

Level	Processor Type	Programmable?	On Chip?
8	General purpose CPU	yes	possibly
7	Embedded processor	yes	typically
6	I/O processor	yes	typically
5	Coprocessor	no	typically
4	Fabric interface	no	typically
3	Data transfer unit	no	typically
2	Framer	no	possibly
1	Physical transmitter	no	possibly

Figure 13.1 The processor hierarchy used in a typical network system. As the last column of the figure shows, many levels of the hierarchy are located onboard the network processor chip.