

WIRELESS OR WIREMORE?

Theory and practice for
Industrial WLAN installations



Fred Weggelaar -

Network engineer, Consultant & Trainer

Hirschmann Multimedia BV

dep. : Hirschmann Network Solutions

1986- 1999: RF & CATV development

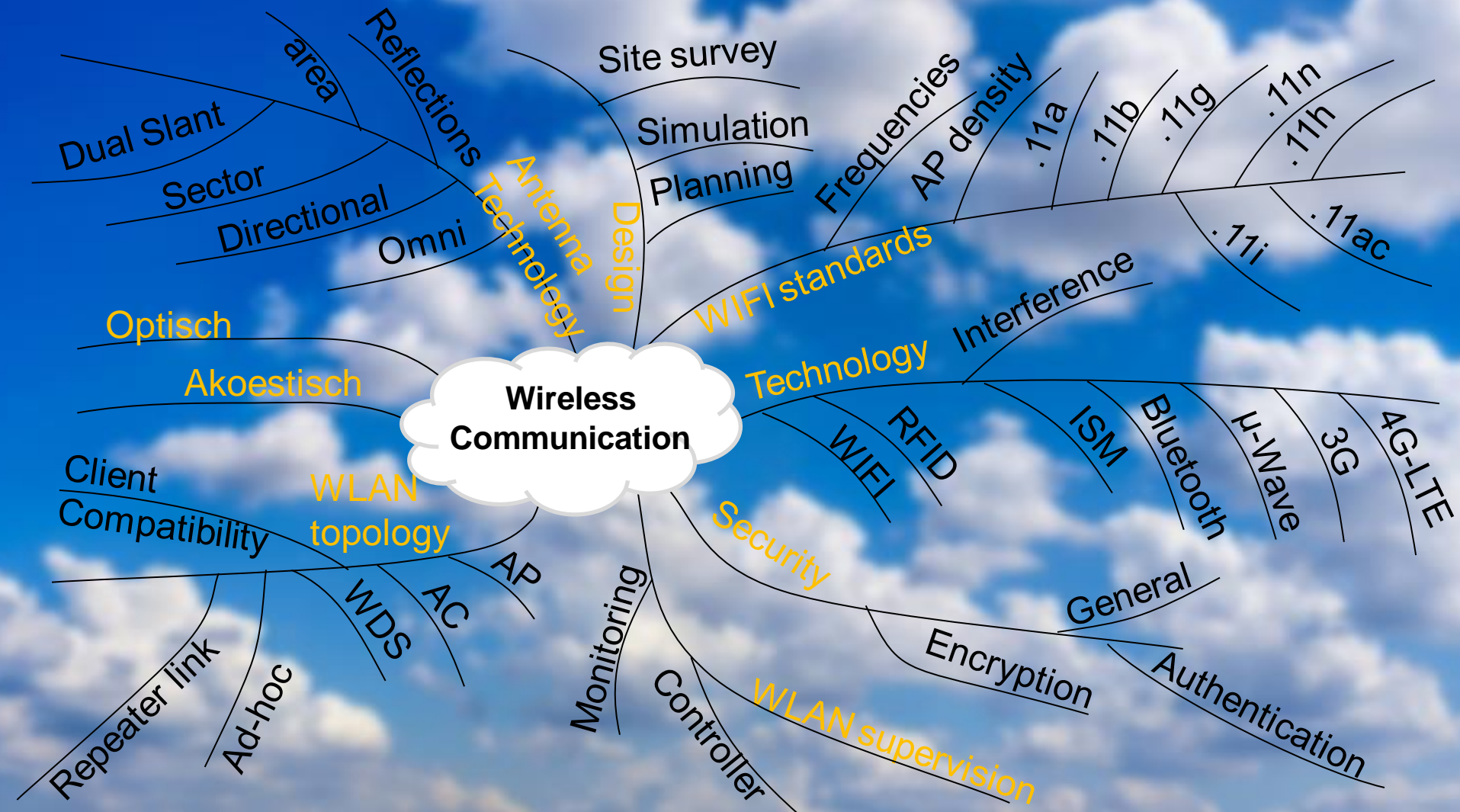
1999- 2015: Industrial Networks

Engineering, Support & Consultancy



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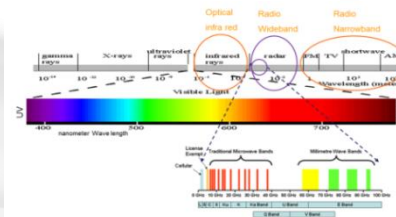
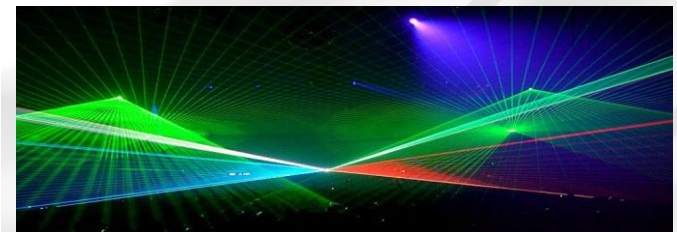
THE WIRELESS COMMUNICATION MAP



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ACCOUSTIC COMMUNICATION IS NO OPTION

- Acoustic is also wireless,
 - but no option for modern industrial communication
 - Please be aware: the air is a shared medium
- Electromagnetic waves are a better solution.
 - If we can reach and connect only the communication participants... Comparable with audience in a stadium.
 - Please be aware: the air (ether) is a shared medium
- The air is full of EM signals
 - Fortunately we can't see most of them...
- But if we could...



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THE WIRELESS CHALLENGE

→ No discussion:

- A wired connection is most reliable

→ but:

- Now a growing number of applications need or like to have wireless

→ WirelessTarget:

- Optimal application connectivity

→ but:

- Wireless link is least reliable chain, so WLAN optimalization is the challenge!

