

# ISP & IXP Design



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APNIC 34

21<sup>st</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> August 2012



# ISP & IXP Network Design

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- ❑ PoP Topologies and Design
- ❑ Backbone Design
- ❑ Upstream Connectivity & Peering
- ❑ Addressing
- ❑ Routing Protocols
- ❑ Out of Band Management
- ❑ Operational Considerations
- ❑ Internet Exchange Points

# Point of Presence Topologies



# PoP Topologies

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- ❑ Core routers – high speed trunk connections
- ❑ Distribution routers and Access routers – high port density
- ❑ Border routers – connections to other providers
- ❑ Service routers – hosting and servers
- ❑ Some functions might be handled by a single router

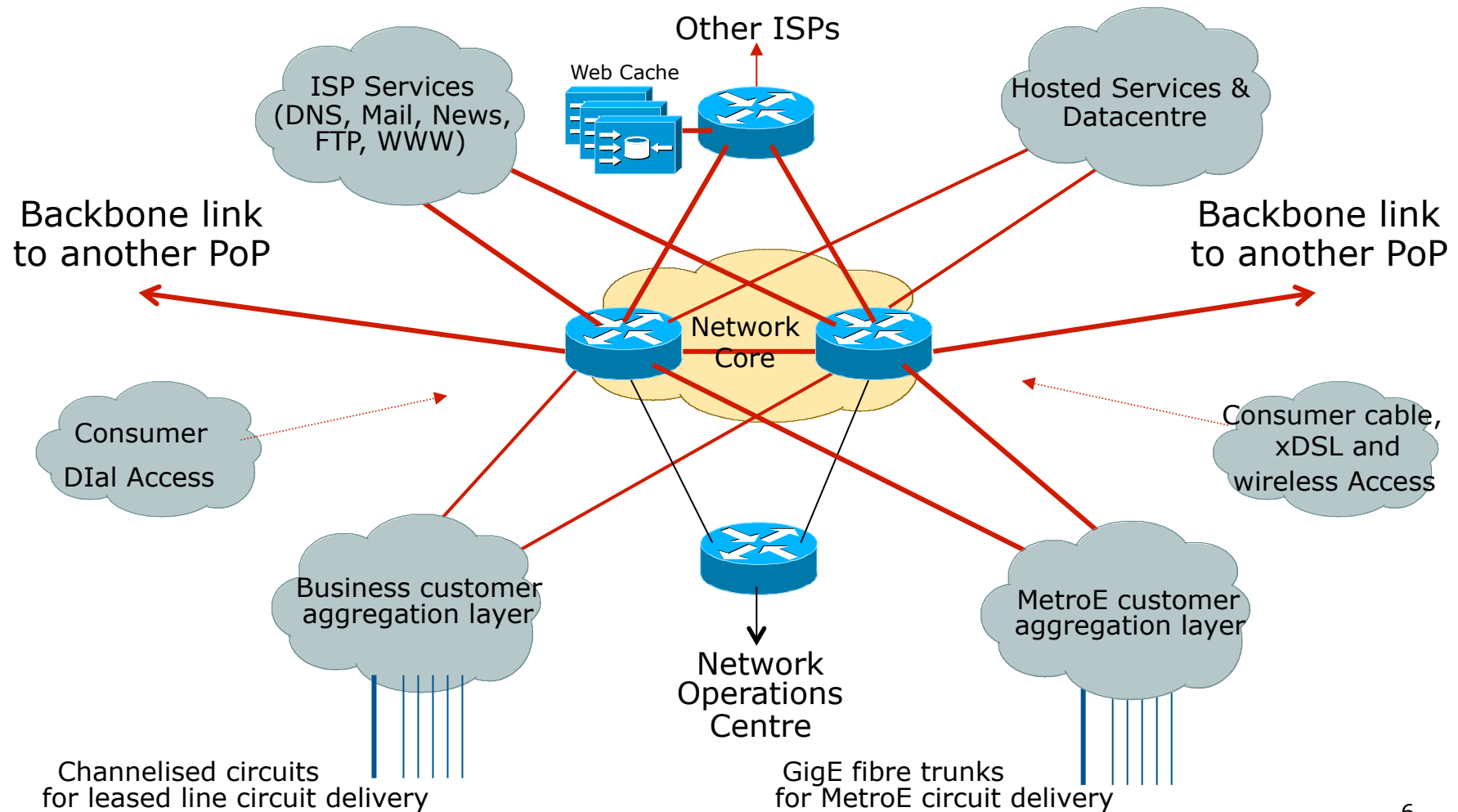


# PoP Design

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- Modular Design
- Aggregation Services separated according to
  - connection speed
  - customer service
  - contention ratio
  - security considerations

# Modular PoP Design



# Modular Routing Protocol Design

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- ❑ Modular IGP implementation
  - IGP “area” per PoP
  - Core routers in backbone area (Area 0/L2)
  - Aggregation/summarisation where possible into the core
- ❑ Modular iBGP implementation
  - BGP route reflector cluster
  - **Core routers** are the route-reflectors
  - Remaining routers are clients & peer with route-reflectors only

# Point of Presence Design





# PoP Modules

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- ❑ Low Speed customer connections
  - PSTN/ISDN dialup
  - Low bandwidth needs
  - Low revenue, large numbers
- ❑ Leased line customer connections
  - E1/T1 speed range
  - Delivery over channelised media
  - Medium bandwidth needs
  - Medium revenue, medium numbers

# PoP Modules

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- ❑ Broad Band customer connections
  - xDSL, Cable and Wireless
  - High bandwidth needs
  - Low revenue, large numbers
- ❑ MetroE & Highband customer connections
  - Trunk onto GigE or 10GigE of 10Mbps and higher
  - Channelised OC3/12 delivery of E3/T3 and higher
  - High bandwidth needs
  - High revenue, low numbers

# PoP Modules

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## □ PoP Core

- Two dedicated routers
- High Speed interconnect
- Backbone Links **ONLY**
- *Do not touch them!*

## □ Border Network

- Dedicated border router to other ISPs
- The ISP's "front" door
- Transparent web caching?
- **Two** in backbone is minimum guarantee for redundancy

# PoP Modules

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## □ ISP Services

- DNS (cache, secondary)
- News (still relevant?)
- Mail (POP3, Relay, Anti-virus/anti-spam)
- WWW (server, proxy, cache)

## □ Hosted Services/DataCentres

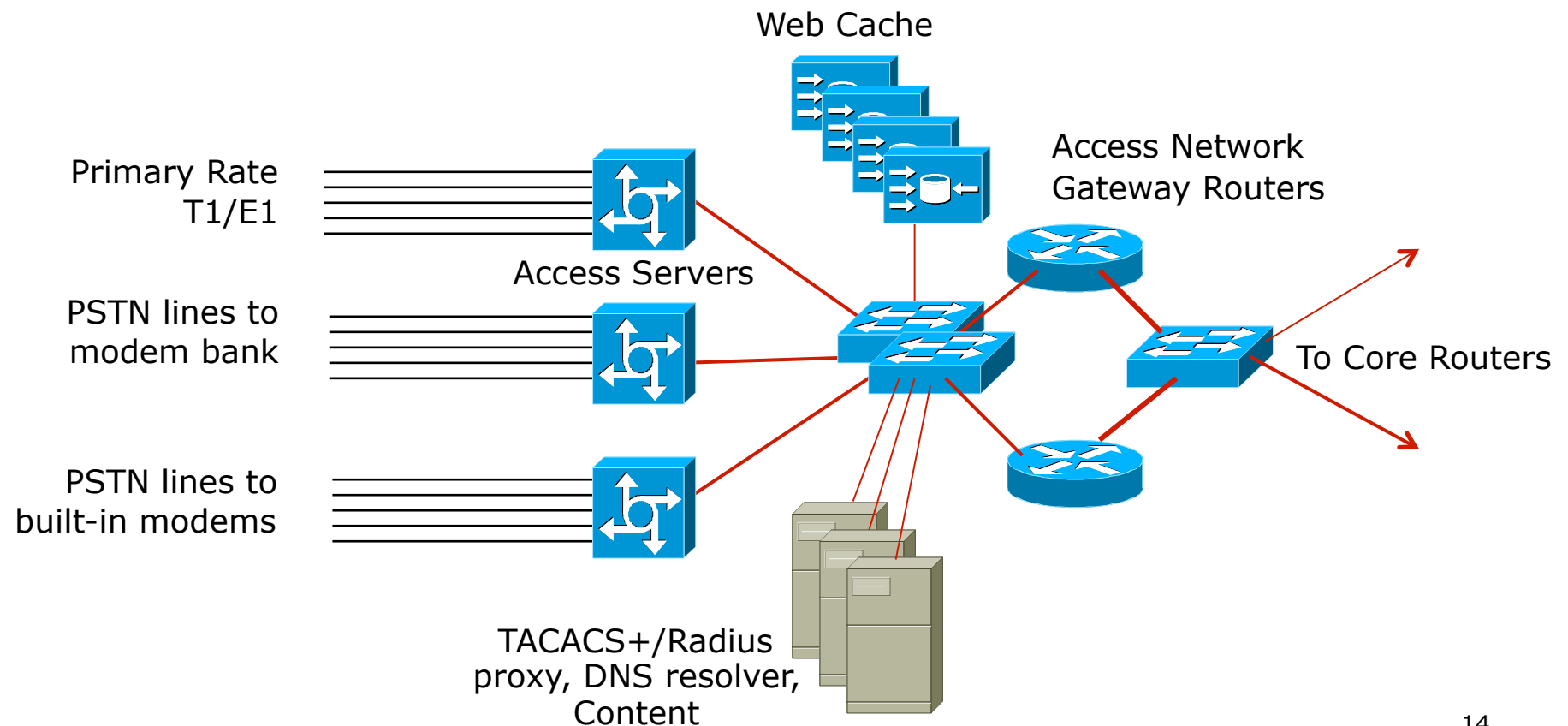
- Virtual Web, WWW (server, proxy, cache)
- Information/Content Services
- Electronic Commerce

# PoP Modules

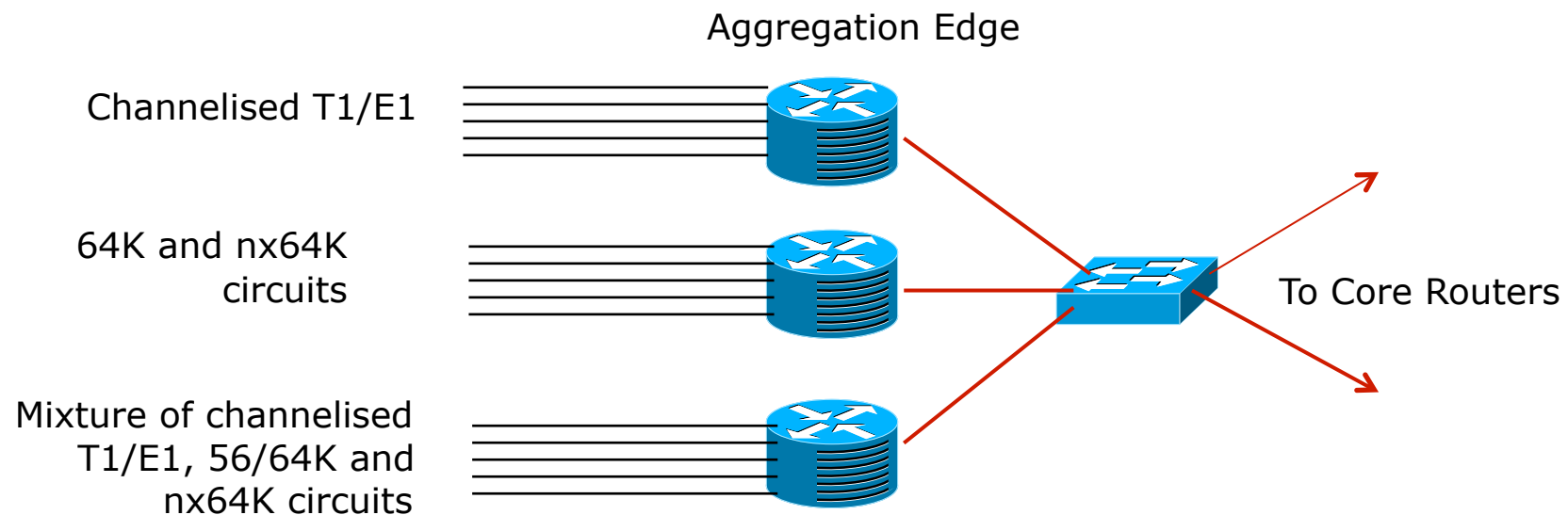
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- Network Operations Centre
  - Consider primary and backup locations
  - Network monitoring
  - Statistics and log gathering
  - Direct but secure access
- Out of Band Management Network
  - The ISP Network “Safety Belt”

