



# **Cisco IOS® MPLS Virtual Private LAN Service (VPLS) Technical Deployment Overview**

*Enabling Innovative Services*

# Agenda

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- Introduction
- VPLS Technical Overview
- VPLS Architectures
- Deployment Scenarios
- Summary

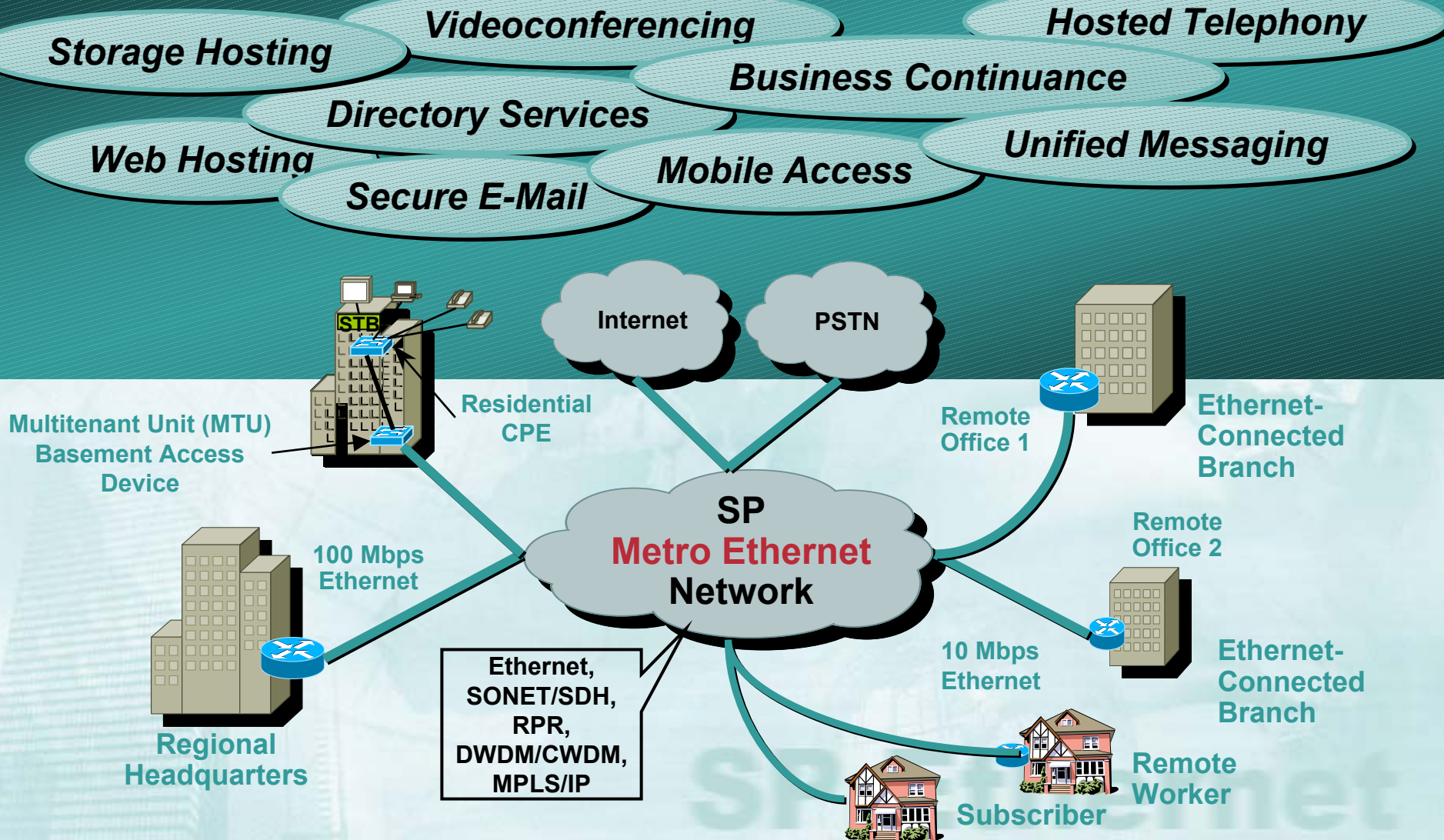
AGENDA

# Introduction



# Metro Ethernet: Emerging Multiservice Access Opportunity

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# Metro Ethernet: Business Drivers\*

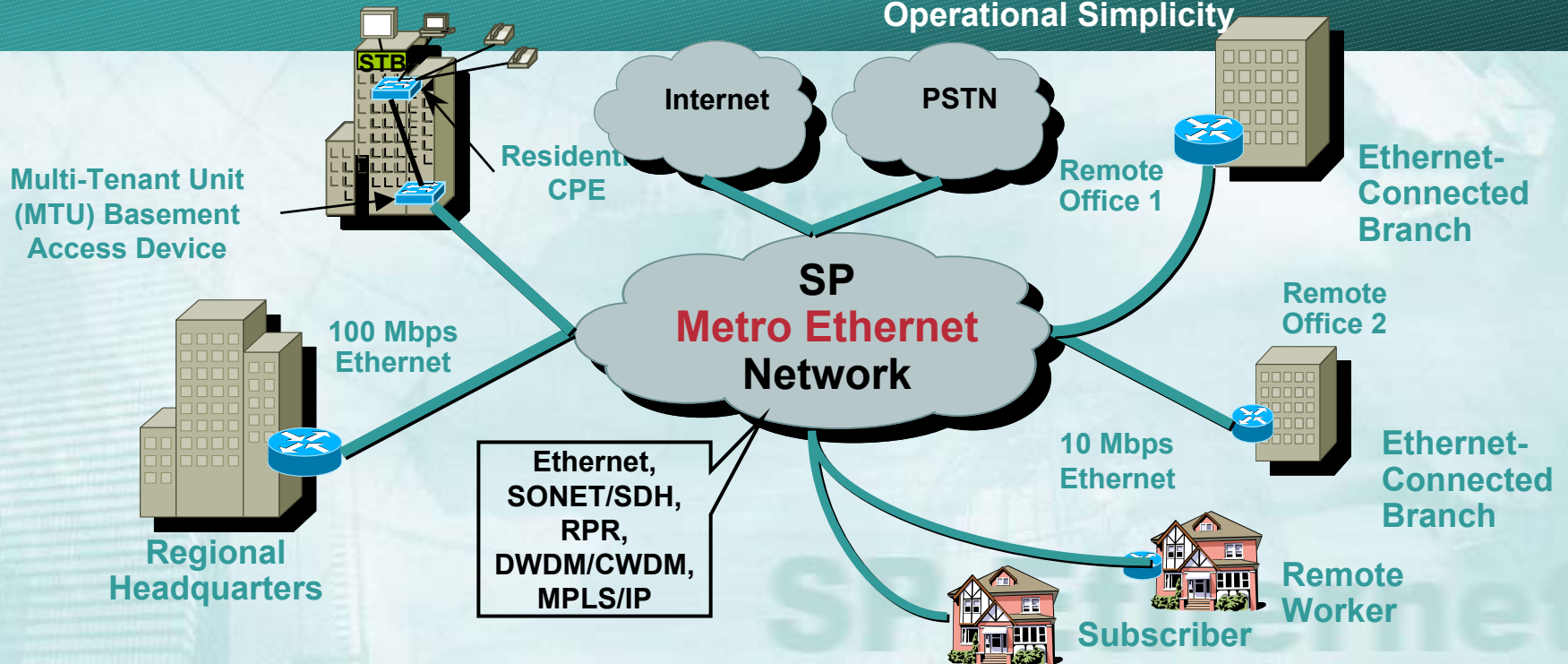
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## Service Provider

- Revenue Growth
  - New, Differentiated Services
  - Expanded Enterprise Penetration
- Cost Efficiencies
  - Network Convergence
  - Flexible Bandwidth Provisioning
  - Best Value for Increased Bandwidth

## Enterprise

- Business Demands
  - Increased Productivity
  - Peer-to-Peer Applications
- Service Expectations
  - Scalable Bandwidth (from 1Mbps to 1Gbps)
  - Customized Services
  - Multipoint Connectivity
  - Operational Simplicity



\*Cisco VPLS Statement of Direction [http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/hw/routers/ps368/products\\_white\\_paper09186a00801df1df.shtml](http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/hw/routers/ps368/products_white_paper09186a00801df1df.shtml)



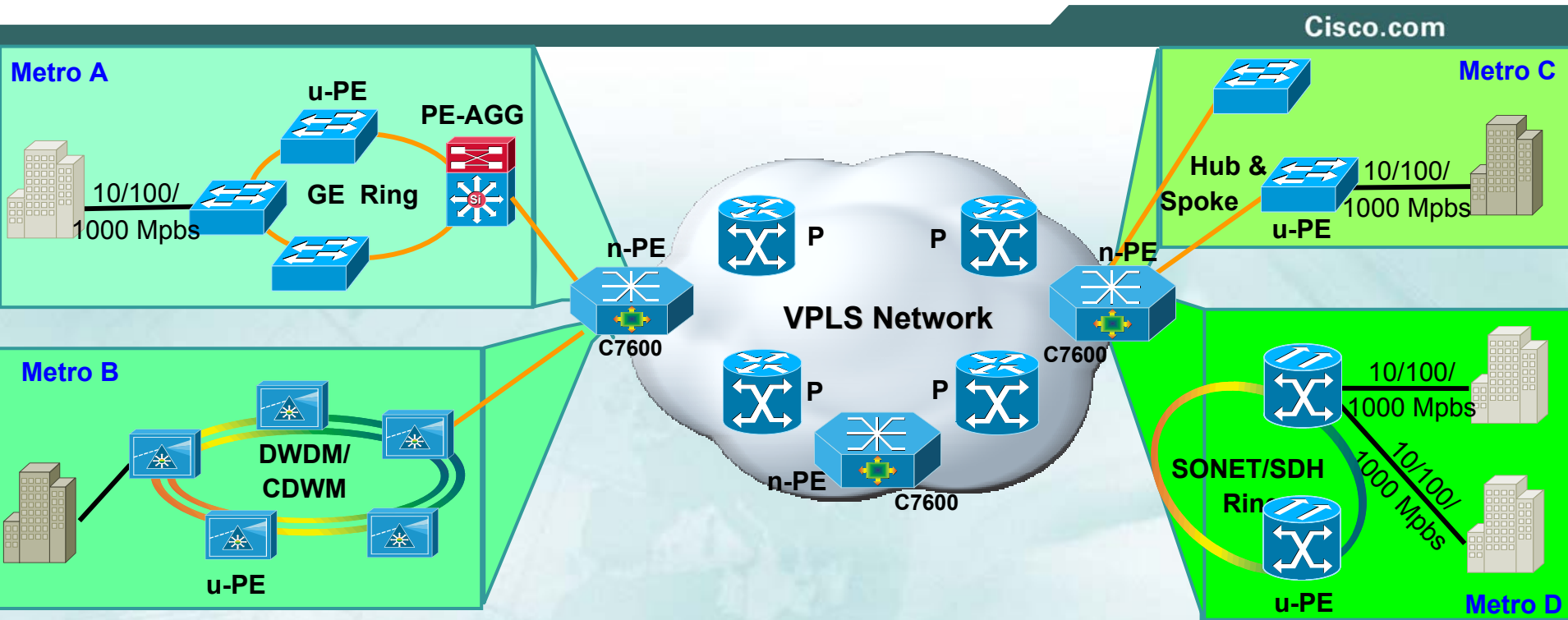
# The Ethernet Advantage

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- Connectionless, IP aware-operation
- Distributed intelligence
- Inexpensive, scalable bandwidth options
- L2 VPNs
  - Point-to-point
  - Multipoint
- L3 VPNs
- High speed transport enables innovative services and applications
  - Storage, IP video conferencing
- Value added services
  - IP Telephony
  - IP video conferencing
  - High speed, bBusiness class Internet
  - Managed Security
  - Managed Storage



# VPLS Overview for Metro Ethernet



- Delivers Ethernet-based multipoint L2 VPN service
- Enhances L2 VPN scalability (geographic sites & no. of customers)
- Leverages existing SP MPLS Core
- Supports operational speeds of GB to 10 GB
- On track for IETF standardization: Draft Lasserre-Kompella
- Uses familiar Ethernet user network interface