→ Obvious solution:

- High density of AP's and antennas, resulting in a lot of cabling

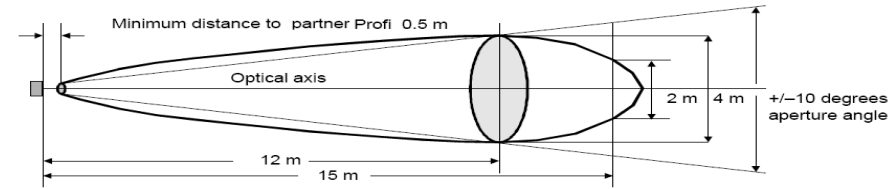
Wire more for Wireless is sometimes the result



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OPTICAL WIRELESS

- Only for line of sight applications
- Insensible for radio interference
- Wavelength in Infra red spectrum
- LED systems
 - Due to optical divergence, applicable only for short distances and low data rate (Profibus at several meters)
- Lasersystems
 - Depending on transmit power, applicable for several kilometers with high data rate (GigabitEthernet at several kilometers)



785 nm, 4 x 25 mW
= 1000mtr

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RF WIRELESS (BROADBAND)

- Operates with line of sight and through obstacles
- Relative insensible for weather conditions
- Licenced and Licence free frequencies
- Be aware of the WLAN overhead data
 - Gross data is almost double the net data
- Point-to-(Multi)Point connections
 - Directional antennas create a long traject (1 → 1000 Mbps at 15 → 1 kilometers)
- Area coverage
 - Communication is possible. Depending on antenna type and -position, TX-power, obstacles and process environment (1 tot 300 Mbps at centimeters up to several hundreds of meters)



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WIRELESS... GETTING STARTED

Approach:

- By trial and error...Just buy and try
- Or by engineering:
 - Determine the level of engineering
 - *Simulation and if possible: Passive Site Survey or Active Site Survey*
 - Determine the technology (application requirements for data capacity)
 - What kind of clients are to be used?
 - Origin of data: SCADA, (non) critical control data, RIO, Video, Audio, combinations
 - *Prefer the technology*
 - Determine the topology and type of connection
 - PtP, WDS, Area coverage, Roaming clients
 - *Prefer the topology and antenna types*
 - Determine the environmental conditions
 - *Select the technology, antenna types and accessories*
 - Determine the required configuration and security level
 - *Implement the required configuration*

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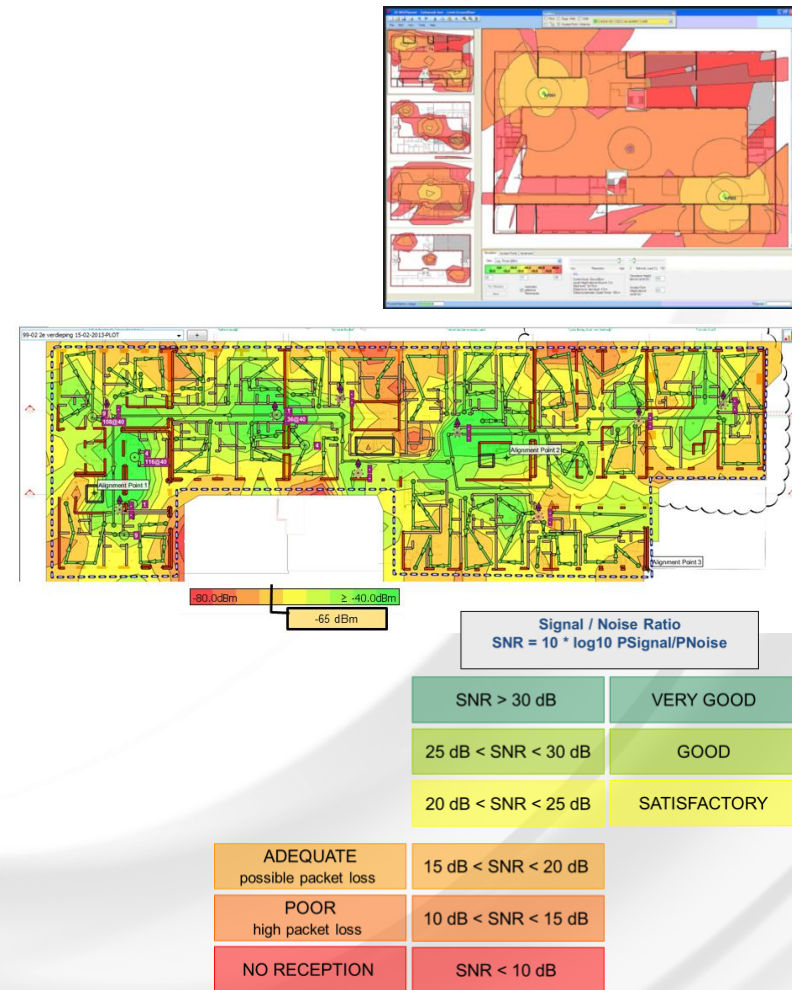
STEP 1a: SIMULATION

→ Software tools to create 2D or 3D simulations:

- BAT Planner (by Belden-Hirschmann™)
- Ekahau Site Survey (by Ekahau)
- AirMagnet (by Fluke Networks)
- RF3D (by Psiber)
- Visiwave (by AZO Technologies, Inc)
- Acrylic Heatmaps (by Tarlogic Security)
- Tamograph (by Tamos)
- Fortiplanner (by Fortinet)
- LAN Planner (by Motorola)
- FL WST (by Phoenix Contact)
- Sinema (by Siemens)

→ Especially observe:

- Signal strength
- Signal to Noise Ratio (SNR)



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STEP 1b: SITE SURVEY - GOAL 1

→ Goal 1: Determine optimal antenna locations

- Advice for hardware and antenna locations
- Observing the structural condition
- Often a dilemma between RF-Optimal and realizable



Heat, Wind, Moisture, Reflections, Moving Clients, Aggressive H₂S gas, Rocks, Flames, Vibrations

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STEP 1b: SITE SURVEY – GOAL 2

