MANAGING THE FUTURE
by
CONTROLLING THE PRESENT

Mike Gilmore
Senior Partner
The Cabling Partnership

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Mike Gilmore

INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

ISO/IEC
- **Member JTC1 SC25 WG3: Generic Cabling**

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY STANDARDS

CENELEC
- **Chairman TC215 WG1: IT Cabling**

UNITED KINGDOM STANDARDS

BSI
- **ChairmanTCT7/-/1: IT Cabling**

Fibreoptic Industry Association
- **Standards Director**
- **Technical Director**

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Cabling mis-management

- design
  - poor cabinet layouts
- operation
  - patching anarchy
- procedures
  - random procurement of gap components
  - lack of inspection systems to control mis-use

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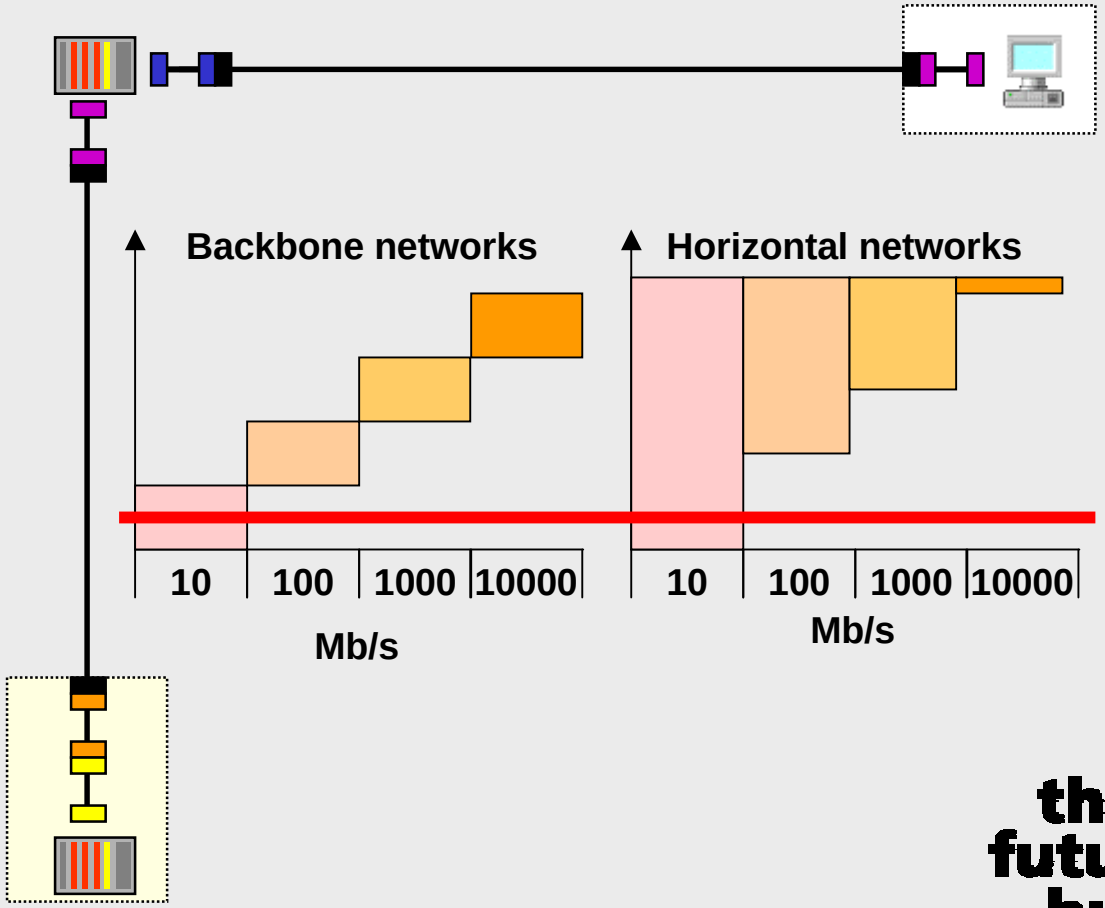
Gigabit technology - the market driver?



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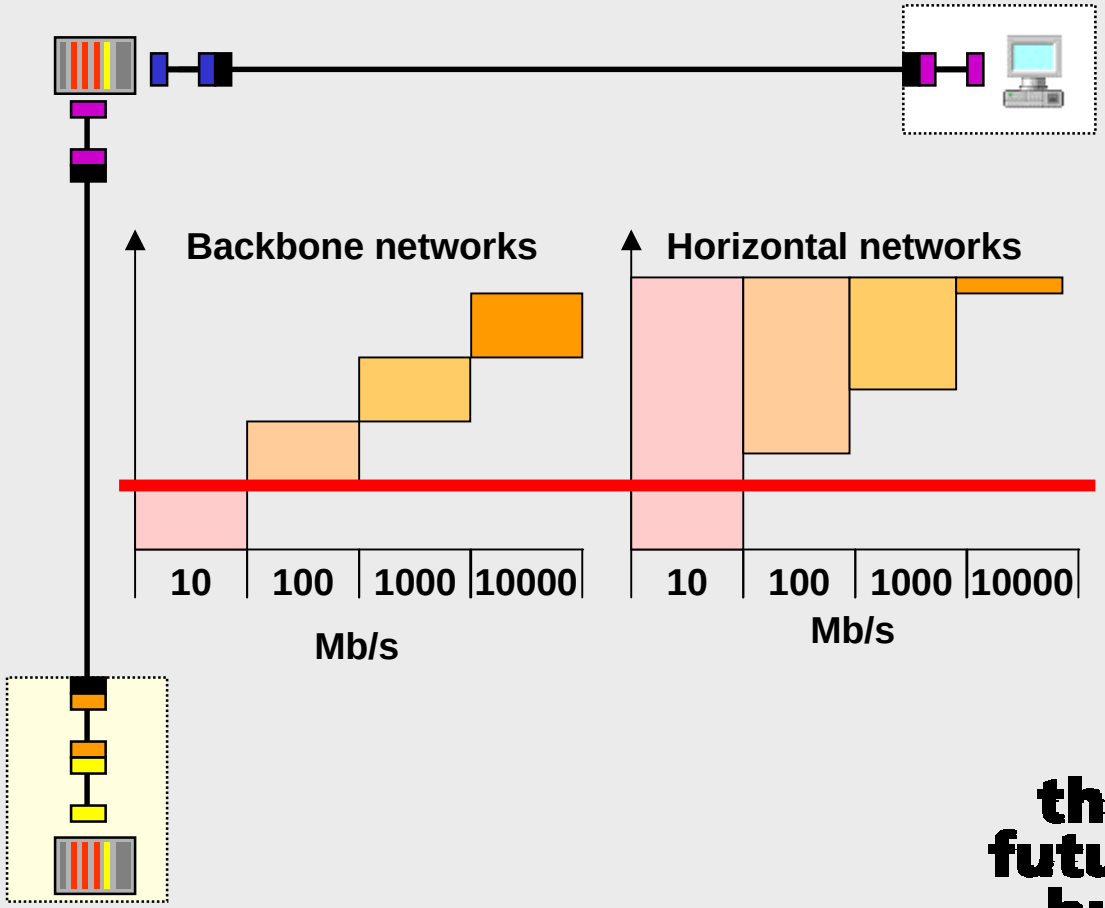