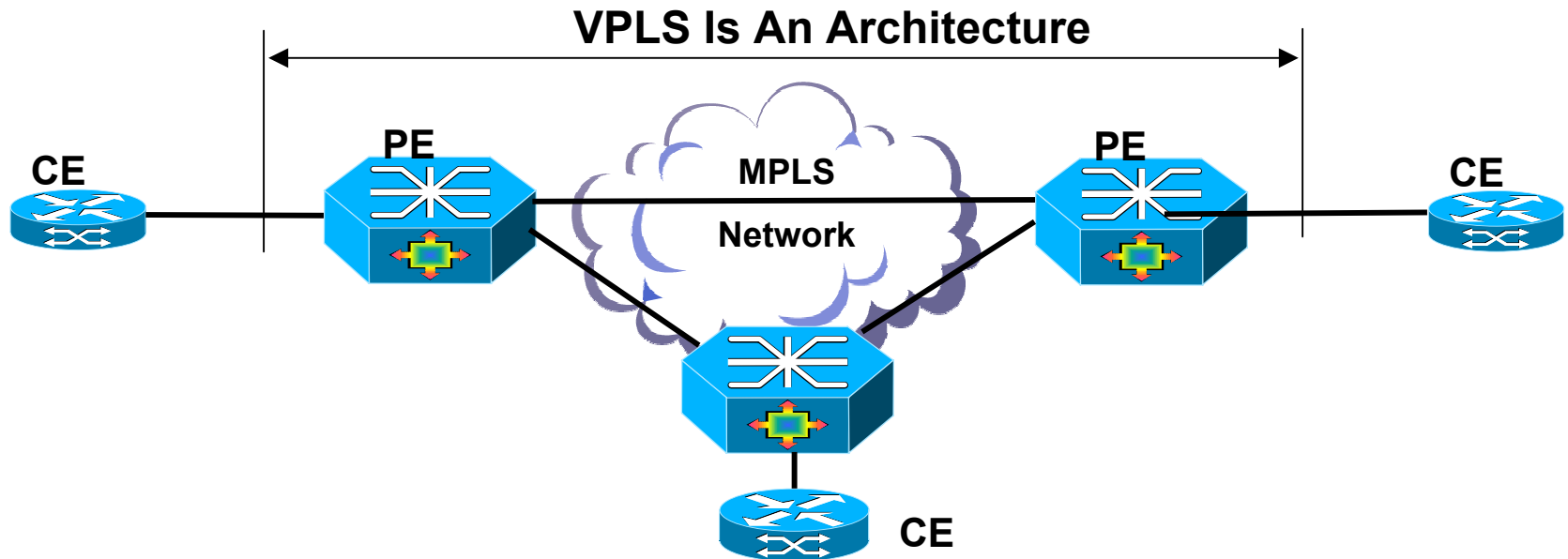
# VPLS Technical Overview





# Virtual Private LAN Services (VPLS)

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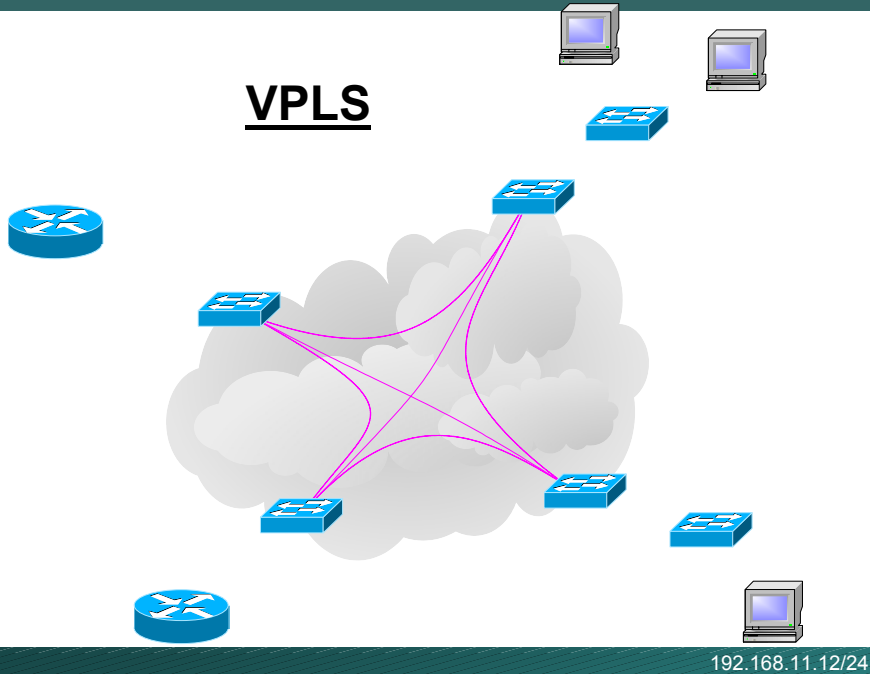
- VPLS defines an architecture that delivers Ethernet Multipoint Services (EMS) over an MPLS network
- VPLS operation emulates an IEEE Ethernet bridge
- Two VPLS drafts in existence

Draft-ietf-l2vpn-vpls-ldp-01 ← Cisco's Implementation  
draft-ietf-l2vpn-vpls-bgp-01

# VPLS & H-VPLS

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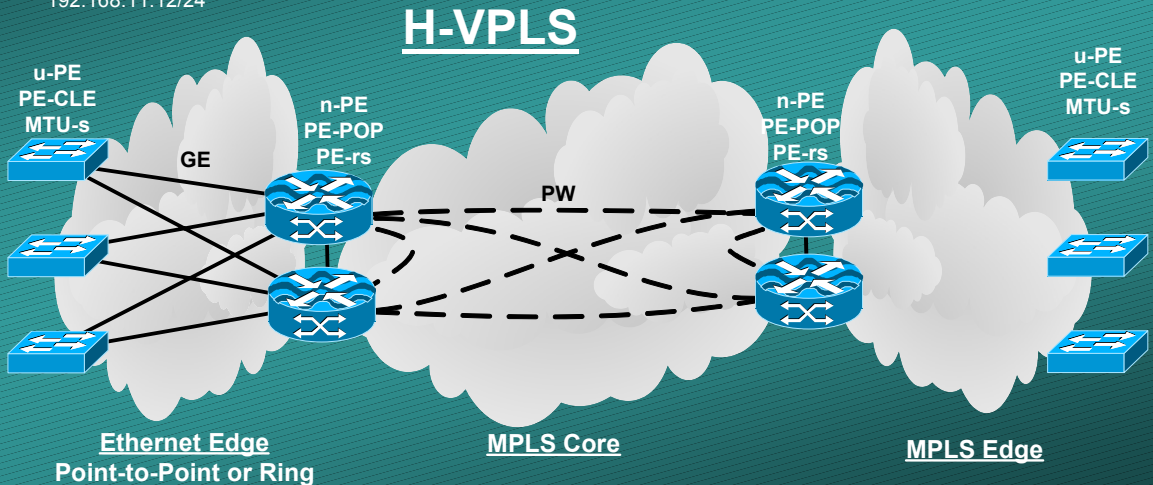
## VPLS



- **VPLS Direct Attachment**  
Single Flat Hierarchy  
MPLS to the Edge

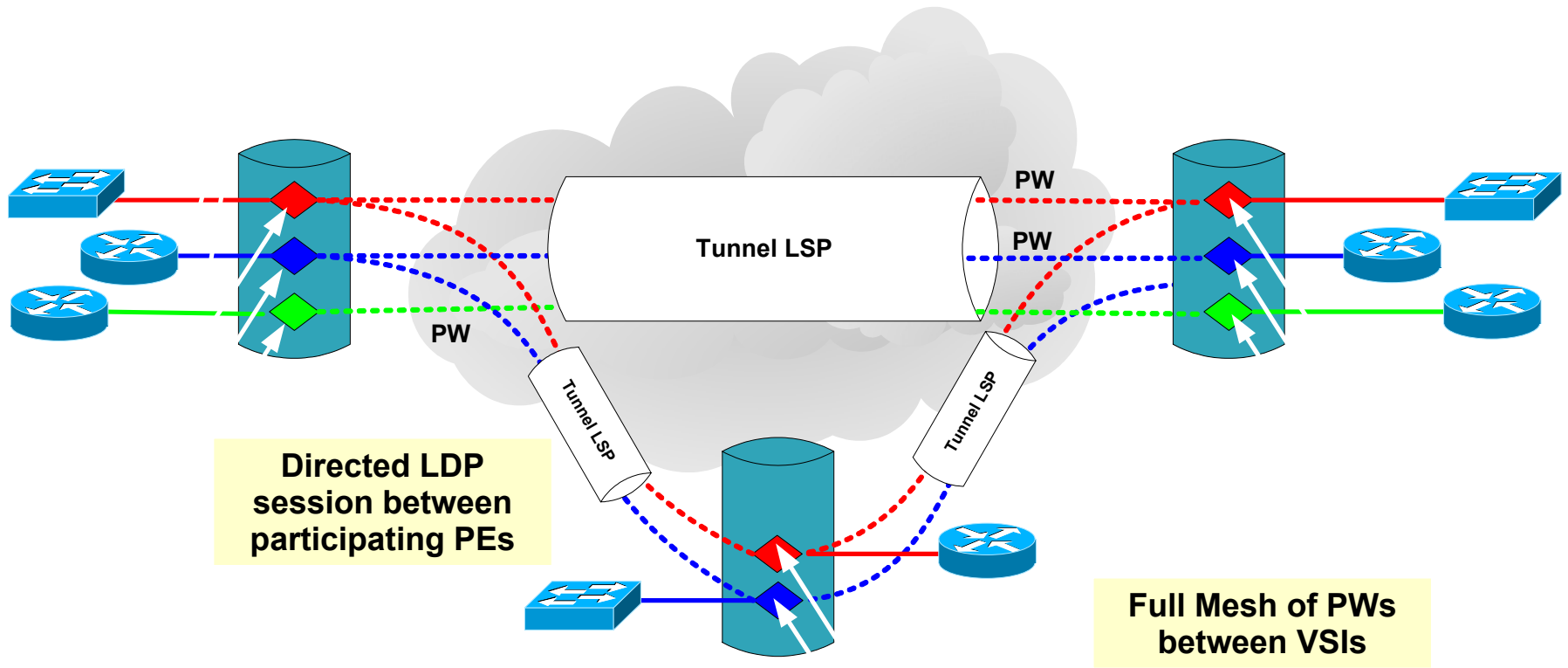
- **H-VPLS**

Two Tier Hierarchy  
MPLS or Ethernet Edge  
MPLS Core



# VPLS Components

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## Legend

CE	- Customer Edge Device
n-PE	- network facing-Provider Edge
VSI	- Virtual Switch Instance
PW	- Pseudo-Wire
Tunnel LSP	- Tunnel Label Switch Path that provides PW transport

# VPN & VPLS Desirable Characteristics

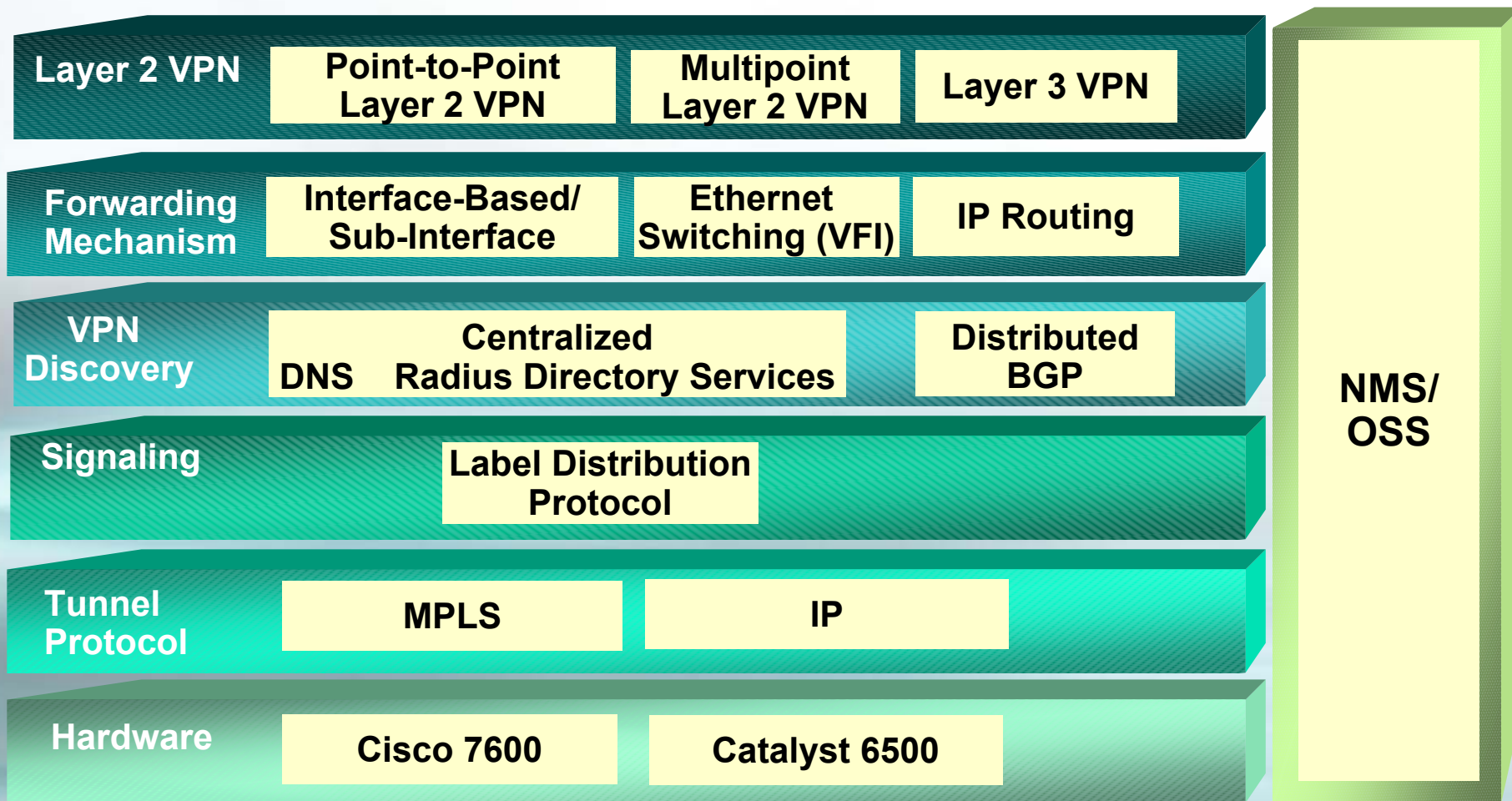
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- **Auto-discovery of VPN membership**  
Reduces VPN configuration and errors associated with configuration
- **Signaling of connections between PE devices associated with a VPN**
- **Forwarding of frames**  
AToM uses Interface based forwarding  
VPLS uses IEEE 802.1q Ethernet Bridging techniques
- **Loop prevention**  
MPLS Core will use a full mesh of PWs and “split-horizon” forwarding  
H-VPLS edge domain may use IEEE 802.1s Spanning Tree, RPR, or SONET Protection