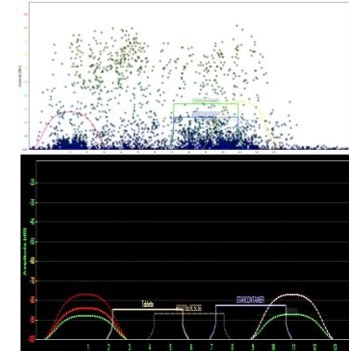
→ Goal 2: Advice for frequency use



- Even if there is nothing to see



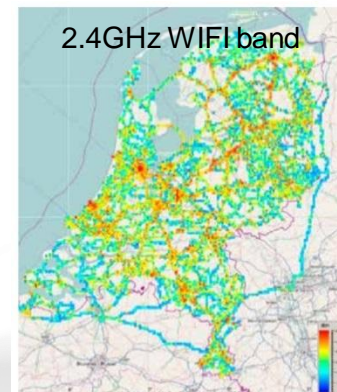
- There is a lot to measure



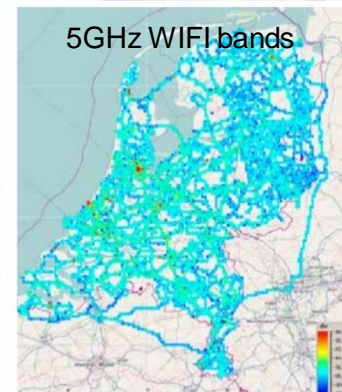
- Like already occupied channels

→ Check channel availability

- 2.4 GHz is most used ISM band..
Jokingly called “The Toy Band”
- 5 GHz has more capacity,
but is not integrated in all industrial equipment yet



Figuur 1: Mobile veldsterkte metingen van de gehele 2,4 GHz WiFi band. Het is een hoge dichtheid in het aantal uitzendingen.



Figuur 2: Mobile veldsterkte metingen van de gehele 5 GHz WiFi band. Hier is een veel lagere dichtheid in het aantal uitzendingen te zien, die daarbij voornamelijk in grote steden plaatsvinden.

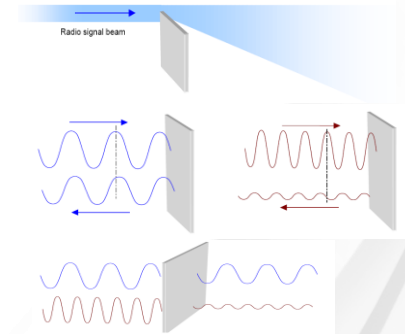
source:  2013

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STEP 1b: SITE SURVEY – GOAL 3

→ Goal 3: Understanding the operational situation on site

- Environmental conditions and structures (deflection, reflection, attenuation)
- Propagation changes depending on process steps



Heat, Wind, Moisture, Reflections, Moving Clients, Aggressive H_2S gas, Rocks, Flames, Vibrations

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STEP 2: TECHNOLOGY SELECTION



- ✓ Passive clients, low cost, quick connection
- ✗ Low data rate, client identification only



WirelessHART
IEEE 802.15.4

- ✓ 2.4 GHz DSSS, time synchronized, self-organizing, self-healing mesh architecture, embedded in sensors
- ✗ Rel. short distances (<100m), sensor data only (250 kb/s)



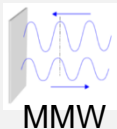
IEEE 802.15.1
Bluetooth

- ✓ 2.4 GHz frequency hopping technology, Easy set up
- ✗ Rel. short distances (<100m), control data only (1 Mb/s)

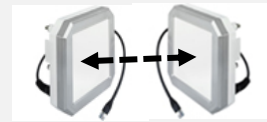


WiFi
IEEE 802.11

- ✓ 2.4 GHz & 5 GHz standards, Scalable, High capacity, Roaming Clients, Video suitable, Development of “state of the art standards”
- ✗ BYOD & RADAR disturbance, Rogue AP's (Man i.t. Middle)



- ✓ 60 – 86 GHz applications, PtP Privacy, very high capacity,
- ✗ Line of sight only, static locations

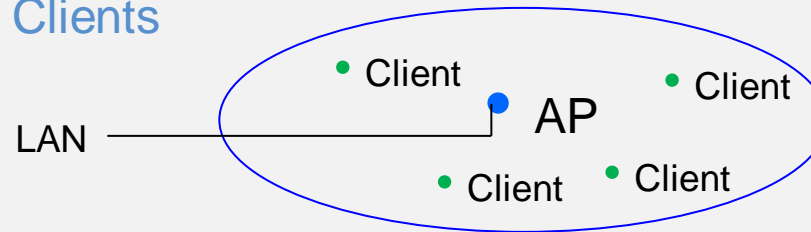


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STEP 3: TOPOLOGY SELECTION

→ Depending on the application, one of the following topologies will be applicable

➤ Access-Points and Clients



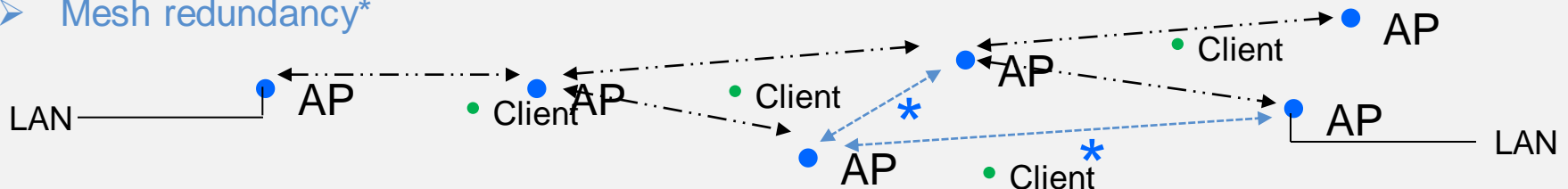
➤ Point-to-Point links = Bridge links (with or without Clients)

Non-standardized



➤ Wireless Distribution System = multi-hop-PtP link (with or without Clients)

