Which Ethernet Connector Do I Use?

Your TestPro is a powerful and versatile test instrument which can capable of basic cable tests, full cable certification, 100M/1G Ethernet tests, 2/5/10G Ethernet tests, and Power over Ethernet (PoE) tests. This article describes which connectors are used for which tests.

The Side Port is used for the following tests:

1. Basic cable continuity/wiremap length measurements
2. IEEE 802.3 BASE-T tests at 100Mbps and 1Gbps

The Top Port on the CAT 6A/Class EA Channel adapter is used certifying UTP and shielded twisted pair channels.

The Permanent Link adapter which has a cable integrated into the connector housing (not shown) is used for Permanent Link tests.
The top left port (as seen facing the unit with an installed AD-NETCABLE adapter, also labeled CAT 6A/CLASS E_A CHANNEL) is used for certifying UTP and shielded twisted pair channels, assuming you have a software license for the AD-NETCABLE adapter. In that sense this port is identical to the dedicated CHANNEL ADAPTER discussed above.

The top right port (as seen facing the unit with an installed AD-NETCABLE adapter, also labeled 2.5G/5G/10G (PoE) is used for:

1. Testing a channel to see what level of Ethernet speeds it can support and which how much headroom
2. Testing an Ethernet switch from a remote location to see the maximum speed supported by both the switch and the link
3. Testing a PoE device to ensure PoE functionality and negotiation is working
4. Testing a PoE device to determine how much power can be supplied