

## Dark Fibre: What is Dark Fibre & What are the Benefits?

### Improve Efficiency and Reduce Network Downtime

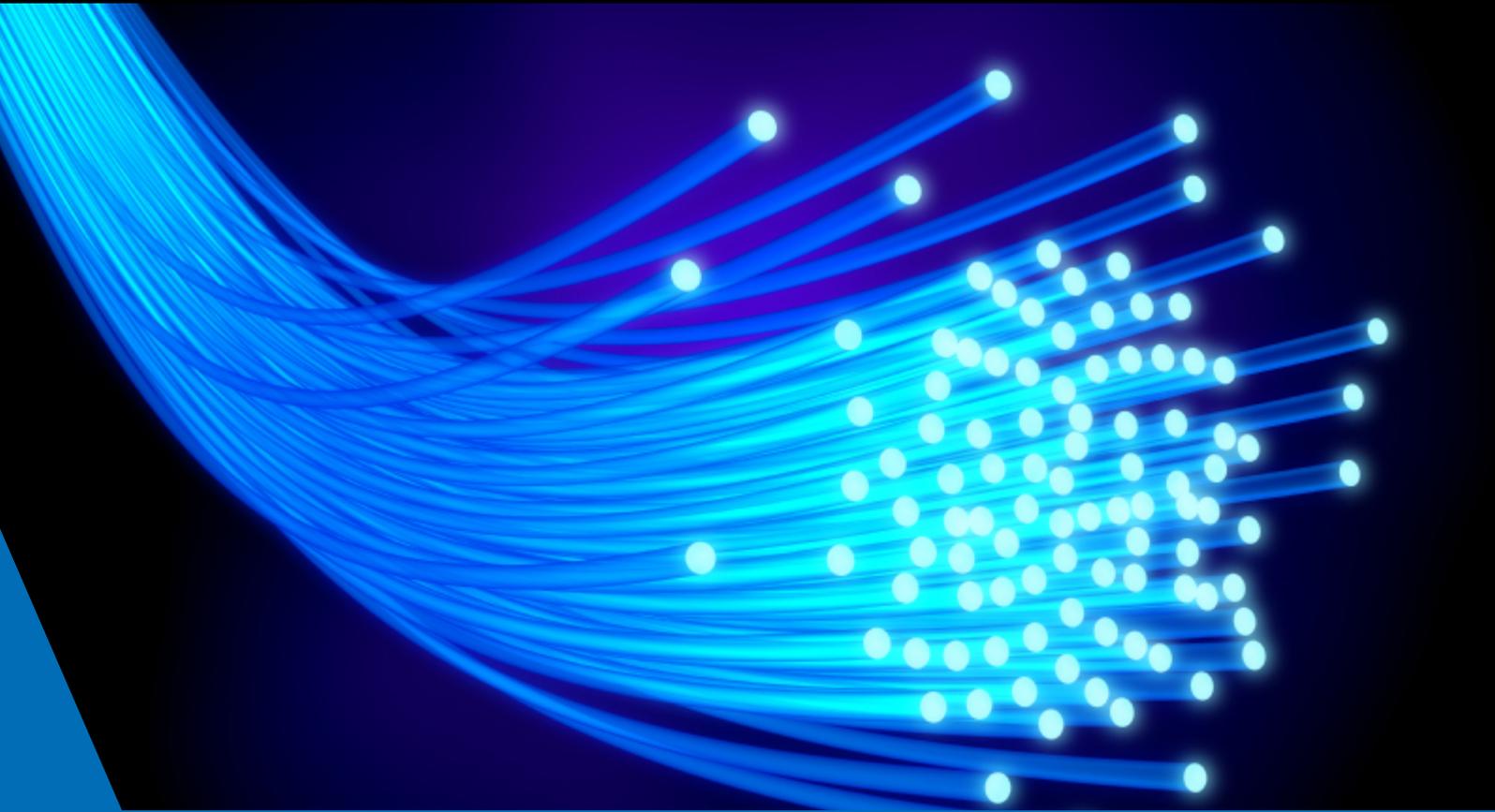
**NETWORK DOWNTIME CAN BE PROBLEMATIC AND PROCESSES TO MINIMISE THE POTENTIAL DISRUPTION ARE VERY IMPORTANT TO THE SMOOTH RUNNING OF YOUR BUSINESS.**

Modern internet traffic is carried by miles and miles of fast fibre optic cabling that's been laid in the ground. However, not all of that fibre optic cabling is being utilised.

In its most basic form, fibre optic cabling is a glass conductor between a transmitter (laser beam) and a receiver. The electronic signals are changed to pulses of light for the laser to transmit, the receiver then collects these pulses of light and converts them back into electronic signals.

The unused cores, which have no electronic devices attached at either end, have been given the name dark fibre in reference to its 'unlit' state.

So why are they there? It could be one of two reasons: depending on the installation method used, the cost of installation of fibre optic cable can be four times or more the cost of the cable and terminations. For this reason some people prefer to install more cores or cabling than they require, with the expectation that there demand will increase in the future. It could also be for the event of failure of active cores.



## Disaster Recovery

The loss of connectivity of a fibre optic can be problematic. Whilst spare SFP's (Small Form-Factor Pluggable) and patch leads can be found in almost all server rooms, spare fibre link cables are often a rarity.

In the event of loss of connectivity of a fibre optic link, then the installation of dark fibres will minimise call out costs and lengthy repair times to fix the damaged fibre optic cables. This means, where dark fibres are installed, they can easily be swapped over, allowing for repair works and a restored connection to be completed, providing efficiencies and improved service continuity.

## Potential Cost Savings

Interrupted network connectivity from damaged cables can mean organisations are often at the mercy of whoever can fix the problem the quickest. However, having the availability to move to pre-installed dark fibre cabling will allow you to obtain quotations to carry out the works in the best and most cost-effective manner without time restraints.

**Dark fibre is an asset to any network infrastructure to reduce downtime for cable related outage.**

**Remark Group suggest annual testing and cleaning of your dark fibre connectors, as these can degrade over time. The last thing you need is a critical outage after your dark fibre is unserviceable.**

**Book an inspection of your dark fibre today before it's too late.**