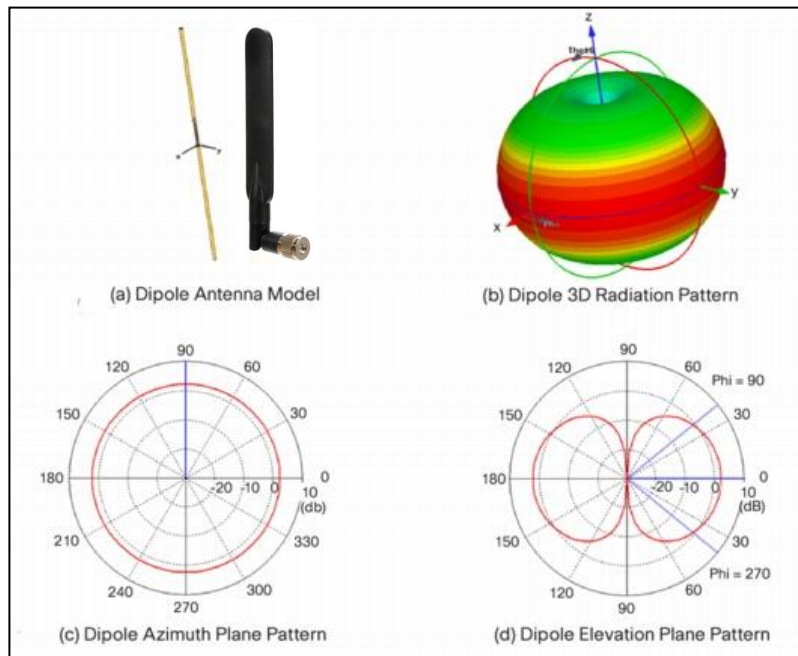
➤ Mesh redundancy*



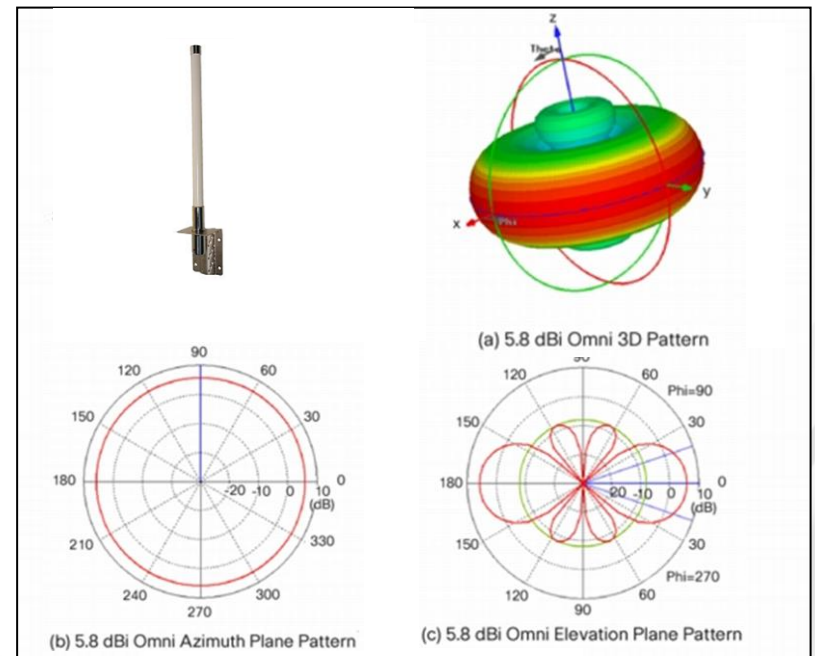
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STEP 3: ANTENNA RADIATION MODEL SELECTION (1)

- Depending on the application, one of the following radiation models will be applicable
 - *Omni directional antennas*