# Low Speed Access Module

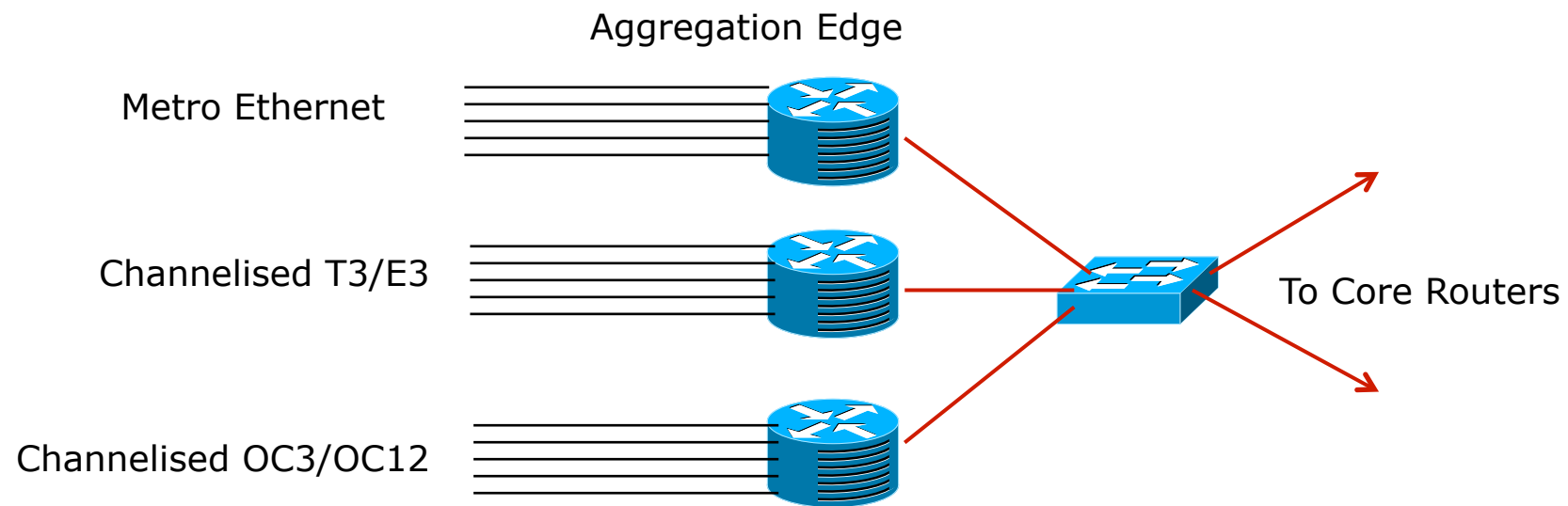


# Medium Speed Access Module



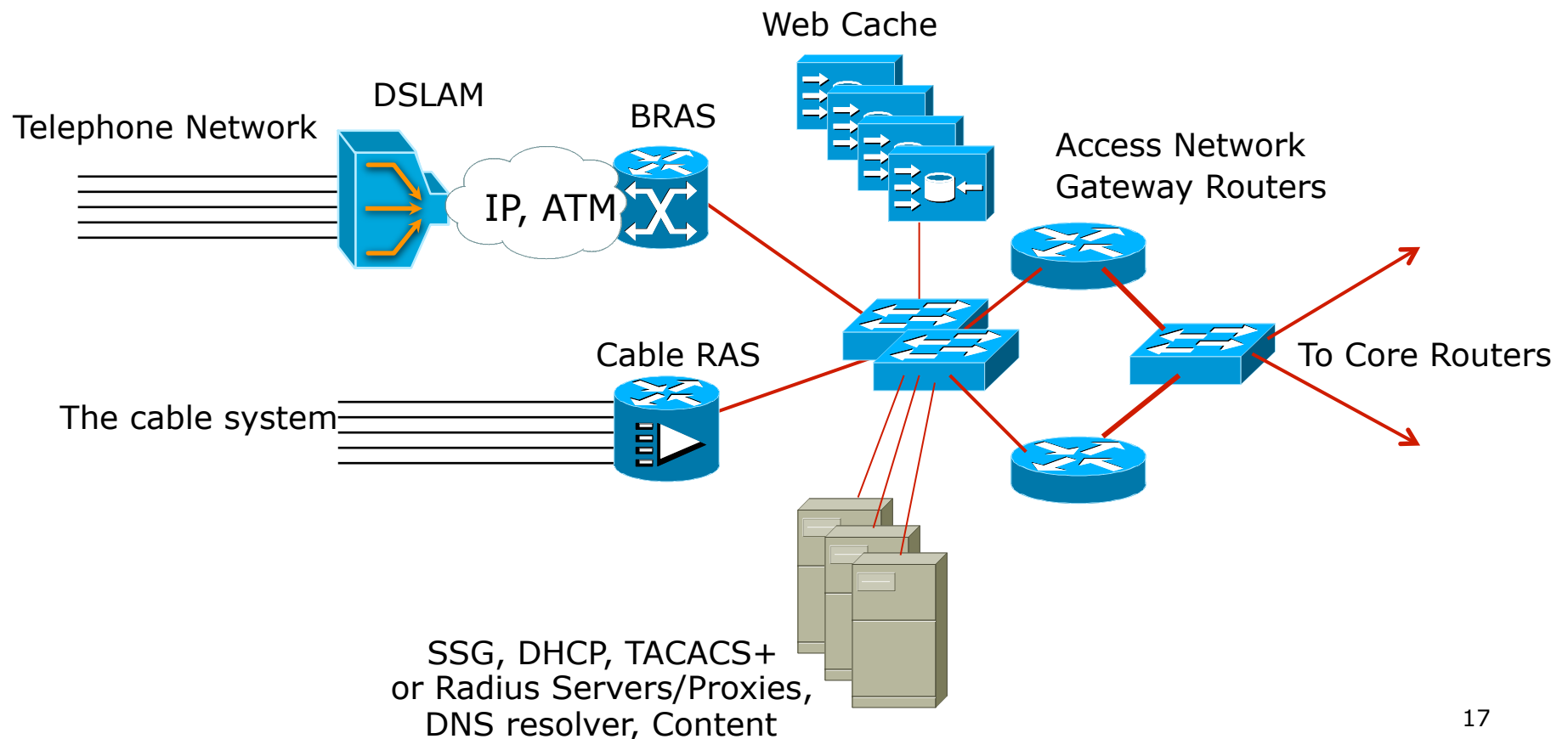
# High Speed Access Module

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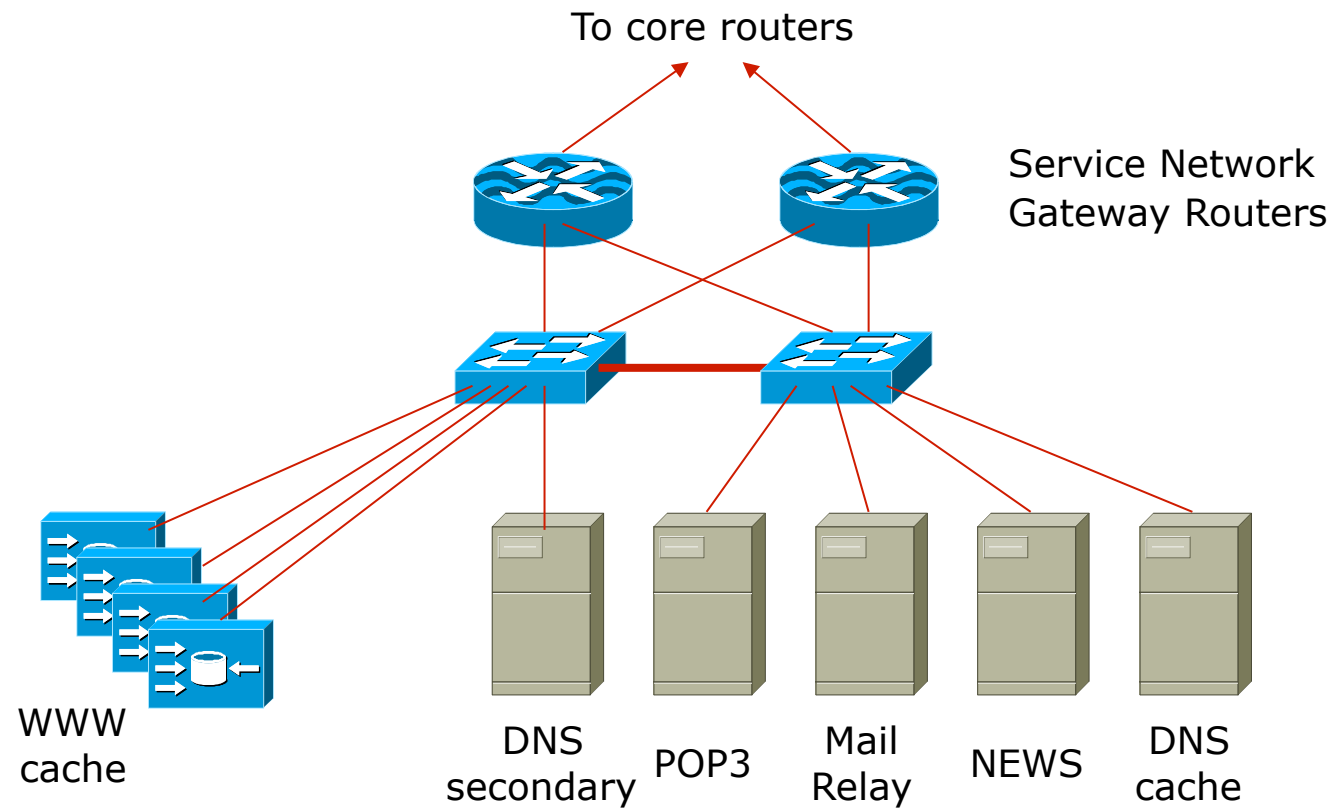




