



# ETHERNET TIME & SYNC

In Telecoms, Power, Finance, Cars, ...

ITSF Budapest, Nov 2014



## IEEE 1588 states in clause 19.3.1.1:

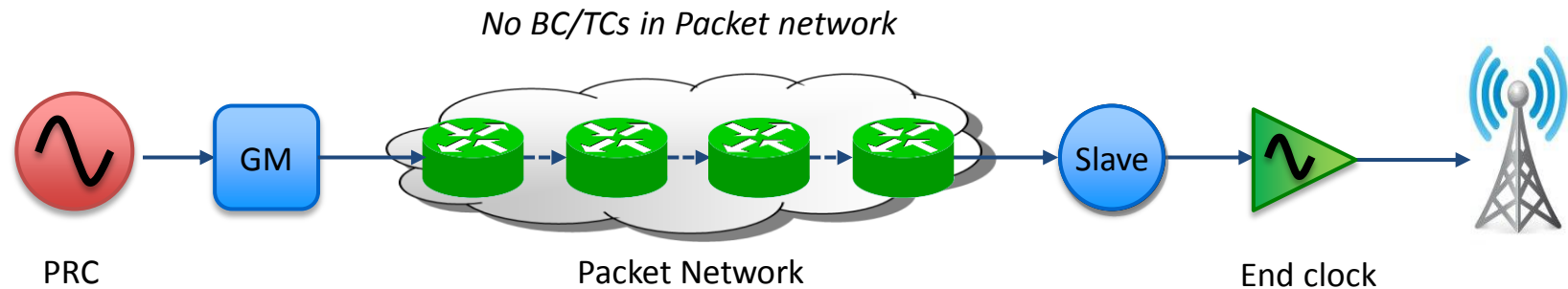
*"The purpose of a PTP profile is to allow organizations to specify specific selections of attribute values and optional features of PTP that, when using the same transport protocol, inter-work and achieve a performance that meets the requirements of a particular application."*

Company Confidential

# Telecoms

*Specifically Mobile Backhaul*

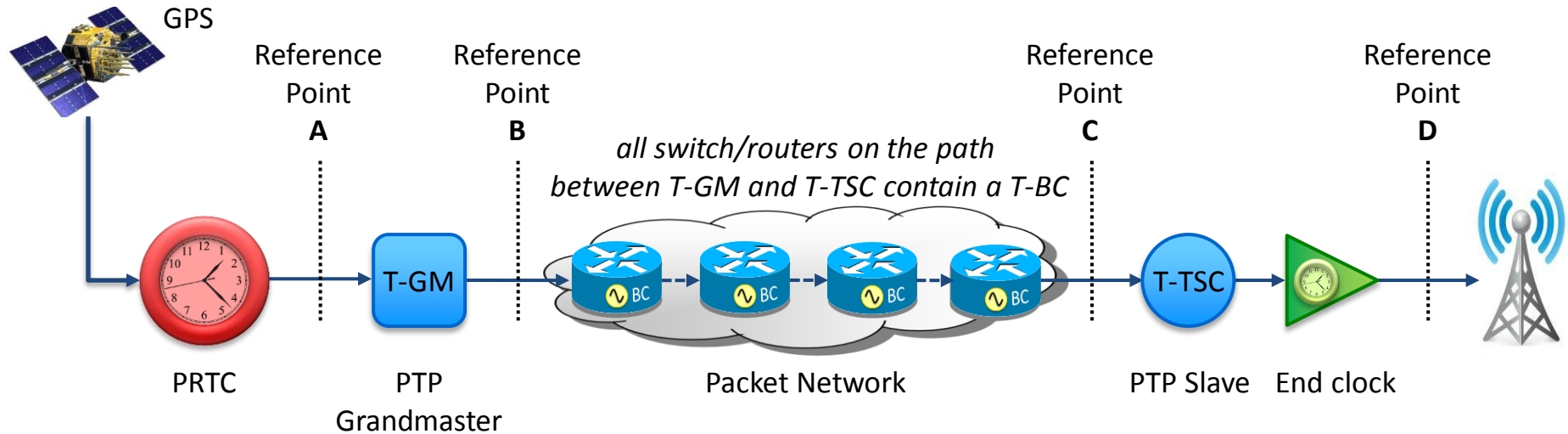
# PTP with No Timing Support (G.8265.1)



## Features

- Packet timing protocols such as PTP or NTP used to deliver frequency
- Aims to deliver at least same quality of timing as TDM

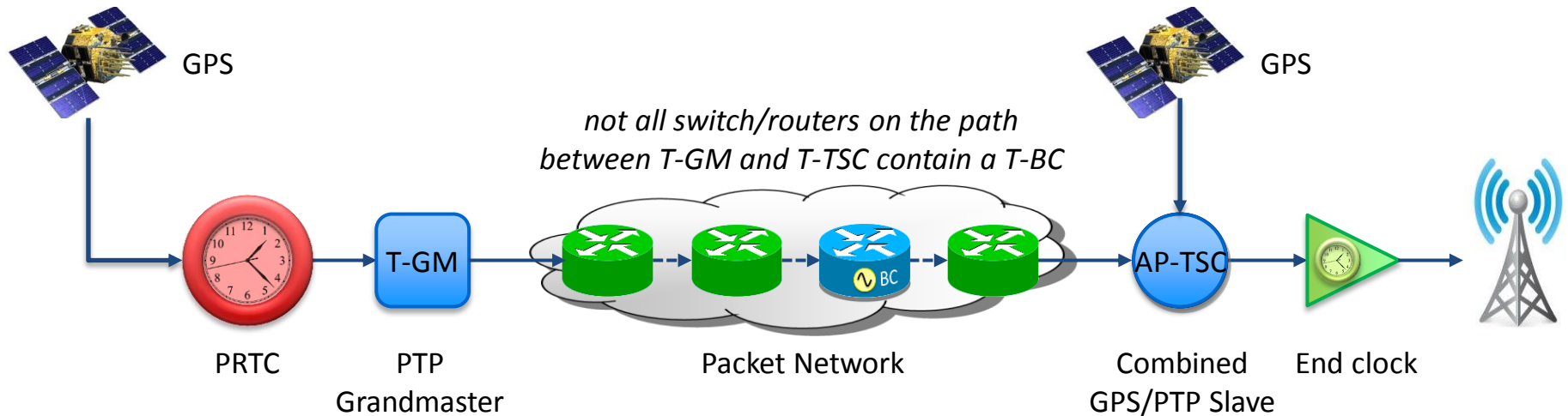
# PTP with Full Timing Support (G.8275.1)