$G = 2 \text{ dBi}$

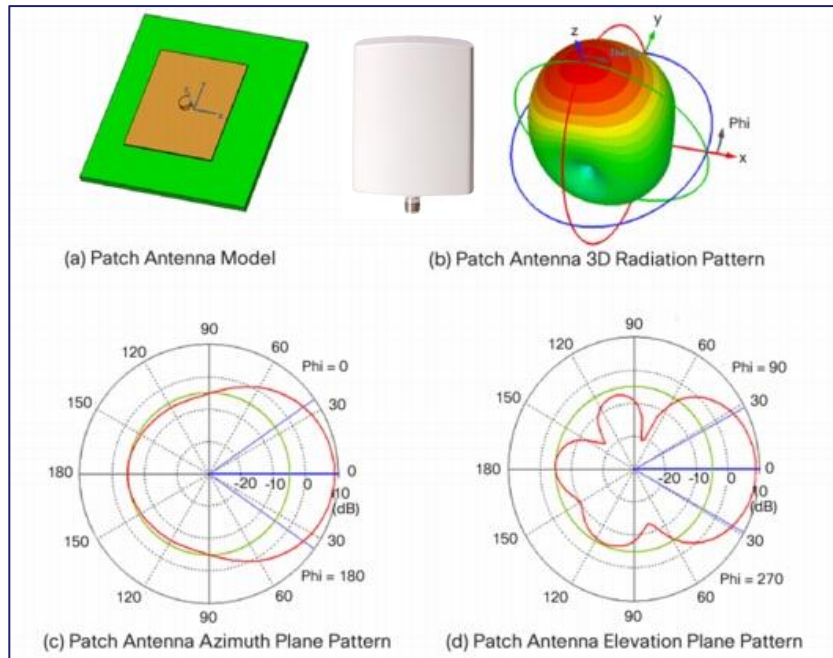


$G = 6 \text{ dBi}$

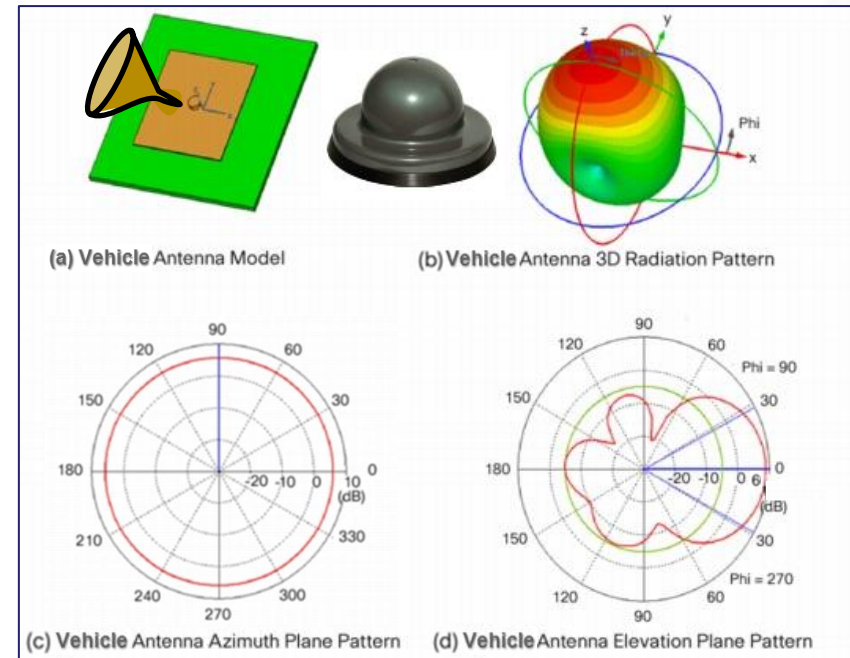
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STEP 3: ANTENNA RADIATION MODEL SELECTION (2)

➤ Directional (patch) antennas & vehicle antennas



$G = 9 \text{ dBi}$

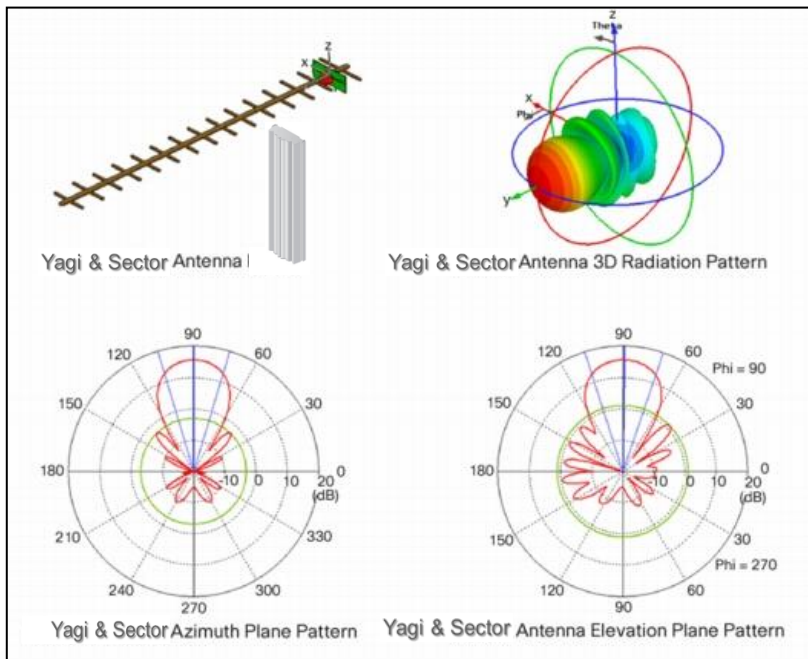


$G = 6 \text{ dBi}$

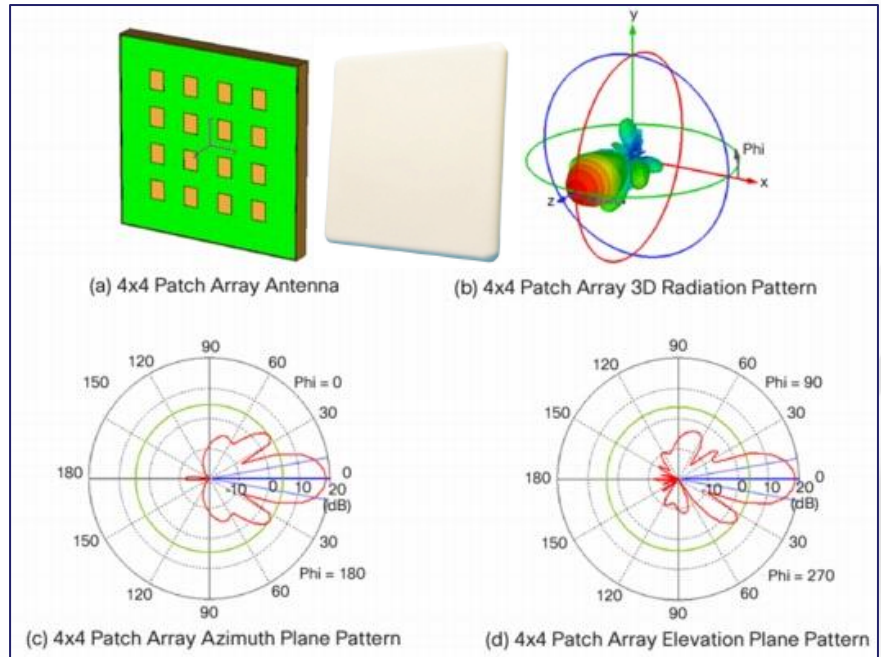
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STEP 3: ANTENNA RADIATION MODEL SELECTION (3)

