TOF Comments on VTRX+, 27-Nov-2023 (Tonko Ljubicic/BNL)

Pros	Radiation Hard (which we don't care)
	Lower Material (my guess: 2-3x) – we do care
	Lower Power (2x) – we mildly care
	Smaller (2-3x) – we care, especially the lower height
Cons	Need to order NOW (2024). Need to know FINAL quantity (which we don't)!
	Needs an inconvenient (IMHO) pigtail <u>and</u> we need to know the length of it NOW, at the time of order (which we don't)
	Low downlink rate (2.5 Gbs) \Rightarrow only 16 bits of payload per EIC 98.5 MHz tick <i>or</i> have a mixed rate system coming from e.g. the Global Timing Unit (ugly)
	Expensive (~5x more than SFP+)
	Not a commercial product, sold as-is, in good faith :-)
	Fragile (comment from Irakli)
	TOF doesn't think it can have a strong case for e.g. a CD3b to be able to defend the purchase of VTRX+ at this time.

NOTE: Possible similar options to VTRX+ ⇒ SAMTEC Firefly

NOTE: TOF needs from 500 to 2000 fiber links. The final number is still not known.

TOF Standpoint: Although we would benefit from VTRX+ we won't know the <u>final</u> required quantity soon.

We will continue prototyping with SFP+ as Option A but we will investigate Firefly as a possibility.