

OCP Engineering Workshop 25 September 2017 | Dallas, TX

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Color Coded Cabling Proposal

color scheme

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WHY

Improved operational efficiency

Technicians can quickly identify cables by function, disregarding two-thirds of the cabling in the rack. This will improve accuracy and response time during changes or incident activity.

Reduced cabling cost



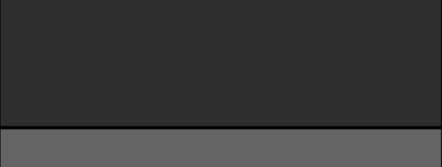




Using an agreed upon color scheme, the OCP community can take advantage of community pricing with the potential of bulk buys.

Reduced training time

New technicians or transfers do not have to re-learn a different corporate standard.

4. Jacket Color Schema Proposal

1.1 Table

Cable Color Scheme			Color Codes		
			RGB	pantone	RAL
A-Side Diverse path		Red*	119, 17, 0	710	3018
B-Side Diverse path		Blue	0, 124, 176	3015	5015
Management		Black	39, 41, 43	6	9011
Telephone		Gray	122, 123, 122	424	7037
Non-Redundant Path		Green	0, 105, 76	342	6016
Crossover		Pink	XXX	XXX	350-60-45
Station Desk		Yellow	250, 202, 48	123	1018

*In some regions, the color red is used for fire systems only. This usually pertains to cabling leaving the room as long as this color schema is being used locally in room or cabinet fire code should not apply.

Cable Jacket Label

Cables should not only have the color specified from the manufacture, but also standard jacket labeling. The following are some recommended best practices.

Cabling should include labeling on both ends of cable. This could be a unique ID such as a QR code with a human readable number.

Cables should be marked with length marker.

Cables should have the manufacturer's name and serial number. This can be the Unique ID.

Fiber cables should have the method, polarity, fire rating and loss marked on the cable

Cable Label

Each cable should be labeled to allow for location information. Below is an example format and information that should be included.

Format: "XXX-YYY-ZZZ"

Far end destination – "XXX" - Room identification

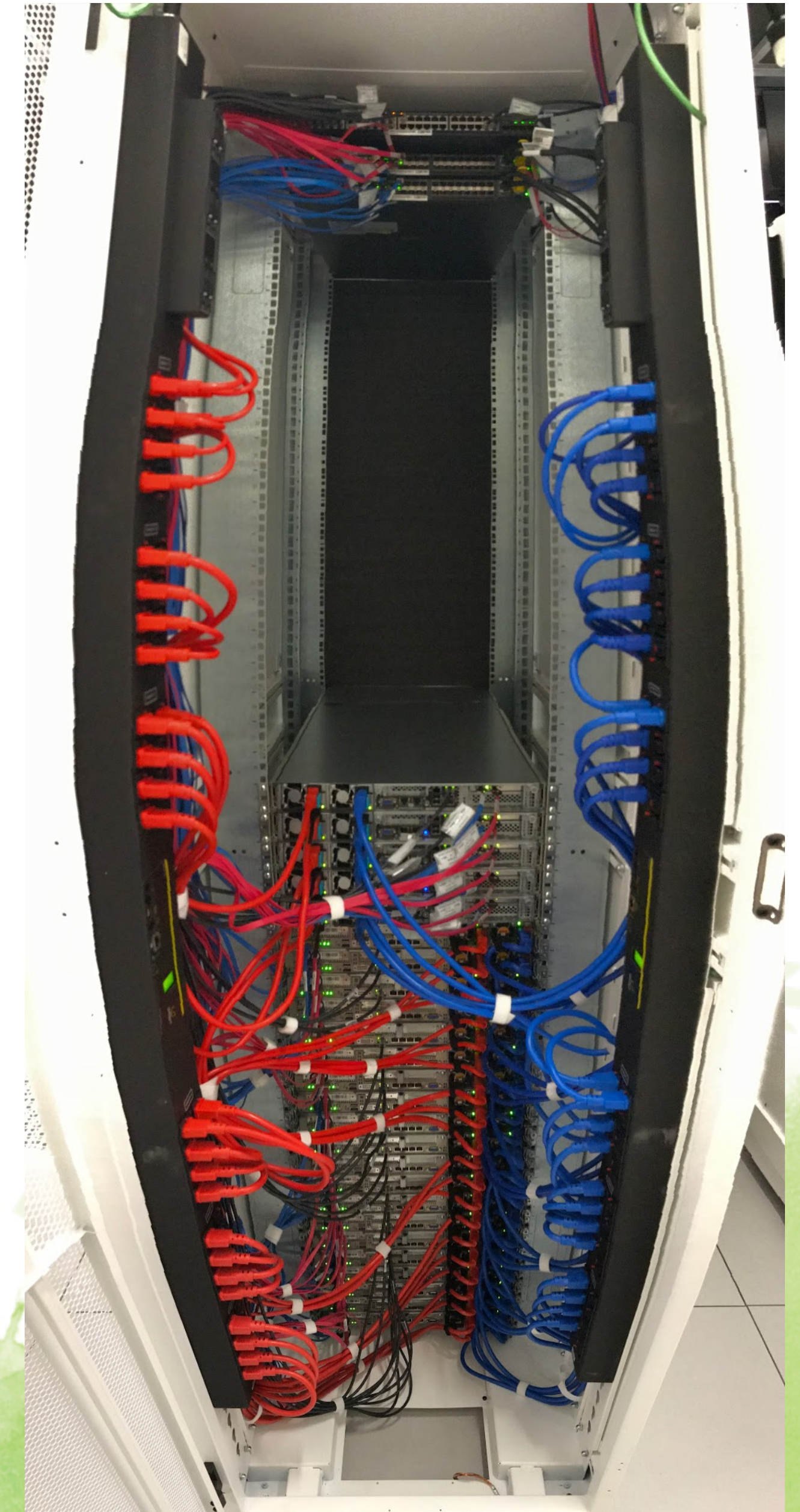
Far end destination – "YYY" - Grid location