# Broadband Access Module

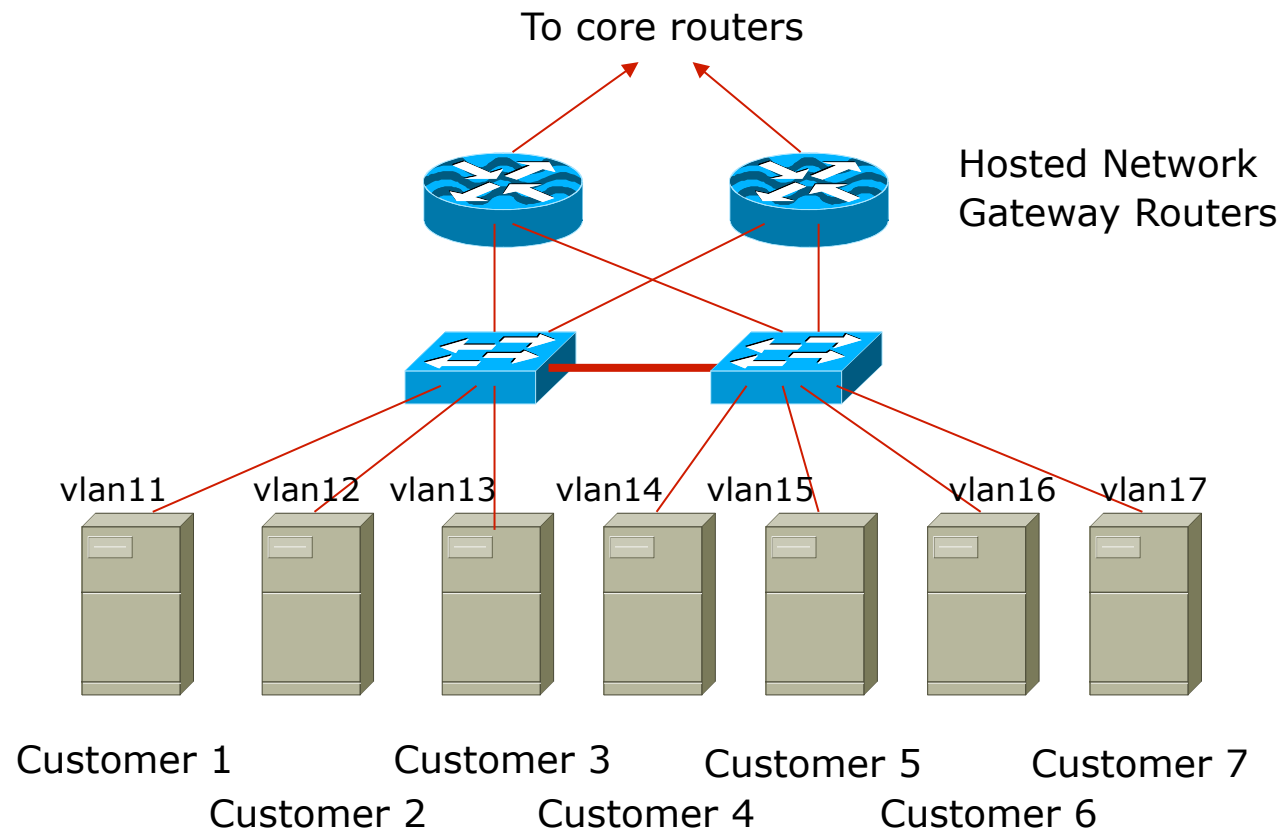


# ISP Services Module



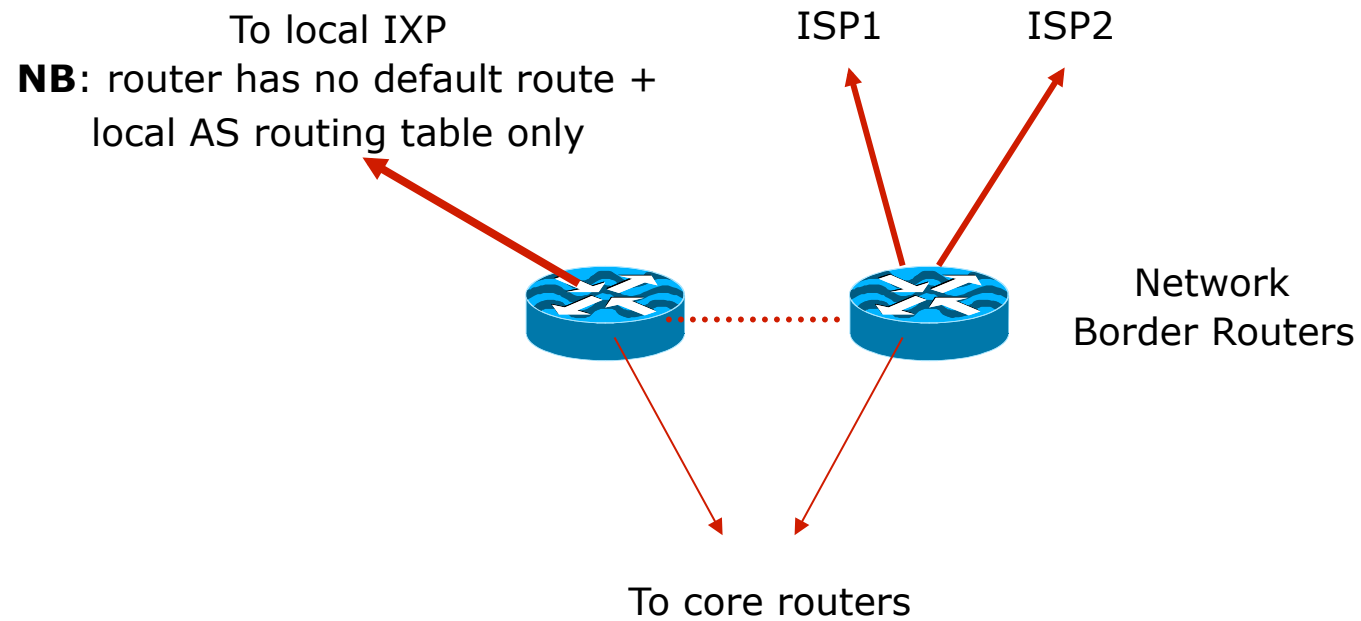
# Hosted Services Module

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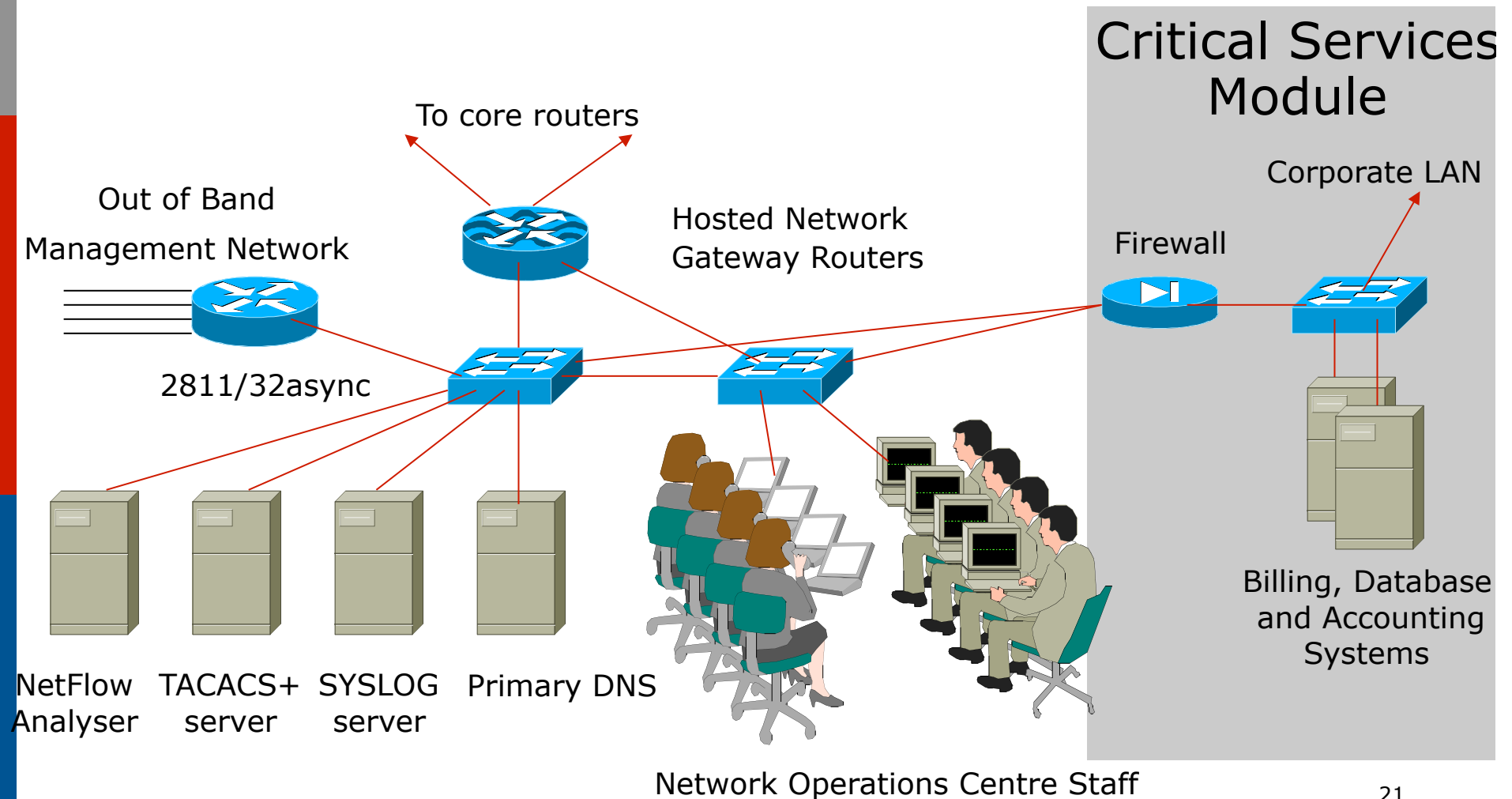


# Border Module

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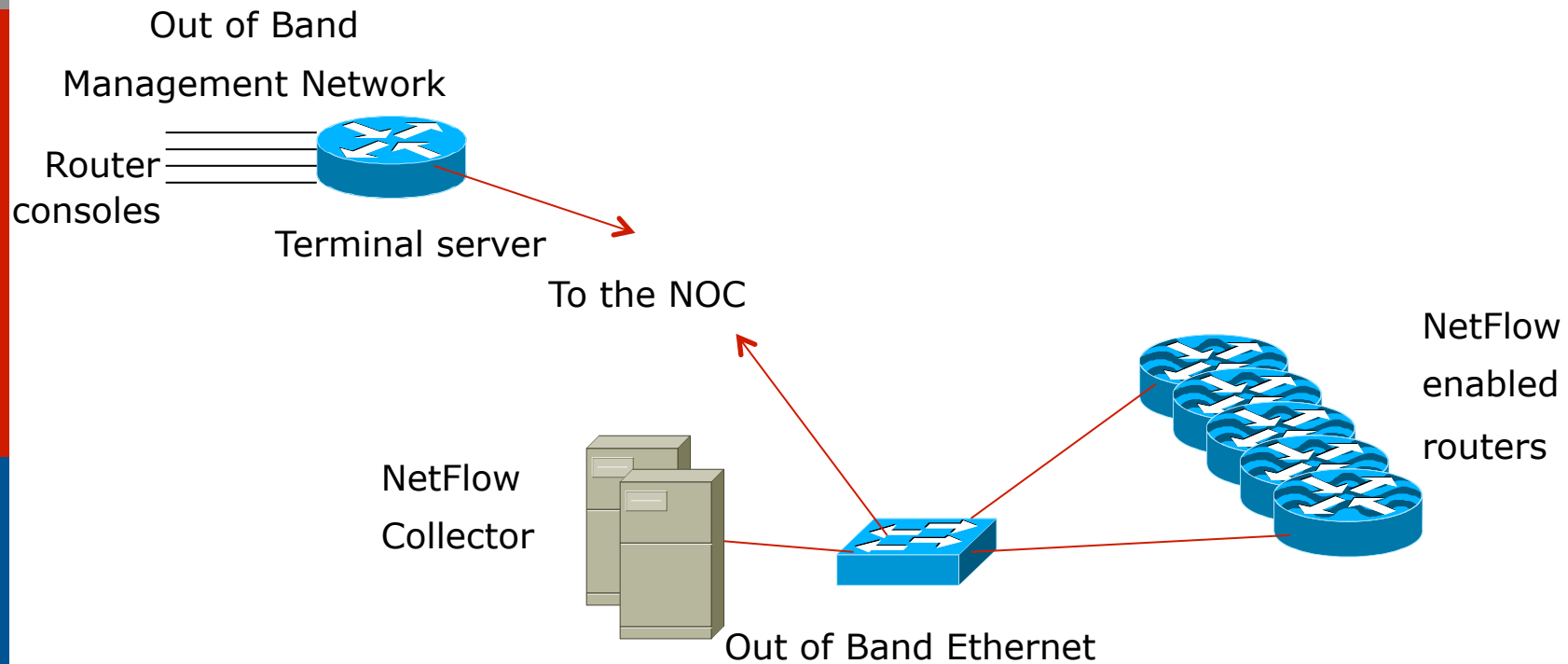


