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Will DWDM Make Bandwidth Cheap?

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 Astral Point Communications


Twenty-Five Million to One



- A state of the art DWDM system could provide about 25,000,000 times the bandwidth of a typical point-point digital circuit of five years ago.

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Twenty-five Million to One




- That'd be like having a car that goes at 75,000,000 kph, stuck on Bangkok's city streets (or Manila... or New York)

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Reality Check

- No "cars" need to travel at an individual speed of 75,000,000 kph.
- It's not enough to have a great highway. There must be on-ramps and off-ramps and clear *instructions* how to direct traffic

→ *It's not about highway size. It's about the traffic.*



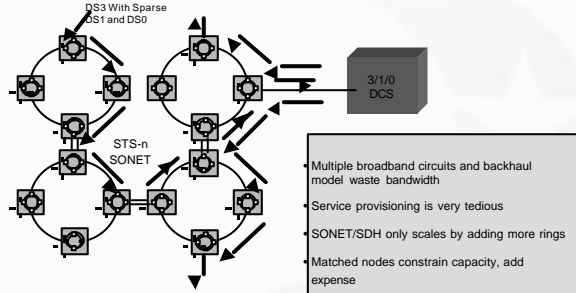
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The Presentation

- ✓ Address implementation challenges in growing existing fibre networks
- ✓ Discuss DWDM, in concept
- ✓ Talk about approaches to these challenges in the metro environment

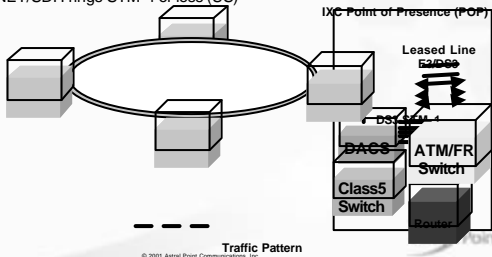
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Drawbacks of SONET/SDH

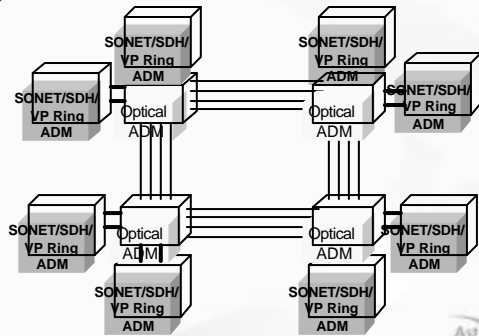


Today's Metro SONET/SDH Transmission Implementation

- Ring topology for protection
- Data services backhauled to POP
- >70% of SONET/SDH rings STM-4 or less (US)



Today's Scalability Approach Only Addresses Bandwidth



CTO of a Major US Competitive Carrier

“The fiber is like spaghetti thrown on a table!”



I can't possibly build rings out of it.”



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SONET/SDH/OADM Solution is Costly and Difficult to Manage

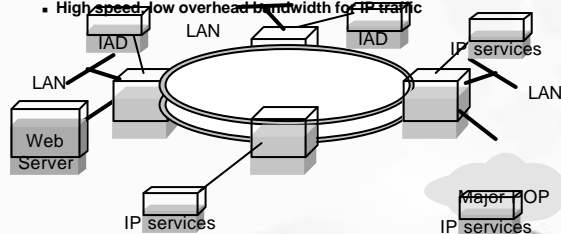
- **High initial cost**
 - Ring topology restricts rights of way and fiber runs
 - Too many systems needed
 - Too many optical interfaces (lasers on SADMs, OADM,s optical supervisory channels)
- **Ongoing life cycle cost-no integrated network view**
 - **Provisioning**
 - Multiple domains, Multiple rings and Multiple steps
 - Manual mapping of services to wavelengths
 - **Fault Management**
 - Numerous loopbacks and connection associations
 - **Protection**
 - Careful coordination of protection among systems
 - Centralized provisioning systems don't help protection



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Meanwhile, New Traffic Patterns Dictate Distributed Bandwidth

- **Fine Grain Bandwidth Distribution**
 - Local T1/E1 and IMA ATM Services
 - LAN Services
- **High speed, low overhead bandwidth for IP traffic**



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New Metropolitan Multi-Services Environment

- **Continued need for traditional circuit transmission**
- **Rapidly increasing use of IAD's for voice and data aggregation and NxT1/E1 services**
- **LAN Interfaces**
 - Transparent LAN services
 - Distributed Network Access Point (NAP)
- **Lambda (opaque wavelength) Services**
 - STM-1 to STM-64 Leased lines



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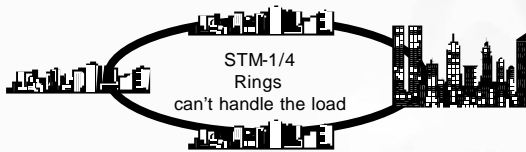
The "Last 15km Problem"?