## Features

- Every network element in the path must be “PTP aware”
- Each node contains a Telecom Boundary Clock (T-BC), avoiding accumulation of PDV along the path
- Can use a combination of SyncE & PTP, where SyncE provides the frequency and the PTP the phase/time

# PTP with Assisted Partial Timing Support



## Features

- Objective is backup to GPS: i.e. “assisted holdover”
- Can use GPS when in service to monitor PTP service quality and measure network asymmetry
- PTP can maintain timebase when GPS is out of service (e.g. due to jamming or antenna failure)

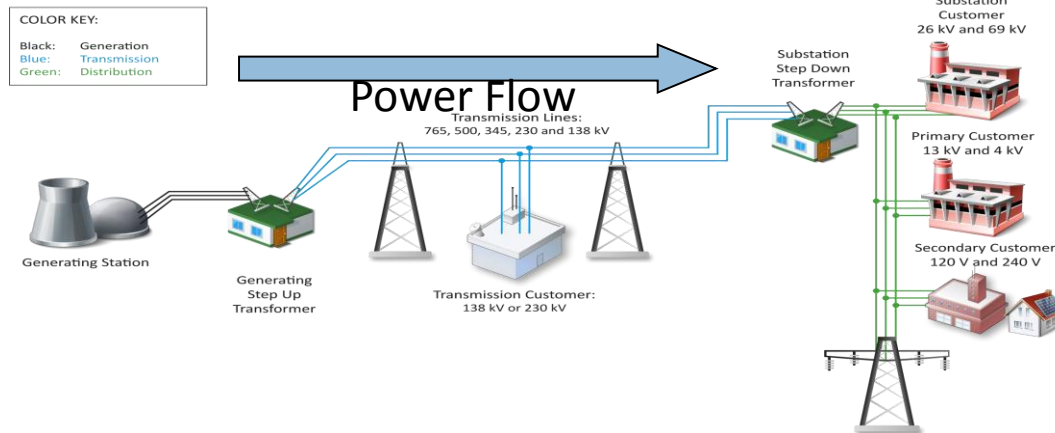
# Power

# Power – the need for Sync

- “The Power Grid” is one of the world’s largest infrastructures
- High synchronization requirements due to distributed nature of the grid and the critical balance between power generation and consumption
  - Power can’t be stored easily so Grids Generate according to Demand
  - Need good Comms and Sync to correlate Demand and Generation
  - Has evolved from seconds to milliseconds and will evolve to microseconds → **Greater Efficiencies**
  - Also enables the **Greater Diversity** of the Smart Grid



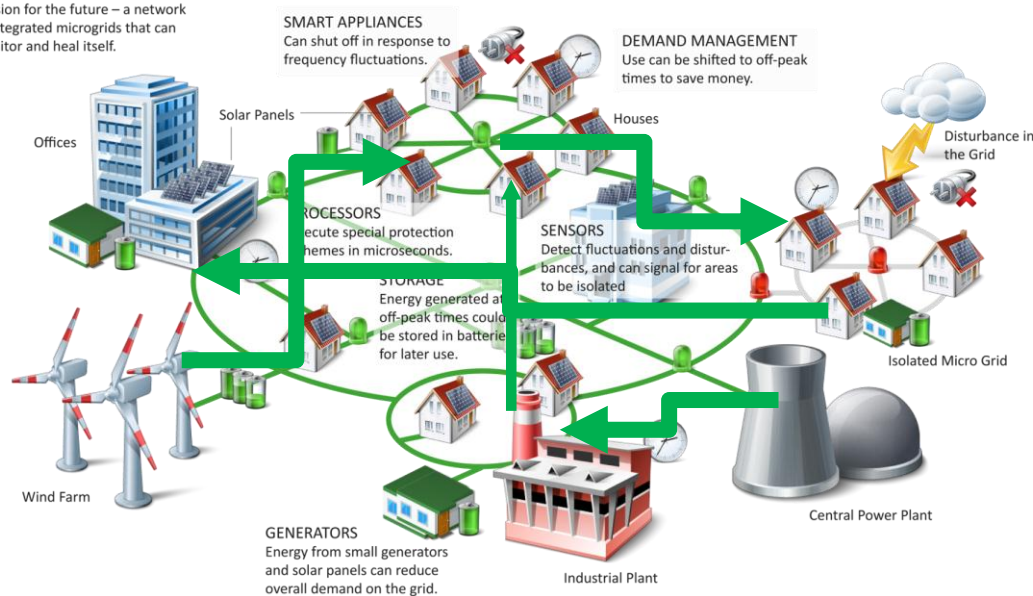
# Power Grid vs Smart Grid



Simple topology  
 means sync is  
 needed but  
 milliseconds is ok

## SMART GRID

A vision for the future – a network of integrated microgrids that can monitor and heal itself.