SP Ethernet

# Cisco VPLS Building Blocks

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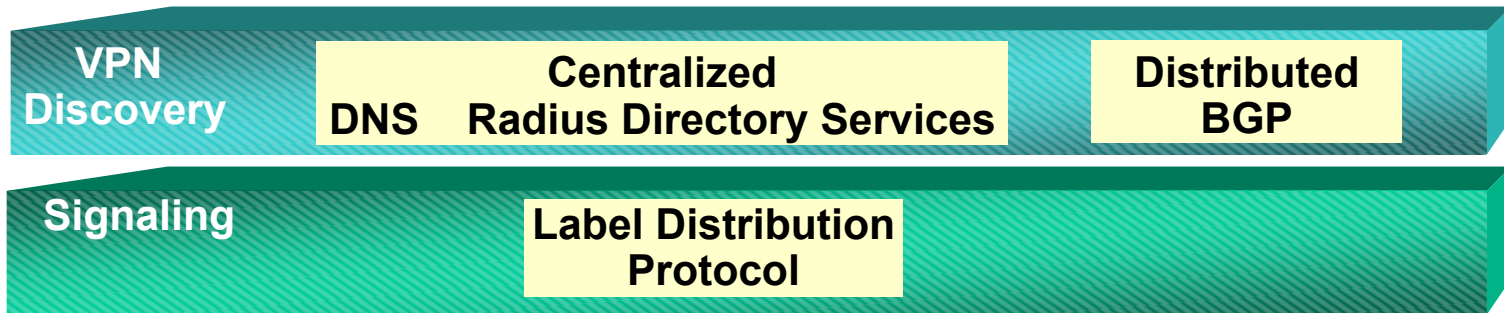


*A Comprehensive Solution: Robust, Flexible, Scalable, Manageable*



# VPLS Auto-discovery & Signaling

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- **Draft-ietf-l2vpn-vpls-ldp-01 does not mandate an auto-discovery protocol**  
Can be BGP, Radius, DNS, AD based
- **Draft-ietf-l2vpn-vpls-ldp-01 describes using Targeted LDP for Label exchange and PW signaling**  
PWs signal other information such as Attachment Circuit State, Sequencing information, etc  
Cisco IOS supports Targeted LDP for AToM and Virtual Private LAN Services

# VPLS: Layer 2 Forwarding Instance Requirements

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***A Virtual Switch MUST operate like a conventional L2 switch!***

## Flooding / Forwarding:

- MAC table instances per customer and per customer VLAN (L2-VRF idea) for each PE
- VSI will participate in learning, forwarding process
- Uses Ethernet VC-Type defined in pwe3-control-protocol-xx

## Address Learning / Aging:

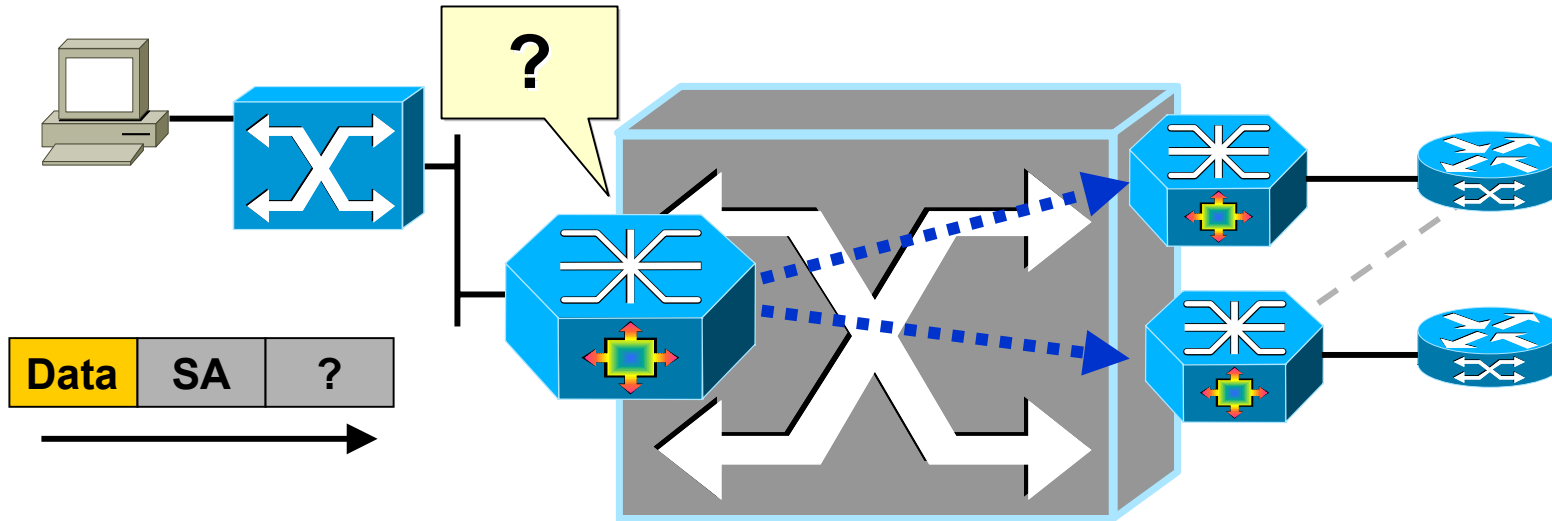
- Self Learn Source MAC to port associations
- Refresh MAC timers with incoming frames
- New additional MAC TLV to LDP

## Loop Prevention:

- Create partial or full-mesh of EoMPLS VCs per VPLS
- Use “split horizon” concepts to prevent loops
- Announce EoMPLS VPLS VC tunnels

# VPLS Overview: Flooding & Forwarding

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- **Flooding (Broadcast, Multicast, Unknown Unicast)**
- **Dynamic learning of MAC addresses on PHY and VCs**
- **Forwarding**
  - Physical port
  - Virtual circuit

# VPLS Overview: MAC Address Learning

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Send me traffic  
with Label 102



E0/0



102    MAC 1    MAC 2    Data

VC Label 102 ←Tx  
Tx → VC Label 201



E0/1

Send me traffic  
with Label 201



MAC Address	Adj
MAC 2	201
MAC 1	E0/0
MAC x	xxx

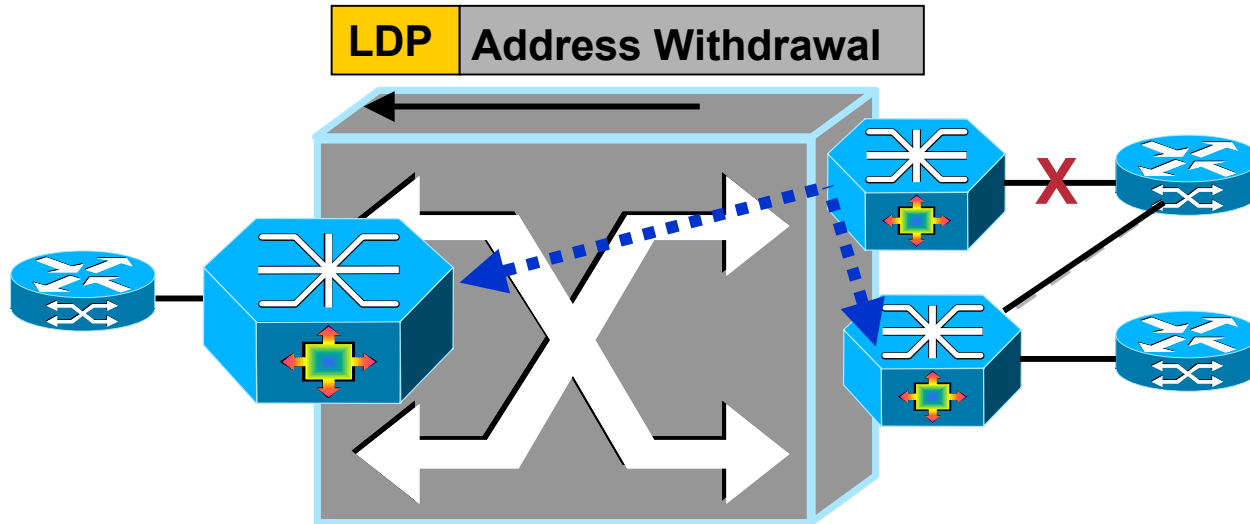
Data    MAC 1    MAC 2    201

MAC Address	Adj
MAC 2	E0/1
MAC 1	102
MAC x	xxx

- Broadcast, Multicast, and unknown Unicast are learned via the received label associations
- Two LSPs associated with an VC (Tx & Rx)
- If inbound or outbound LSP is down, then the entire circuit is considered down

# VPLS Overview: MAC Address Withdrawal

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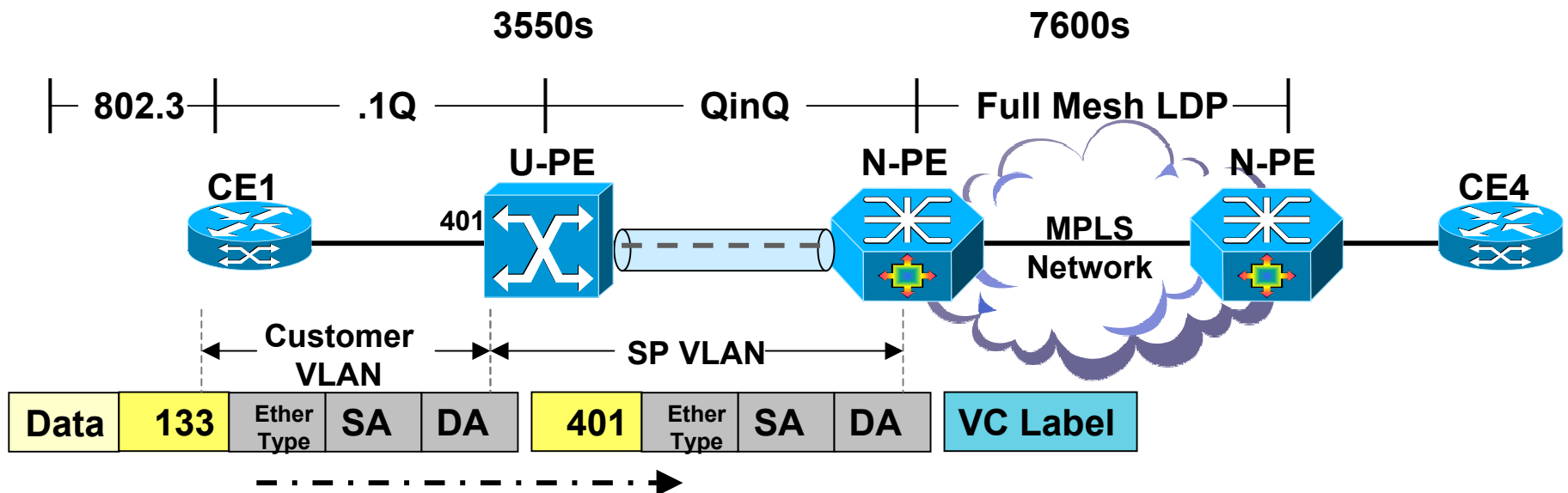
- Primary link failure triggers notification message
- PE removes any locally learned MAC addresses and sends LDP address withdrawal (RFC3036) to remote PEs in VPLS
- New MAC TLV is used



