

The THEA Field network is comprised of 25 ruggedized managed Ethernet access switches and 5 distribution layer 3 switches and 2 stackable layer 3 core routers that operate at 1 Gb/s over private fiber optic cable. The 25 access switches are arranged into 5 separate Ethernet rings with each end of the ring connecting to a ruggedized layer 3 Distribution switch. The distribution switches are arranged in a manner that allows connectivity to each other through trunk Ethernet ports on point-to-point links. The distribution switches on each end are then connected to the Core router located at THEA TMC. This allows for redundant paths for each of the 5 field rings and separate redundant paths for the distribution switches.