OSI Model

7

Application

This is the layer that supports processes for end-users and applications.

6

Presentation

The presentation layer (also referred to as the 'syntax layer') transforms data into a form the application layer can digest.

5

Session

The session layer is responsible for initiating and terminating, connections between different applications.

4

Transport

The transport layer is responsible for ensuring complete data transfer. Packets must get to their endpoints, error free, and properly sequenced.

3

Network

The network layer is responsible for establishing the way in which data is communicated -both in your network and in other networks - via packet forwarding and routing.

2

Data Link

The data link layer is responsible for coding and decoding data packets --aka, ensuring communication between the network and physical layer happens.

1

Physical

This layer is responsible for ensuring your physical assets - hardware, routers, switches, patch panels, cabling, etc - are powered on and able to send/receive data.

TCP/IP Model

4

Application

Interface for end point services such as web browsing and email.

3

Transport

Host to host communications using TCP (connection oriented) and UDP (connectionless) protocols.

2

Internet

Responsible for packaging, addressing, and routing data. Relies upon IP, ICMP, IGMP, and ARP protocols.

1

Network Interface

Controls the movement of bits across a connection medium.