# VPLS Overview: Data Forwarding in Ethernet Edge H-VPLS

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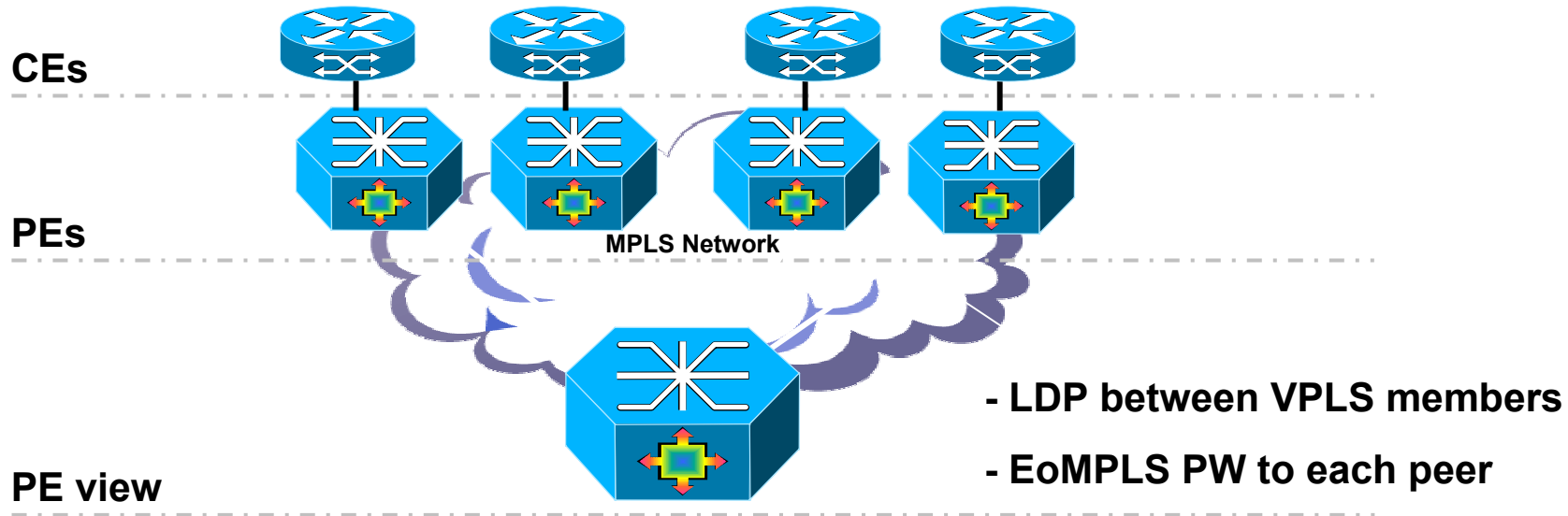
Topology 2: L2VPN, Ethernet Virtual Circuit Service (Distributed PE)



- Customer frames / VLANs are forwarded only
- Service delimiters are local to PE
  - .1q tags, VC-labels, RFC1483, etc.
- Allows for hierarchical design options

# VPLS Overview: VPLS Loop Prevention

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- Each PE has a P2MP view of all other PEs it sees it self as a root bridge, split horizon loop protection
- Full mesh topology obviates STP requirements in the service provider network
- Customer STP is transparent to the SP / customer BPDUs are forwarded transparently
- Traffic received from the network will not be forwarded back to the network

# VPLS Overview: VPLS Learning

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- **Unqualified**

- Single port assigned for all customer VLANs

- Single broadcast domain for all customer VLANs

- Single MAC address space (no overlap!)

- **Qualified**

- Each VLAN has its own VPLS instance

- A VLAN has its own broadcast space and MAC address space

- Customer MAC addresses MAY overlap

- One FIB per customer VLAN

- Broadcast domain limited to VLAN scope

SP Ethernet

# VPLS Architectures

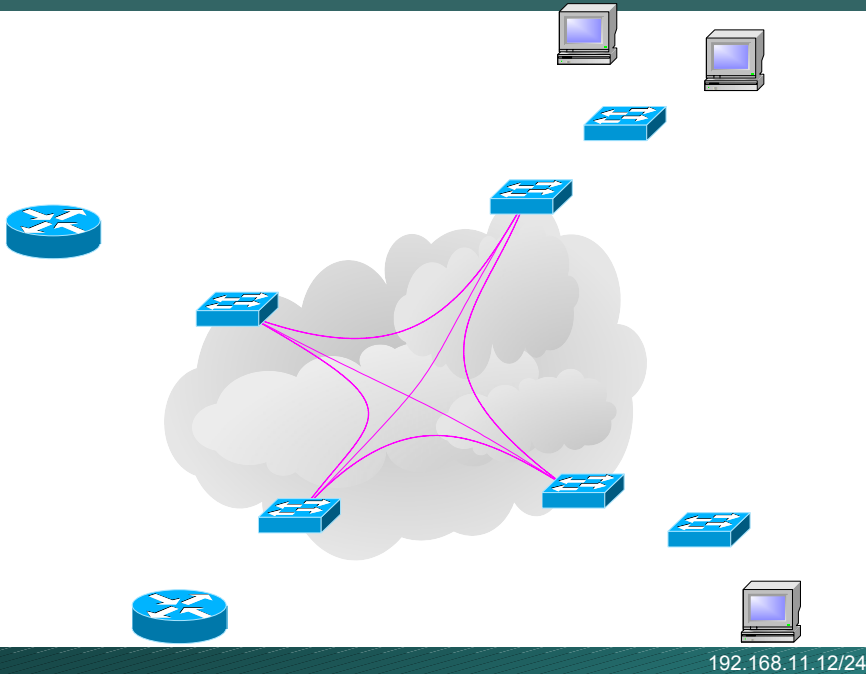


# VPLS & H-VPLS

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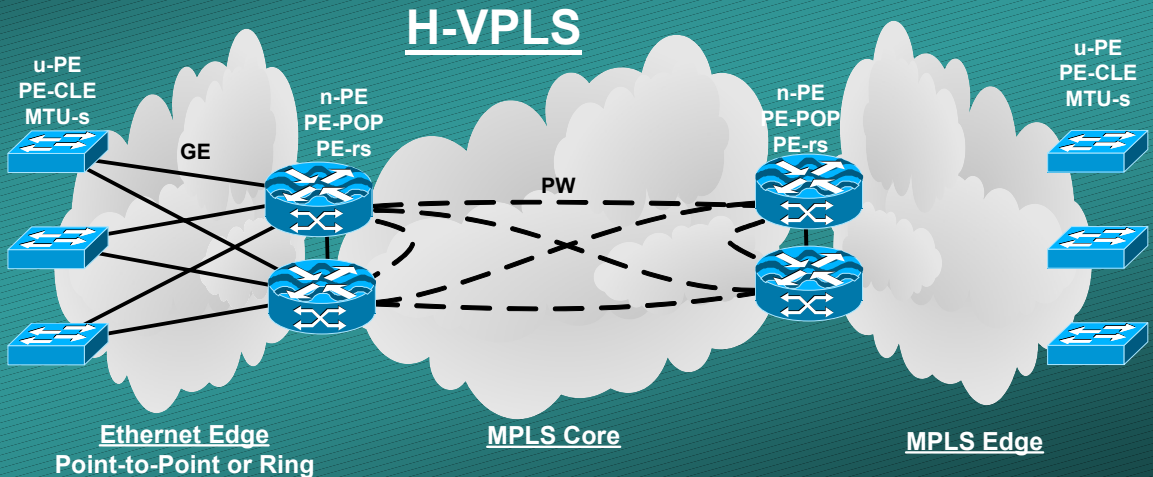
- **VPLS**

**Single Flat Hierarchy**  
**MPLS to the Edge**



- **H-VPLS**

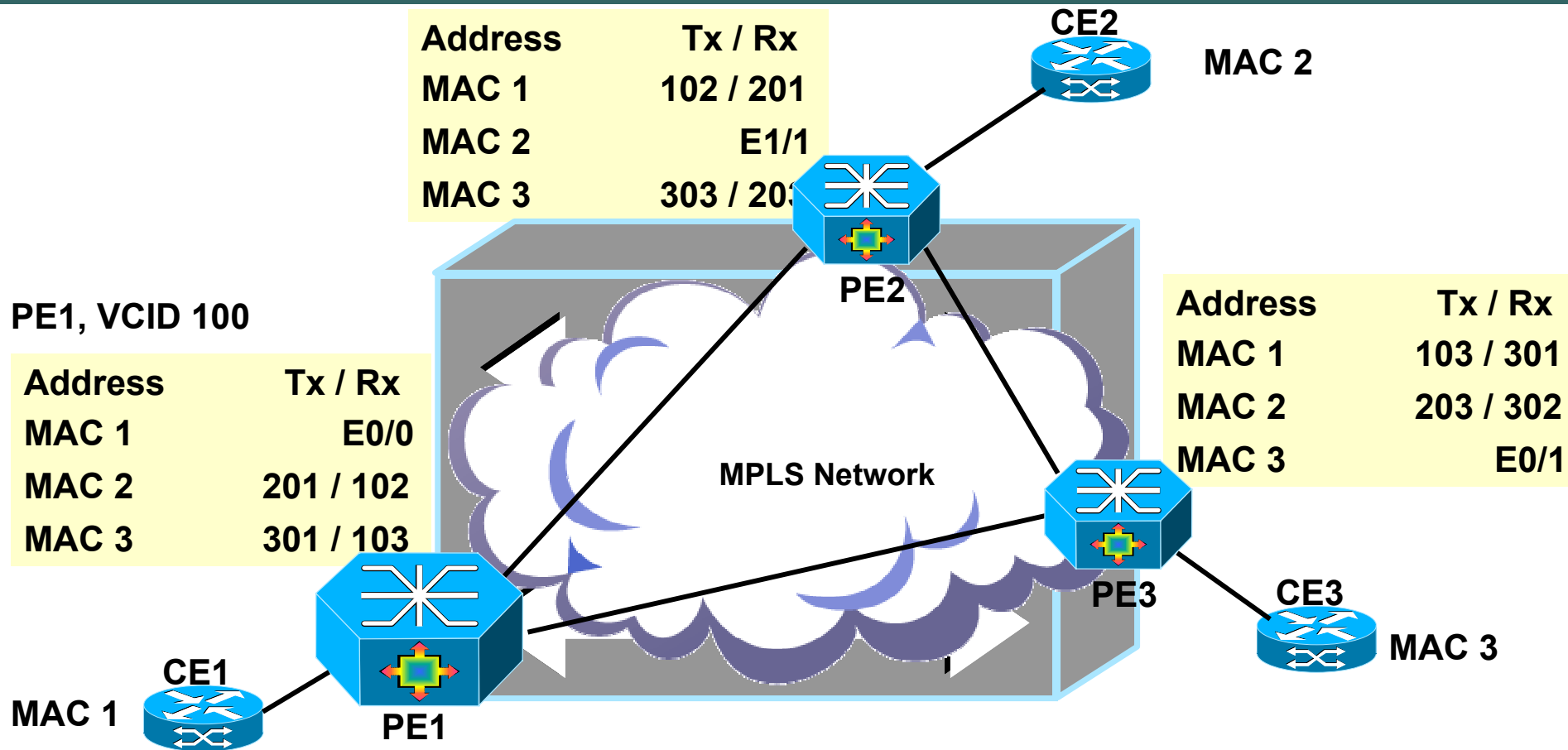
**Two Tier Hierarchy**  
**MPLS or Ethernet Edge**  
**MPLS Core**





