They are having there 20th Anniversary in July 2002.



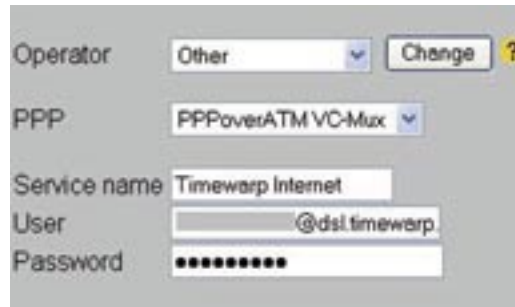
C.S.Fordyce Associates Ltd has an excellent customer service department. The people who work there are extremely friendly and are always available to help. The order for the router was placed on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May and received on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May. It was delivered by TNT; the product was neatly packaged with a minimal risk of damage during transit.

The setting up of the Intertex IX66-EDFLC ADSL could not have been simpler. This was done using a web based configuration interface. As you work your way through the interface, there are question mark images, which when clicked, provide valuable installation hints. The router is packaged with a small booklet containing everything you will need to know and do to get online. However, if required there is a more

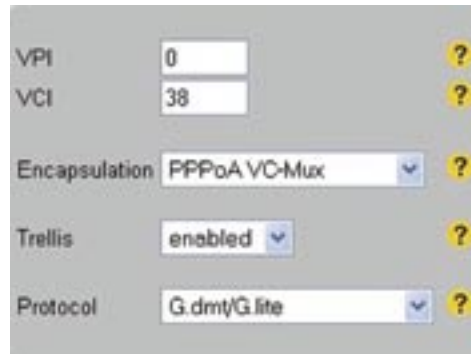
detailed manual available on the Intertex website, though in most instances the help you'll require can be found embedded on each page or in the manual provided.



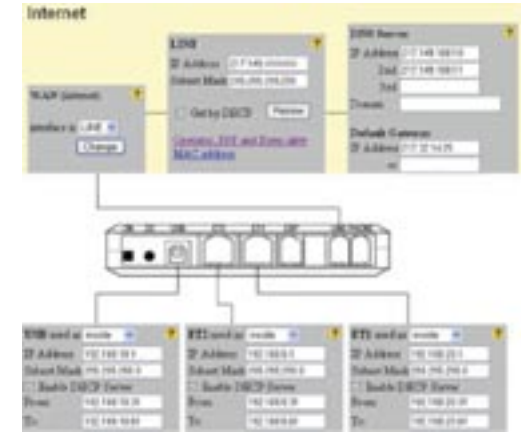
Logging on



Adding ISP details



ADSL settings



Network settings

The first thing we noticed after going on line was how stable my download speeds were in comparison to the Alcatel Speedtouch USB modem we had previously used. On average the response time to our ISP's server was around 12ms, which is quite excellent!! During the test we were getting around 60-62kb Download and 30-32kb Upload. This gives you an average download speed of 3.7mb per minute dependant on the source of the download. After updating to the latest firmware version (1.21) launched in June 2002, we experienced even greater stability from my ADSL connection. For example, during the testing period 6<sup>th</sup> May 2002 to 6<sup>th</sup> June 2002 inclusive the router was in continual use and did not require re-booting once.

As expected from a company with a reputation for providing the user with the best possible security, the Intertex IX66-EDFLC ADSL router features an easily configurable firewall with variable security settings. You can choose from no protection to a high security level of protection, though this setting only lets through a small amount of applications. Within each of the security profiles, logging preferences, port mappings & allowed applications can be specified.

On first setup, you will find that the default setting is "High" and you may find that many applications such as ICQ will not work. This is easily fixed by altering the security setting to a lower level. You can also at this point start specifying what applications will be allowed access to the internet. Another welcome feature of the Intertex IX66-EDFLC ADSL

router is its capability to inform the user of problems. It displays a range of codes on the display panel if a problem is detected. Examples of errors can include no ADSL link, no DNS servers assigned by your ISP, no Ethernet connection, etc.

	Downstream	Upstream		
SNR (Signal-to-Noise-Ratio) margin	58.3	NA	dB	?
Line attenuation	23.6	31.5	dB	?
Errored seconds	8	2		?
Loss of signal	0	0		?
Loss of frame	0	0		?
CRC errors	10	4		?
Data rate	2048	288	kbps	?

It is also possible to enter up to 5 POP3 accounts into the router. When new email is delivered into your mailbox, this is indicated on the front display depending upon which of the designated accounts has received the incoming mail.



The Intertex IX66-EDFLC ADSL Router also uses a piece of software called "Lifeboat" which will reload a base firmware onto the router even if the entire memory has been wiped. This is done via the USB cable supplied with the router.

The last year, a new Internet protocol, SIP (Session Initiation Protocol), standardized by the IETF has rapidly become popular. SIP can be used for many applications to set up a session between users and the most obvious usage is for IP Telephony. The protocol previously most often used, H.323 from ITU, has serious interoperability problems, is not designed for the Internet and has shown itself to limiting and



too complex. The IX66-EDFLC has full SIP support and also includes a SIP proxy.

The Intertex IX66-EDFLC ADSL Router has a good range of connections available. The back of the unit houses two RJ45 10/100Mbps Ethernet ports. As the IX66 does not work in the same way as many routers, it has the ability to act as a hardware firewall with one Ethernet port on the inside and one on the outside. Also, if you have ADSL, you can simply switch the 'outside' interface from 'ET1' to 'LINE' (which is the ADSL port). If you don't have an Ethernet card in your computer, you can use a USB port instead. Using the drivers supplied, the USB connection creates a virtual Ethernet interface on your PC (with an IP address just like a real network card) and does not require CPU processing power to stay synchronised with the local exchange. There is also an "EXP" port for future expansions. We have been informed that future developments will allow you to remotely control home appliances. Another useful feature is that when you change ISP's, the unit automatically updates all the IP addresses instantly. The IX66 also comes with a built in splitter.

We have been using the Intertex IX66-EDFLC ADSL router for approximately six weeks now and I have been extremely impressed with the unit so far. It has a good range of features which will appeal to both enthusiasts and professionals alike. The unit design is neat and unobtrusive and can be placed in many locations in and around the workstation due to its compact size. It comes with a built in firewall and smart card reader/programmer. Using programs such as Phonedit or Simedit it is possible to put in your mobile phone sim card in the reader and edit your phone book.

One person liked the IX66 so much they've decided to setup a site dedicated to this excellent piece of hardware, why not check it out: <http://ix66.techarena.org/forum/>.

Based upon my observations during the test period, I have nothing but praise for the Intertex IX66-EDFLC ADSL Router. The unit is not cheap with recommended retail price being £241 excluding VAT and postage (£293.70 including £8.95 TNT delivery and VAT). However, if you want to seriously enhance your enjoyment of the internet the Intertex IX66-EDFLC ADSL Router is a must for your wish list.

For all the latest news and product information check out:

- [www.intertex.se](http://www.intertex.se)
- [www.csfordyce.com/computing/intertex2](http://www.csfordyce.com/computing/intertex2)
- <http://ix66.techarena.org/forum/>

Places to Purchase:

- [www.csfordyce.com/computing/intertex2](http://www.csfordyce.com/computing/intertex2)
- [www.dsl-warehouse.co.uk](http://www.dsl-warehouse.co.uk)
- [www.eliteukserve.net](http://www.eliteukserve.net)



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