# NOC Module



# Out of Band Network

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# Backbone Network Design



# Backbone Design

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- Routed Backbone
- Switched Backbone
  - Virtually obsolete
- Point-to-point circuits
  - nx64K, T1/E1, T3/E3, OC3, OC12, GigE, OC48, 10GigE, OC192, OC768
- ATM/Frame Relay service from telco
  - T3, OC3, OC12,... delivery
  - Easily upgradeable bandwidth (CIR)
  - Almost vanished in availability now

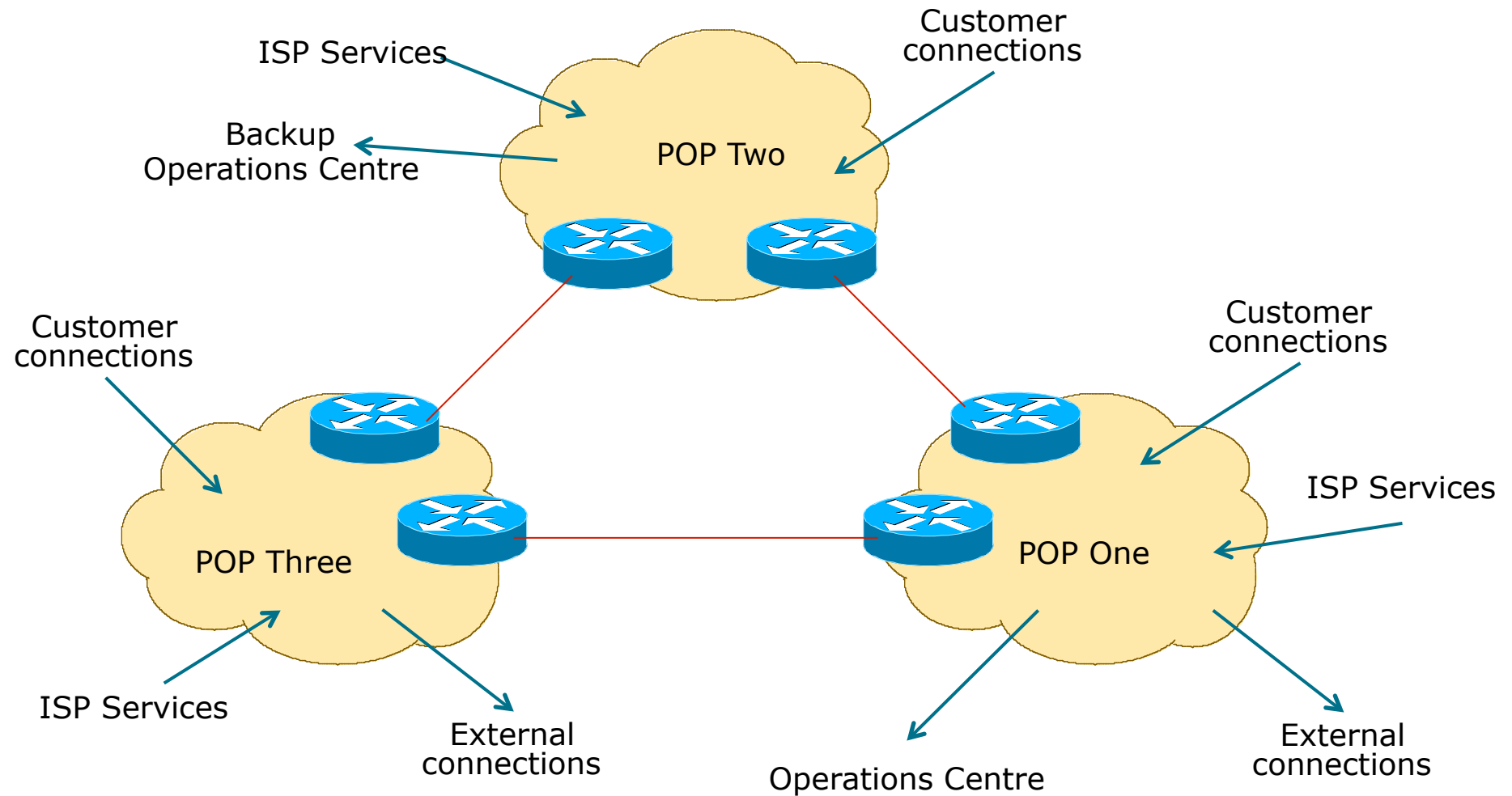


# Distributed Network Design

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- PoP design “standardised”
  - operational scalability and simplicity
- ISP essential services distributed around backbone
- NOC and “backup” NOC
- Redundant backbone links

# Distributed Network Design



# Backbone Links

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## □ ATM/Frame Relay

- Virtually disappeared due to overhead, extra equipment, and shared with other customers of the telco
- MPLS has replaced ATM & FR as the telco favourite

## □ Leased Line/Circuit

- Most popular with backbone providers
- IP over Optics and Metro Ethernet very common in many parts of the world

# Long Distance Backbone Links

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- These usually cost more
- Important to plan for the future
  - This means at least two years ahead
  - Stay in budget, stay realistic
  - Unplanned “emergency” upgrades will be disruptive without redundancy in the network infrastructure

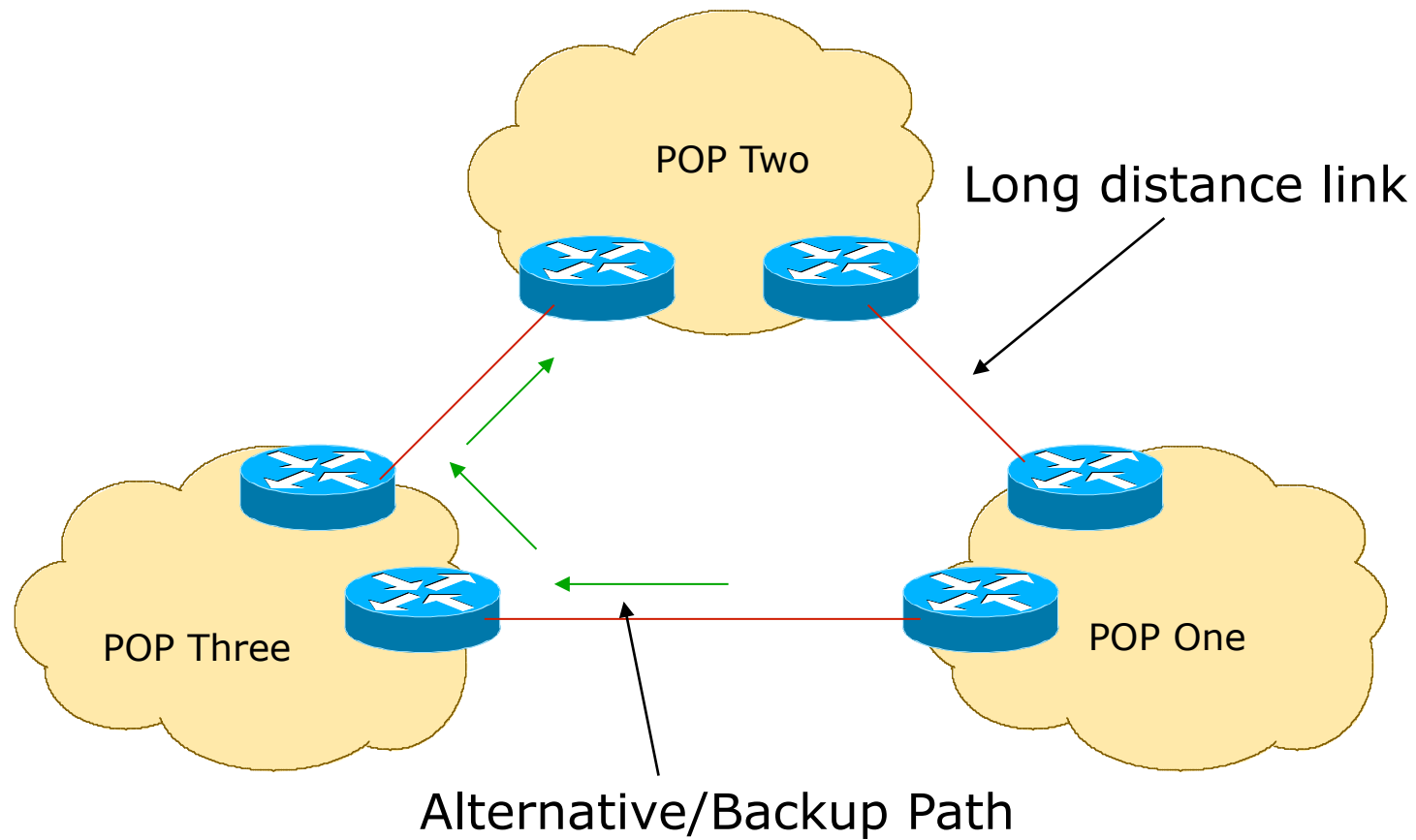
# Long Distance Backbone Links

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- Allow sufficient capacity on alternative paths for failure situations
  - Sufficient can depend on the business strategy
  - Sufficient can be as little as 20%
  - Sufficient is usually over 50% as this offers “business continuity” for customers in the case of link failure
  - Some businesses choose 0%
    - Very short sighted, meaning they have no spare capacity at all!!

# Long Distance Links

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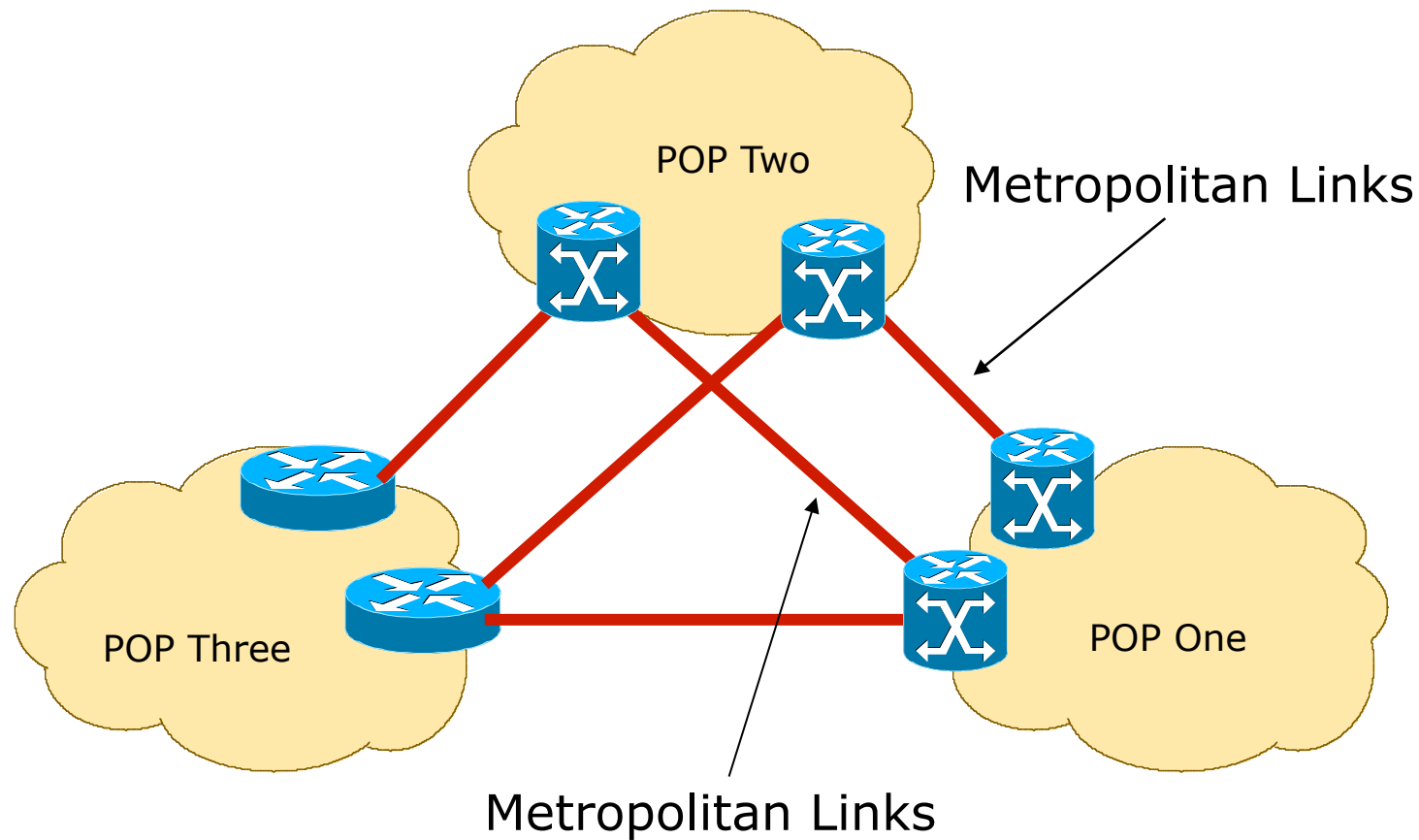
# Metropolitan Area Backbone Links

