

# **EVLA Corr Racks/Cables etc.**

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## Outline

- Rack assembly.
- Meritec cable assembly/installation.
- Rack shipping/installation.
- Control Racks.
- Ethernet cables.
- VLBI recorder rack.

## Rack Assembly

- Currently in progress in Penticton.
- Have all sub-racks, fan assemblies.
- Layout “scoped-out” (baseline plan in A25017N0005), but refinements occurring as we assemble the first 2 racks.
- Waiting for some parts:
  - Common Backplanes.
  - Last minute electro/mechanical parts (switch mounting plate, RPMIB...)
- But, should be in full-swing assembly ~1<sup>st</sup> week January.
  - Full time contract assembler going since mid Sept.
  - 1 temp worker started, another one shortly...add more EVLA/DRAO techs as needed to meet schedule.

## Rack Assembly

- Plan is to fully assemble racks in Penticton, to minimize site work.
- (I) need to develop QA checklist and test plan.
  - Early rack delivery does not permit fully loaded/powered test.
  - Have tested thermal mock-up to 10 kW successfully.
  - If there is a thermal problem, the only fall-back position is colder air (rack-mount chiller at bottom).
  - ...the die is cast!
- 2 shipments: 8 racks each, to mitigate effects of shipping catastrophic failure.
  - Direct shipment in dedicated shipping crates from Penticton to VLA.

## Rack Cables

- All cables colour coded:
  - -48 VDC hot: VIOLET; RETURN: BLACK.
  - Board power control: WHITE; monitor: YELLOW.
  - Ethernet M&C BLUE; CBE RED; Phased output: YELLOW.
  - Fan power, M&C.
- All cables labeled (except for –48 VDC power)

