# VPLS Overview: Illustrated – Direct Attachment (Flat)

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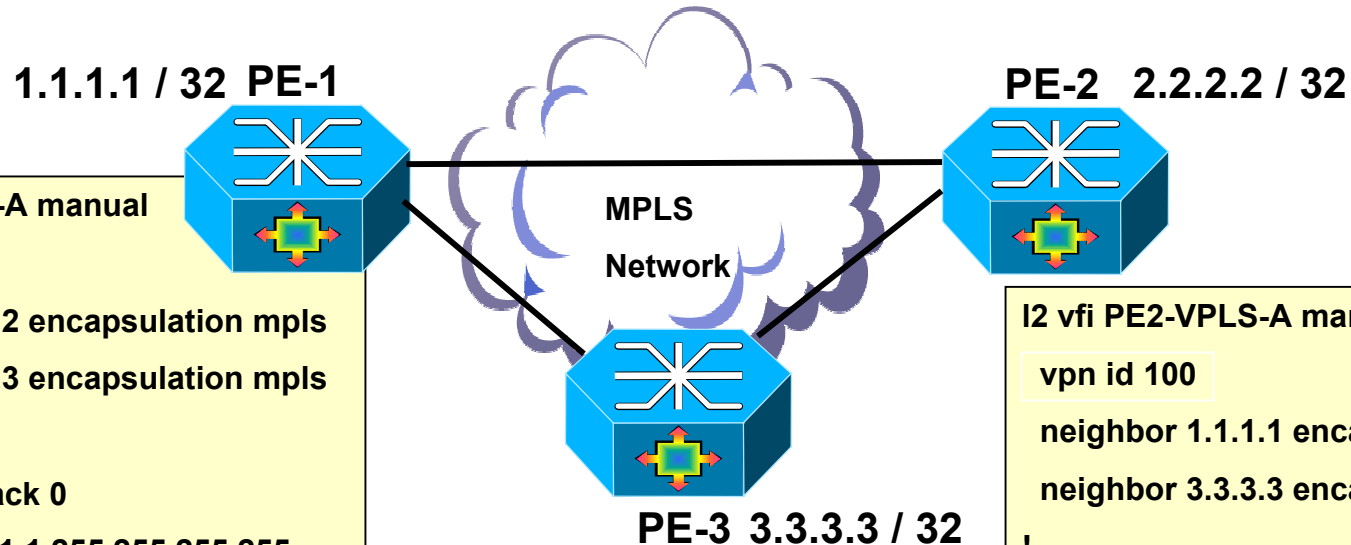
- Port or P-VLAN based membership in the VSI in PEs
- All packet replication occurs on PEs

# VPLS: Configuration Example

## PE → PE

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Create a L2 VFI with a full mesh of participating VPLS PE nodes



I2 vfi PE1-VPLS-A manual

vpn id 100

neighbor 2.2.2.2 encapsulation mpls

neighbor 3.3.3.3 encapsulation mpls

!

Interface loopback 0

ip address 1.1.1.1 255.255.255.255

I2 vfi PE2-VPLS-A manual

vpn id 100

neighbor 1.1.1.1 encapsulation mpls

neighbor 3.3.3.3 encapsulation mpls

!

Interface loopback 0

ip address 2.2.2.2 255.255.255.255

I2 vfi PE3-VPLS-A manual

vpn id 100

neighbor 1.1.1.1 encapsulation mpls

neighbor 2.2.2.2 encapsulation mpls

!

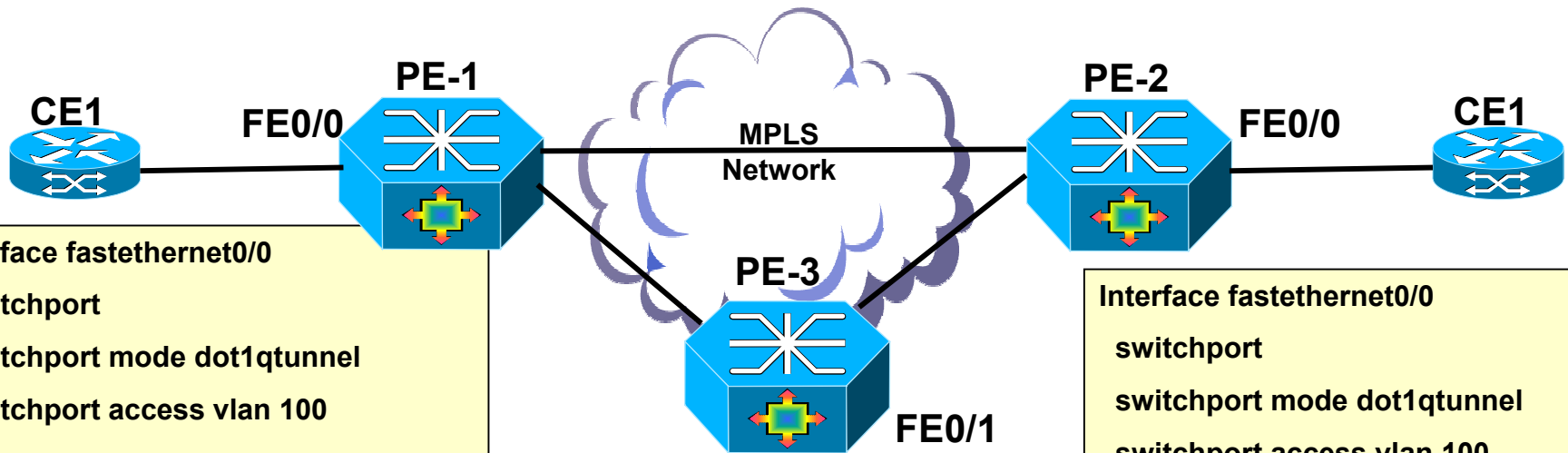
Interface loopback 0

ip address 3.3.3.3 255.255.255.255

# VPLS: Configuration Example

## PE → CE

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```
Interface fastethernet0/0
switchport
switchport mode dot1qtunnel
switchport access vlan 100
!
```

```
Interface vlan 100
no ip address
xconnect vfi PE1-VPLS-A
!
vlan 100
state active
```

```
Interface fastethernet0/1
switchport
switchport mode dot1qtunnel
switchport access vlan 100
!
Interface vlan 100
no ip address
xconnect vfi PE3-VPLS-A ...etc.
```

```
Interface fastethernet0/0
switchport
switchport mode dot1qtunnel
switchport access vlan 100
!
```

```
Interface vlan 100
no ip address
xconnect vfi PE2-VPLS-A
!
vlan 100
state active
```

# VPLS: Sample Output

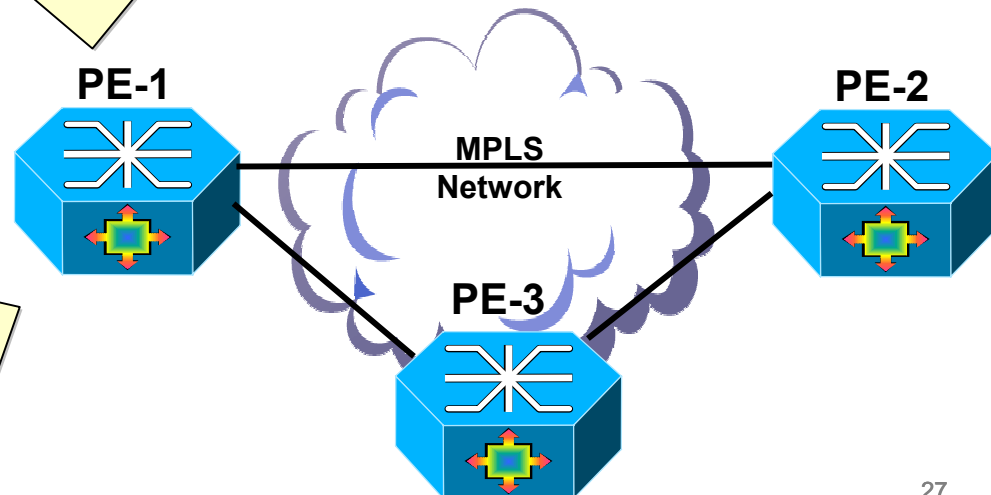
```
VPLS1#show mpls l2 vc
```

Local intf	Local circuit	Dest address	VC ID	Status
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Vi1	VFI	22.22.22.22	100	DOWN
Vi1	VFI	22.22.22.22	200	UP
Vi1	VFI	33.33.33.33	100	UP
Vi1	VFI	44.44.44.44	100	UP
Vi1	VFI	44.44.44.44	200	UP

```
PE-1#show vfi PE1-VPLS-A  
WORD VFI name
```

```
PE-1#show vfi PE1-VPLS-A  
VFI name: VPLSA, state: up  
Local attachment circuits:  
Vlan100
```

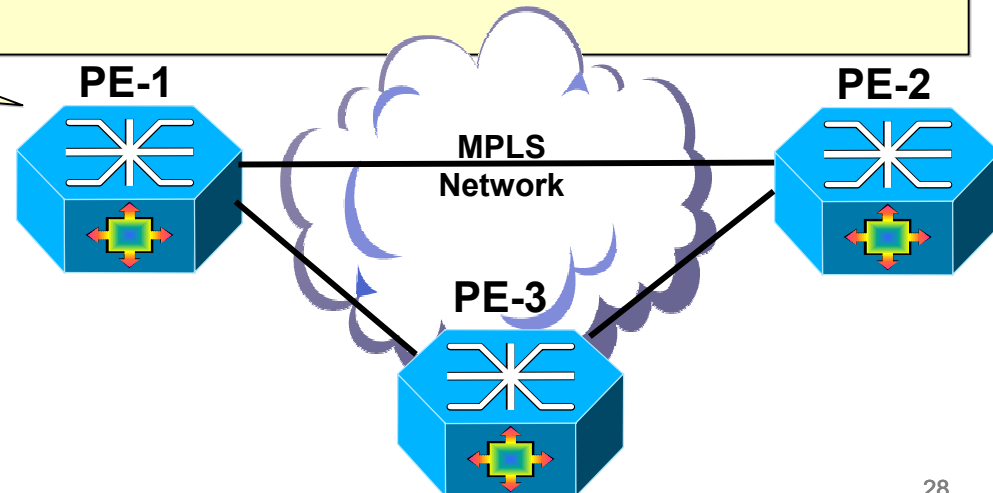
```
Neighbors connected via pseudowires:  
2.2.2.2 3.3.3.3
```



# VPLS: Sample Output (Cont)

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```
VPLS1#show mpls l2transport vc vcid 200 detail
Local interface: Vi1 up, line protocol up, VFI
Destination address: 22.22.22.22, VC ID: 200, VC status: up
Tunnel label: imp-null, next hop point2point
Output interface: PO2/1, imposed label stack {16}
MPLS VC labels: local 18, remote 16
Group ID: local 200, remote 200
MTU: local 1500, remote 1500
Remote interface description:
Sequencing: receive disabled, send disabled
VC statistics:
  packet totals: receive 0, send 0
  byte totals:  receive 0, send 0
  packet drops:  receive 0, send 0
.....cont...for all VPLS PWs sharing a common VC ID
```



Use common AToM “show” commands



# VPLS Architecture: Characteristics - Direct Attachment (Flat)

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## Overview:

- Okay for small customer implementations
- Simple provisioning
- Full mesh of directed LDP sessions required between participating PEs
- VLAN and Port level support (no QinQ)

## Drawbacks:

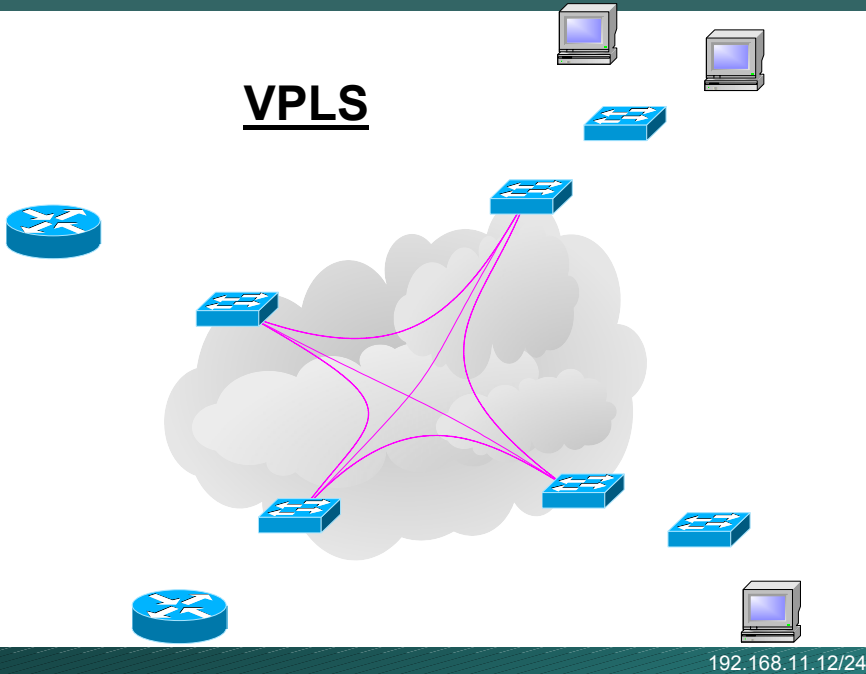
- No hierarchical scalability
- Scaling issues:
  - PE packet replication
  - Full mesh causes classic -  $N*(N-1) / 2$  concerns