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- Tend to be cheaper
  - Circuit concentration
  - Choose from multiple suppliers
- Think big
  - More redundancy
  - Less impact of upgrades
  - Less impact of failures

# Metropolitan Area Backbone Links

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Traditional Point to Point Links



# Upstream Connectivity and Peering



# Transits

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- ❑ Transit provider is another autonomous system which is used to provide the local network with access to other networks
  - Might be local or regional only
  - But more usually the whole Internet
- ❑ Transit providers need to be chosen wisely:
  - Only one
    - ❑ no redundancy
  - Too many
    - ❑ more difficult to load balance
    - ❑ no economy of scale (costs more per Mbps)
    - ❑ hard to provide service quality
- ❑ **Recommendation: at least two, no more than three**

# Common Mistakes

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- ❑ ISPs sign up with too many transit providers
  - Lots of small circuits (cost more per Mbps than larger ones)
  - Transit rates per Mbps reduce with increasing transit bandwidth purchased
  - Hard to implement reliable traffic engineering that doesn't need daily fine tuning depending on customer activities
- ❑ No diversity
  - Chosen transit providers all reached over same satellite or same submarine cable
  - Chosen transit providers have poor onward transit and peering

# Peers

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- ❑ A peer is another autonomous system with which the local network has agreed to exchange locally sourced routes and traffic
- ❑ Private peer
  - Private link between two providers for the purpose of interconnecting
- ❑ Public peer
  - Internet Exchange Point, where providers meet and freely decide who they will interconnect with
- ❑ **Recommendation: peer as much as possible!**

# Common Mistakes

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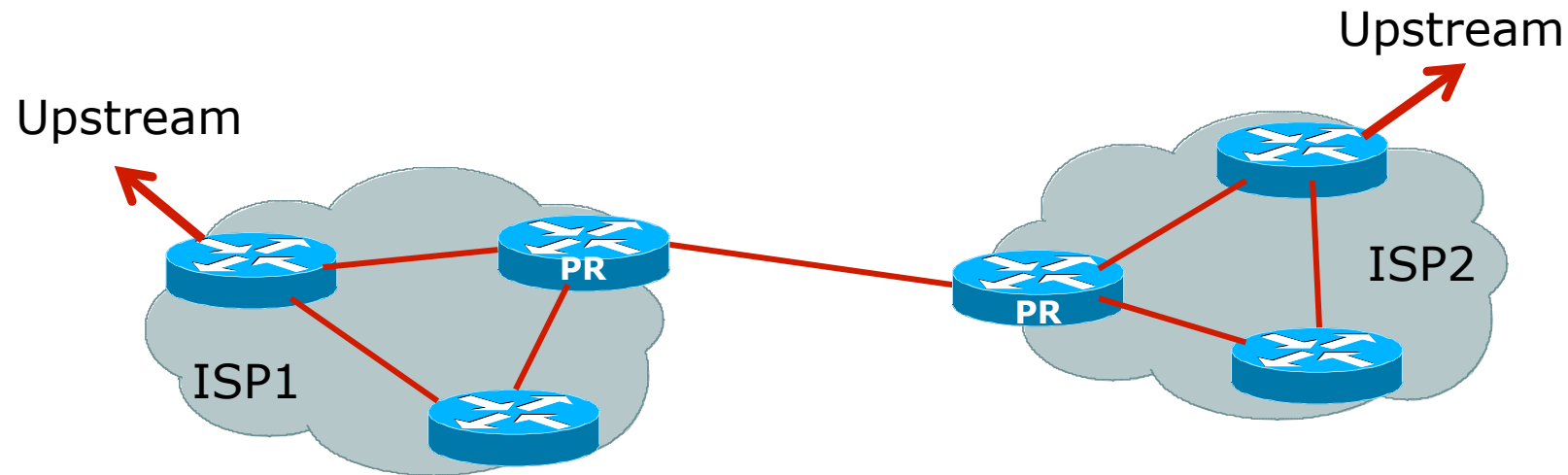
- ❑ Mistaking a transit provider's "Exchange" business for a no-cost public peering point
- ❑ Not working hard to get as much peering as possible
  - Physically near a peering point (IXP) but not present at it
  - (Transit is rarely cheaper than peering!!)
- ❑ Ignoring/avoiding competitors because they are competition
  - Even though potentially valuable peering partner to give customers a better experience

# Private Interconnection

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- Two service providers agree to interconnect their networks
  - They exchange prefixes they originate into the routing system (usually their aggregated address blocks)
  - They share the cost of the infrastructure to interconnect
    - Typically each paying half the cost of the link (be it circuit, satellite, microwave, fibre,...)
    - Connected to their respective peering routers
  - Peering routers only carry domestic prefixes

# Private Interconnection



- ❑ PR = peering router
  - Runs iBGP (internal) and eBGP (with peer)
  - No default route
  - No "full BGP table"
  - Domestic prefixes only
- ❑ Peering router used for all private interconnects<sup>39</sup>

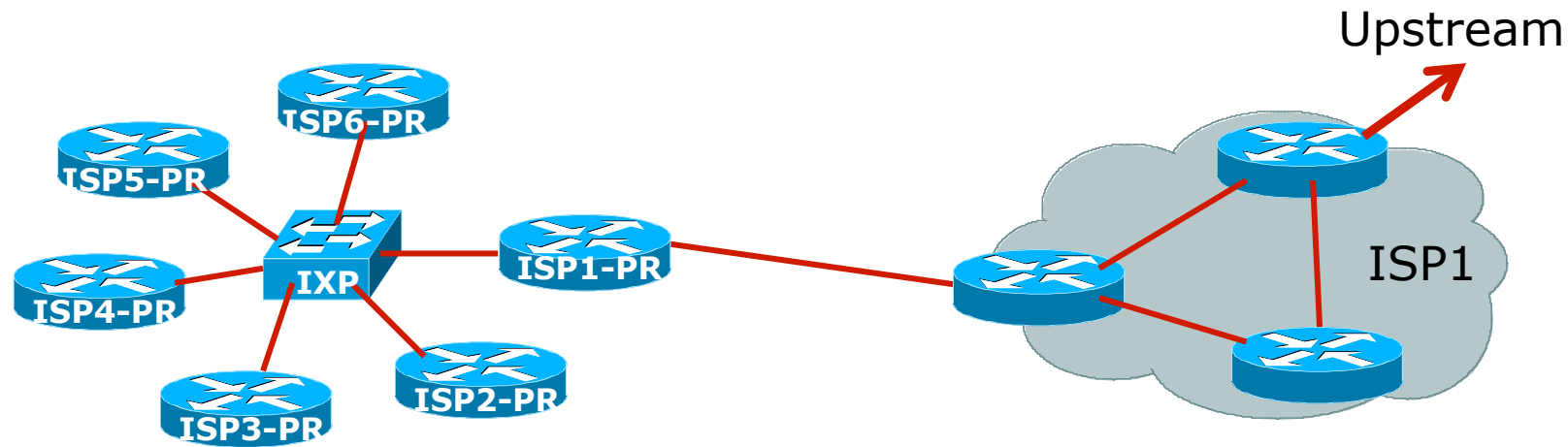
# Public Interconnection

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- ❑ Service provider participates in an Internet Exchange Point
  - It exchanges prefixes it originates into the routing system with the participants of the IXP
  - It chooses who to peer with at the IXP
    - ❑ Bi-lateral peering (like private interconnect)
    - ❑ Multi-lateral peering (via IXP's route server)
  - It provides the router at the IXP and provides the connectivity from their PoP to the IXP
  - The IXP router carries only domestic prefixes



# Public Interconnection



- ❑ ISP1-PR = peering router of our ISP
  - Runs iBGP (internal) and eBGP (with IXP peers)
  - No default route
  - No "full BGP table"
  - Domestic prefixes only
- ❑ Physically located at the IXP

# Public Interconnection

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- ❑ The ISP's router IXP peering router needs careful configuration:
  - It is remote from the domestic backbone
  - Should not originate any domestic prefixes
  - (As well as no default route, no full BGP table)
  - Filtering of BGP announcements from IXP peers (in and out)

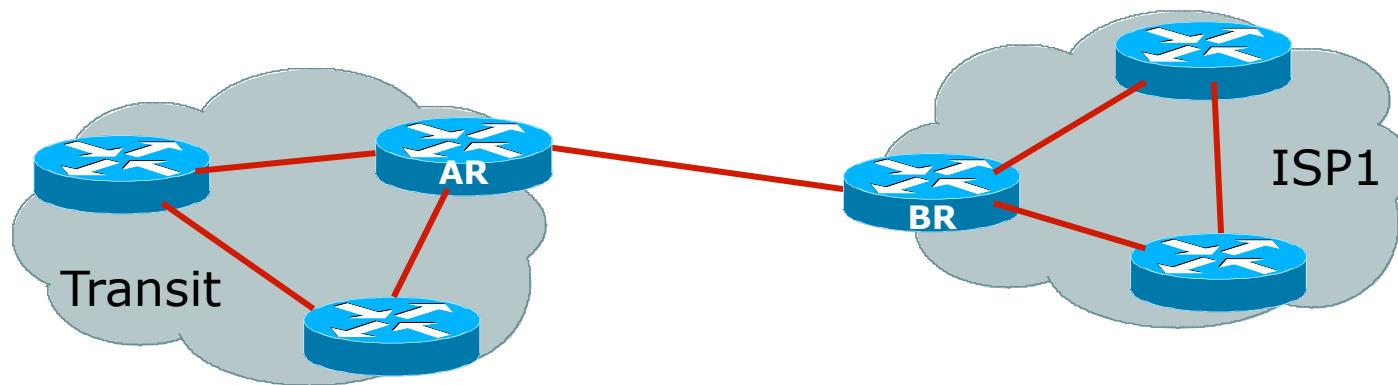
# Upstream/Transit Connection

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- Two scenarios:
  - Transit provider is in the locality
    - Which means bandwidth is cheap, plentiful, easy to provision, and easily upgraded
  - Transit provider is a long distance away
    - Over undersea cable, satellite, long-haul cross country fibre, etc
- Each scenario has different considerations which need to be accounted for