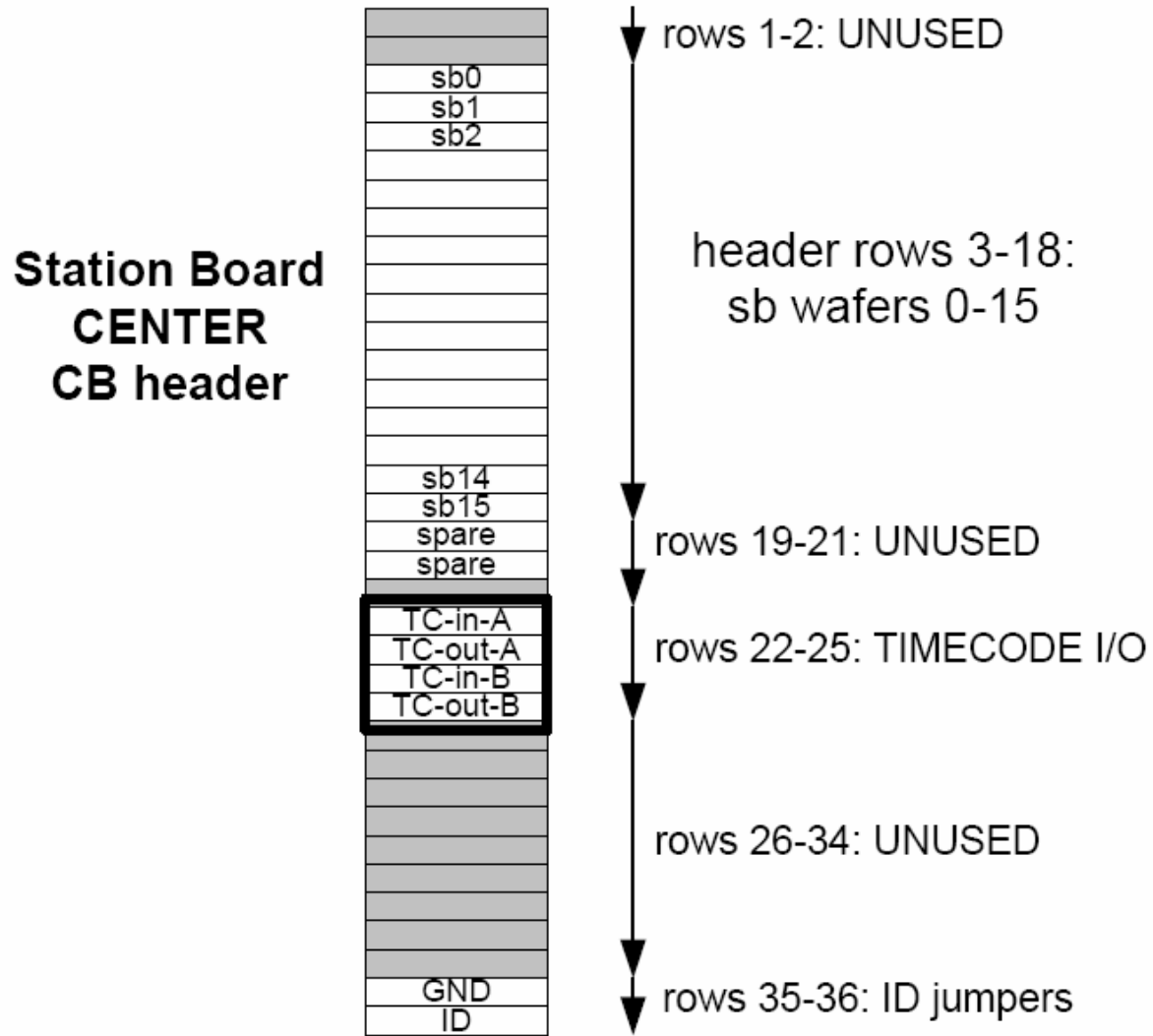


## Meritec Cables

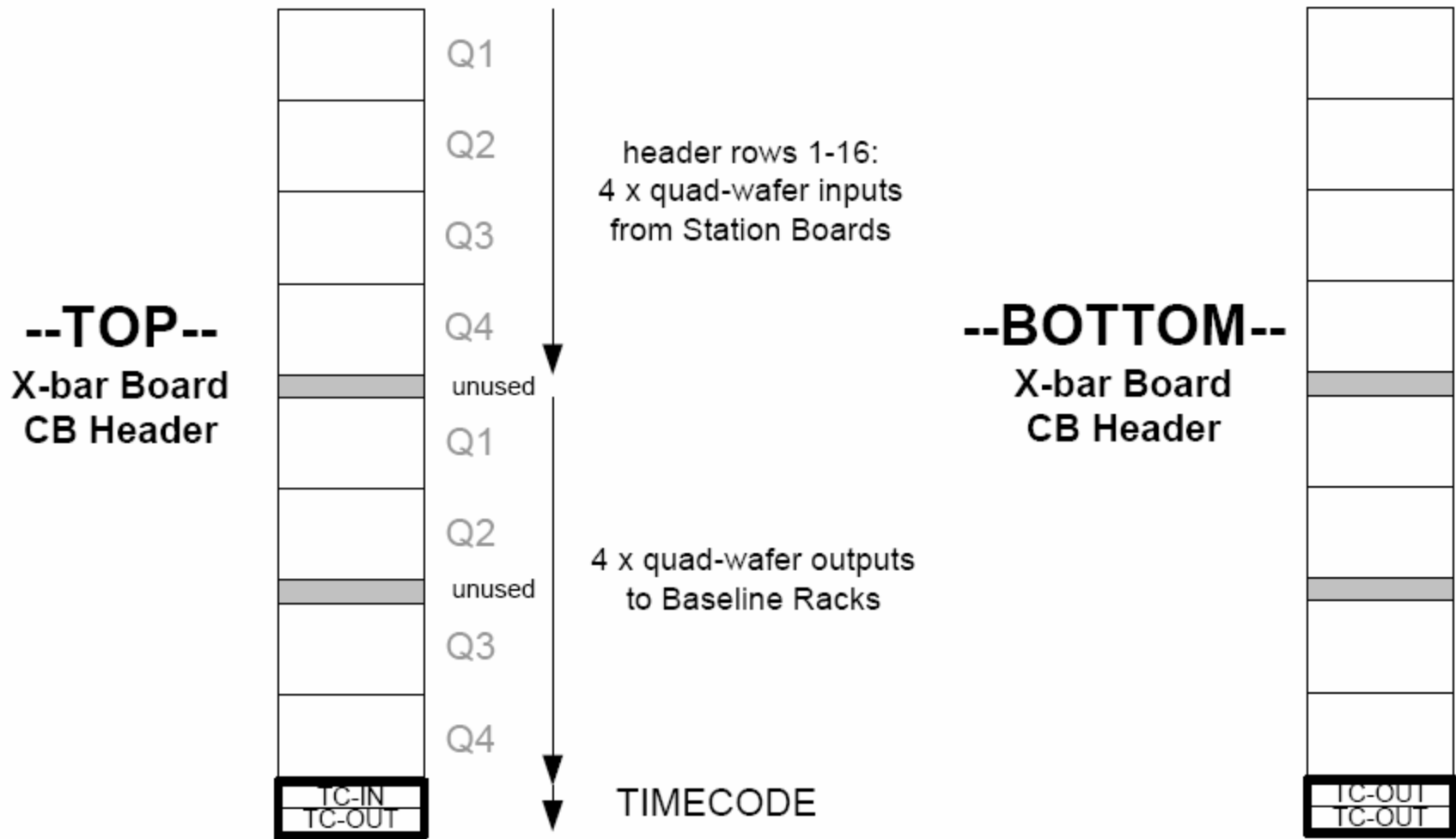
- All ordered, Meritec is maintaining Dec. 28/07 delivery date.
- “st-TC”, Station rack, rack-to-rack installation plans ready (A25005N0004, A25005N0003, A25005N0001).
- PVC labels being made...gearing up for labeling and assembly of rack-to-rack cables.