Local CO/Wire Center

- DSL
- Cable Internet
- IAD
- LAN Services
- Requires numerous E3, STM1 and LAN rate connections

Serving Wire Center/POP

- Big Fast Routers
- Bigger ATM Switches
- DWDM/Inter-city Bandwidth Managers
- Requires numerous STM4 and STM16 connections



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Next-gen Metro Needs

Current SONET/SDH Limits

- **Voice - centric**
- **Leased line service only**
- **Topology limits**
 - 16 Node Rings
- **Provisioning constraints**
 - Span level STS-1 mapping
 - Multi-element process for data
- **Cumbersome bandwidth upgrades**
 - SONET/SDH bandwidth is fixed at line rate
 - Simultaneous removal/replacement of all ADMs

Next Generation Metropolitan Needs

- **Data - centric**
- **Multi-Service networks**
 - Leased line
 - ATM
 - IP/LAN, POS, MP/S, OIF?
- **Flexible topology support**
 - Ring for backward compatibility
 - Mesh for economical buildouts
- **"Point and Click" Provisioning**
- **Use of DWDM for non-obtrusive SONET/SDH overlay**
- **Scalability**
 - DWDM-Ease of adding bandwidth
 - Larger networks
 - Add network capacity beyond line rate

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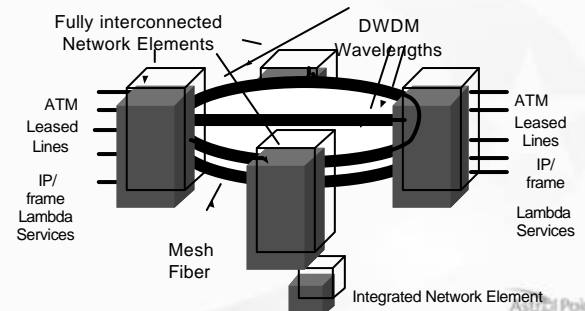
Next-gen metro needs - summary

- **"Data aware" – no presumption that SDH envelope is voice by default**
- **Multi-service. Not everything is IP, yet. SANs comes to mind. And voice.**
- **Growth is massive**
- **SONET/SDH systems are unscalable and designed for stability, not growth**
- **Both "coarse" (STM -4+) and "fine" bandwidth granularity is needed**

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Getting to Next-Gen Needs



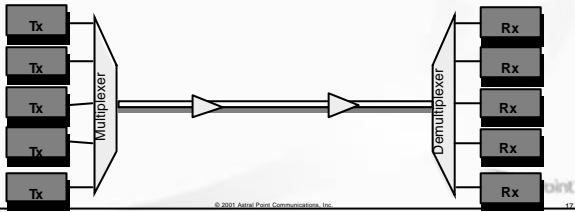
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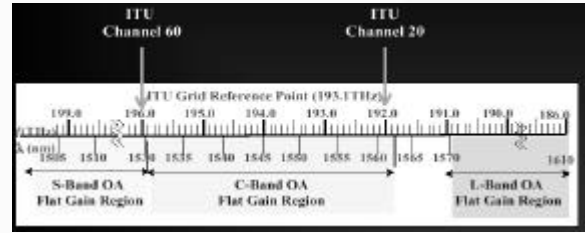
DWDM defined

- **Dense Wave Division Multiplexing: method for placing multiple lightstreams on a single fibre, and managing them independently**