# Local Transit Provider

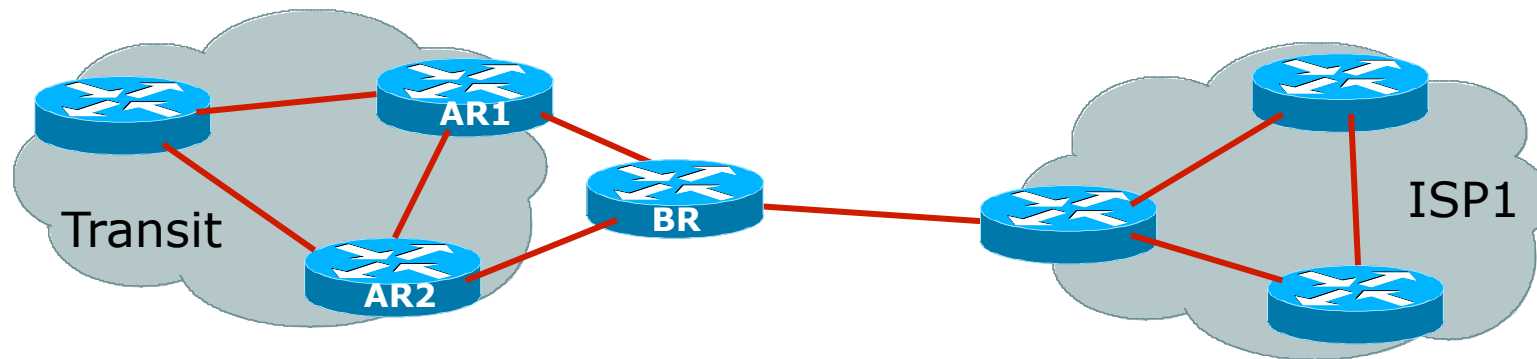
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- ❑ BR = ISP's Border Router
  - Runs iBGP (internal) and eBGP (with transit)
  - Either receives default route or the full BGP table from upstream
  - BGP policies are implemented here (depending on connectivity)
  - Packet filtering is implemented here (as required)

# Distant Transit Provider

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- ❑ BR = ISP's Border Router
  - Co-located in a co-lo centre (typical) or in the upstream provider's premises
  - Runs iBGP with rest of ISP1 backbone
  - Runs eBGP with transit provider router(s)
  - Implements BGP policies, packet filtering, etc
  - Does not originate any domestic prefixes

# Distant Transit Provider

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- ❑ Positioning a router close to the Transit Provider's infrastructure is strongly encouraged:
  - Long haul circuits are expensive, so the router allows the ISP to implement appropriate filtering first
  - Moves the buffering problem away from the Transit provider
  - Remote co-lo allows the ISP to choose another transit provider and migrate connections with minimum downtime

# Distant Transit Provider

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- ❑ Other points to consider:
  - Does require remote hands support
  - (Remote hands would plug or unplug cables, power cycle equipment, replace equipment, etc as instructed)
  - Appropriate support contract from equipment vendor(s)
  - Sensible to consider two routers and two long-haul links for redundancy

# Summary

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- ❑ Design considerations for:
  - Private interconnects
    - ❑ Simple private peering
  - Public interconnects
    - ❑ Router co-lo at an IXP
  - Local transit provider
    - ❑ Simple upstream interconnect
  - Long distance transit provider
    - ❑ Router remote co-lo at datacentre or Transit premises



# Addressing



# Getting IPv4 & IPv6 address space

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- ❑ Take part of upstream ISP's PA space
- or
- ❑ Become a member of your Regional Internet Registry and get your own allocation
  - Require a plan for a year ahead
  - General policies are outlined in RFC2050, more specific details are on the individual RIR website
- ❑ There is no more IPv4 address space at IANA
  - APNIC is now in its "final /8" IPv4 delegation policy
  - Limited IPv4 available
  - IPv6 allocations are simple to get in most RIR regions

# What about RFC1918 addressing?

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- ❑ RFC1918 defines IPv4 addresses reserved for private Internets
  - Not to be used on Internet backbones
  - <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc1918.txt>
- ❑ Commonly used within end-user networks
  - NAT used to translate from private internal to public external addressing
  - Allows the end-user network to migrate ISPs without a major internal renumbering exercise
- ❑ Most ISPs filter RFC1918 addressing at their network edge
  - <http://www.cymru.com/Documents/bogon-list.html>

# What about RFC1918 addressing?

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- ❑ There is a long list of well known problems:
  - <http://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-ietf-grow-private-ip-sp-cores>
- ❑ Including:
  - False belief it conserves address space
  - Adverse effects on Traceroute
  - Effects on Path MTU Discovery
  - Unexpected interactions with some NAT implementations
  - Interactions with edge anti-spoofing techniques
  - Peering using loopbacks
  - Adverse DNS Interaction
  - Serious Operational and Troubleshooting issues
  - Security Issues
    - ❑ false sense of security, defeating existing security techniques

# What about RFC1918 addressing?

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- ❑ Infrastructure Security: not improved by using private addressing
  - Still can be attacked from inside, or from customers, or by reflection techniques from the outside
- ❑ Troubleshooting: made an order of magnitude harder
  - No Internet view from routers
  - Other ISPs cannot distinguish between down and broken
- ❑ Summary:
  - **ALWAYS use globally routable IP addressing for ISP Infrastructure**

# Addressing Plans – ISP Infrastructure

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- ❑ Address block for router loop-back interfaces
- ❑ Address block for infrastructure
  - Per PoP or whole backbone
  - Summarise between sites if it makes sense
  - Allocate according to genuine requirements, not historic classful boundaries
- ❑ Similar allocation policies should be used for IPv6 as well
  - ISPs just get a substantially larger block (relatively) so assignments within the backbone are easier to make

## Addressing Plans – Customer

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- ❑ Customers are assigned address space according to need
- ❑ Should not be reserved or assigned on a per PoP basis
  - ISP iBGP carries customer nets
  - Aggregation not required and usually not desirable

## Addressing Plans (contd)

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- ❑ Document infrastructure allocation
  - Eases operation, debugging and management
- ❑ Document customer allocation
  - Contained in iBGP
  - Eases operation, debugging and management
  - Submit network object to RIR Database



# Routing Protocols



# Routing Protocols

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- ❑ IGP – Interior Gateway Protocol
  - carries infrastructure addresses, point-to-point links
  - examples are OSPF, ISIS,...
- ❑ EGP – Exterior Gateway Protocol
  - carries customer prefixes and Internet routes
  - current EGP is BGP version 4
- ❑ No connection between IGP and EGP

# Why Do We Need an IGP?

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- ISP backbone scaling
  - Hierarchy
  - Modular infrastructure construction
  - Limiting scope of failure
  - Healing of infrastructure faults using dynamic routing with fast convergence

# Why Do We Need an EGP?

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- Scaling to large network
  - Hierarchy
  - Limit scope of failure
- Policy
  - Control reachability to prefixes
  - Merge separate organizations
  - Connect multiple IGPs

# Interior versus Exterior Routing Protocols

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## □ Interior

- Automatic neighbour discovery
- Generally trust your IGP routers
- Prefixes go to all IGP routers
- Binds routers in one AS together

## □ Exterior

- Specifically configured peers
- Connecting with outside networks
- Set administrative boundaries
- Binds AS's together

# Interior versus Exterior Routing Protocols

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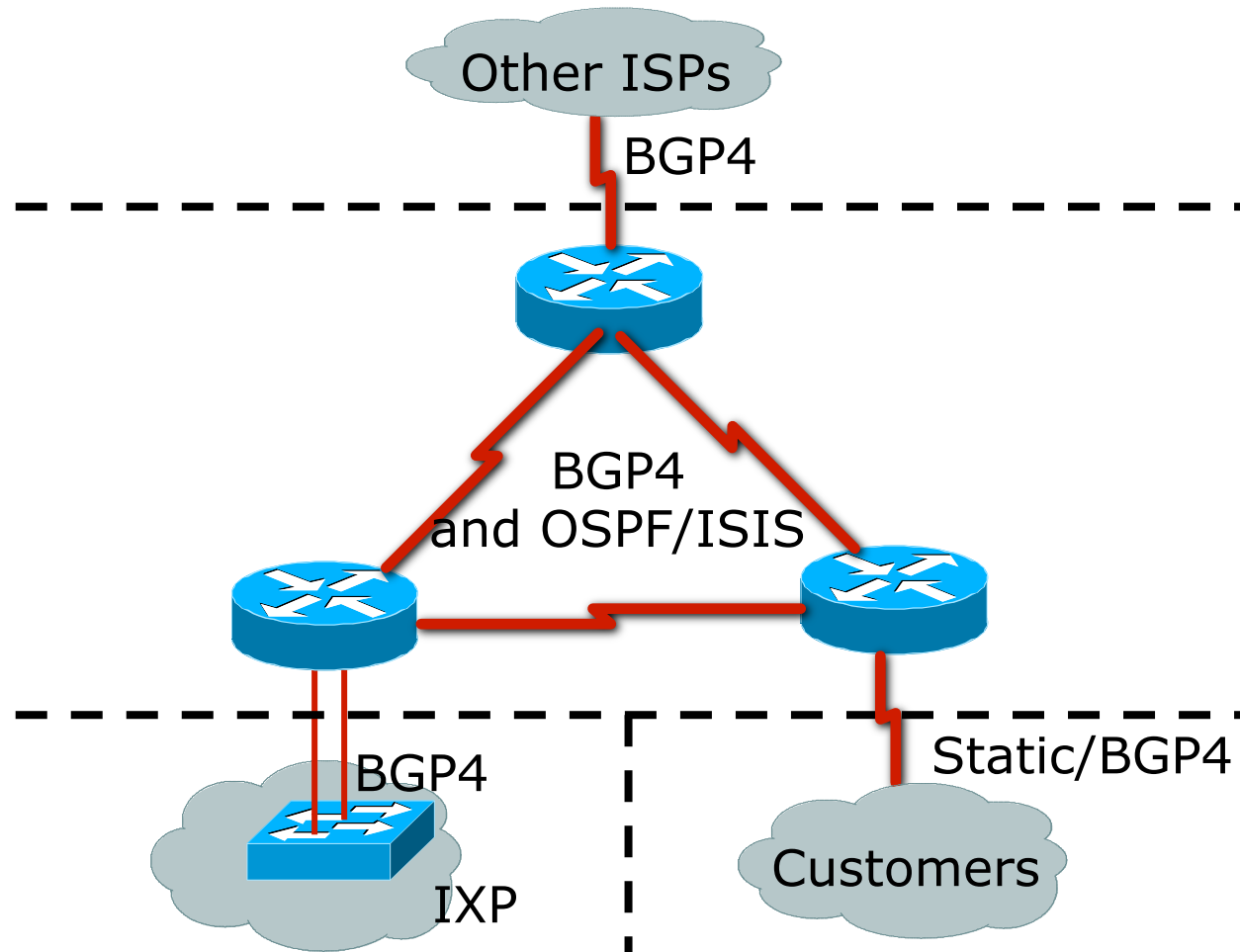
## □ Interior

- Carries ISP infrastructure addresses only
- ISPs aim to keep the IGP small for efficiency and scalability

## □ Exterior

- Carries customer prefixes
- Carries Internet prefixes
- EGPs are independent of ISP network topology

# Hierarchy of Routing Protocols



# Routing Protocols:

## Choosing an IGP

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- ❑ OSPF and ISIS have very similar properties
- ❑ Which to choose?
  - Choose which is appropriate for your operators' experience
  - In most vendor releases, both OSPF and ISIS have sufficient “nerd knobs” to tweak the IGP's behaviour
  - OSPF runs on IP
  - ISIS runs on infrastructure, alongside IP
  - ISIS supports both IPv4 and IPv6
  - OSPFv2 (IPv4) **plus** OPSFv3 (IPv6)