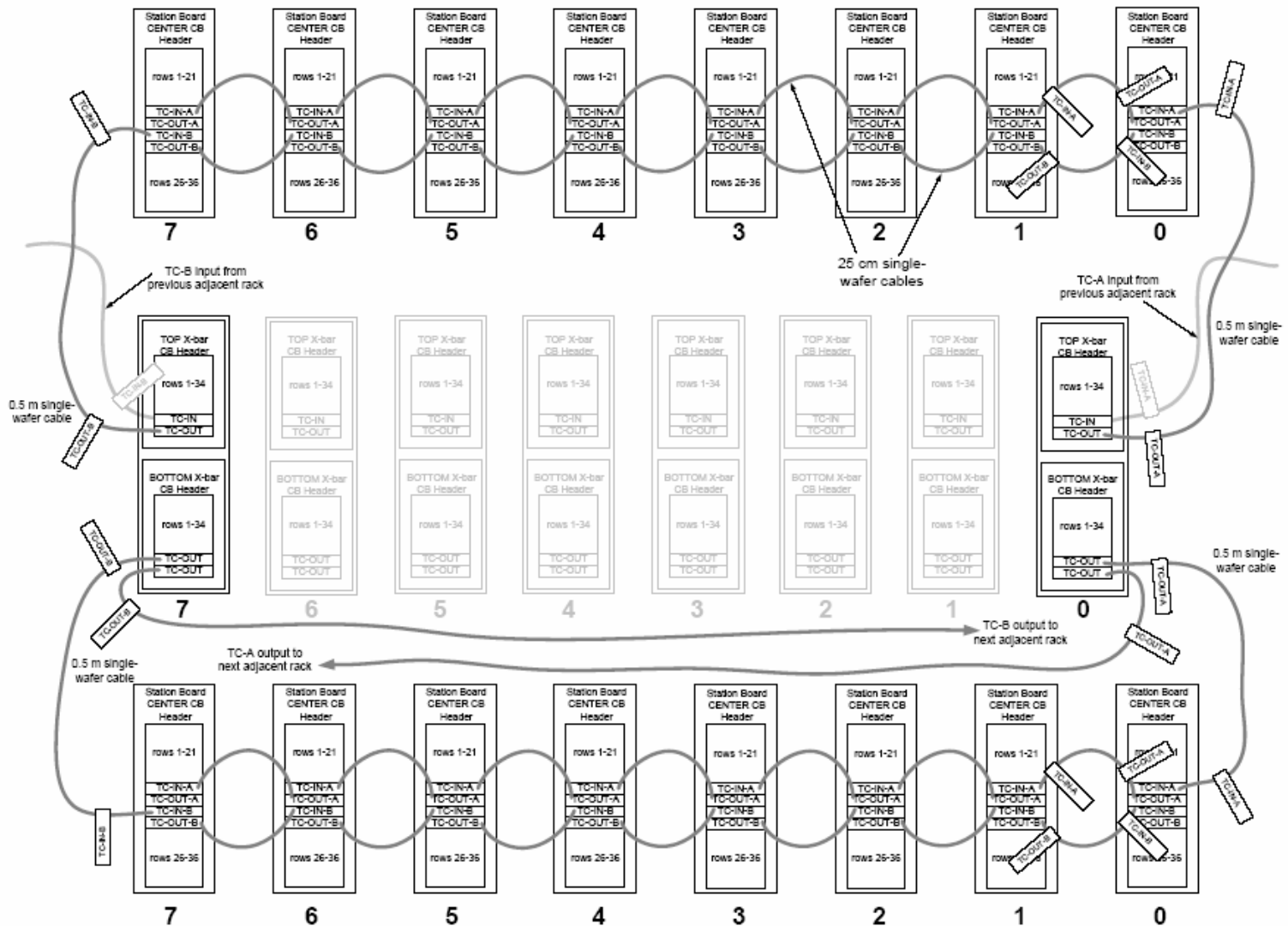
## “st-TC” Cable Install

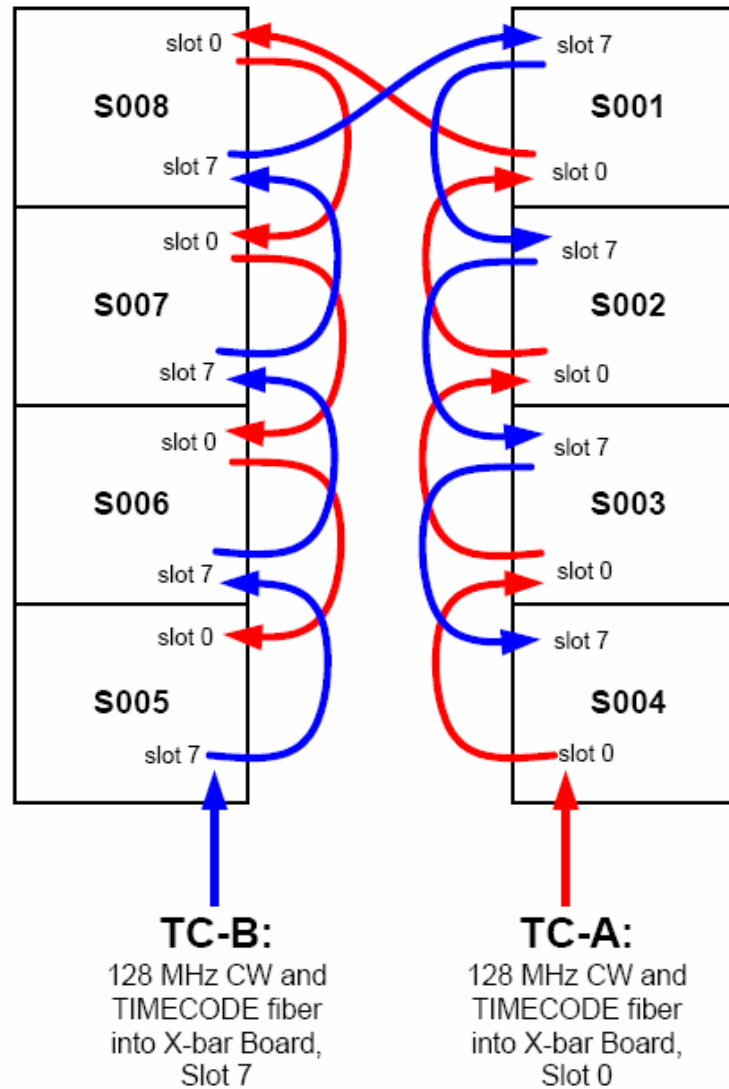
- “st-TC”: augmented “NRAO ext-TC” signal with “hop count”.
- Distribute to all Station racks and Station Boards in a daisy-chained, bi-directional fashion.
  - Eliminates single board or rack failure from affecting other boards/racks.
  - Hop count incremented with each hop...compensate for delays in Station Board Timing Chip so that signals going to the Baseline Boards are approximately lined-up in time.
  - Station Board develops final absolute TIMECODE.