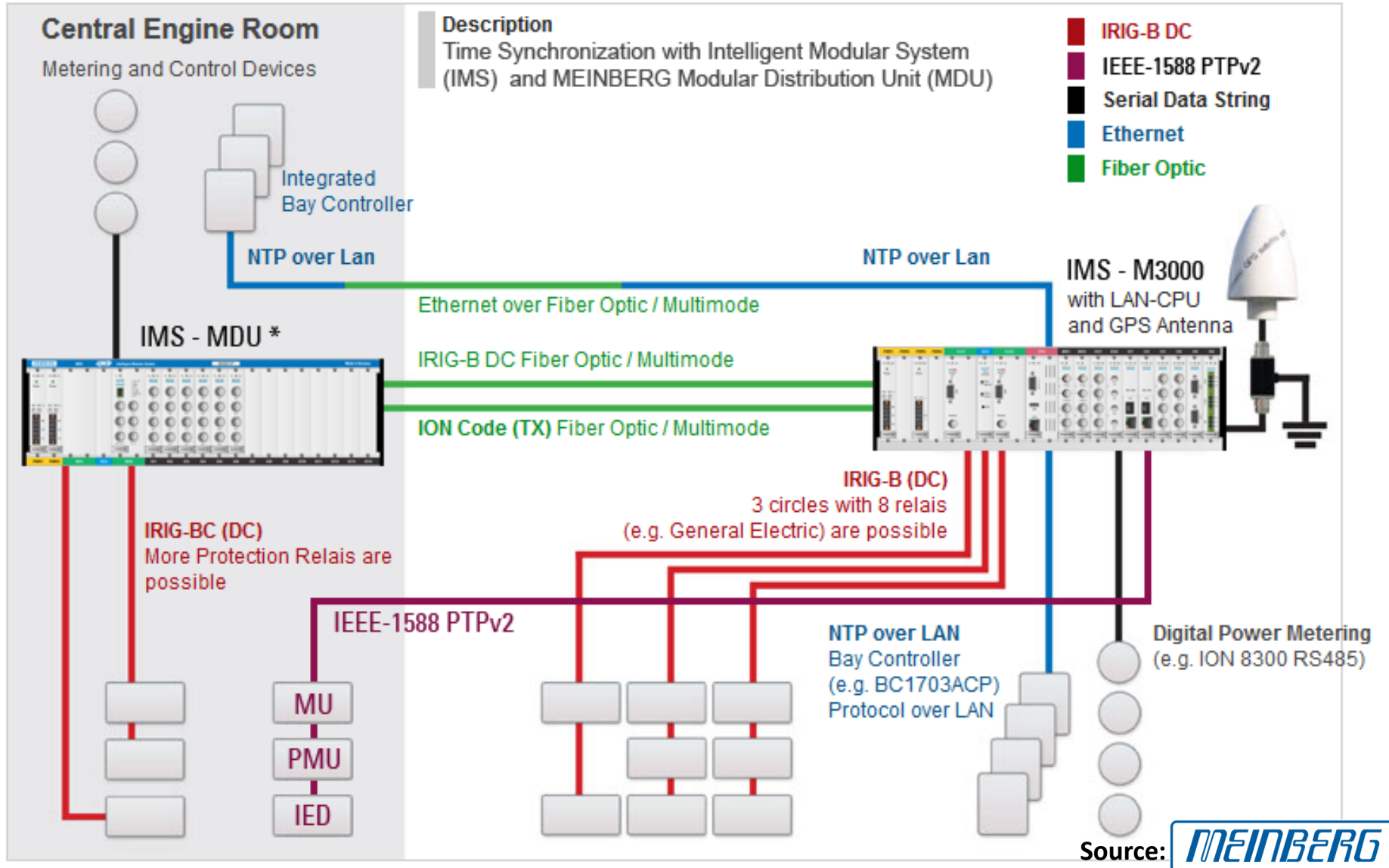


Greater complexity  
 and diversity plus  
 less predictability  
 drives the need for  
 better sync

Source:



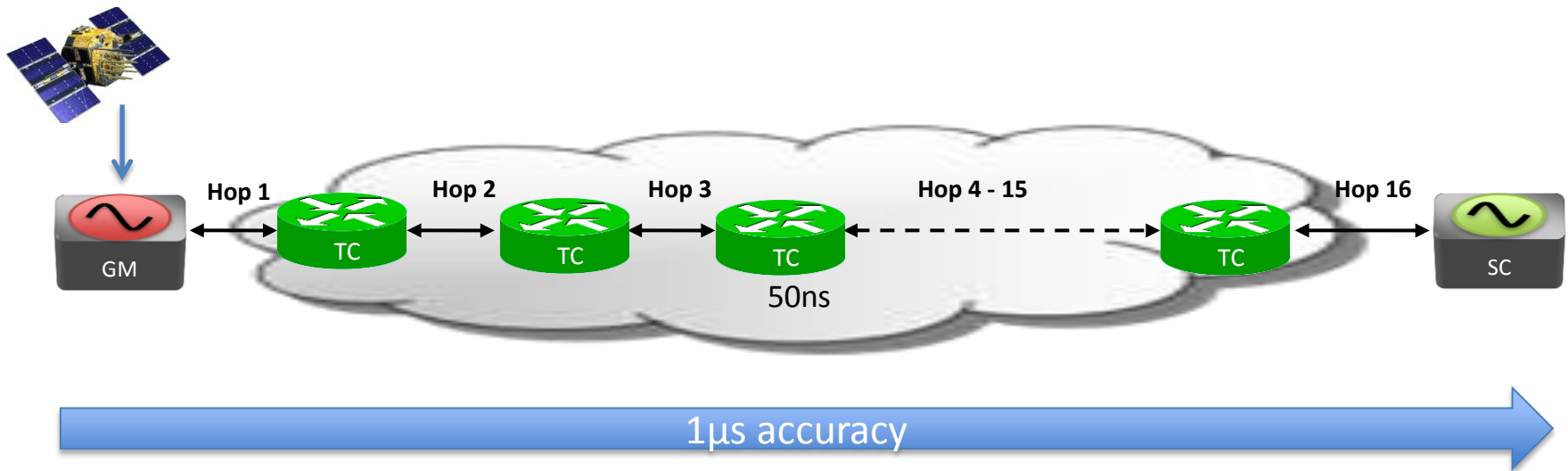
# 1588v2 for Substation Communications



# Power Profile – IEEE C37.238-2011

- LAN (Layer 2 Ethernet Mapping)
- IEEE 802.1Q VLAN tags
- Multicast addressing
- Switches are Transparent Clocks
- Peer-to-peer delay measurement
- Time transfer accuracy and holdover time defined
- Message Rates
  - Sync ( & optional Follow\_up) - 1 per second
  - Announce – 1 per second
  - Peer Del\_Req, Peer Del\_Resp, - 1 per second
- Minor revision under development to align with new IEEE 1588