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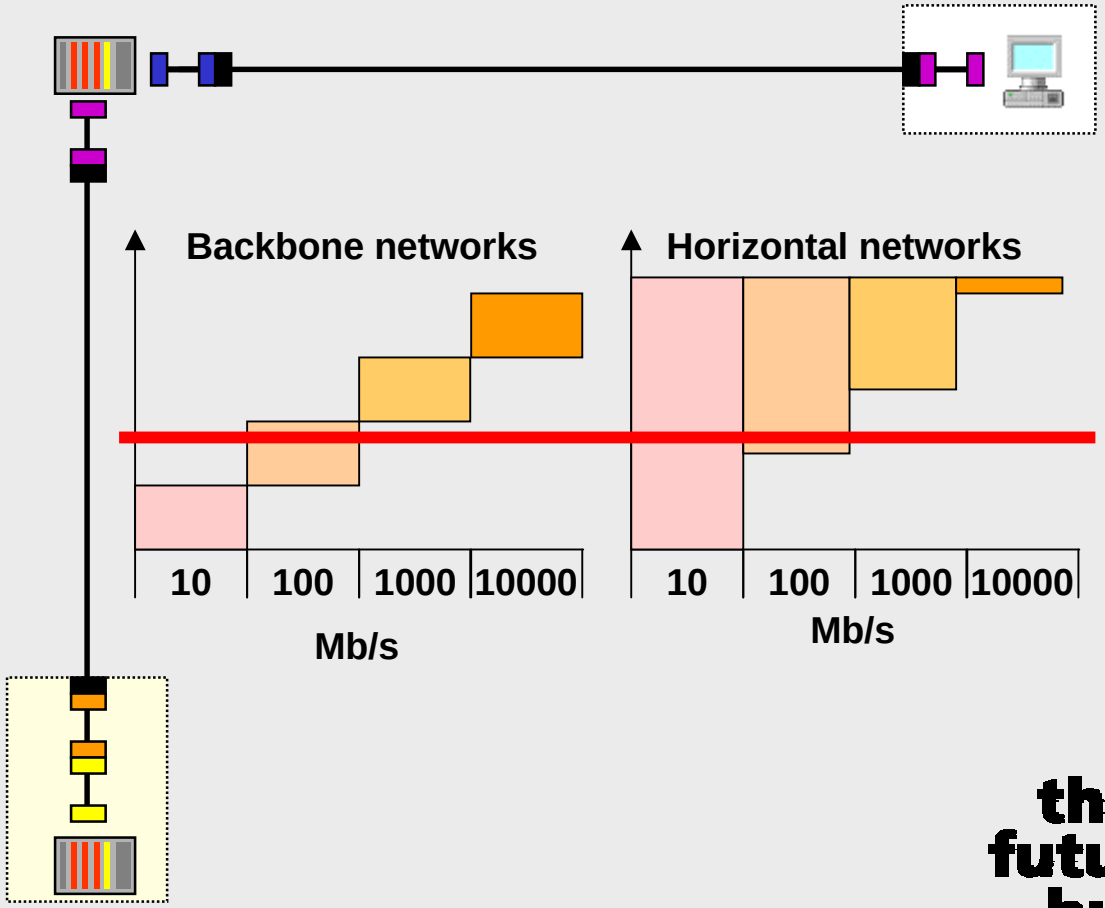

