WORK SAMPLE 2 · GENERIC EXAMPLE

IDF/MDF remediation and cabling standard

Network rooms that have grown for years without a plan accumulate loose cabling, missing labels and equipment installed wherever it fit. This is the standard I restore them to, so that any technician can trace, maintain and expand the room without guesswork.

01 Document before changing

- [ ] Where site policy permits, before photos of every rack, front and back, kept in the authorized work record.
- [ ] Port map: every patch, switch port and device, written down before anything moves.
- [ ] Inventory with serial numbers; note anything the survey missed.
- [ ] Note loose, damaged or untraceable cables for re-termination or removal.

02 Cable management

- [ ] Hook-and-loop (Velcro) ties, never zip ties.
- [ ] Strain relief at every termination and device.
- [ ] Service loops, dressed and secured.
- [ ] J-hooks for horizontal runs; no cable lying on ceiling tiles.
- [ ] Patch lengths that fit the run; no slack piled in the rack.

03 Labeling

- [ ] Both ends of every cable, matching the port map.
- [ ] Patch panels and switch ports labeled to the same scheme.
- [ ] Updated port map left with the site and in the closeout package.

04 Terminations and testing

- [ ] Strip without nicking the copper; inspect conductors before terminating.
- [ ] Certify cabling with a Fluke Networks Versiv 2 where certification is required. Test copper links with Fluke LinkIQ and fiber with EXFO and OTDR; record the method, instrument and results.
- [ ] Re-test after the cable is dressed and the device is connected, not only at the bench. A nicked conductor can pass the first test and fail when flexed.

05 Capacity and power

- [ ] Provision 40% spare switch ports for growth unless the approved equipment plan sets otherwise; larger sites may need additional stacked 48-port switches.
- [ ] Check rack power, UPS and PoE capacity against the approved equipment plan.
- [ ] Distribute PoE access-point load across switches rather than concentrating it on one.
- [ ] Dedicated circuits are installed by a licensed electrician; I coordinate the work and confirm the result.

06 Handoff

- [ ] Where permitted, after photos matching the before photos, plus the AP photo set (port, status light, wide, close, cable run, service loop, mounting height).
- [ ] Port map, test results and equipment manifest in the closeout package.
- [ ] Walk the site contact through what changed and how to reach me.

The goal

- ○ When I leave, the room should look like a professional installed it on day one, and anyone opening it should be able to trace any cable from the port map alone.

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