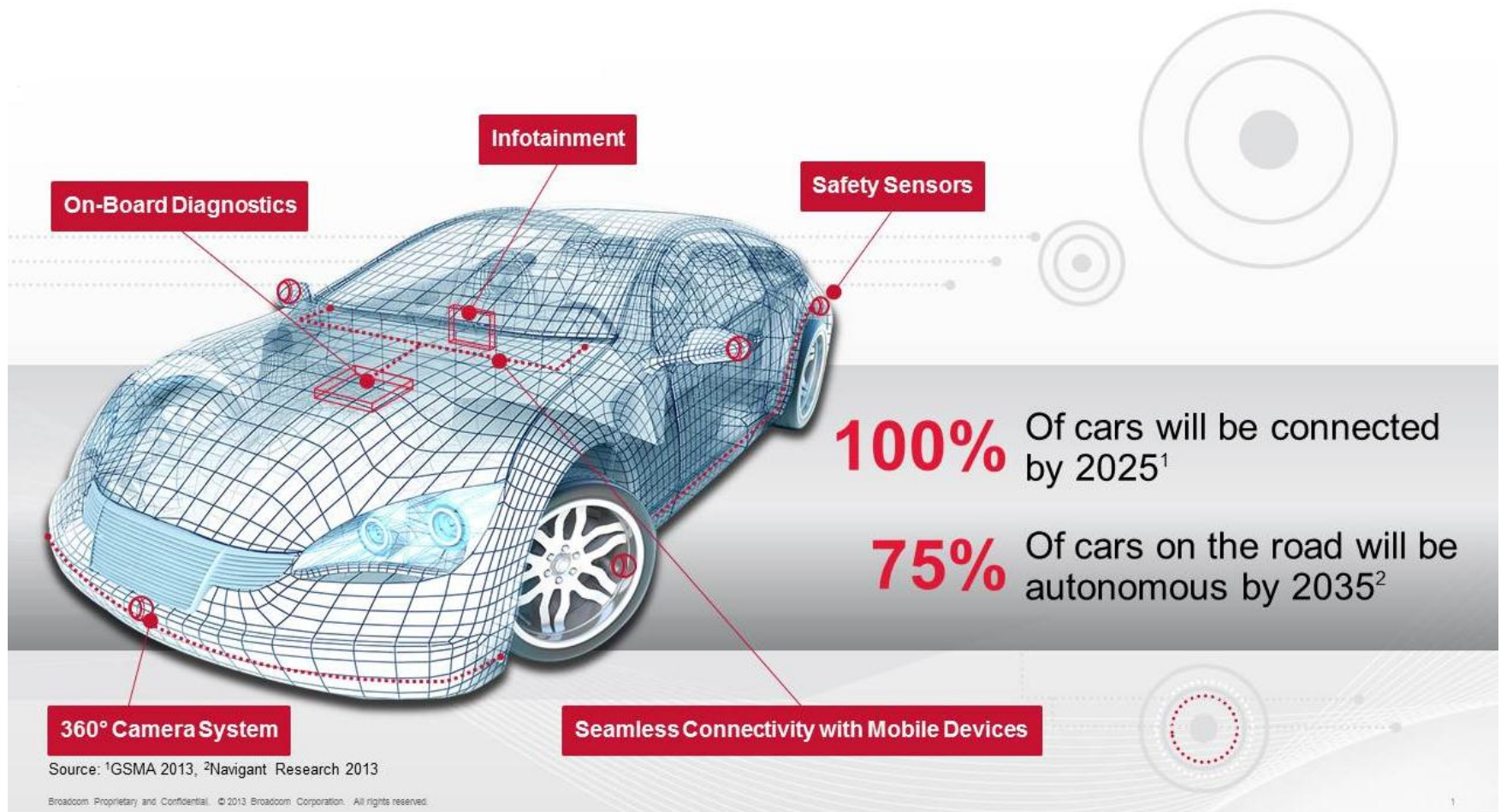
# PTP Power Profiles – IEEE C37.238-2011



- Maximum 16 hops
- Network loads up to 80% wire-speed (line rate) on each link.
  - Random-length Ethernet frames shall be used: 80% with priority 4 and 20% with lower priority