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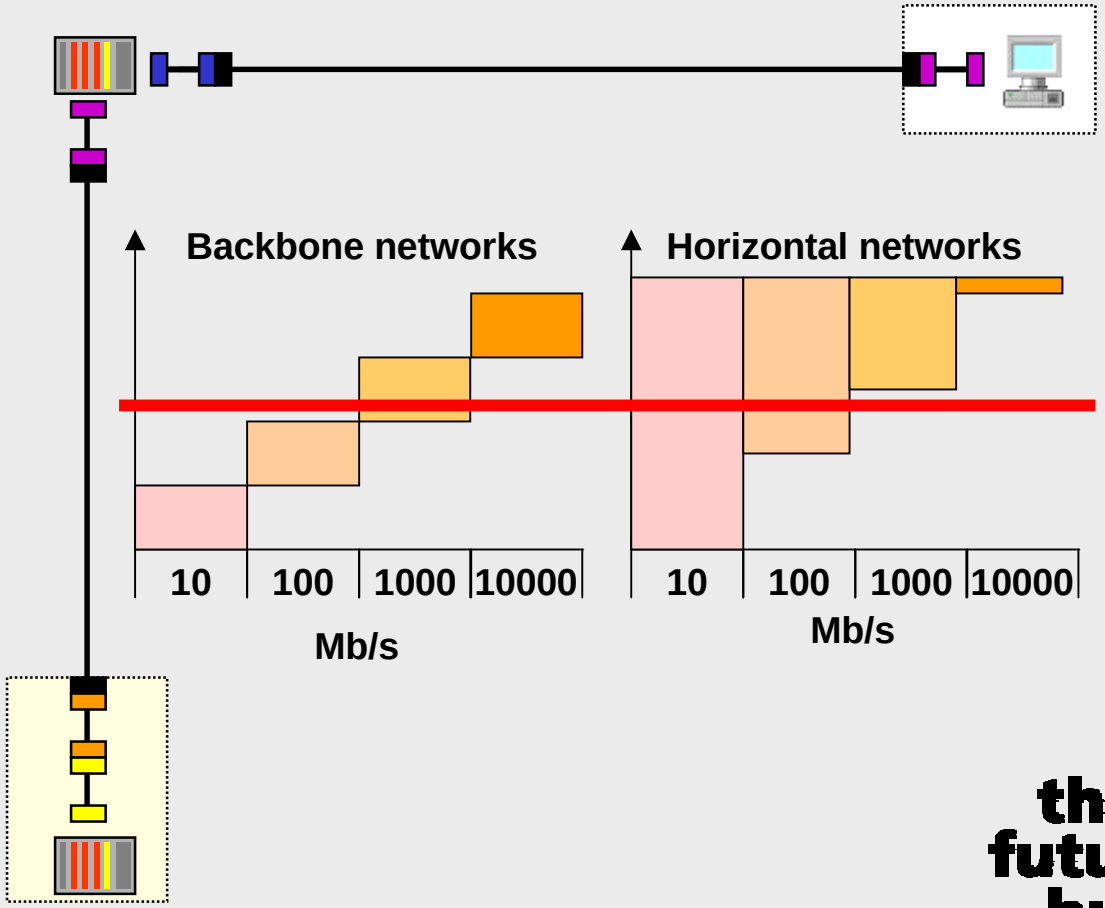

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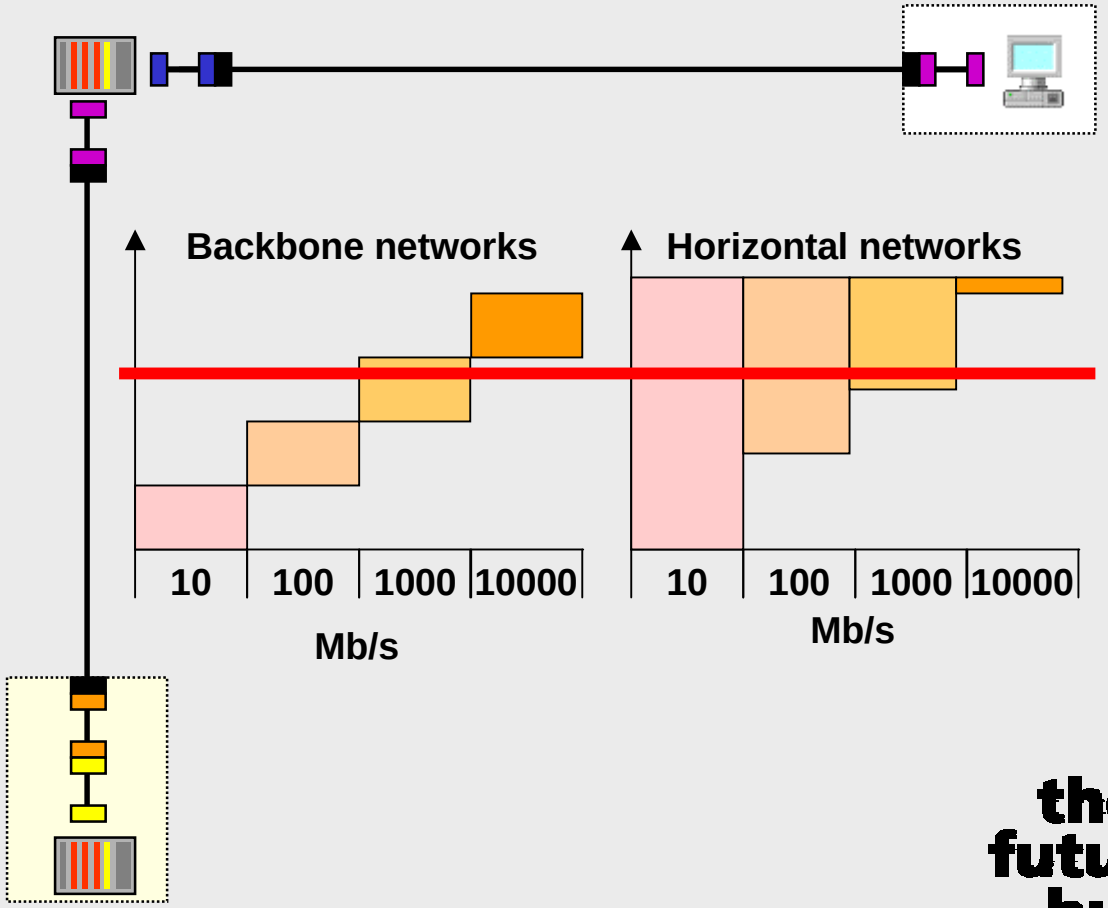