➤ Sector antennas



$G = 16 \text{ dBi}$



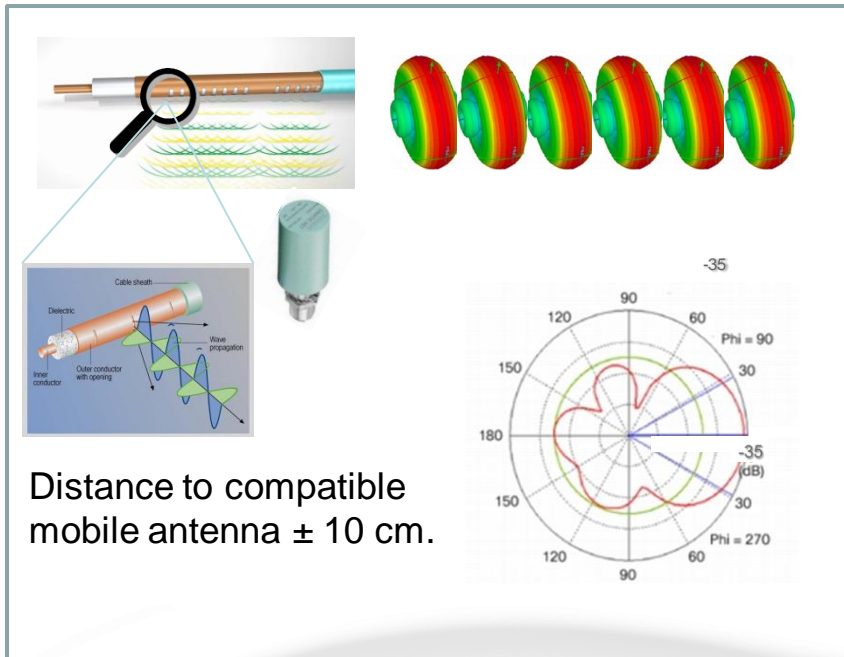
$G = 20 \text{ dBi}$

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STEP 3: ANTENNA RADIATION MODEL SELECTION (4)

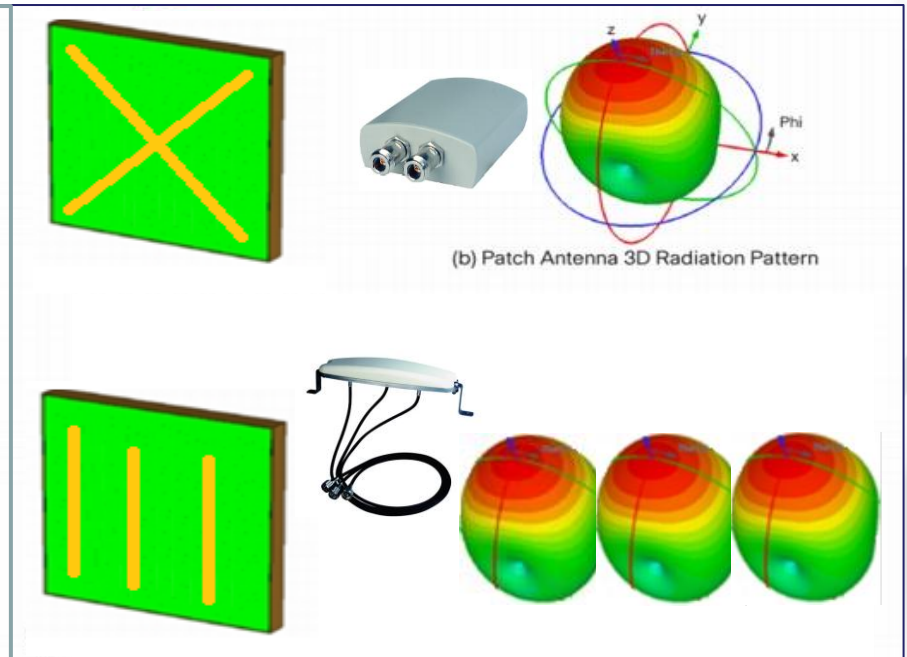
➤ Special antennas

Radiating Cable



G = -35 dBi

Dual Slant & MIMO antennas



G = depending on model

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STEP 4: SELECTING THE RIGHT EQUIPMENT

→ Take notice of the environmental conditions

- An Antenna is just some (printed) wire in a box, so why the expensive?
- My Access Point is a A-brand, so why the expensive?



→ Reliable Industrial applications deserve well protected devices

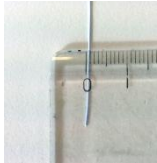
- Water, aggressive gasses, flames, high temps, temp shocks, wind, salt, surges, etc..



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STEP 4: SELECTING THE RIGHT ACCESSORIES

- Take notice of the possibilities of installing equipment
 - There are many coax cables.... Choose the right one



Devices internal
(<10 cm.)



Inside cabinets
(1-3 m.)

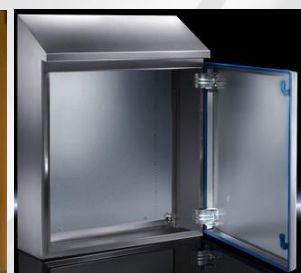


Outside cabinets (2 – 20 m.)

- Industrial applications deserve well protected devices
 - Water, aggressive gasses, flames, high temps, temp shocks, wind, salt, surges, etc.



Surge Protectors



Cabinets for protection against:
temp extremes, chemicals, water, etc

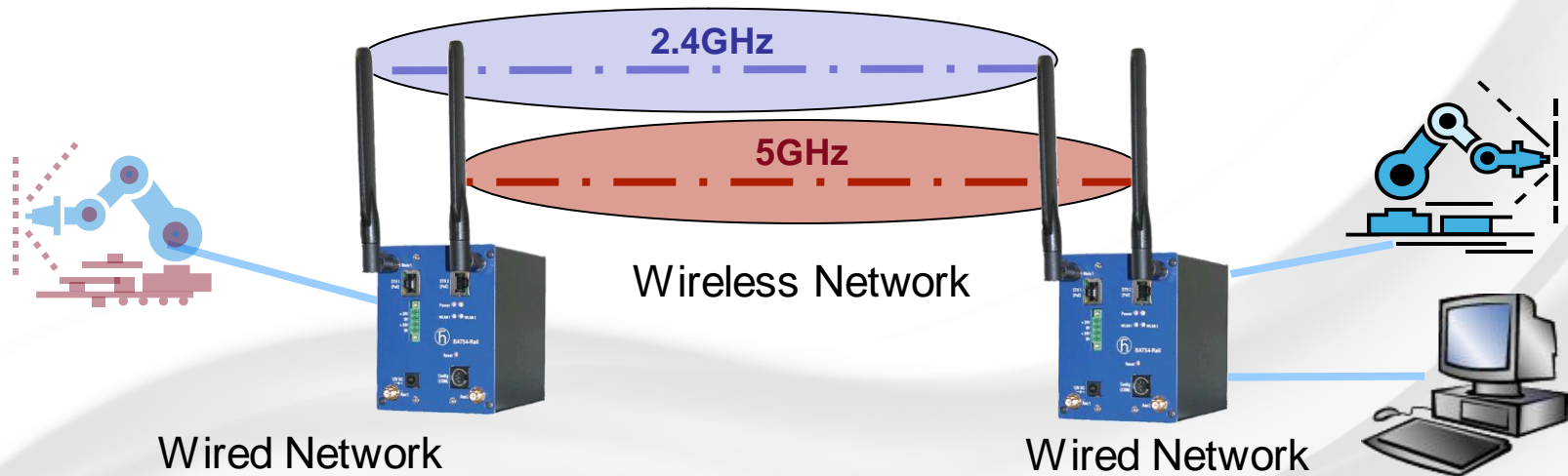
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STEP 5: IMPLEMENT THE OPTIMAL CONFIGURATION