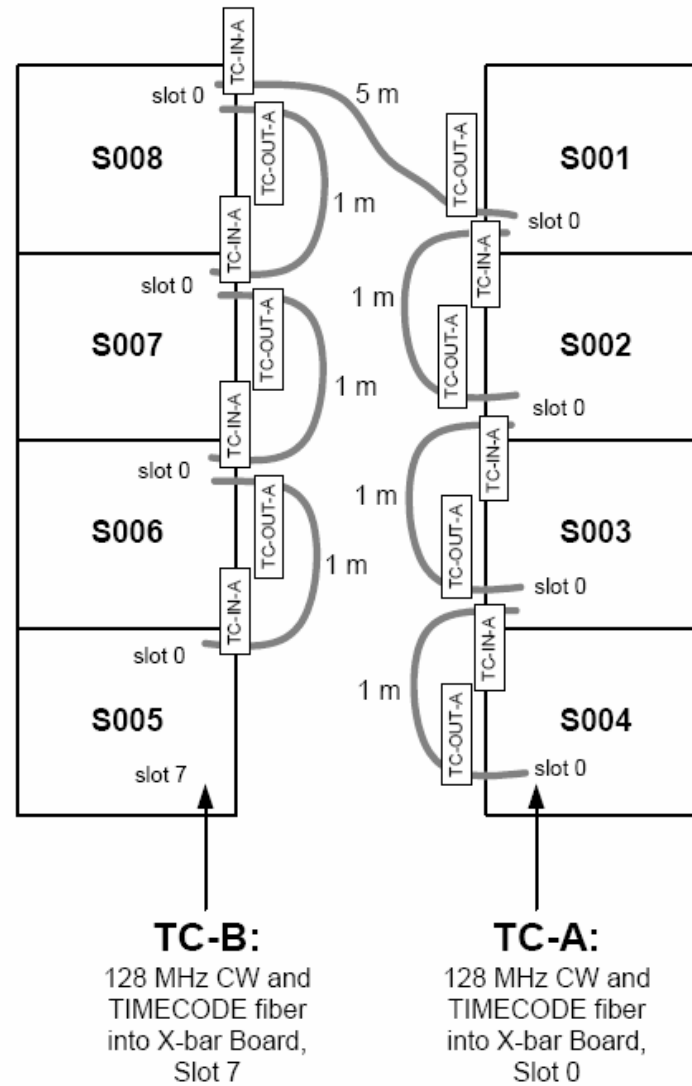






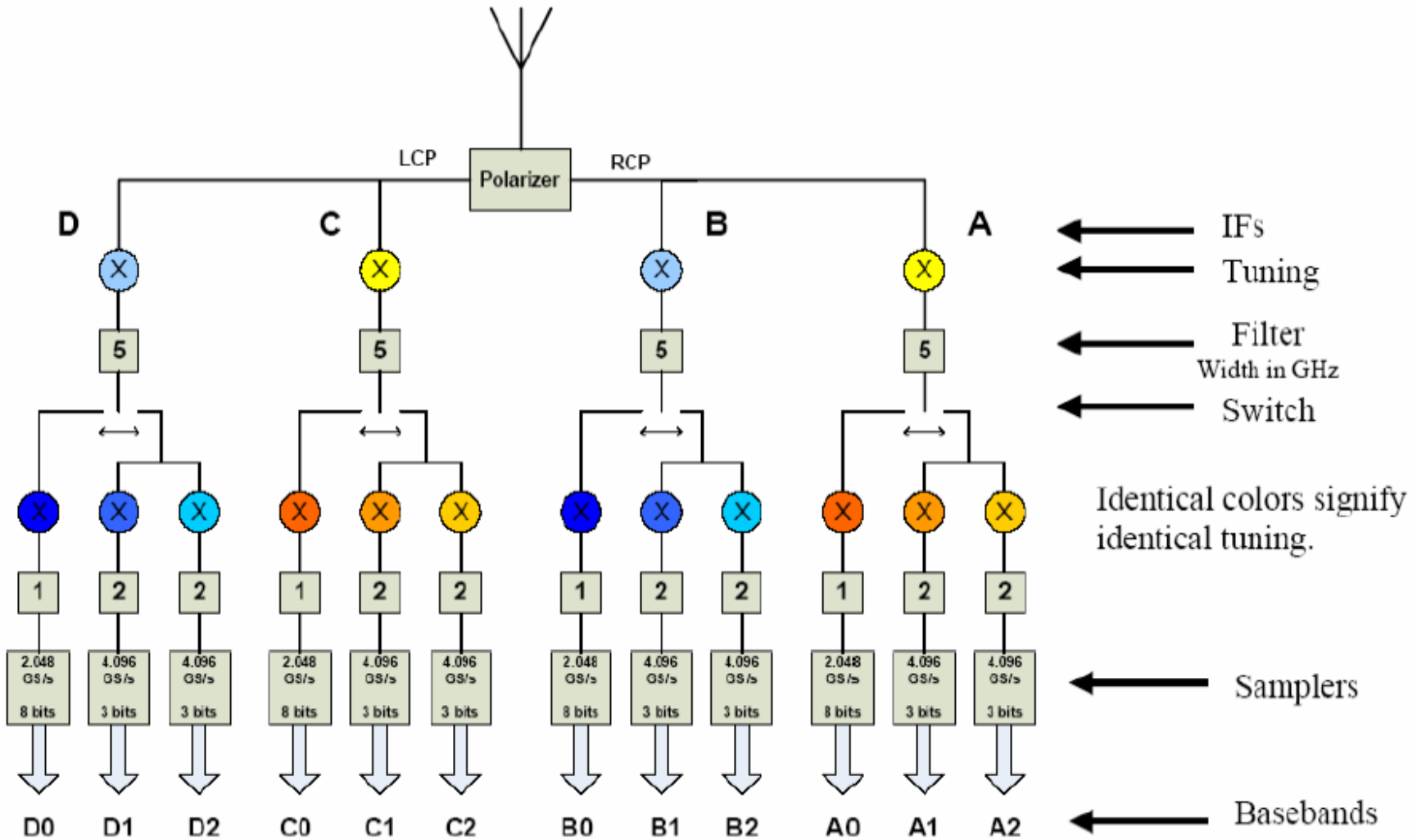




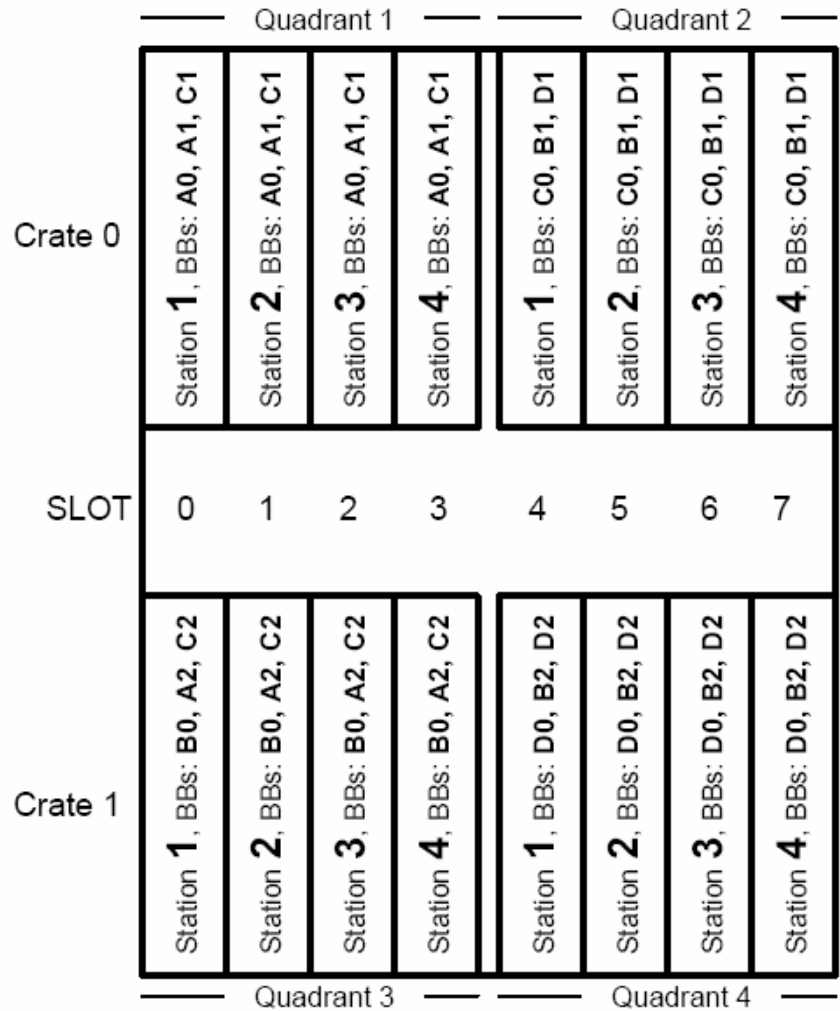


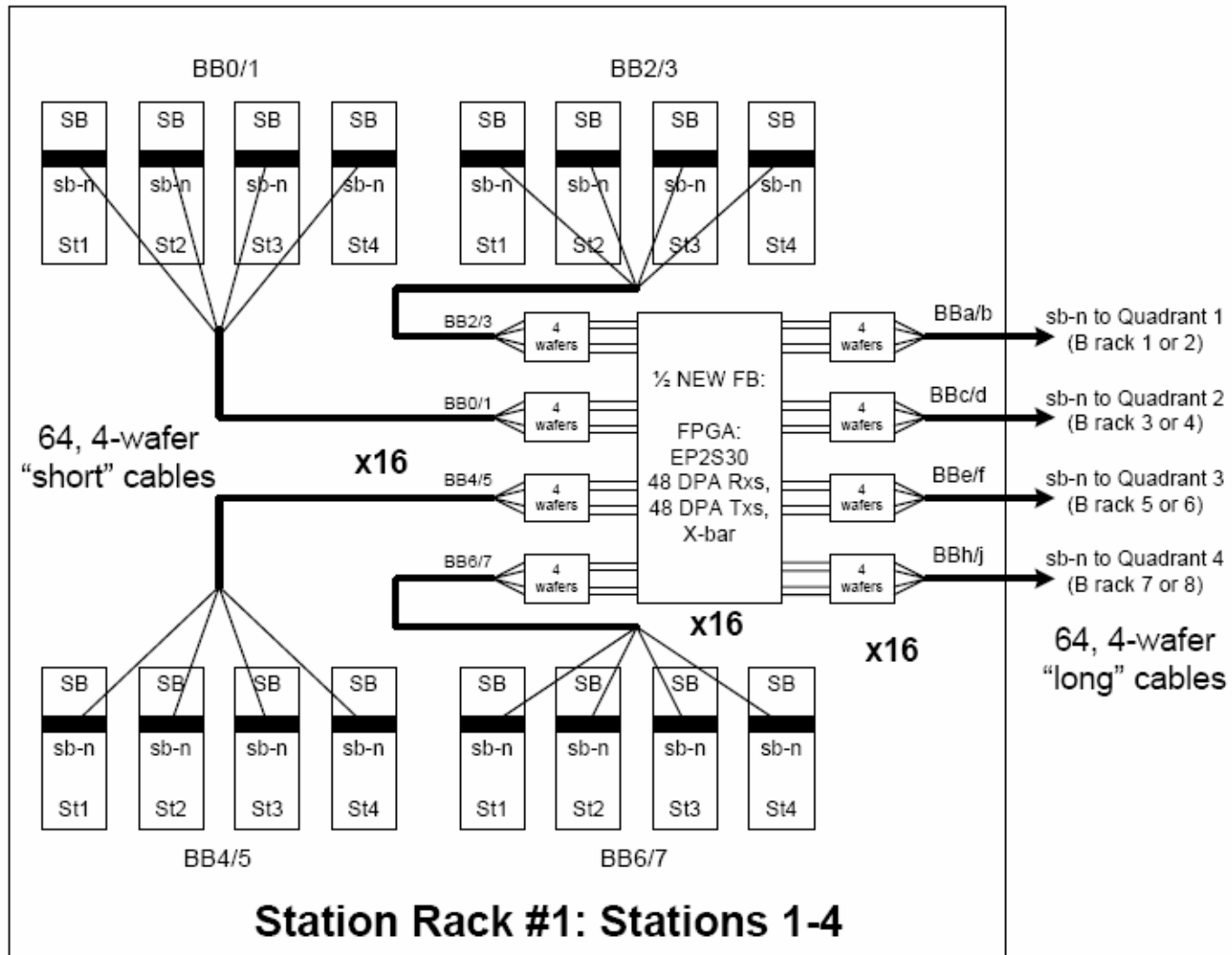
## Station rack Meritec Cables

- Route from Station Board center connector to X-bar Boards.
  - All installation is done in Penticton.
- Split quad wafer at Station Board end allows for 4 stations on one quad wafer at X-bar Board end.
- X-bar Board does quadrant switching to allow full resource flexibility.
- Antenna fiber (IFs/BBs)-to-Station Board routing now established (ICD A25010N0002).