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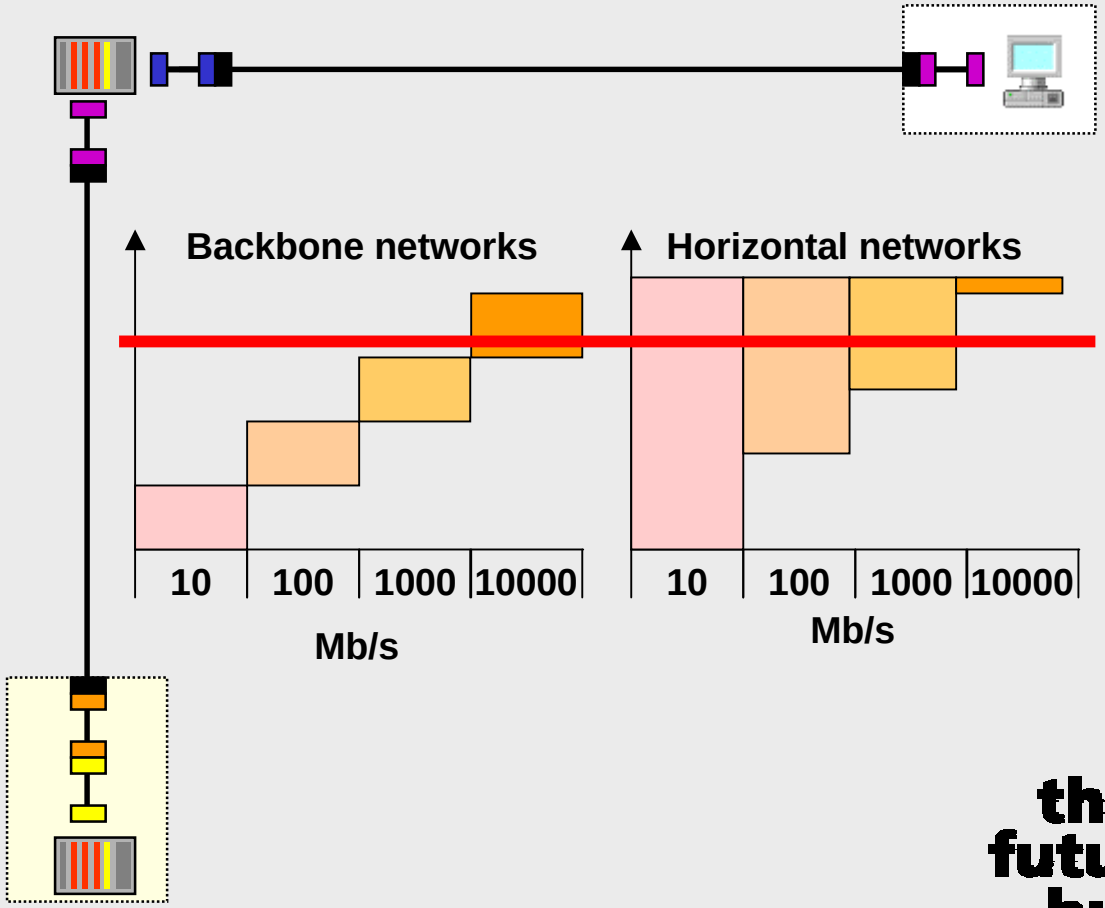

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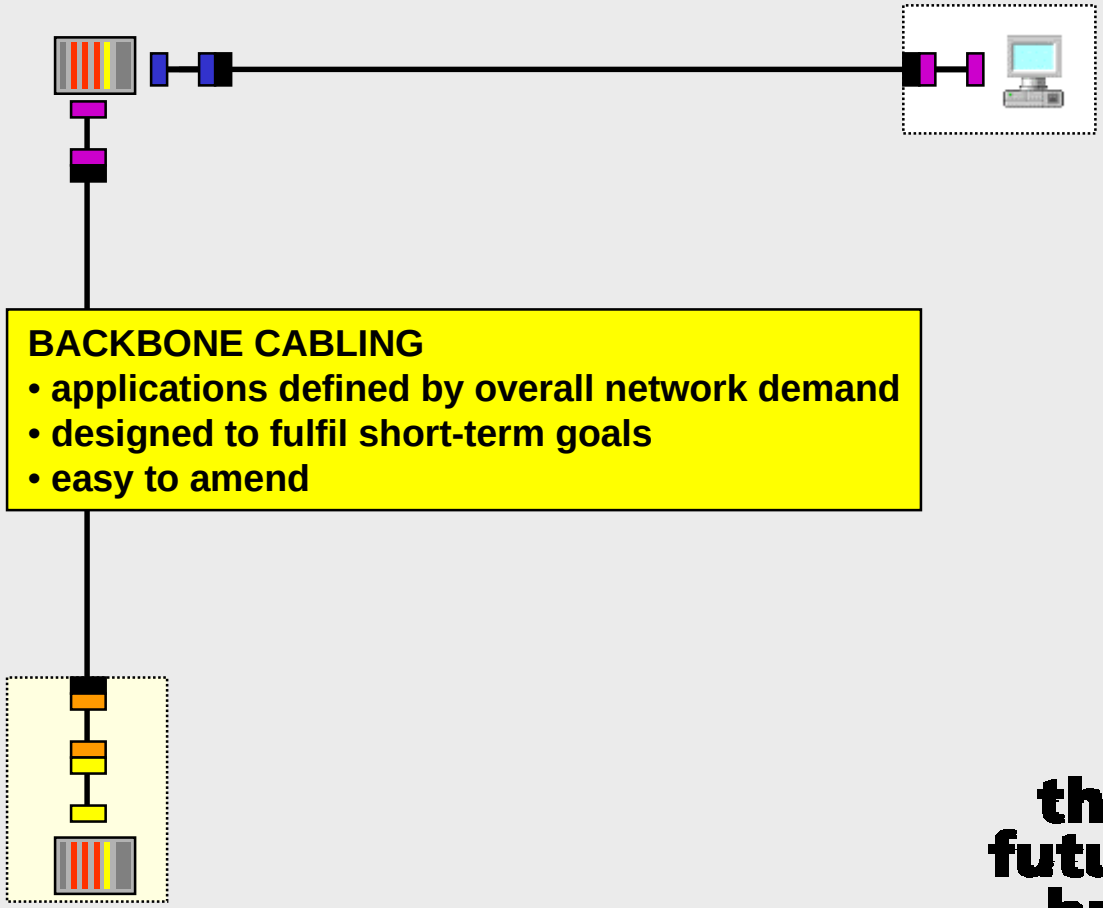
Design strategies