SP Ethernet

# VPLS & H-VPLS

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## VPLS

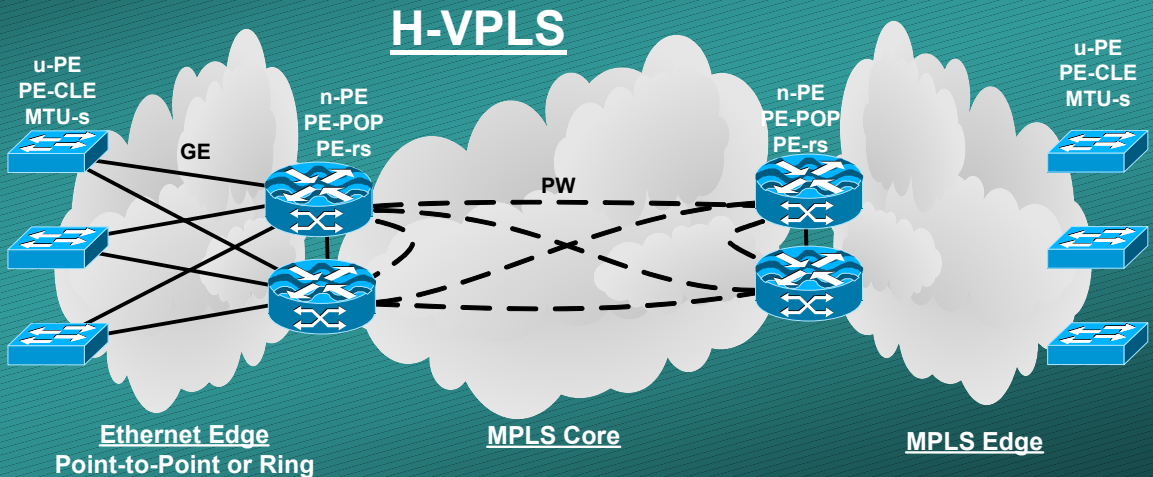


- **VPLS**

Single Flat Hierarchy  
MPLS to the Edge

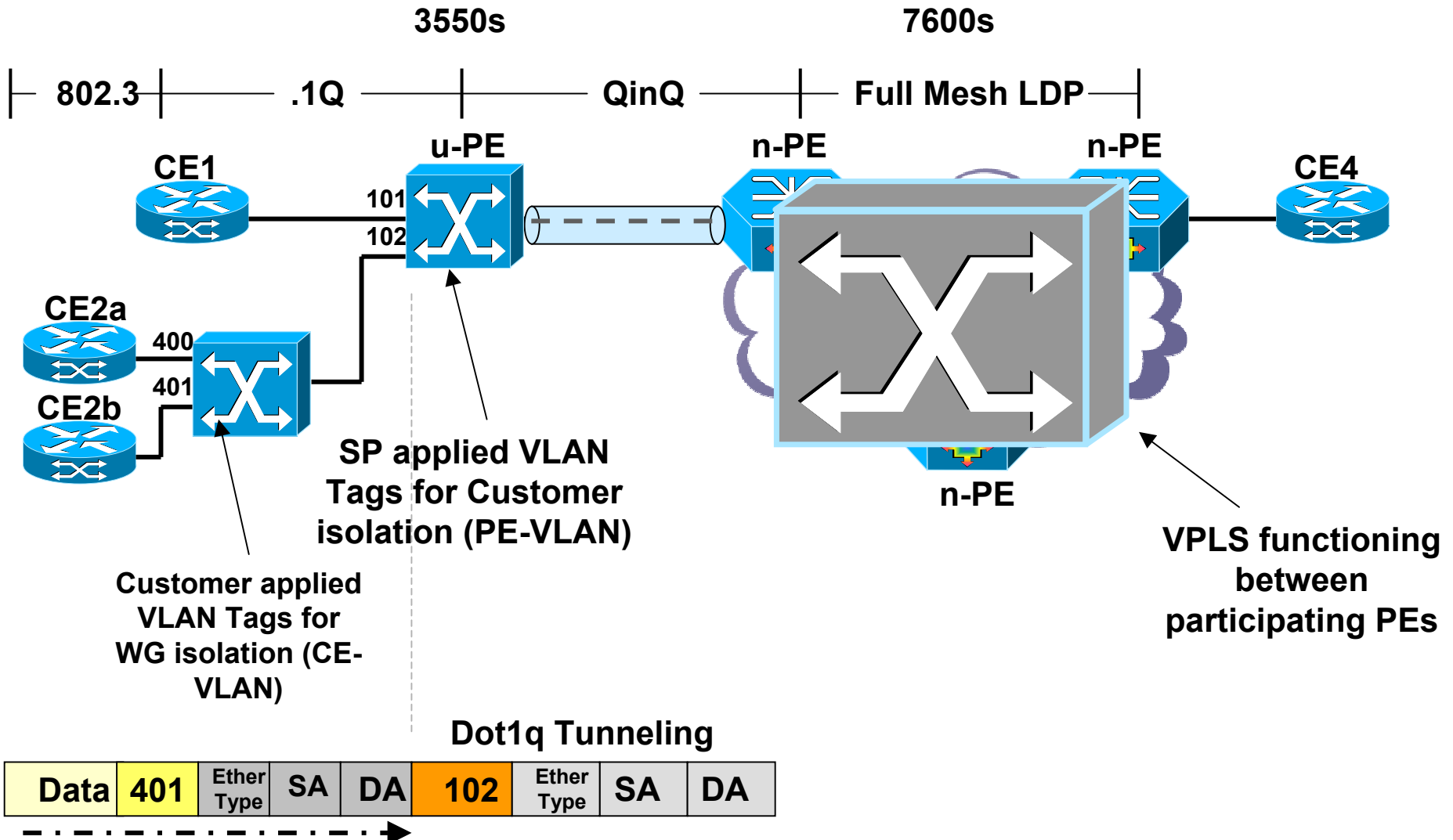
- **H-VPLS**

Two Tier Hierarchy  
MPLS or Ethernet Edge  
MPLS Core



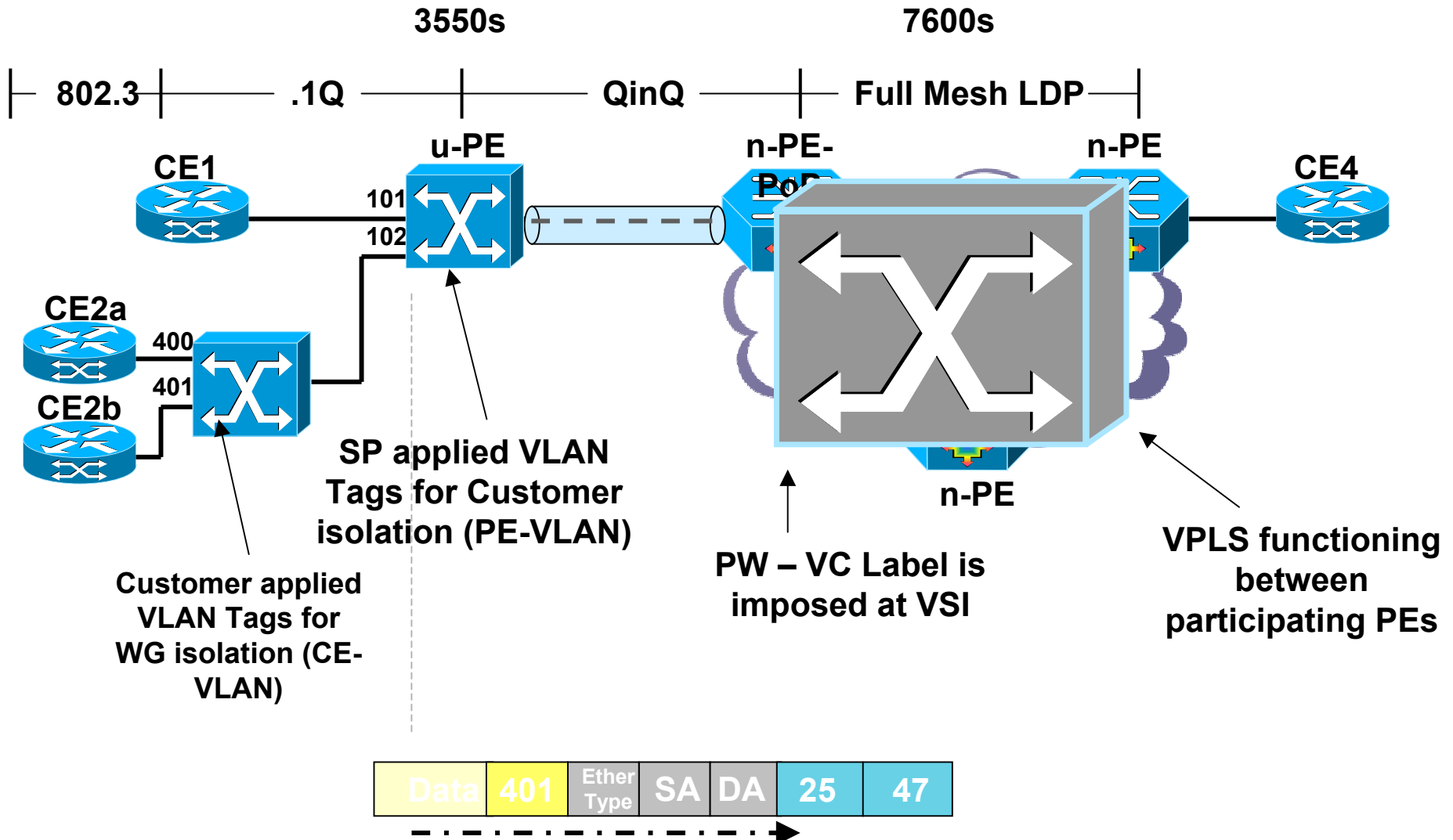
# VPLS Architecture: Architecture – Ethernet Edge H-VPLS

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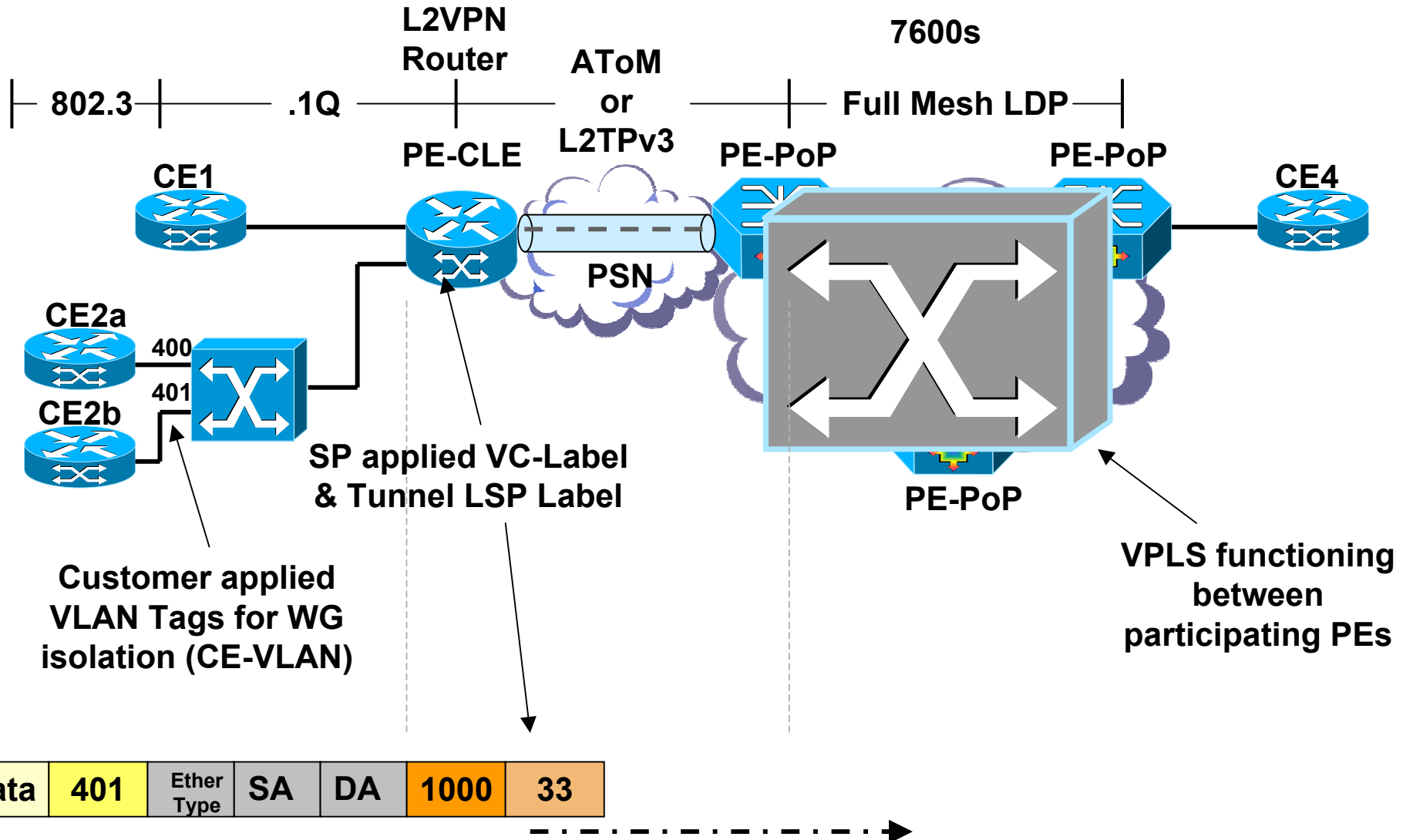
# VPLS Architecture: Architecture – Ethernet Edge H-VPLS