# Automotive

# The Connected Car





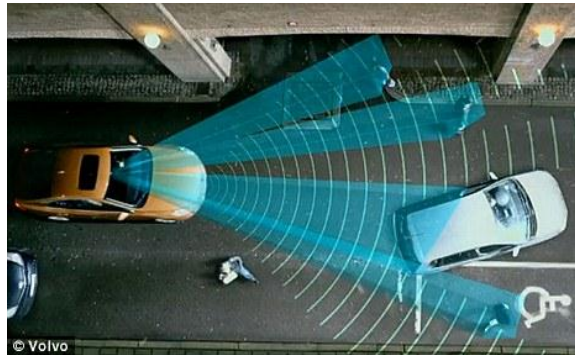
# Moving to new Applications

## Assisted Parking



© forcegt.com / Ford

## Object Detection



© Volvo

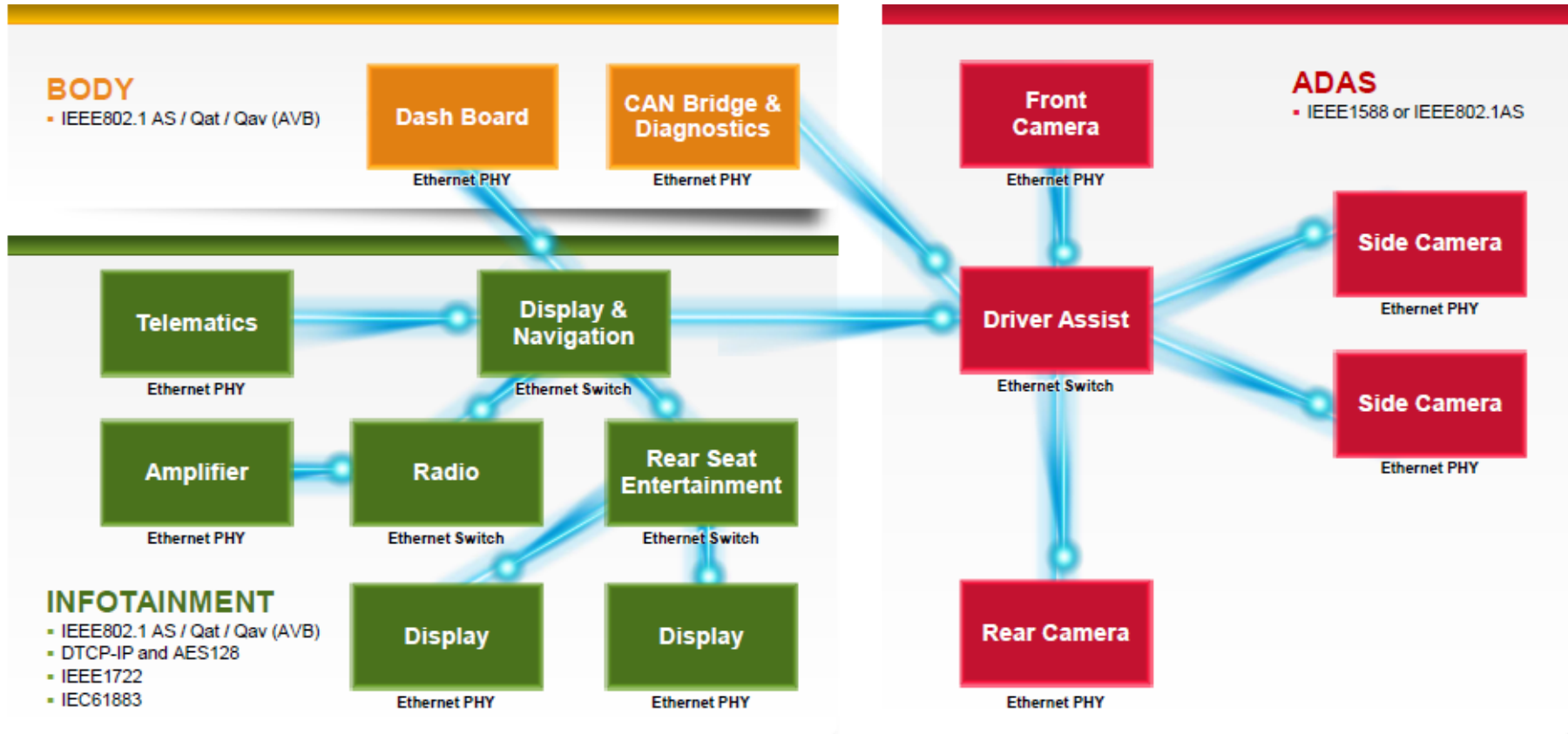
## Self Driving Vehicles



© Google

All these new Applications need Cameras and Sensors  
with control systems that need accurate timing

# In-Car Communications - Tomorrow



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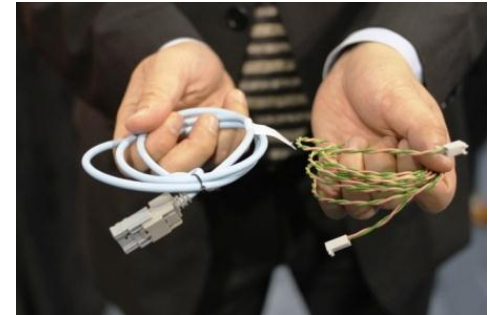
# New Automotive Ethernet Interfaces



- OABR – OPEN Alliance BroadR-Reach

[www.opensig.org](http://www.opensig.org)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/BroadR-Reach Ethernet standard](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/BroadR-Reach_Ethernet_standard)



- 2-wire unshielded twisted pair copper instead of 8-wire shielded twisted pair
- Today 10/100 Mbit/s (1 Gbit/s in planning )
- Easy and less expensive to install (reduce connectivity cost 80%)
- Weight reduction up to 30%
- Now being standardised through IEEE:
  - 802.3bw – 100Base-T1, expected completion Feb. 2016
  - 802.3bp – 1000Base-T1, expected completion May 2016

# IEEE 802.1AS



- The standard for transport of precise timing and sync in Time Sensitive Networks, (formerly known as AVB – Audio/Video Bridging)
- Includes a PTP profile:
  - Ethernet
  - Multicast
  - Boundary Clock switches
  - Single Master Clock
  - Pdelay\_Req mechanism (Not mandatory to use)
  - VLANs can be used
- Standard being used in Automotive, Professional Audio and Video and some Industrial networks

# Finance

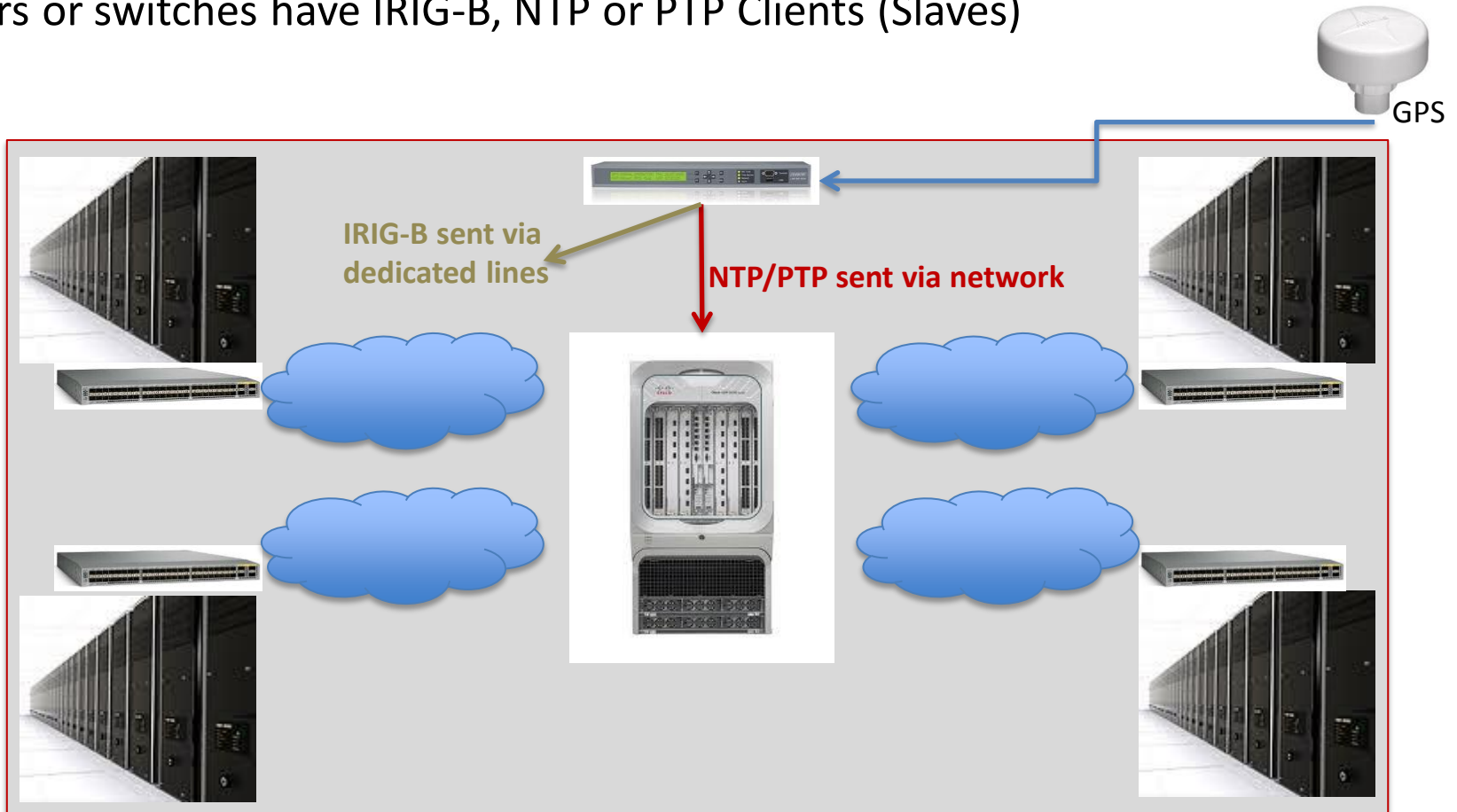
# The need for Sync in Financial Networks