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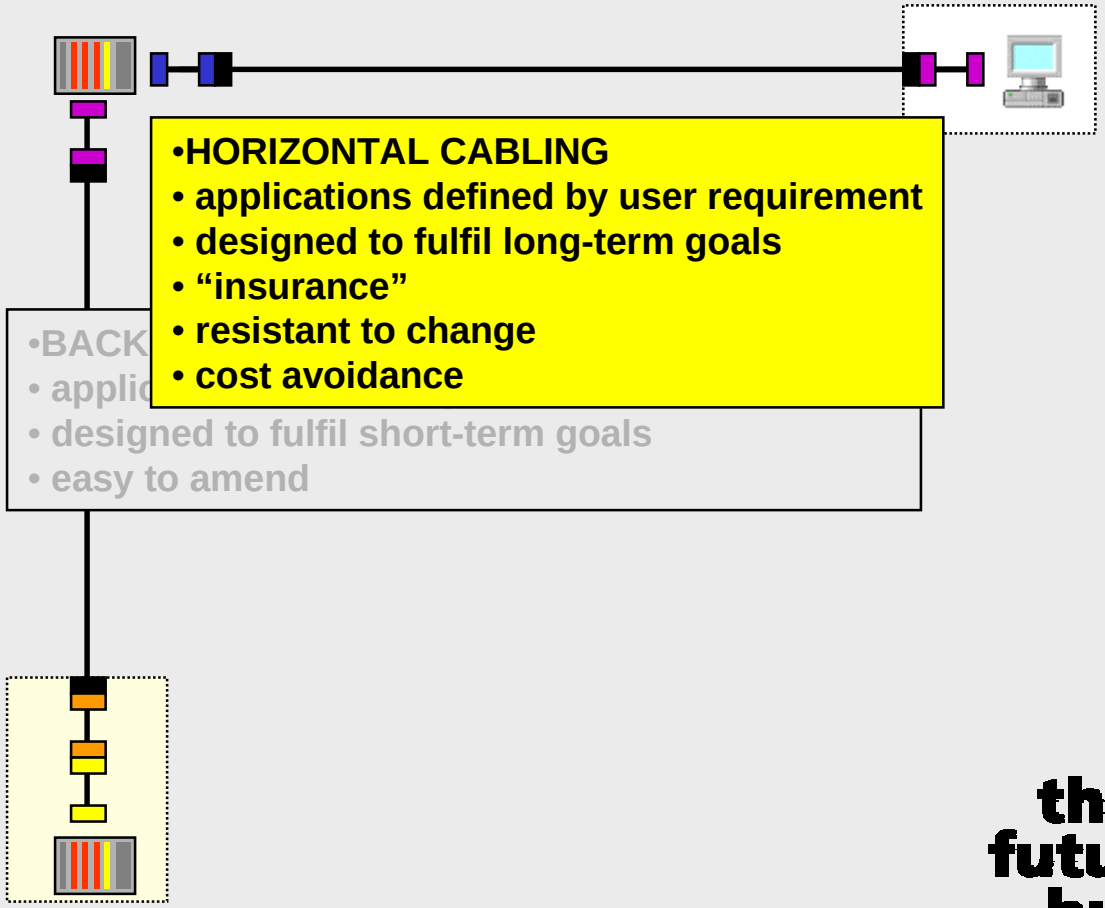