Ten's of wavelengths/fiber over 100 – 1000 km

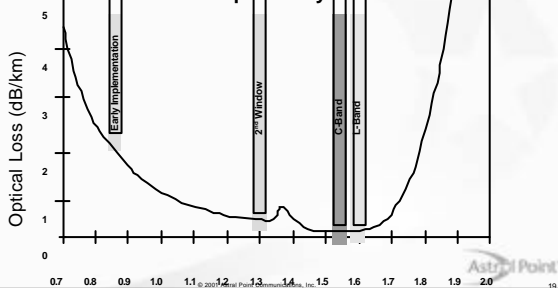


ITU "C", "L" and "S" Band

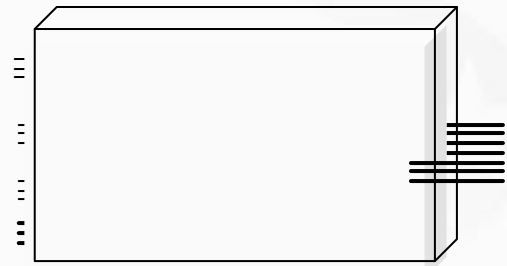


DWDM Wavelength utilisation

- Attenuation and dispersion characteristics make C-band and L-band optimal
- "Second window" is freq. used by SONET/SDH

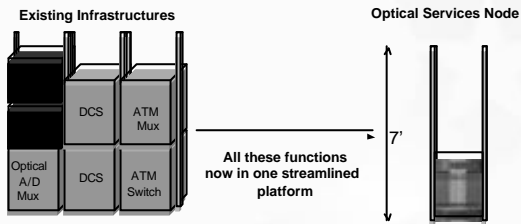


A New Integrated Electrical/Optical Network Element



Astral Point ON5000 Block Diagram

Rack Space Comparison Space & power savings

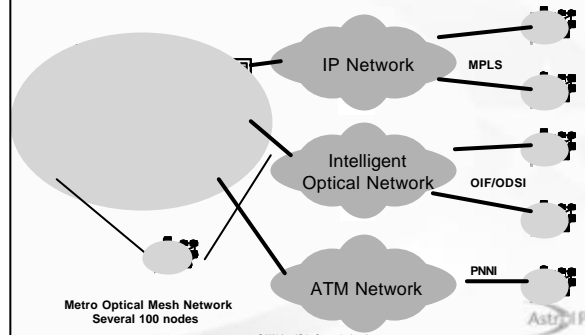


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Mesh Network Scalability and Dynamic Provisioning

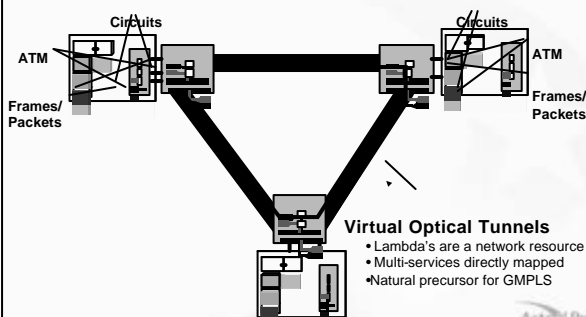


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Virtual Optical Tunnels

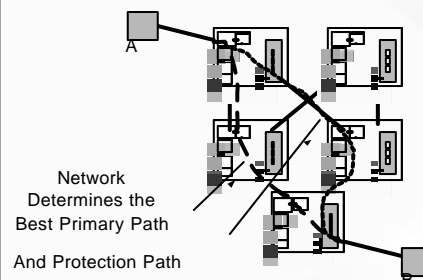


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Single Step, End to End Service Provisioning



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Mesh protection

- Uses OSPF-based “Self-Healing Mesh” to overcome SONET/SDH limitations
- Enables first-ever SONET/SDH-quality protection and restoration in mesh networks
 - Provides sub-50 ms protection and restoration in mesh networks that scale to hundreds of nodes
 - Allows for variable protection levels
 - Guaranteed Protection
 - Guaranteed Protection with reduced bandwidth
 - Pre-emptable services utilizing protection bandwidth



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Applications

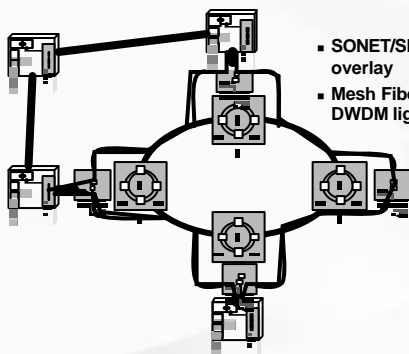
- Bandwidth relief
- DSLAM aggregation
- Leased line transport
- “Fat pipe” services



