



System Documentation

For the maintenance and maximum use of the features of a structured cabling system, proper documentation is necessary. It is best to compile the system documentation as the installation progresses. Then, deliver the documentation to the owner as the last element of the completed job. The documentation package includes:

- The marked-up blueprints showing outlet locations, associated numbering, DF locations, and major run paths and risers.
- The test results including a hard copy of all link characteristics for each cable run.
- The cross-connect log in hard copy and software-based (if available).
- A synopsis of the numbering scheme.
- A list of major components and their place in the network.
- Any additional supporting documentation.

NUMBERING SCHEME

Use an intelligent numbering scheme in the cable plant for identification of the cable. Base the numbering scheme on the cable plant itself and not any technological or physical aspect of the building it supports. The numbering scheme breaks into three areas:

- Horizontal Cabling
- Backbone Cabling
- System Equipment

HORIZONTAL CABLING

Label each cable, user outlet, and patch panel (or punch block) with a designation developed to the following formula at each end of the run:

DF# - Group# - Channel#

DF# is the terminating distribution frame the cable connects to (“00” typically designates the MDF).

Group# is sequential in each DF and typically represents a patch panel or punch block.

Channel# is sequential within the group, as indicated by the logical or physical channel numbering on the components.

BACKBONE CABLING

Label each riser cable, user outlet and patch panel (or punch block) with a designation developed to the following formula at each end of the run:

ODF# - TDF# - Cable# - Channel#

ODF# is the distribution frame from which the cable originates.

TDF# is the distribution frame in which the cable terminates.

Cable# is sequential between each DF.

Channel# is sequential within the cable, as indicated by the logical or physical channel numbering on the components. It is not required where the cable represents a single physical channel of communications.

SYSTEM EQUIPMENT

Use the following designation formula for each piece of network equipment that is represented directly or through some type of patch panel:

Device# - Group# - Port#

Device# is sequential for each device in a DF.

Group# is sequential in each device and represents a chassis card or other logical group.

Port# is sequential within the group, as indicated by the logical or physical channel numbering on the group component.

CROSS-CONNECT LOG

As the final procedure in any network installation, the certified installer should provide a set of cross-connect logs for each DF in the system. A cross-connect log may be a simple hard copy or software-based log documenting the cross-connections of rack and wall mounted termination components (i.e., patch cables or cross wires). It follows a simple "from-to" format utilizing the numbering scheme to identify interconnecting ports.