- **Autonomous or Controller based WLAN?**
 - Depending on the number of AP's and manageability requirements
- **Single SSID, Multiple SSID, VLAN over WLAN?**
 - Depending on the number of applications and demand for data separation
 - Depending on specs and applications
- **Access Point or Access Client mode?**
 - AP: Infrastructure mode, Ad-hoc mode, Point-to-(Multi)Point,
 - AC: Roaming parameters
- **RF-path Redundancy?**
 - Spanning Tree / PRP
- **Security**
 - Intrusion protection, 802.11i (WPA2/PSK) or 802.1x (server) Authentication, Encryption
 - White listing, Black listing, MAC listing, interstandard compatibility
 - Firewalling

RF-REDUNDANCY.. TRADITIONAL PROTOCOL

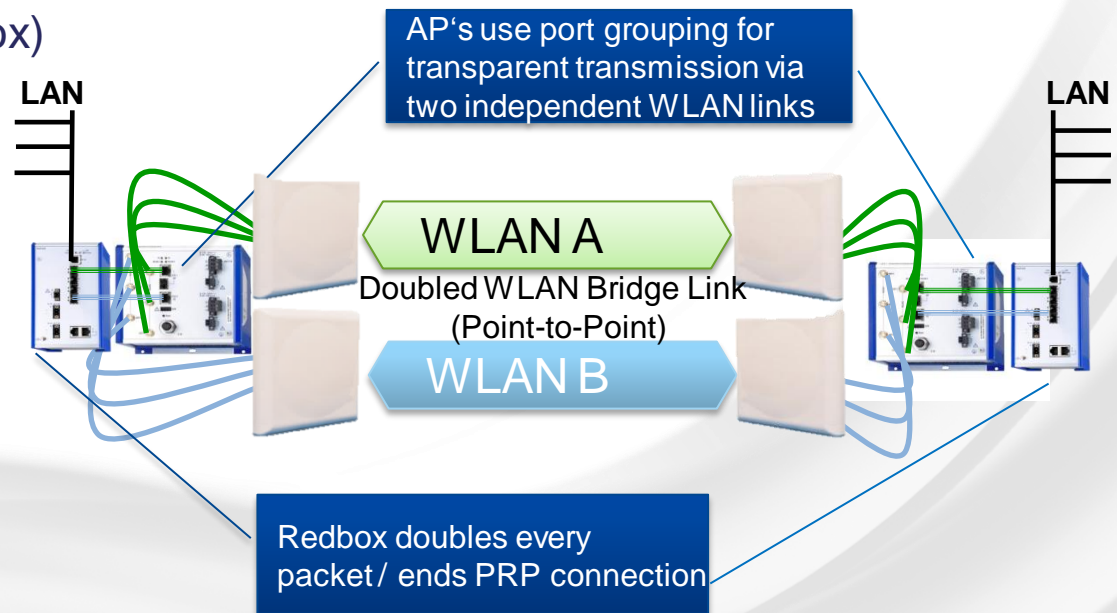
- Increased reliability: one RF path in stand by
 - Two radios per device
 - Redundancy based on LAN-protocol STP
 - Recovery time in seconds
 - Transparent for Industrial Ethernet protocols
 - Two simultaneous WLAN links



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RF-REDUNDANCY.. PRP IN POINT-TO-POINT-CONNECTIONS

- Increased reliability: Two active RF paths
 - Two radios per device
 - Redundancy based on IEC62439-3 PRP
 - Recovery time 0 seconds
 - Transparent for Industrial Ethernet protocols
 - Two simultaneous WLAN links containing identical data: Redbox is filtering device
 - Redundancy Box (Redbox)



- **Wireless is Wiremore!**

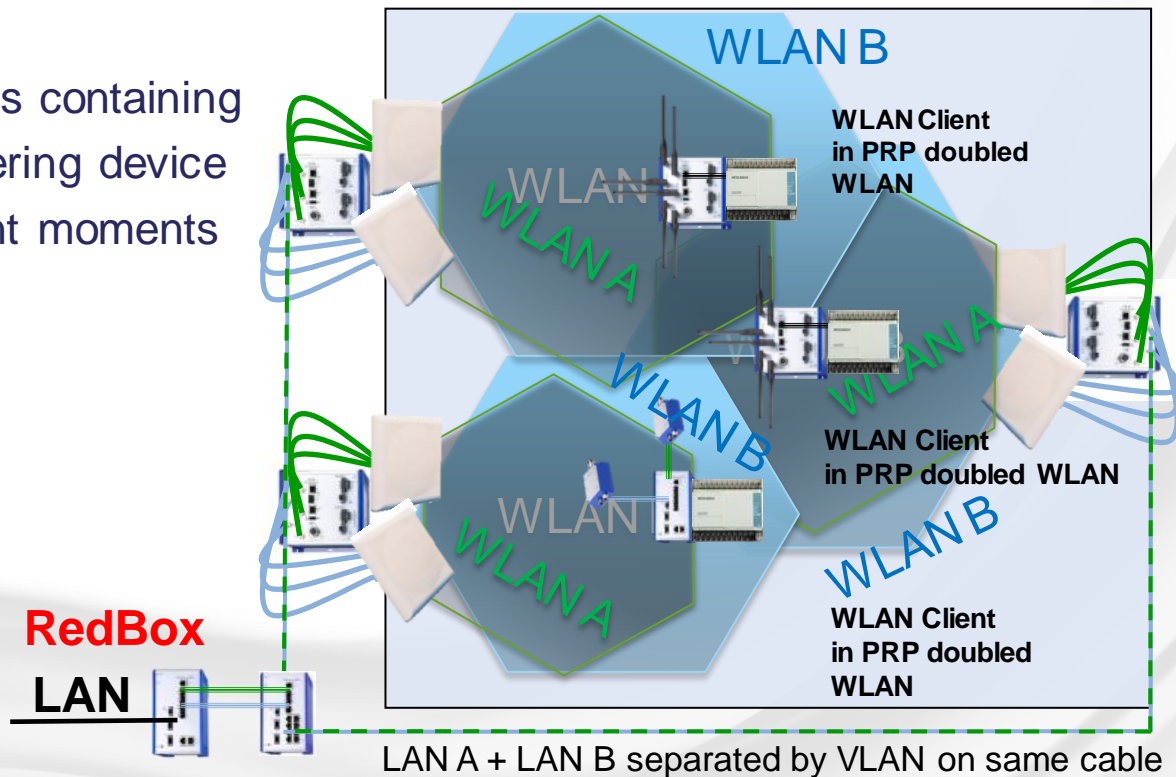
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RF-REDUNDANCY.. PRP IN SMART ROAMING INFRASTRUCTURE NETWORKS