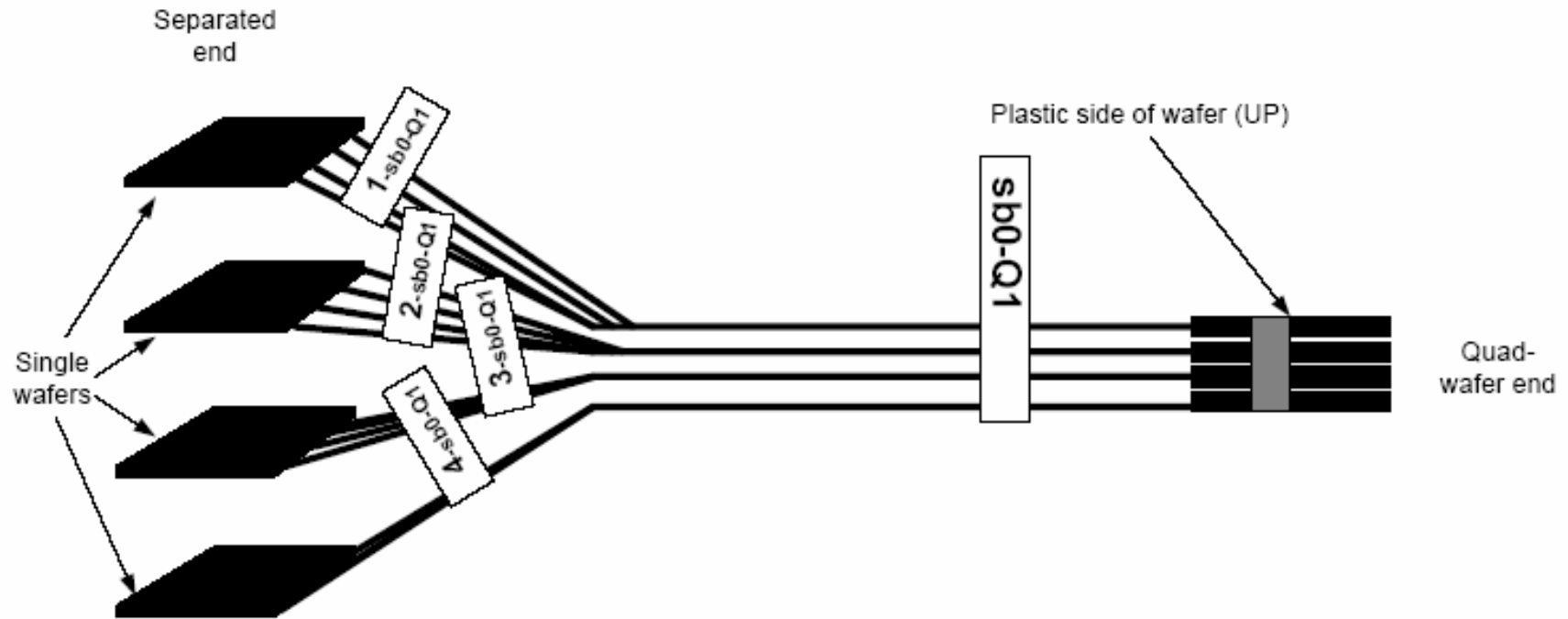


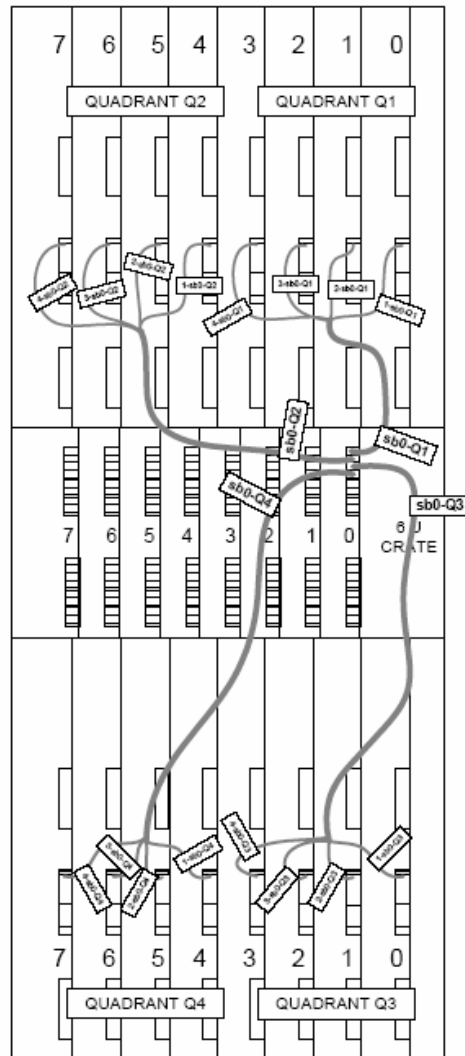
View into FRONT of S rack S001





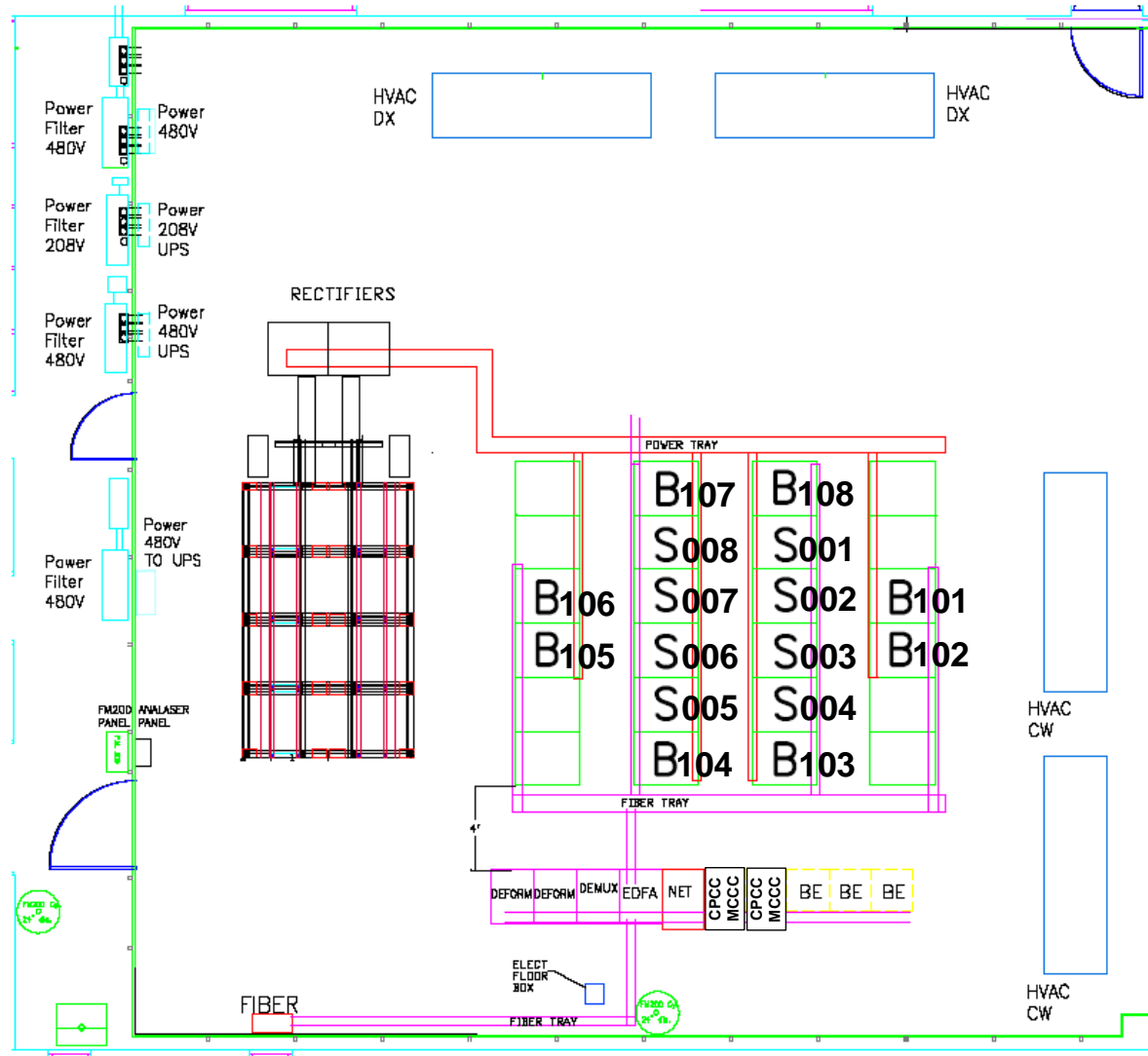


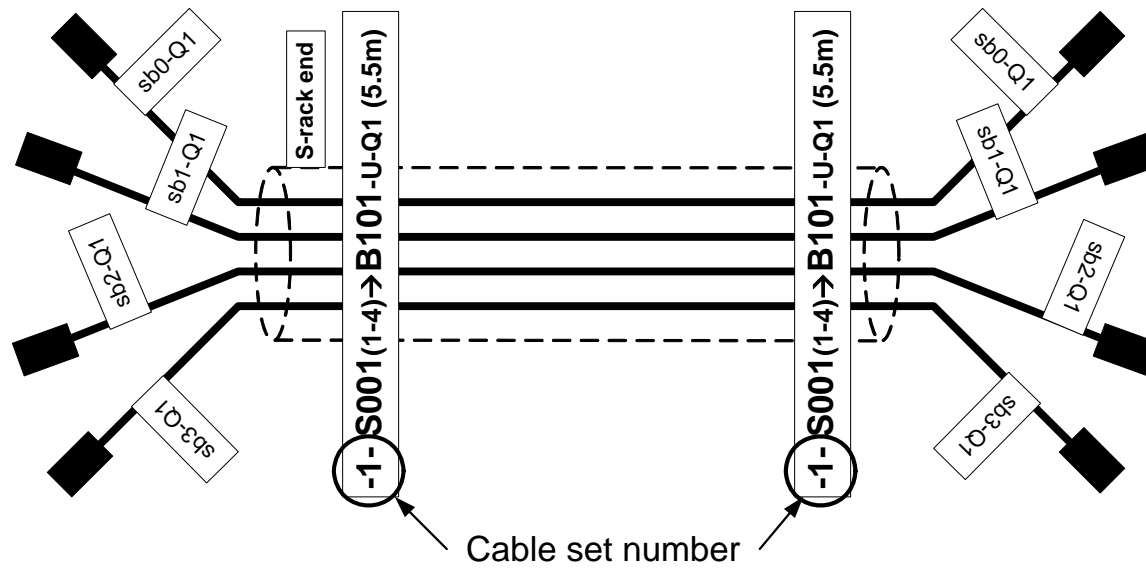


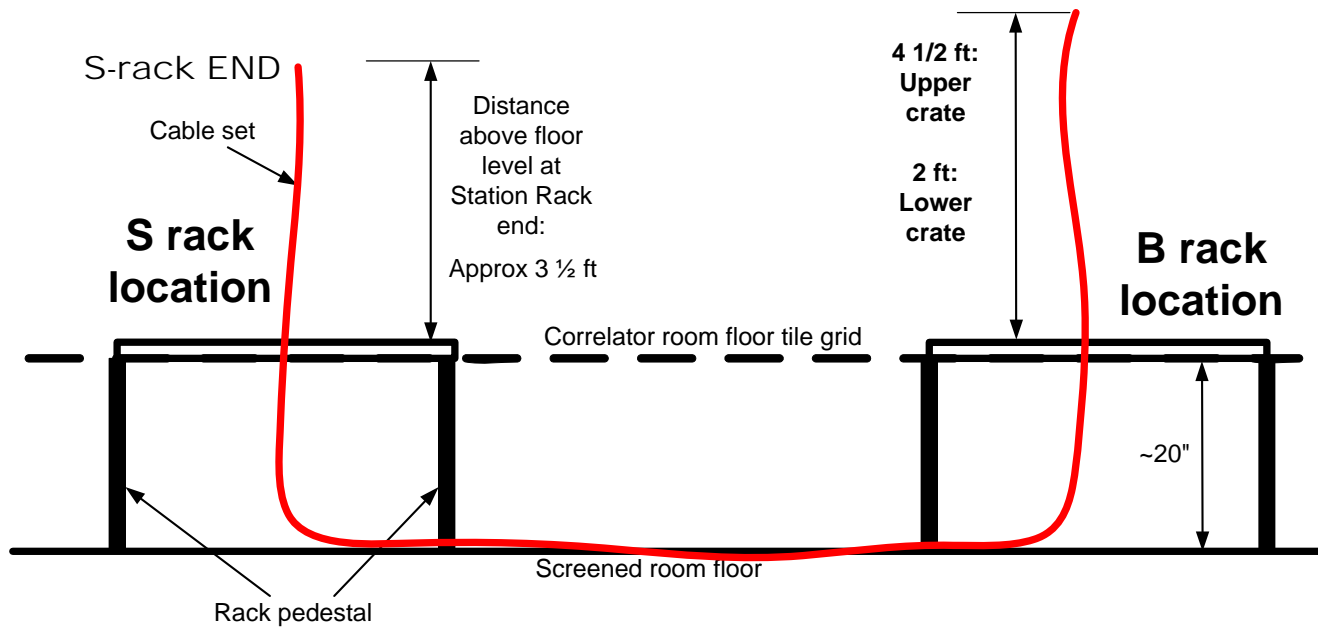


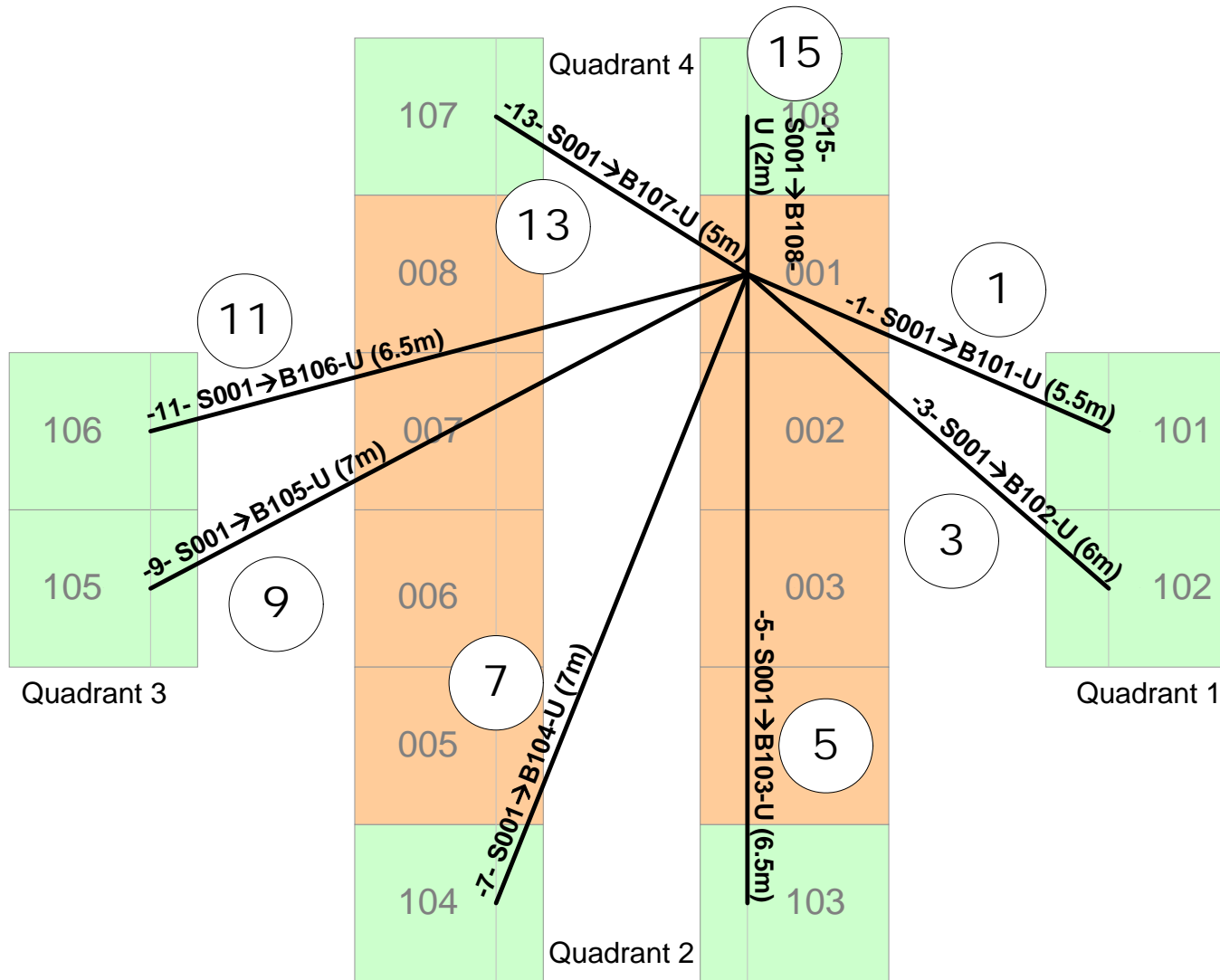
## Rack-to-rack Meritec Cables

- Described in detail in document A25005N0001.
- 512 cables assembled into 128, 4-cable “sets” in Penticton.
  - Nice cable set bundling solution using split-expando with heatshrink termination.
- All cable sets labeled and kitted...ready for install.
  - Each cable is labeled, with source/destination, but also with unique 1-128 number.