- High-Frequency Trading (HFT) requires accurate timestamping of trades for:
  - Accurate records of transactions during playback regression to improve trading algorithms
  - Reporting and regulatory purposes, disputes, etc.
- GPS has primarily been used for this but faces issues:
  - Coverage and signal loss is a significant and expensive issue
  - Security - a US\$20 device can jam GPS signals
- 1588v2 PTP is getting a lot of interest
  - Time can be delivered via the Ethernet network
  - However accuracy needs to be verified during trials and monitored in-service

# Sync in the trading floor



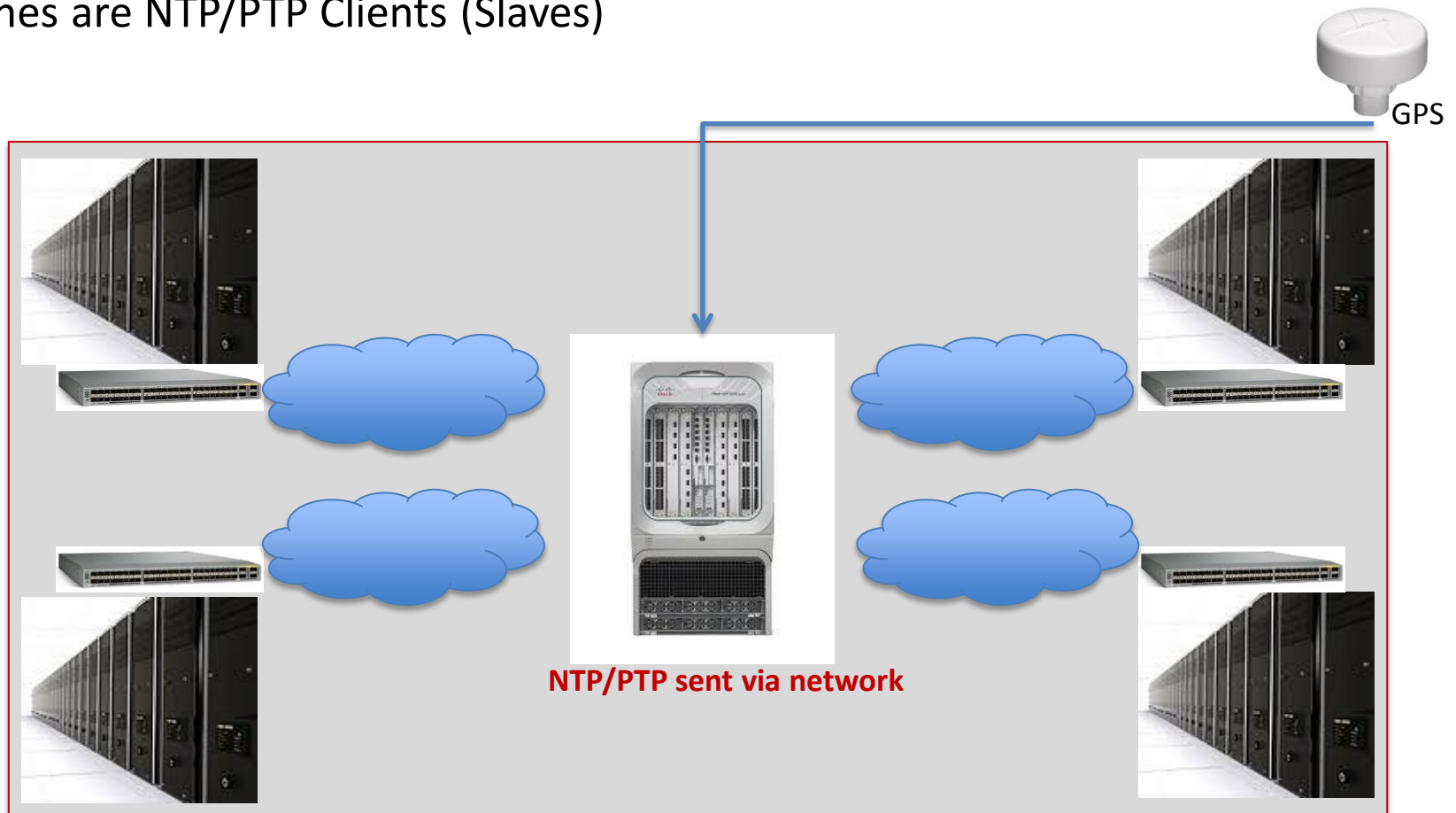
Scenario 1 – all servers co-located in the Trading Exchange or Data Warehouse  
GPS-locked Time-master, feed to servers via IRIG-B, NTP or 1588v2 PTP  
Servers or switches have IRIG-B, NTP or PTP Clients (Slaves)