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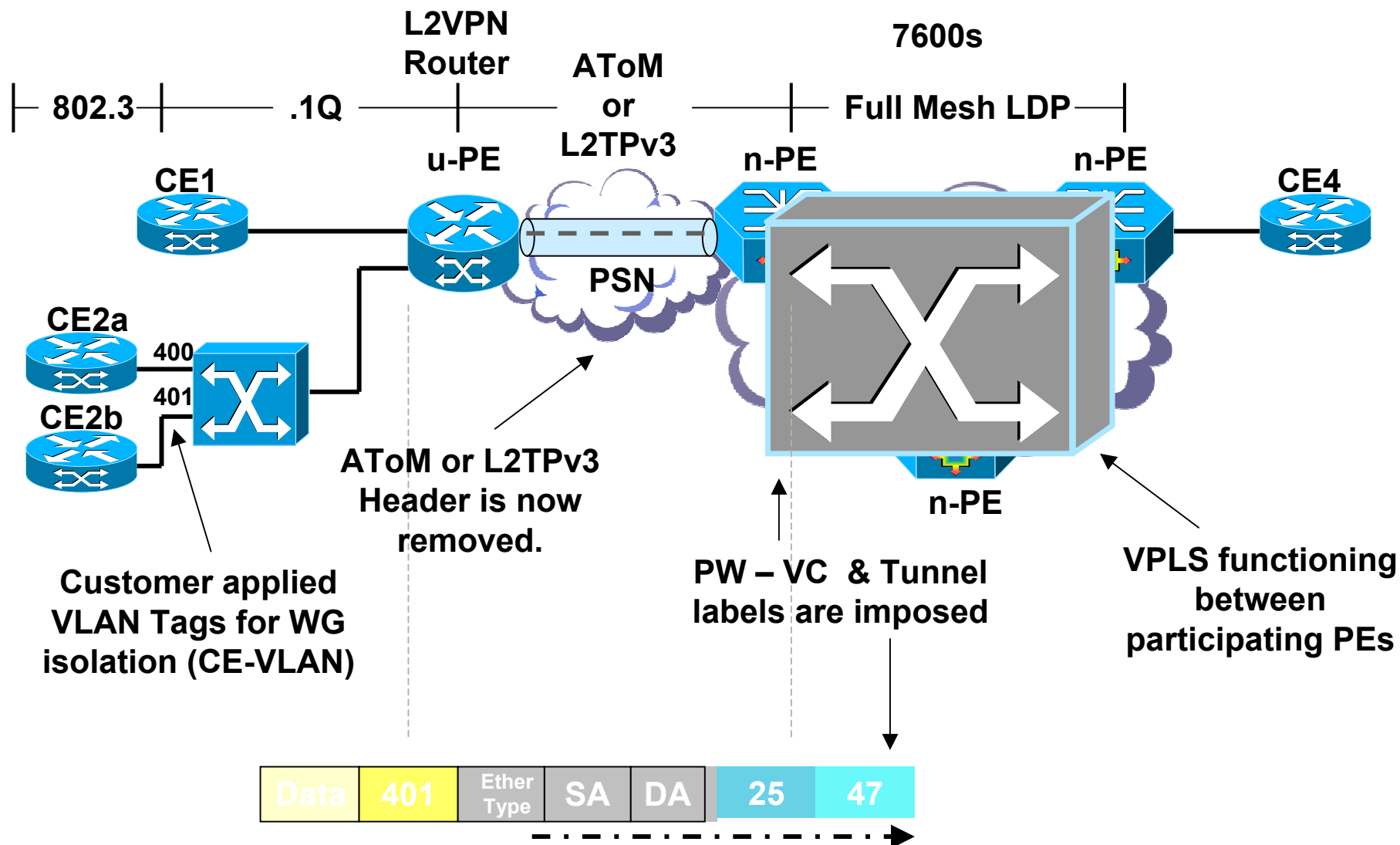
# VPLS Architecture: Architecture – MPLS Edge H-VPLS

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# VPLS Architecture: Architecture – MPLS Edge H-VPLS

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# VPLS Architecture: Characteristics – H-VPLS

## Benefits:

- **Best for larger scale deployment**
- **Reduction in packet replication and signaling overhead on PEs**
- **Full mesh for core tier (Hub) only**
- **Attachment VCs “virtual switch ports” effected through Layer 2 tunneling mechanisms (AToM, L2TPv3, QinQ)**
- **Expansion affects new nodes only (no re-configuring existing PEs)**

## Drawbacks:

- **More complicated provisioning**
- **MPLS Edge H-VPLS requires MPLS to u-PE**

**Complex operational support**

**Complex network design**

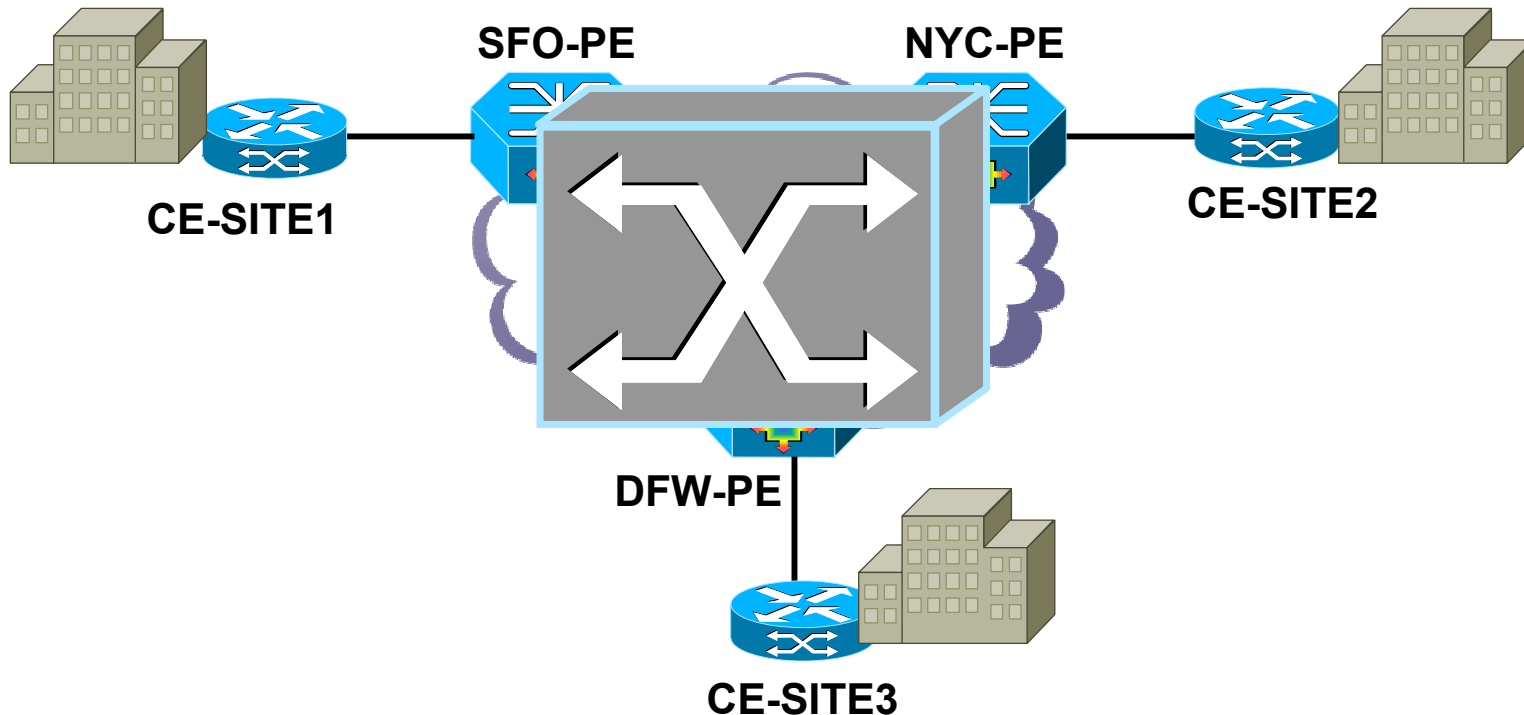
**Expensive Hardware support**

# VPLS Deployment Scenarios



# VPLS Deployment: SMB Connectivity

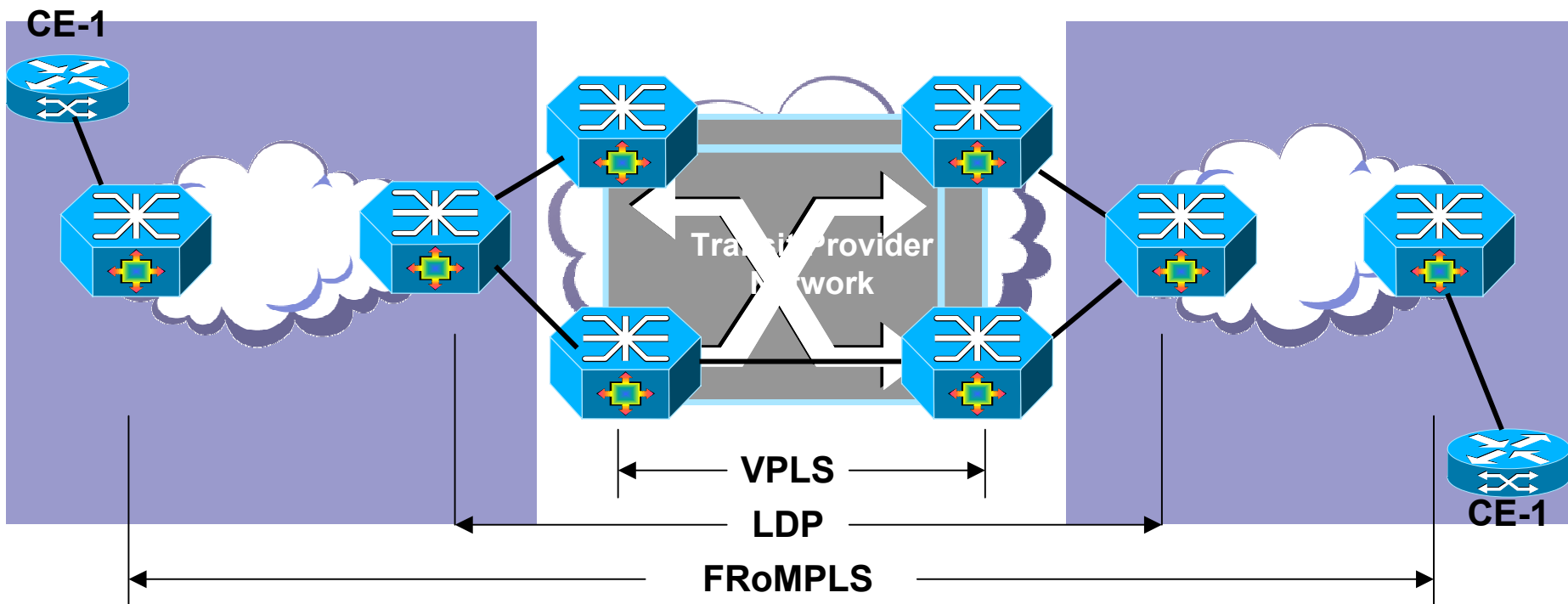
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- New Layer 2 multipoint service offering
- Enterprise maintains routing and administrative autonomy
- Layer 3 protocol independence
- Full mesh between customer sites

# VPLS Deployment: Layer 2 Multipoint Transit Provider

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- SP-As PEs appear back to back and packets are forwarded
- No LDP or Route exchange with transit provider
- Provides optimal traffic path to carrier's PE

