

WOULD YOU LIKE
**THE LATEST TECHNOLOGY FOR
YOUR INFRASTRUCTURE**
WITHOUT THE BURDEN OF DIGGING THROUGH THE RESEARCH?

by Dustin McLeod, Vice President of Sales, US Net Communications

SMART DATA CENTER MANAGERS LIVE BY THE PROPOSITION THAT **"PROPER PLANNING PREVENTS POOR PERFORMANCE."** BUILT INTO THE TIER STRUCTURE IS THE PROPOSITION THAT EVEN THE BEST PLANNED DATA CENTER WILL, AT ONE POINT OR ANOTHER, BE SUBJECT TO FORCES BEYOND OUR CONTROL BUT THAT STILL NEED TO BE PLANNED FOR. ANTICIPATING THE FUTURE IS AN IMPERATIVE FOR SAVVY DATA CENTER MANAGERS.

So it is with cabling infrastructure. It's not so much the challenge of a catastrophic failure that we face, but the challenge of rapidly changing technology and the growth of the demands being made on data centers that drives us.

ANSI/TIA-942 defined a standard infrastructure for data standards. The proposition supporting these standards is that legacy systems of unstructured point-to-point cabling, where different cabling is used for different applications, is



obsolete in the face of changing technology and the data transfer demands of even modest data centers.

Today's cabling infrastructure designers need to be prepared to accommodate a wide range of applications, from LAN to WAN to SAN and beyond. The other

significant variable is quickly changing protocols from the "old" 5 GbE to 10 GbE to 50 or 100 GbE and from copper to fiber. And then the next step to wireless!

The modern cabling designer must understand the performance parameters of copper and fiber in their multitude of configurations. Connectors, cables and distribution hardware are additional variables in the design, along with cabling distances and space management issues.

The interactions among all the variables involved in modern structured cabling design, installation and maintenance demand a close working relationship between data center managers and their infrastructure providers.

That relationship begins with a clear understanding of current and future needs for technology, flexibility, scalability, reliability and space management.

With a grasp of needs, the relationship needs to move to the next level where options are provided along with a risk/reward analysis, including cost/benefit analysis.

Finally, once the infrastructure design is settled upon, it becomes incumbent upon the cabling experts to source product efficiently from trusted providers.

Proper planning with the future in mind goes a long way toward ensuring proper performance.

For more information, or to get in touch with our account executives,
please call 972.445.8668 or visit www.usnet-1.com