

Planning your Telecom and Connection Inventory

Assume that standards and background data are already in place for your telecom asset inventory. Now you want to track connections among your assets in a way that meets your objectives. You have some basic options to start:

- Build a comprehensive telecom inventory with connections from the ground up.
- Build out the connection inventory as you go. Add to the connection inventory as you as you plan moves, manage employee turnover, oversee equipment replacement, and initiate IT improvements.
- A combination of the first two options would develop a skeleton or rudimentary inventory to start, then add connections to it as required for efficient management of the IT system.

The strategy you choose will depend in part on the size of your network, and its complexity. However you begin, your plan will address questions like these:

- Which telecom assets do I want to represent in CAD?
- What is the purpose of your connection inventory? What problems will it solve? What do you plan to use it for?
- What conventions are already in place for primary keys (the unique identifier you enter for each item and termination point)?
- Will work area termination points be faceplates, or jacks within in the faceplates?
- Will work area termination points be equipment such as phones, printers, and computers, or ports in the equipment?
- Will your telecom area termination points be patch panels and servers, or ports in the patch panels and servers?

As you develop your plan, other questions may arise. Be sure to consider these issues and develop your conventions before undertaking a large-scale data development project.

See also:

[Telecom Connection Inventory: Overview](#)