# Summary

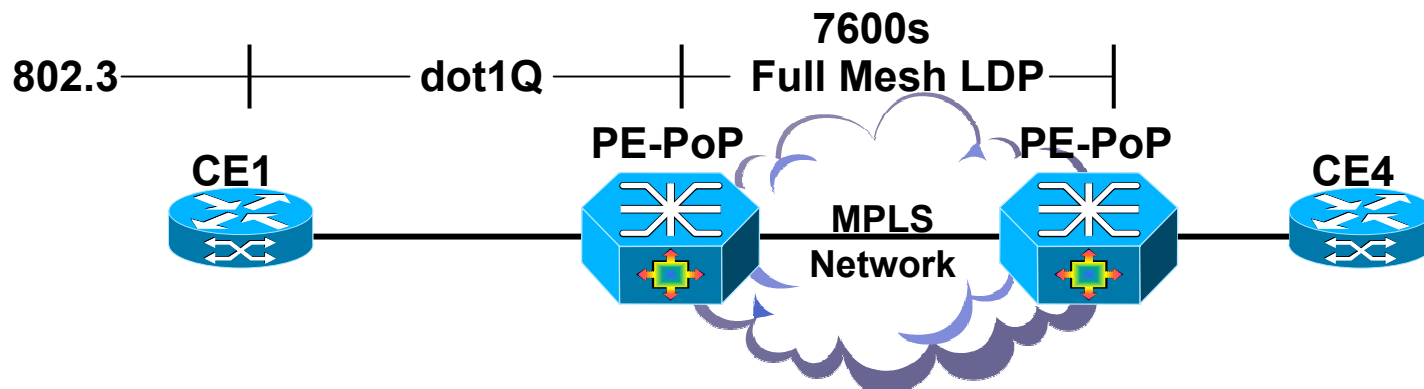


# Phase I – Architecture Support

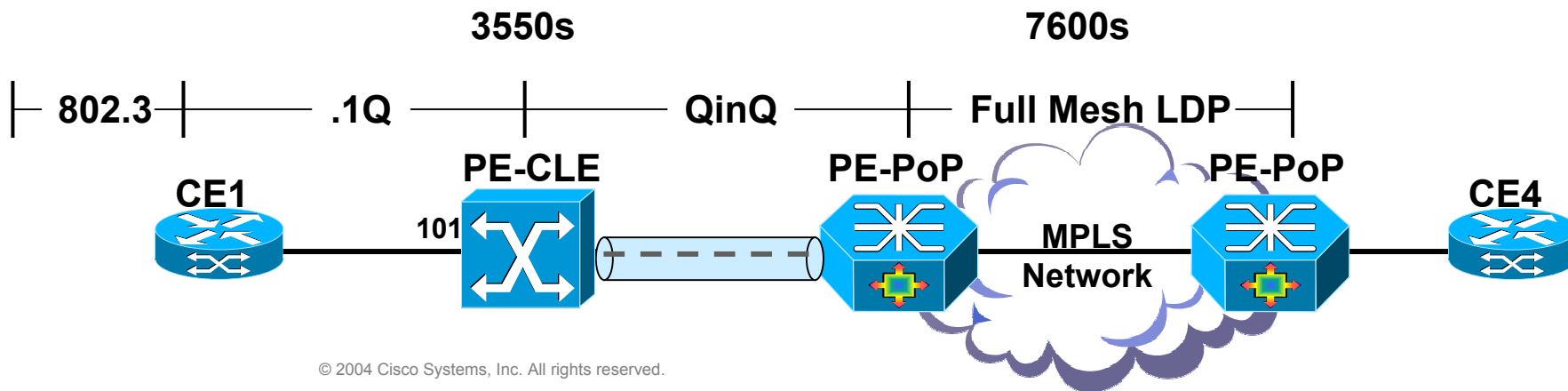
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## Service Definitions Supported

### Topology 1: L2VPN, Transparent LAN Service (Non-distributed PE)



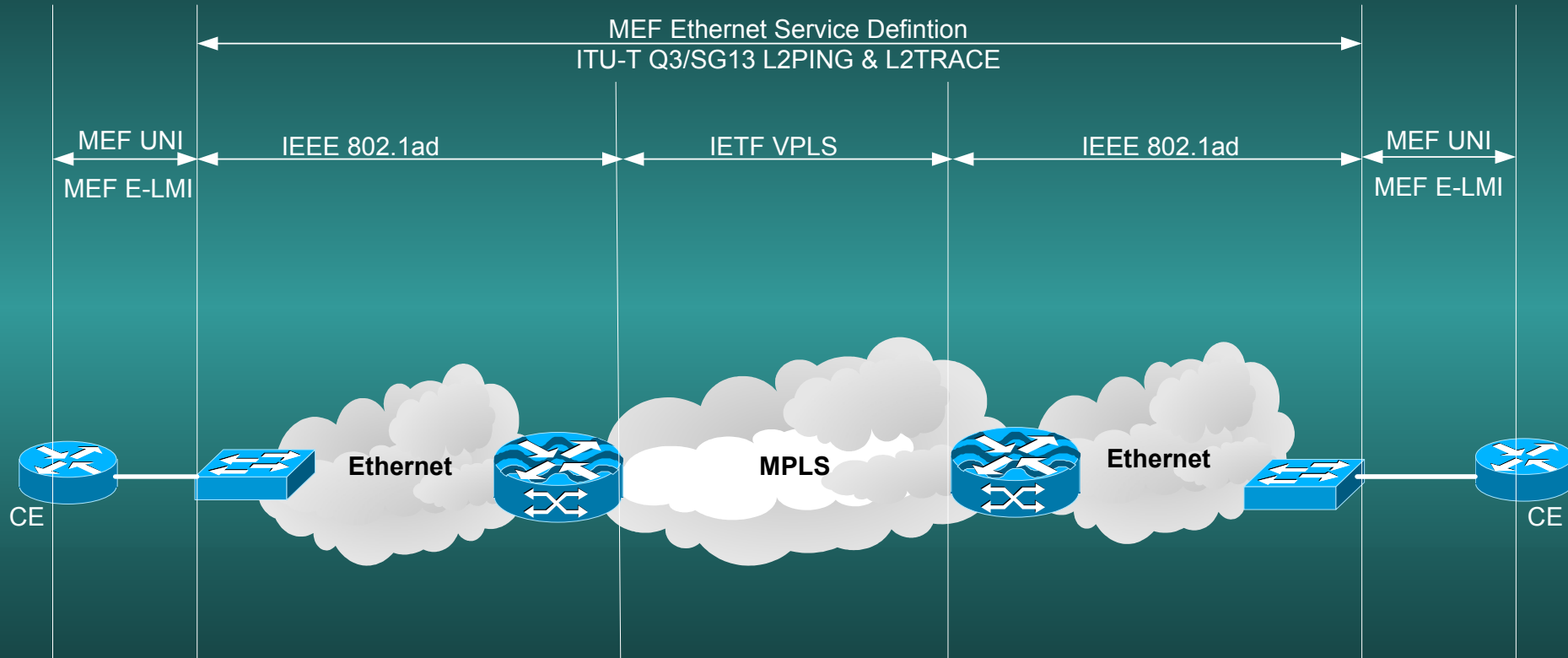
### Topology 2: L2VPN, Ethernet Virtual Circuit Service (Distributed PE)





# Ethernet Standards Development

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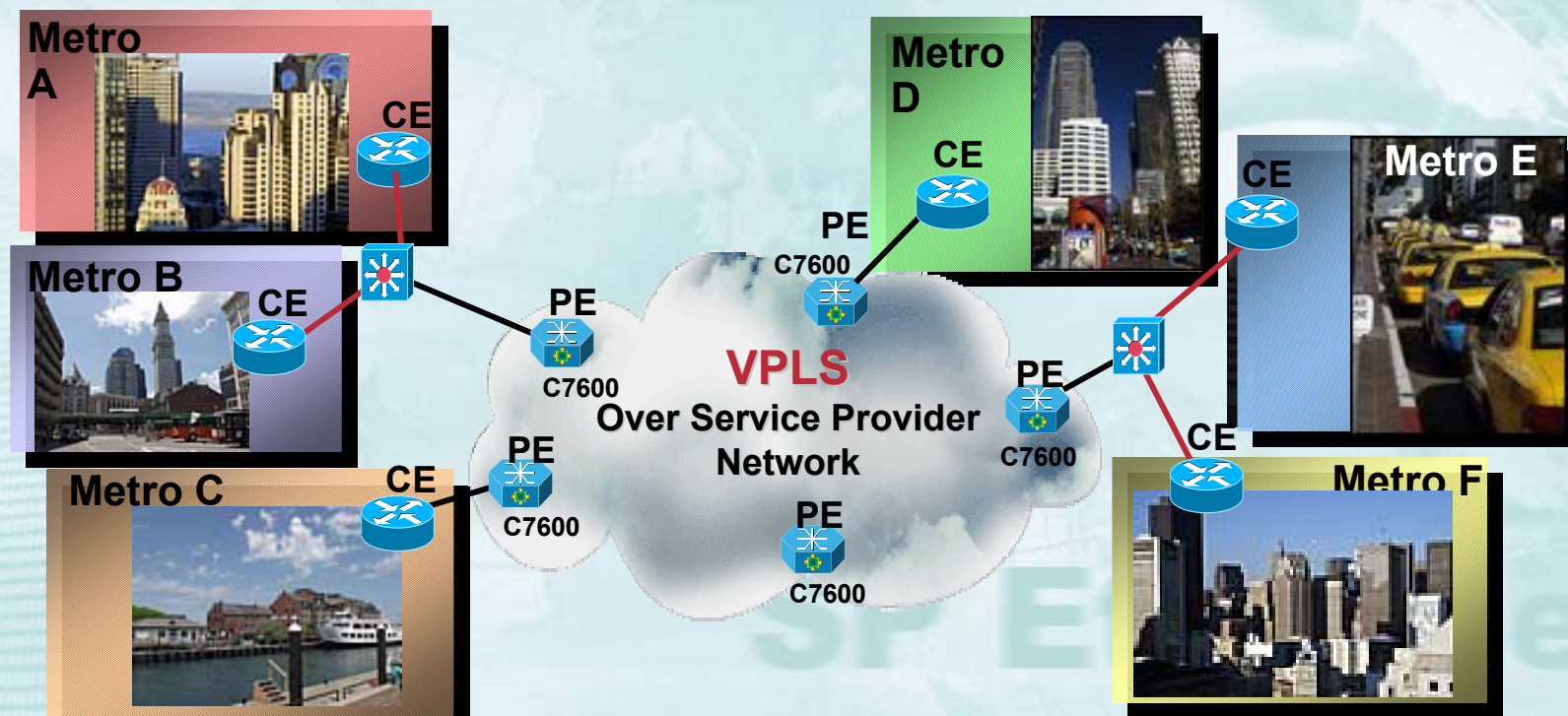


- **IETF VPLS is a part of an overall Ethernet solution**
  - IEEE 802.1ad Provider Bridges**
  - ITU SG12 Ethernet OAM – L2TRACE & L2PING**
  - MEF Ethernet E-LMI, E-UNI and Ethernet Service Definitions**

# Cisco VPLS Summary

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- Fills L2 multipoint VPN gap between customer requirements and existing L2VPN point-to-point technologies
- Expands the service portfolio to for existing MPLS networks
- Has wide-industry support for LDP-based VPLS implementations & wide coordination between Ethernet focused standards bodies (IETF, IEEE, MEF, ITU)
- Cisco is actively driving development of standards and liaising between Forum's to ensure the rapid development of standards and interoperable solutions



# World-Class Customer Support

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- **2,000** Technical Support Professionals
- **1,600+** Support Engineers\* (400 CCIEs) on 24x7
- **630+** Depots and **10,000** Field Engineers in **120** countries\*
- **85,000+** Assisted cases/ month
- **321,000** Customer issues resolved/month
- **75%** TAC Web resolved: of **25%** assisted, **64%** were web-initiated
- **98%** Material availability
- **92%** Orders submitted online, **55%** “no touch”
- **60%** Change orders submitted online

\* Internal & Outsource Partners

## Customer Advocacy Mission

Accelerate customer success with Cisco through innovative services and world-class people, partners, process, and tools.



# Cisco leads in the MPLS Market

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Americas

EMEA

AsiaPac/Japan

Some **200** Customers (MPLS Core & L2/L3 Edge)





# Cisco IOS MPLS

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**Smarter**  
The foundation for more  
services and more  
revenues

**Enabling  
Innovative  
Services**

**Faster**  
A flexible QoS framework  
to enable migration to a  
converged infrastructure

**Lasting**  
Extensibility to different  
transports with standards-  
based open architecture  
for investment protection