# Sync in the trading floor



Scenario 2 – all servers co-located in the Trading Exchange or Data Warehouse  
GPS-locked Router is 1588v2 PTP Master  
Switches are NTP/PTP Clients (Slaves)



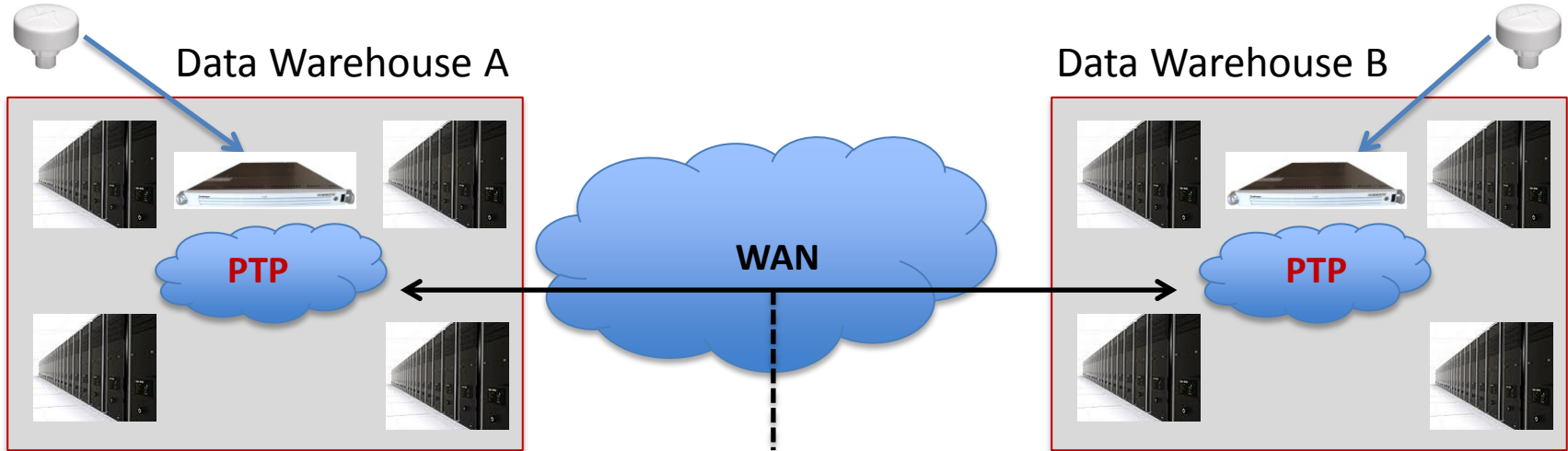
# Sync in the trading floor



Scenario 3 –servers located in multiple locations

GPS at every location, either Scenario 1 or Scenario 2 at each location

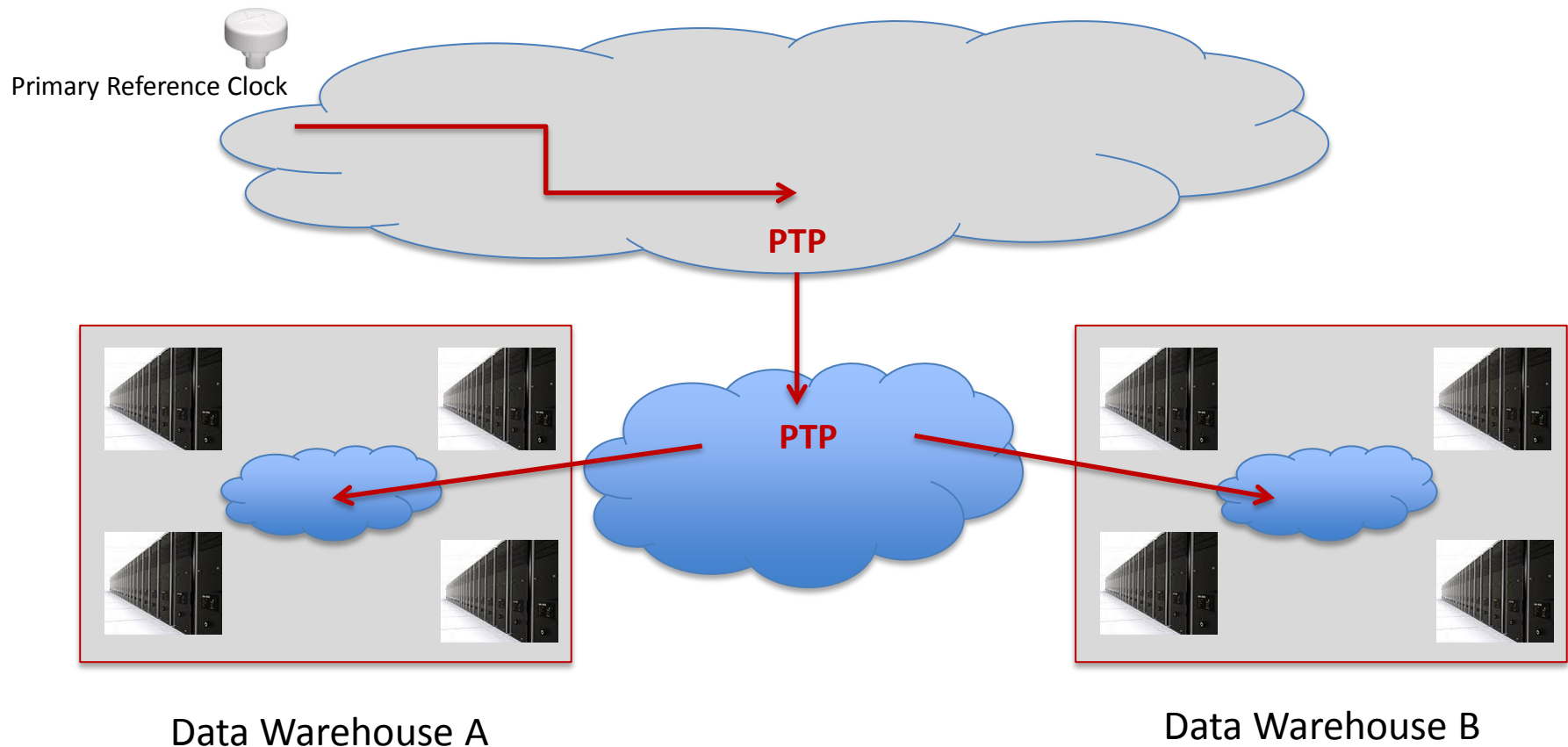
Switches are NTP/PTP Clients (Slaves)