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Optical Overlay for Fiber Span Relief



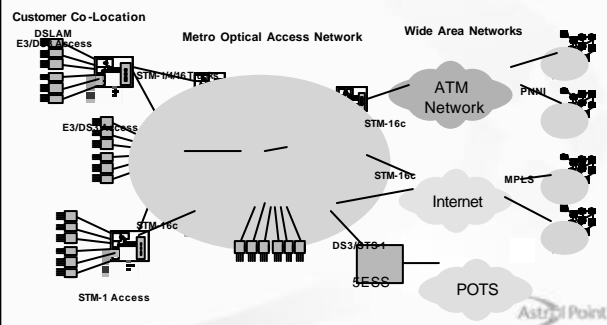
- SONET/SDH optical overlay
- Mesh Fiber or DWDM lightpaths



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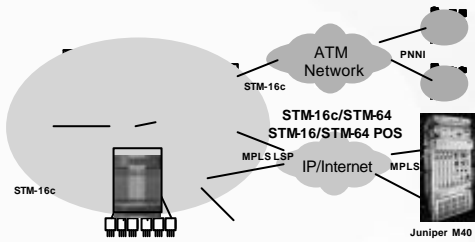
DSLAM Aggregation



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Big Pipes

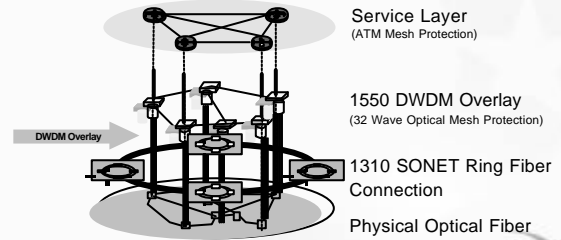


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Putting it All Together

Optical + ATM Mesh Network: Provides reliable optical channel protection and layer protection (IP, TDM, ATM, etc.)



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ATM & IP/MPLS – Not mutually Exclusive

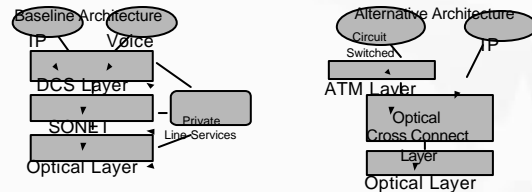
“It is ironic that even as the service-provider industry is ... building its new services on Internet Protocol, based on its ubiquity and increasing maturity, the technology IP would displace — ATM ... is finally getting its foothold in the public network at large... even as IP matures with ... [MPLS], DiffServ and ... other protocols that let IP do what ATM was built to do: *handle different types of traffic differently, each according to its needs.*”

– Carol Wilson in “The Network Economy” 20/2/01
www.theneteconomy.com

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ATT Labs-Research Study



- Alternative architecture saves 35% overall cost versus Baseline
- Contributors to savings are:
 - Mesh network restoration 60% of the savings
 - ATM switching consolidation 40% of the savings

Source: IEEE Communications Magazine, “Future Transport Network Architectures”, R. Doverspike, S. Phillips, J. Westbrook, ATT Labs-Research, August 1999 Vol. 37 No. 1 pp 96-101

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Returning to the presentation brief:

“Although most... would agree DWDM... can make bandwidth cheap and plentiful...

... A number of issues remain that limit deployment

... what is DWDM really, what are the opportunities... where do we go from here?”

How'd we do?



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“Will DWDM Make Bandwidth Cheap?”

- ...*Cheap and plentiful*? Yes and no. Complications are “last 15km”, competitive forces, installed base and cost
- ...*technical issues*? Existing rings, scalability limitations, management and provisioning nightmare
- ... *solutions*? “Next Generation” “SONET/SDH replacement” platforms, mixing transparent and opaque services.
 - High bandwidth where its needed
 - Managed, high density bandwidth where its needed
 - Fostering interoperability for the next-gen IP platforms.

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Thank you.

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Bibliography & Shameless Self-Reference

For those interested in learning more about the *technology* – write the *speaker* at sblessley@astralpoint.com.
A bibliography/recommended reading list is available.

For those interested in Astral Point products...
www.astralpoint.com

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