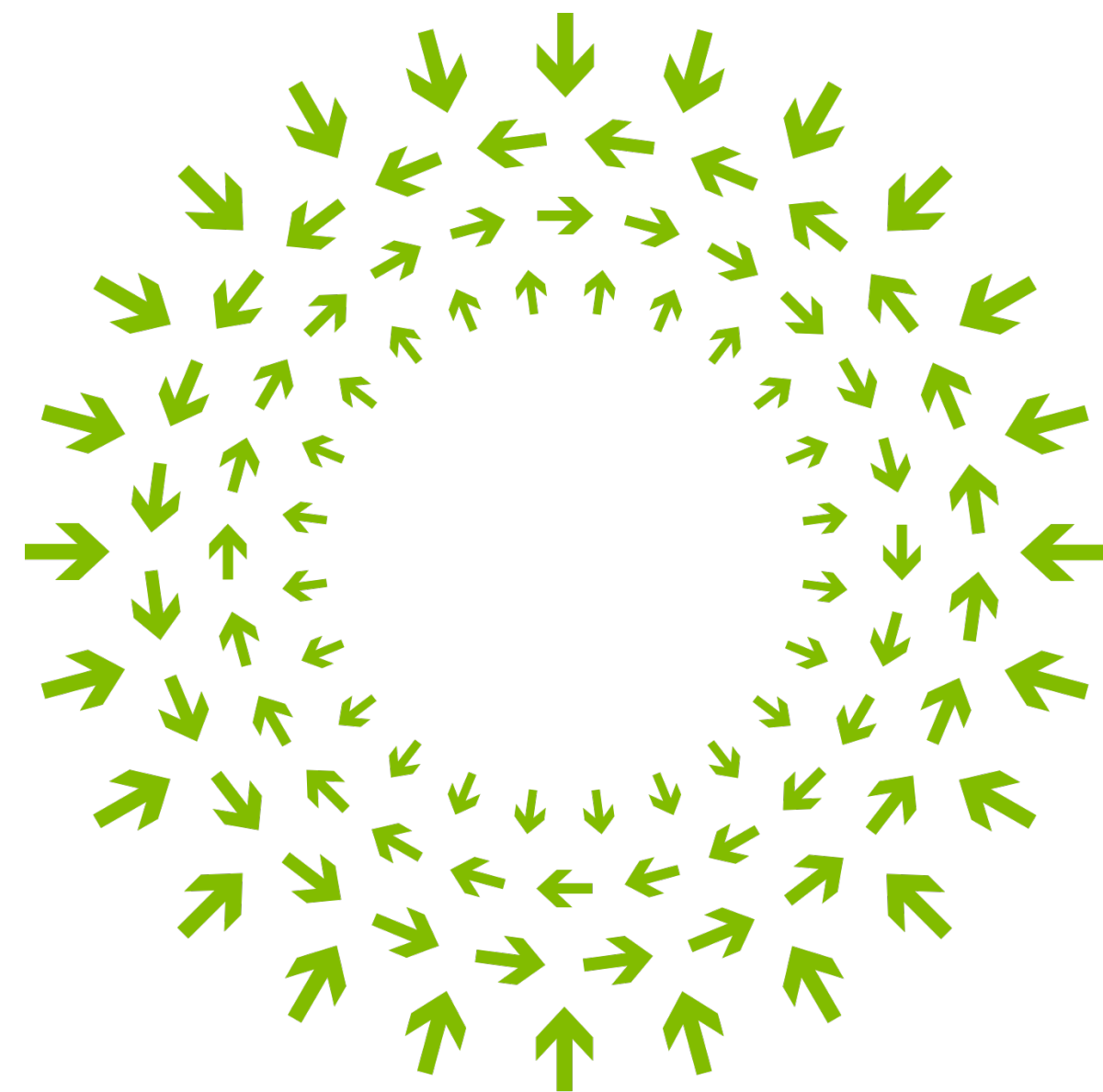
Port count – "ZZZ" - cables numbered in sequential order

Summary

A standardized cable color schema might appear to be a simplistic improvement, but it can bring significant fundamental operational efficiencies to a data center. If adopted by the community, further benefits are gained through reduced material costs and reduced training time. We encourage the community to provide further suggestions and improvements to this information document.

http://www.opencompute.org/wiki/Data_Center





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