Proprietary Sync check between locations

# Sync in the trading floor

Scenario 4 –servers located in multiple locations  
1588v2 PTP (Timing Service) from Telco Carrier





# The Requirement and The Options

## Requirement

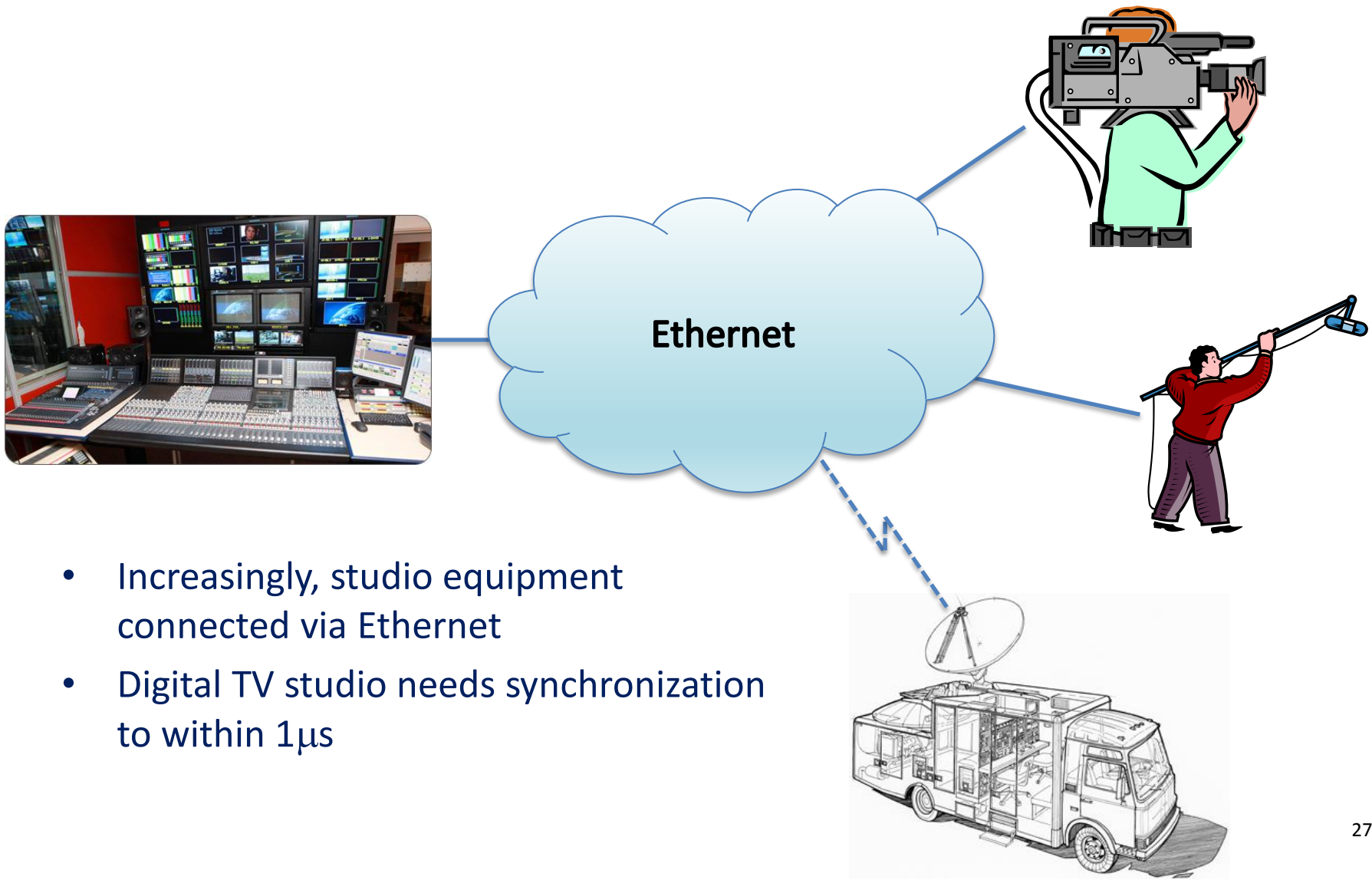
- Conventional wisdom is:
  - The applications need 1ms, so the hardware needs 1μs

## Options

- GPS and IRIG-B
  - IRIG-B is old technology (limited support) and needs a costly dedicated link
  - Used in older installs
- GPS and NTP
  - Not accurate enough - deliver 1ms rather than 1μs
  - Used when 1ms is sufficient
- GPS and 1588v2 PTP (or PTP-only)
  - Loading changes cause PDV and Asymmetry, which cause inaccuracy
  - Ongoing trials and investigations
- PTP Profile
  - IETF: Draft Enterprise Profile for PTP (latest version -04, October 2014)
  - Ongoing Working Group calls

# Broadcast

# Broadcast Studios



- Increasingly, studio equipment connected via Ethernet
- Digital TV studio needs synchronization to within  $1\mu\text{s}$

# Broadcast PTP Profile



## SMPTE standardising on use of PTP for synchronisation

- Replacing analog Genlock
- Most equipment has two Ethernet connections:
  - “essence” (i.e. the media stream)
  - Control/management interface
- Proposal to run PTP over the control/management connection
- For large studios, transparent clocks needed to reduce PDV

## SMPTE PTP Profile has gone to ballot:

- Draft ST 2059-2: “Precision Time Protocol SMPTE profile for time and frequency synchronization in a professional broadcast environment”
- In Comment Resolution Phase