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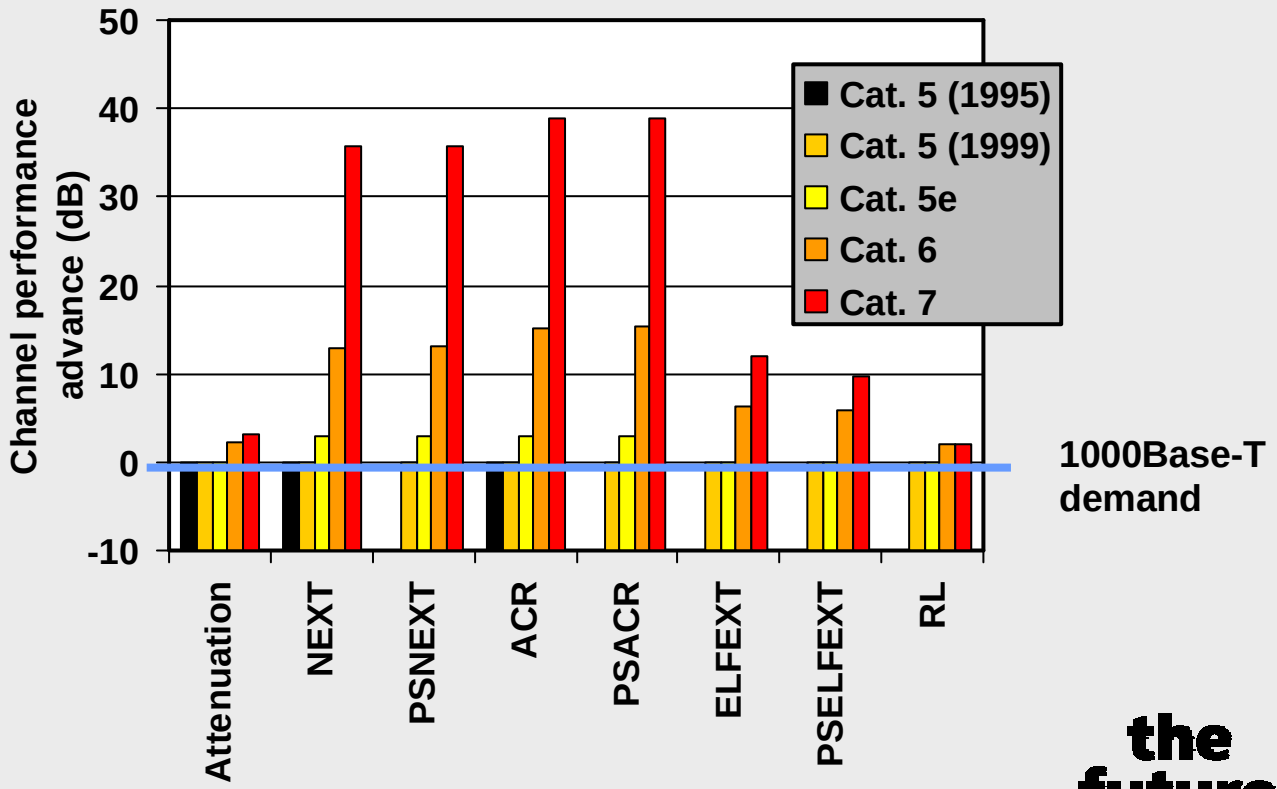
Copper cabling specification development



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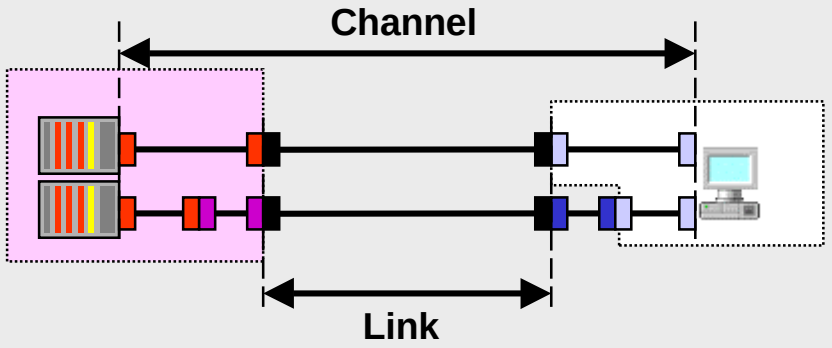
Links and channels



Cabling-focussed activities

“Link problems”

DESIGNER INSTALLER

Hand-over

Networking-focussed activities

“Channel problems”

NETWORK OWNER

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Years from design datum

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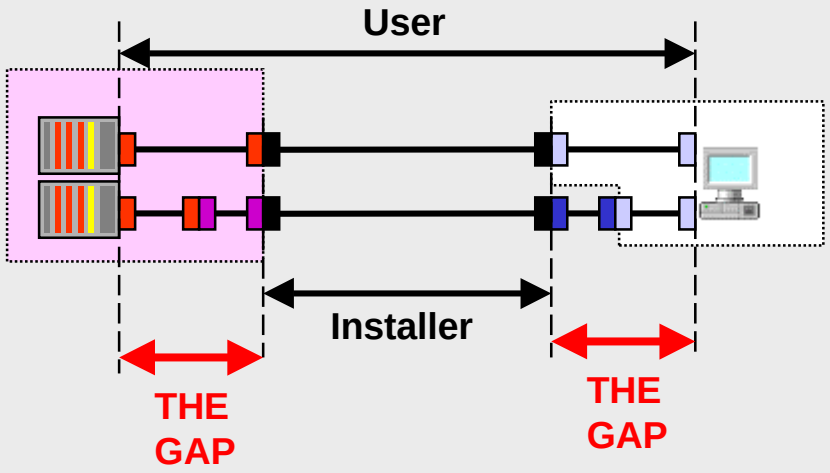
“Mind the Channel Gap”



THE USER
- **configures 66% - 80% of each channel**
- **defines 100% of channel performance**