→ Increased reliability

- Two radios per device (AP and AC)
- Redundancy based on IEC62439-3 PRP
- Transparent for Industrial Ethernet protocols
- Recovery time 0 seconds
- Two simultaneous WLAN links containing identical data: Redbox is filtering device
- Client radios roam on different moments
- Connection guaranteed by at least one WLAN

➤ Wireless is wiremore!



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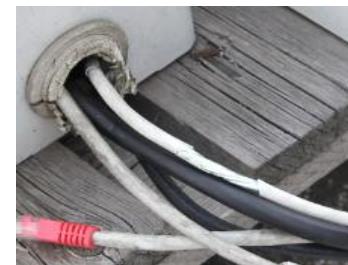
PITFALLS FOR NON-RF TECHNICIANS



Environmental conditions: Heat, Wind, Moisture, Rocks, Flames, Aggressive H_2S gas, Vibrations, taping



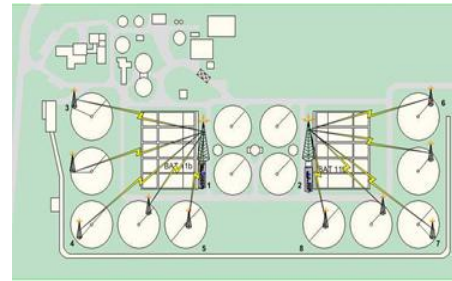
RF knowledge: Reflections, screening, Grounding, Bending radius, Propagation, Polarization Antenna pattern,



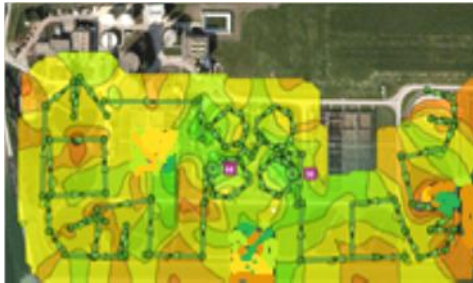
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RESULT EXAMPLE OF ENGINEERING APPROACH (1)

→ Project: waste water installation 2.4 to 5 GHz migration



→ View in Google Earth → Define required applications and connections → site survey



→ Simulation heat map → As-built heatmap → Result: stable operation

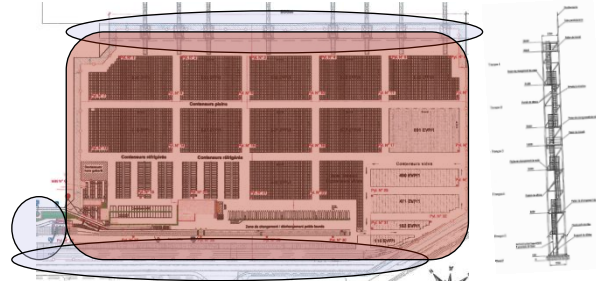
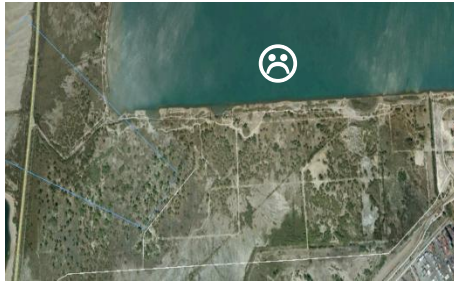
Projectpartners:



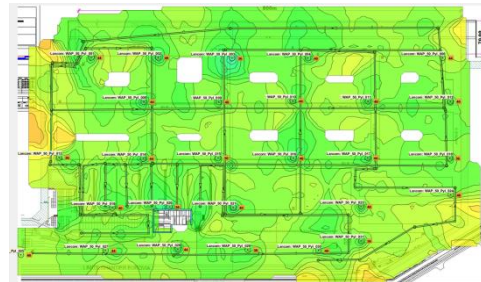
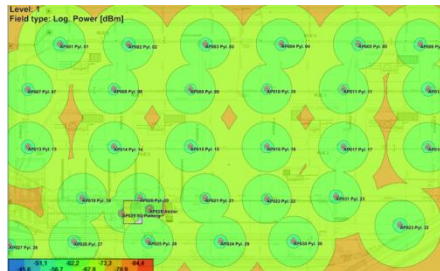
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RESULT EXAMPLE OF ENGINEERING APPROACH (2)

→ Project: New Container Terminal 2.4 & 5 GHz



→ View in Google Earth → Define required connections → Site Surveys at several stages



→ Simulation heat map → As-built heatmap → Result: Interruption free operation

Projectpartners:



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QUESTIONS?

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MULTIMEDIA

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networksolutions@hirschmann.nl

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