# Routing Protocols:

## IGP Recommendations

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- ❑ Keep the IGP routing table as small as possible
  - If you can count the routers and the point to point links in the backbone, that total is the number of IGP entries you should see
- ❑ IGP details:
  - Should only have router loopbacks, backbone WAN point-to-point link addresses, and network addresses of any LANs having an IGP running on them
  - Strongly recommended to use inter-router authentication
  - Use inter-area summarisation if possible

# Routing Protocols:

## More IGP recommendations

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- ❑ To fine tune IGP table size more, consider:
  - Using “ip unnumbered” on customer point-to-point links – saves carrying that /30 in IGP
    - ❑ (If customer point-to-point /30 is required for monitoring purposes, then put this in iBGP)
  - Use contiguous addresses for backbone WAN links in each area – then summarise into backbone area
  - Don't summarise router loopback addresses – as iBGP needs those (for next-hop)
  - Use iBGP for carrying anything which does not contribute to the IGP Routing process

# Routing Protocols:

## iBGP Recommendations

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- ❑ iBGP should carry everything which doesn't contribute to the IGP routing process
  - Internet routing table
  - Customer assigned addresses
  - Customer point-to-point links
  - Dial network pools, passive LANs, etc

# Routing Protocols:

## More iBGP Recommendations

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- ❑ Scalable iBGP features:
  - Use neighbour authentication
  - Use peer-groups to speed update process and for configuration efficiency
  - Use communities for ease of filtering
  - Use route-reflector hierarchy
    - ❑ Route reflector pair per PoP (overlaid clusters)

# Out of Band Management



# Out of Band Management

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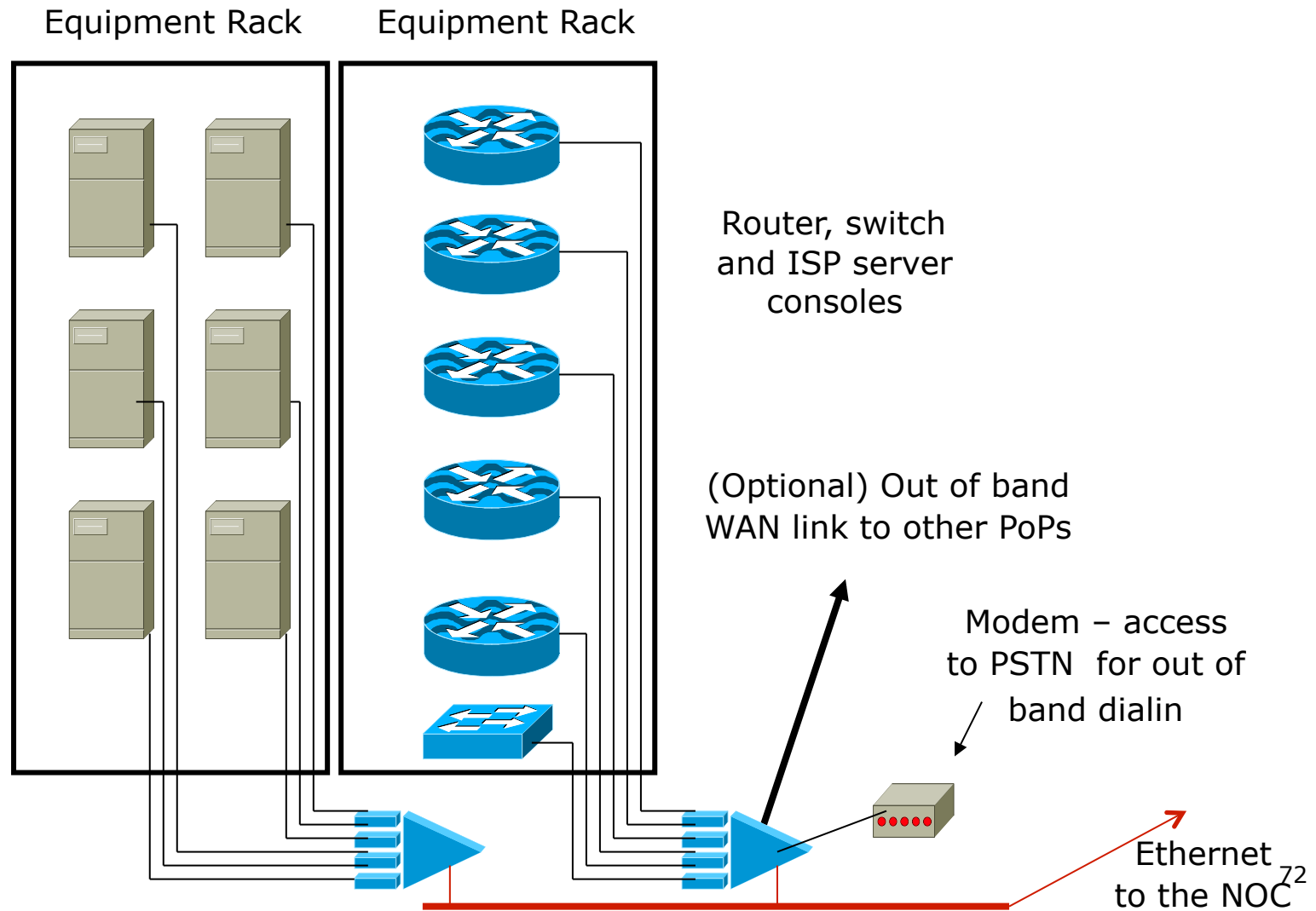
- ❑ **Not optional!**
- ❑ Allows access to network equipment in times of failure
- ❑ Ensures quality of service to customers
  - Minimises downtime
  - Minimises repair time
  - Eases diagnostics and debugging

# Out of Band Management

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- ❑ OoB Example – Access server:
  - modem attached to allow NOC dial in
  - console ports of all network equipment connected to serial ports
  - LAN and/or WAN link connects to network core, or via separate management link to NOC
- ❑ Full remote control access under all circumstances

# Out of Band Network





# Out of Band Management

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- ❑ OoB Example – Statistics gathering:
  - Routers are NetFlow and syslog enabled
  - Management data is congestion/failure sensitive
  - Ensures management data integrity in case of failure
- ❑ Full remote information under all circumstances

# Test Laboratory



# Test Laboratory

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- ❑ Designed to look like a typical PoP
  - Operated like a typical PoP
- ❑ Used to trial new services or new software under realistic conditions
- ❑ Allows discovery and fixing of potential problems before they are introduced to the network

# Test Laboratory

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- ❑ Some ISPs dedicate equipment to the lab
- ❑ Other ISPs “purchase ahead” so that today’s lab equipment becomes tomorrow’s PoP equipment
- ❑ Other ISPs use lab equipment for “hot spares” in the event of hardware failure

# Test Laboratory

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- ❑ Can't afford a test lab?
  - Set aside one spare router and server to trial new services
  - Never ever try out new hardware, software or services on the live network
- ❑ Every major ISP in the US and Europe has a test lab
  - It's a serious consideration

# Operational Considerations





# Operational Considerations

**Why design the world's best network when you have not thought about what operational good practices should be implemented?**

# Operational Considerations

## Maintenance

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- ❑ Never work on the live network, no matter how trivial the modification may seem
  - Establish maintenance periods which your customers are aware of
    - ❑ e.g. Tuesday 4-7am, Thursday 4-7am
- ❑ Never do maintenance on a Friday
  - Unless you want to work all weekend cleaning up
- ❑ Never do maintenance on a Monday
  - Unless you want to work all weekend preparing



# Operational Considerations

## Support

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- ❑ Differentiate between customer support and the Network Operations Centre
  - Customer support fixes customer problems
  - NOC deals with and fixes backbone and Internet related problems
- ❑ Network Engineering team is last resort
  - They design the next generation network, improve the routing design, implement new services, etc
  - They do not and should not be doing support!



# Operational Considerations

## NOC Communications

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- ❑ NOC should know contact details for equivalent NOCs in upstream providers and peers

# ISP Network Design



## Summary

# ISP Design Summary

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- ❑ KEEP IT SIMPLE & STUPID ! (KISS)
- ❑ Simple is elegant is scalable
- ❑ Use Redundancy, Security, and Technology to make life easier for yourself
- ❑ Above all, ensure quality of service for your customers

# Why an Internet Exchange Point?



Saving money, improving QoS,  
Generating a local Internet  
economy

# Internet Exchange Point

## Why peer?

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- ❑ Consider a region with one ISP
  - They provide internet connectivity to their customers
  - They have one or two international connections
- ❑ Internet grows, another ISP sets up in competition
  - They provide internet connectivity to their customers
  - They have one or two international connections
- ❑ How does traffic from customer of one ISP get to customer of the other ISP?
  - Via the international connections

# Internet Exchange Point

## Why peer?

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- ❑ Yes, International Connections...
  - If satellite, RTT is around 550ms per hop
  - So local traffic takes over 1s round trip
- ❑ International bandwidth
  - Costs significantly more than domestic bandwidth
  - Congested with local traffic
  - Wastes money, harms performance

# Internet Exchange Point

## Why peer?

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### □ Solution:

- Two competing ISPs peer with each other

### □ Result:

- Both save money
- Local traffic stays local
- Better network performance, better QoS,...
- More international bandwidth for expensive international traffic
- Everyone is happy



# Internet Exchange Point

## Why peer?

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- A third ISP enters the equation
  - Becomes a significant player in the region
  - Local and international traffic goes over their international connections
- They agree to peer with the two other ISPs
  - To save money
  - To keep local traffic local
  - To improve network performance, QoS,...

# Internet Exchange Point

## Why peer?

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- ❑ Peering means that the three ISPs have to buy circuits between each other
  - Works for three ISPs, but adding a fourth or a fifth means this does not scale
- ❑ Solution:
  - Internet Exchange Point

# Internet Exchange Point

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- ❑ Every participant has to buy just one whole circuit
  - From their premises to the IXP
- ❑ Rather than N-1 half circuits to connect to the N-1 other ISPs
  - 5 ISPs have to buy 4 half circuits = 2 whole circuits → already twice the cost of the IXP connection

# Internet Exchange Point

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## □ Solution

- Every ISP participates in the IXP
- Cost is minimal – one local circuit covers all domestic traffic
- International circuits are used for just international traffic – and backing up domestic links in case the IXP fails