CHANNEL MANAGEMENT IS KEY TO NETWORK RELIABILITY

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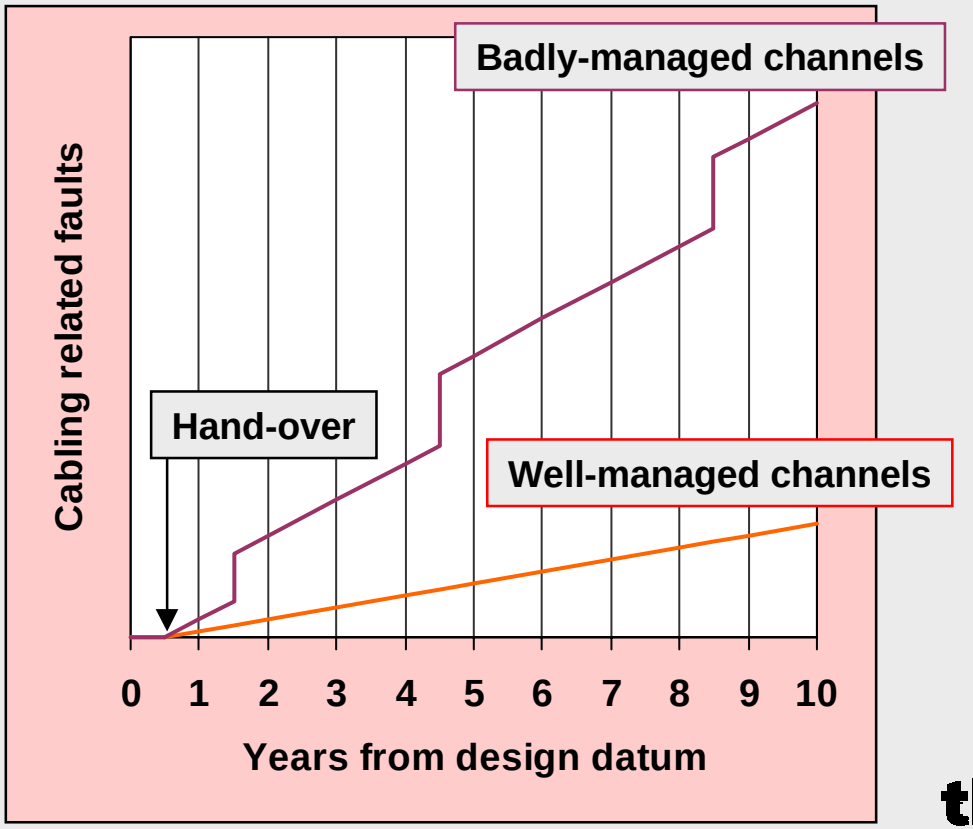
Channel life-cycles



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The Big Issue(s)

- sockets and plugs
  - non-interoperability of plugs and sockets
  - non-backwards compatibility of enhanced performance products
  - screen continuity
- patch cords/equipment cables
  - length
  - screen continuity
  - routeing damage

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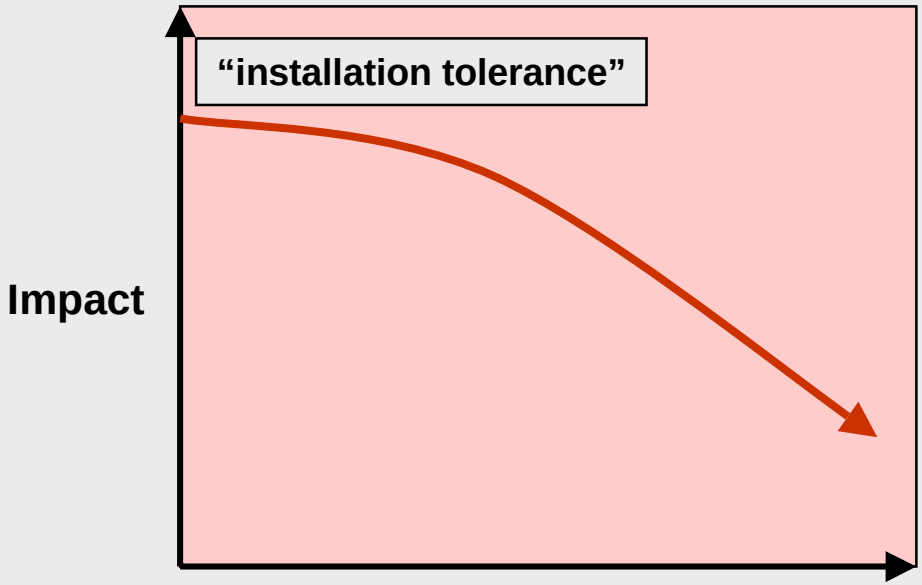
The benefit of increased link performance?



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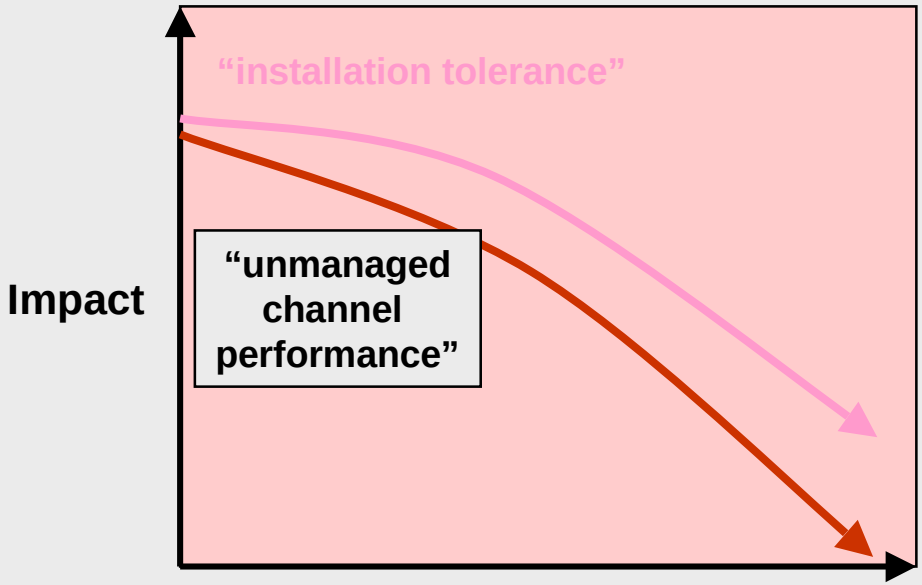