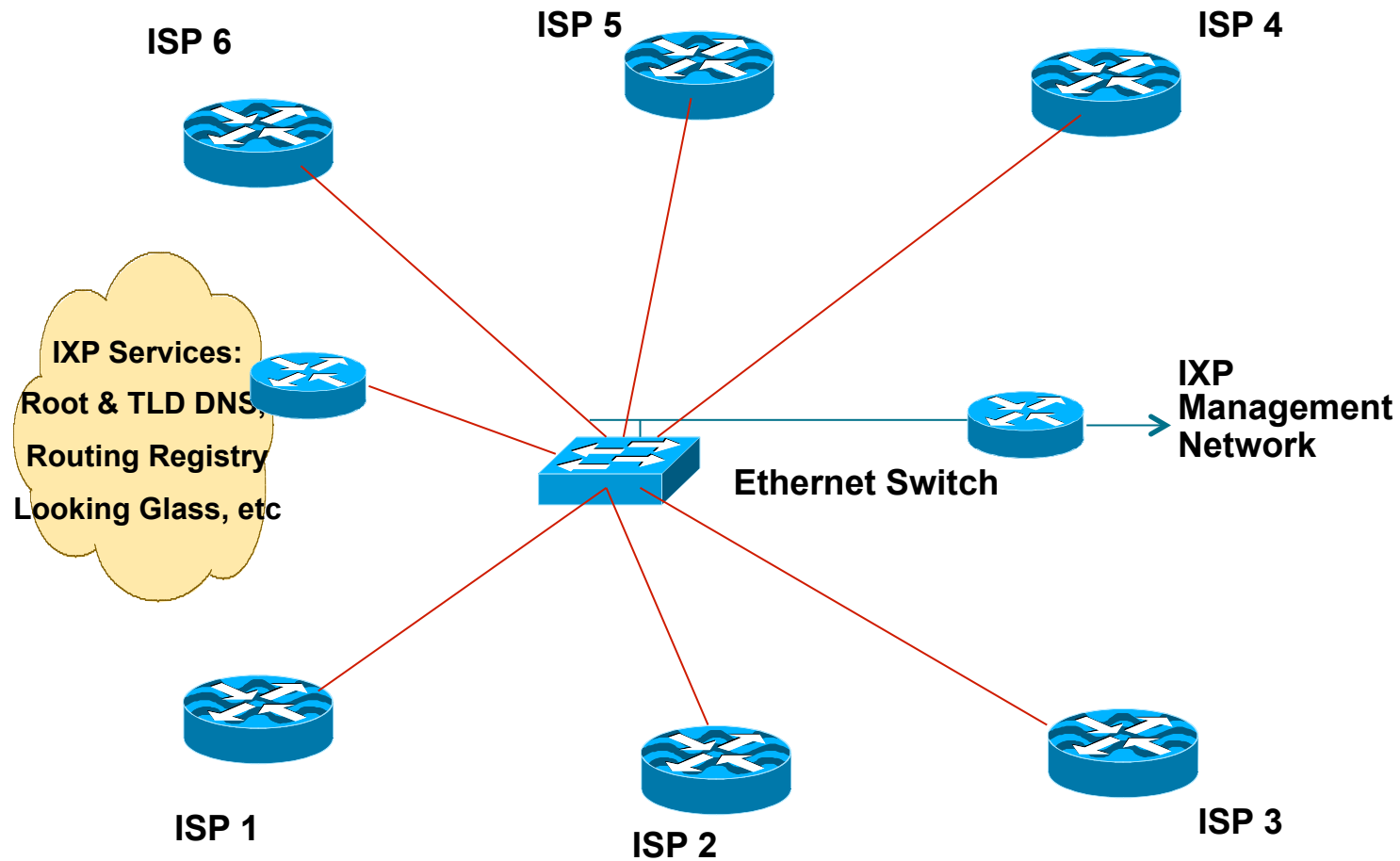
## □ Result:

- Local traffic stays local
- QoS considerations for local traffic is not an issue
- RTTs are typically sub 10ms
- Customers enjoy the Internet experience
- Local Internet economy grows rapidly

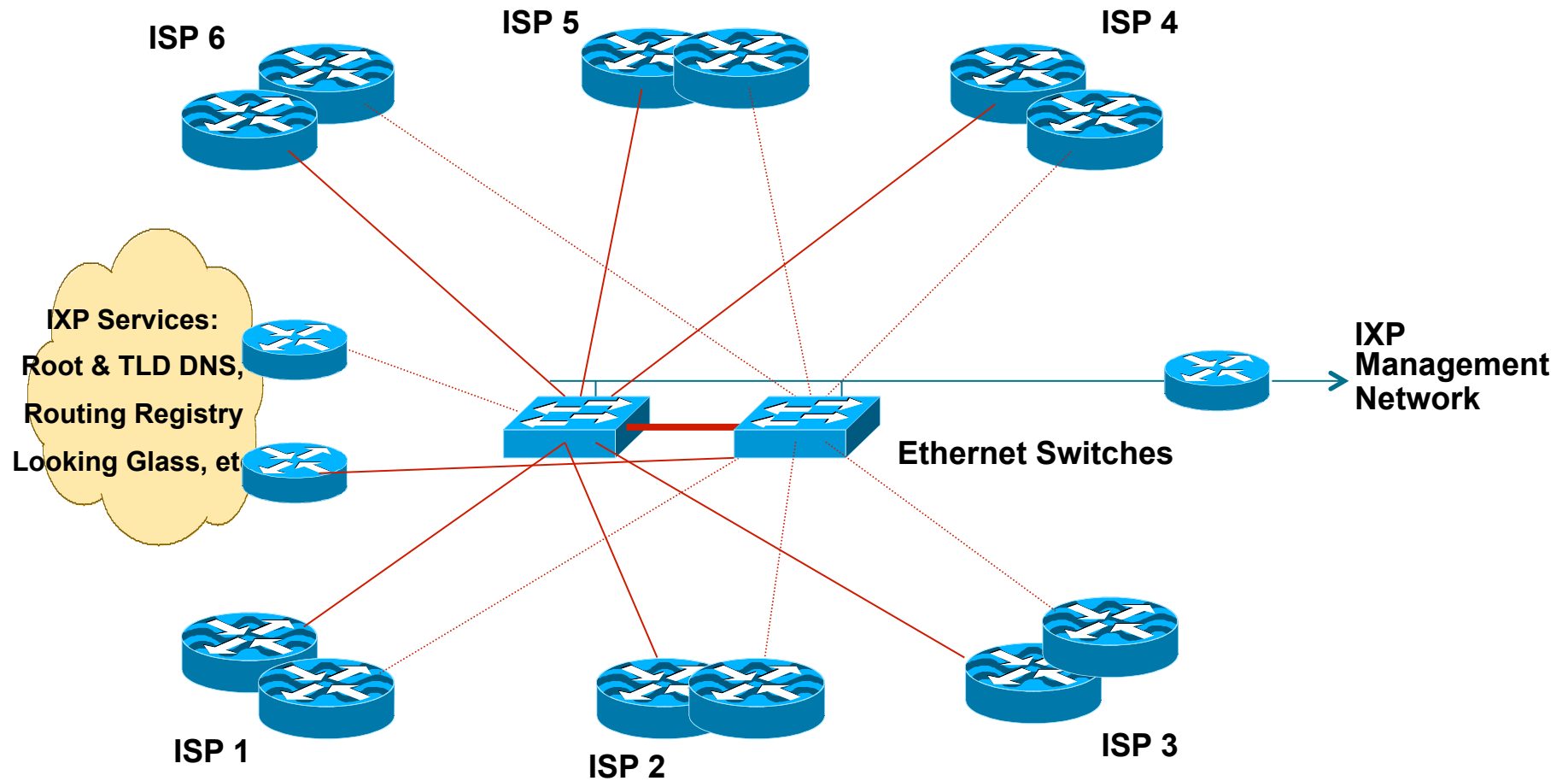
# Exchange Point Design



# Layer 2 Exchange



# Layer 2 Exchange



# Layer 2 Exchange

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- ❑ Two switches for redundancy
- ❑ ISPs use dual routers for redundancy or loadsharing
- ❑ Offer services for the “common good”
  - Internet portals and search engines
  - DNS Root & TLD, NTP servers
  - Routing Registry and Looking Glass



# Layer 2 Exchange

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- ❑ Requires neutral IXP management
  - Usually funded equally by IXP participants
  - 24x7 cover, support, value add services
- ❑ Secure and neutral location
- ❑ Configuration
  - IPv4 /24 and IPv6 /64 for IXP LAN
  - ISPs require AS, basic IXP does not

# Layer 2 Exchange

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- Network Security Considerations
  - LAN switch needs to be securely configured
  - Management routers require TACACS+ authentication, vty security
  - IXP services must be behind router(s) with strong filters

## “Layer 3 IXP”

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- ❑ Layer 3 IXP is marketing concept used by Transit ISPs
- ❑ Real Internet Exchange Points are only Layer 2

# IXP Design Considerations



# Exchange Point Design

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- ❑ The IXP Core is an Ethernet switch
- ❑ Has superseded all other types of network devices for an IXP
  - From the cheapest and smallest 12 or 24 port 10/100 switch
  - To the largest 192 port 10GigEthernet switch

# Exchange Point Design

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- ❑ Each ISP participating in the IXP brings a router to the IXP location
- ❑ Router needs:
  - One Ethernet port to connect to IXP switch
  - One WAN port to connect to the WAN media leading back to the ISP backbone
  - To be able to run BGP

# Exchange Point Design

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- ❑ IXP switch located in one equipment rack dedicated to IXP
  - Also includes other IXP operational equipment
- ❑ Routers from participant ISPs located in neighbouring/adjacent rack(s)
- ❑ Copper (UTP) connections made for 10Mbps, 100Mbps or 1Gbps connections
- ❑ Fibre used for 10Gbps, 40Gbps or 100Gbps connections

# Peering

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- ❑ Each participant needs to run BGP
  - They need their own AS number
  - **Public** ASN, **NOT** private ASN
- ❑ Each participant configures external BGP directly with the other participants in the IXP
  - Peering with all participants  
or
  - Peering with a subset of participants



# Peering (more)

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- ❑ Mandatory Multi-Lateral Peering (MMLP)
  - Each participant is required to peer with every other participant as part of their IXP membership
  - **Has no history of success** — the practice is strongly discouraged
- ❑ Multi-Lateral Peering (MLP)
  - Each participant peers with every other participant (usually aided by a Route Server)
- ❑ Bi-Lateral Peering
  - Participants set up peering with each other according to their own requirements and business relationships
  - This is the most common situation at IXPs today

# Routing

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- ❑ ISP border routers at the IXP generally should NOT be configured with a default route or carry the full Internet routing table
  - Carrying default or full table means that this router and the ISP network is open to abuse by non-peering IXP members
  - Correct configuration is only to carry routes offered to IXP peers on the IXP peering router
- ❑ Note: Some ISPs offer transit across IX fabrics
  - They do so at their own risk – see above

## Routing (more)

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- ❑ ISP border routers at the IXP should not be configured to carry the IXP LAN network within the IGP or iBGP
  - Use next-hop-self BGP concept
- ❑ Don't generate ISP prefix aggregates on IXP peering router
  - If connection from backbone to IXP router goes down, normal BGP failover will then be successful

# Address Space

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- ❑ Some IXPs use private addresses for the IX LAN
  - Public address space means IXP network could be leaked to Internet which may be undesirable
  - Because most ISPs filter RFC1918 address space, this avoids the problem
- ❑ Some IXPs use public addresses for the IX LAN
  - Address space available from the RIRs
  - IXP terms of participation often forbid the IX LAN to be carried in the ISP member backbone

# Services Offered

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- ❑ Services offered should not compete with member ISPs (basic IXP)
  - e.g. web hosting at an IXP is a bad idea unless all members agree to it
- ❑ IXP operations should make performance and throughput statistics available to members
  - Use tools such as MRTG/Cacti to produce IX throughput graphs for member (or public) information

# Services to Offer

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## ❑ ccTLD DNS

- the country IXP could host the country's top level DNS
- e.g. "SE." TLD is hosted at Netnod IXes in Sweden
- Offer back up of other country ccTLD DNS

## ❑ Root server

- Anycast instances of I.root-servers.net, F.root-servers.net etc are present at many IXes

## ❑ Usenet News

- Usenet News is high volume
- could save bandwidth to all IXP members

# Services to Offer

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## □ Route Collector

- Route collector shows the reachability information available at the exchange

## □ Looking Glass

- One way of making the Route Collector routes available for global view (e.g. [www.traceroute.org](http://www.traceroute.org))
- Public or members only access

# Services to Offer

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- ❑ Content Redistribution/Caching
  - For example, Akamised update distribution service
- ❑ Network Time Protocol
  - Locate a stratum 1 time source (GPS receiver, atomic clock, etc) at IXP
- ❑ Routing Registry
  - Used to register the routing policy of the IXP membership



# Conclusion

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- ❑ IXPs are technically very simple to set up
- ❑ Little more than:
  - An ethernet switch
  - Neutral secure reliable location
  - Consortium of members to operate it
- ❑ Political aspects can be more challenging:
  - Competition between ISP members
  - “ownership” or influence by outside parties