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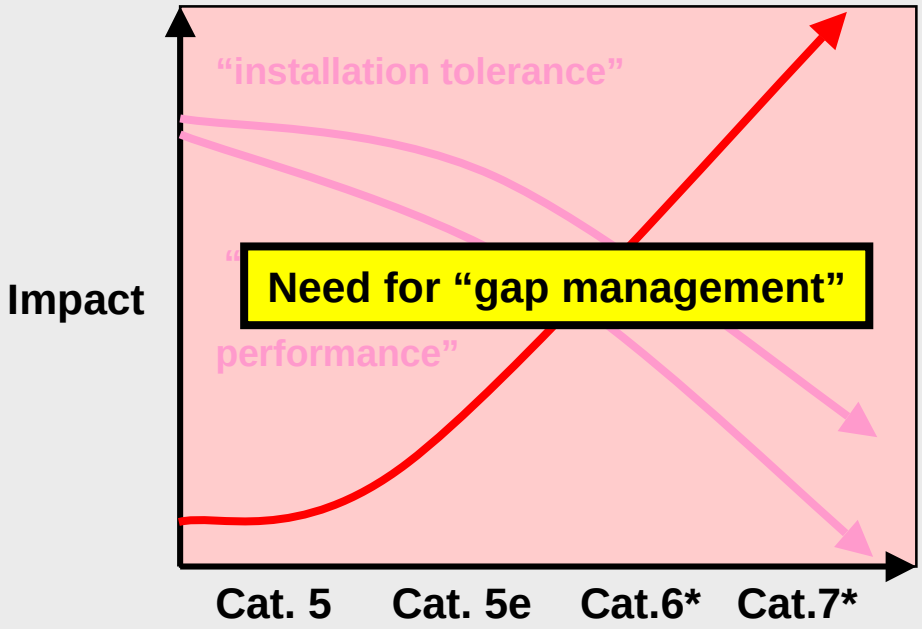
The impact of increased link performance



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“Gap” (channel) management

- administration
  - identification schemes, labelling
    - patch cords, equipment cables
  - procurement system
    - usage profiles, lead times
- procedures
  - configuration control to manage moves/changes
  - handling of cords and cables in cabinets
  - emergency procedures
  - inspection systems

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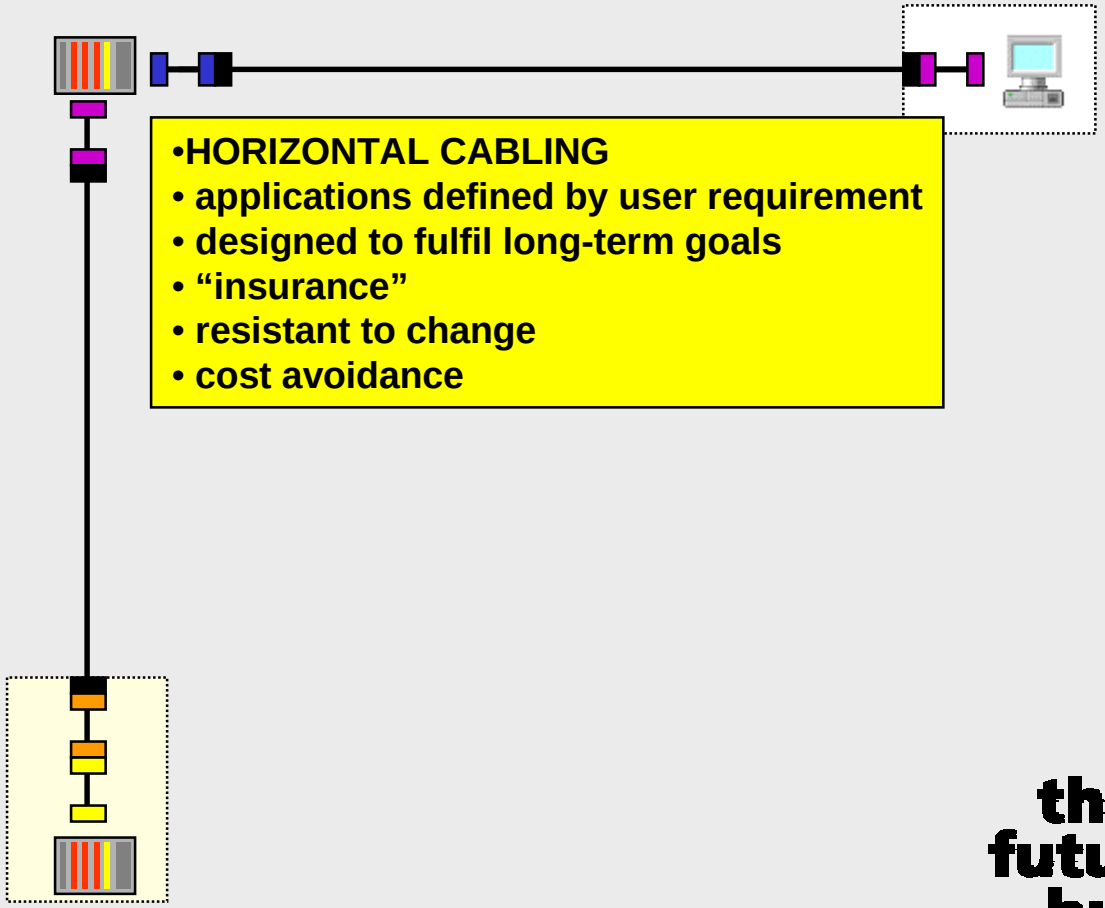
Horizontal design strategy



- **HORIZONTAL CABLING**
- **applications defined by user requirement**
- **designed to fulfil long-term goals**
- **“insurance”**
- **resistant to change**
- **cost avoidance**

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The Key Decision

Cat. 5 (1999) ?

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The Key Decision

Cat. 5 (1999) ?

Cat. 5e ?

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The Key Decision

Cat. 5 (1999) ?

Cat. 5e ?

Cat. 6 ?

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The Key Decision

Cat 5 (1999) ?

Cat 5e ?

Cat 6 ?

Management
of
THE CHANNEL GAP
how to?
who will?

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