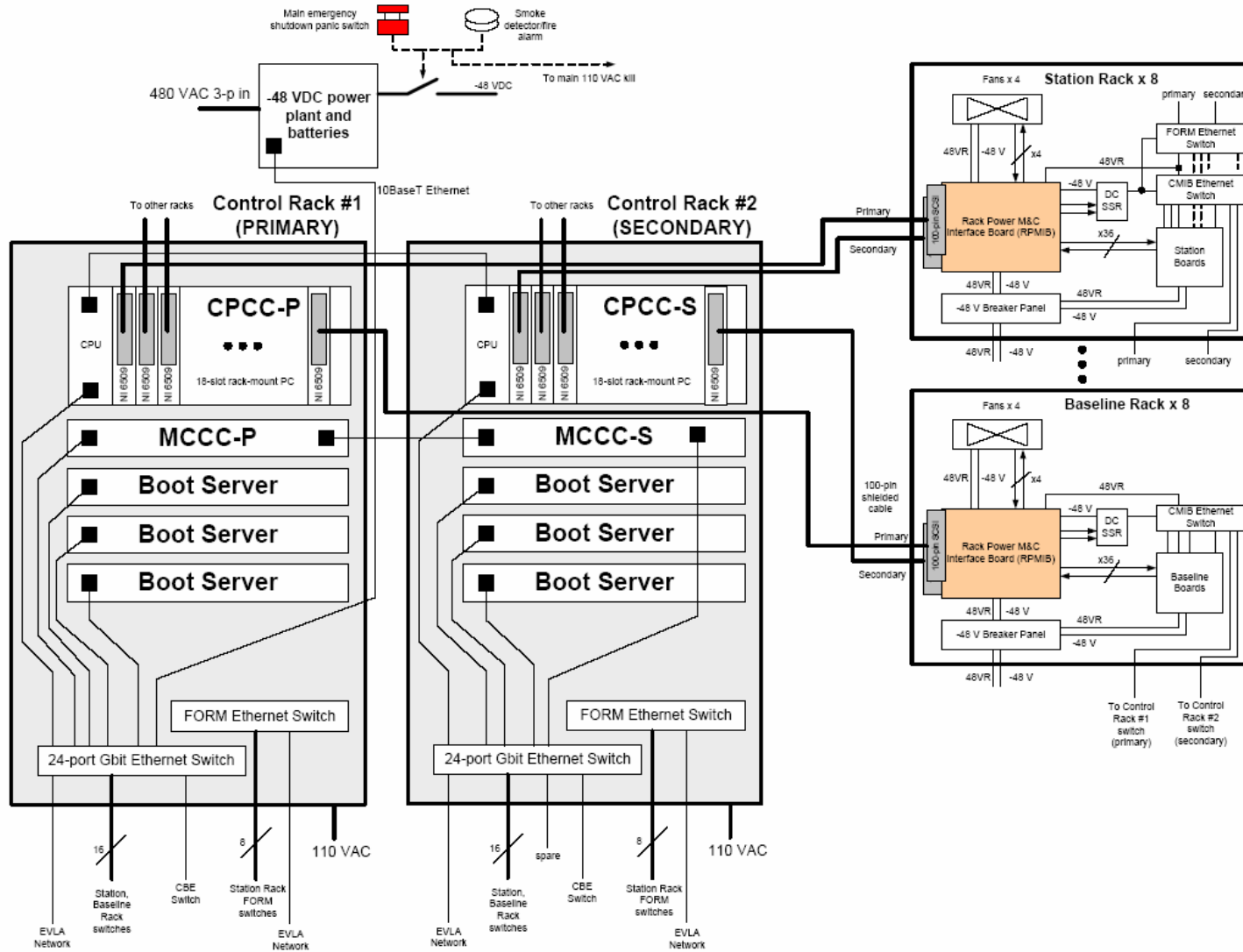
## Rack Shipping/Installation

- Several possible scenarios...depends on desire to get H/W to the site ASAP.
- Anticipate all racks assembled and ready by end of April, possibly sooner.
- Ship in 2, 8-rack shipments.
  - Doors and side panels ship directly to VLA...not needed in Penticton.
- Each rack labeled with its rack number (e.g. S001). Has specific place in room where it is installed.
- Fan tray assemblies must be attached once in room...due to elevator height limitations.

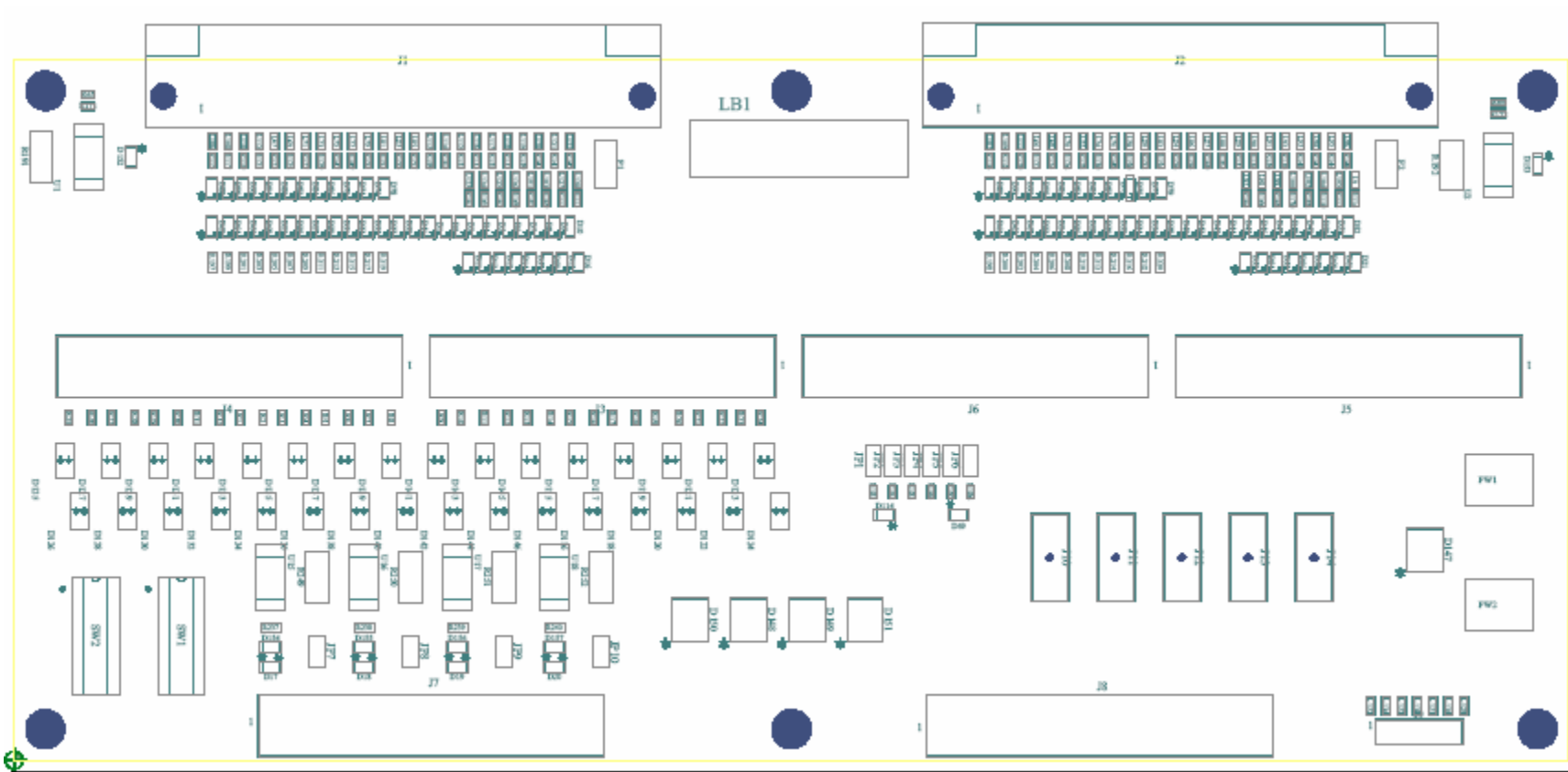


## Control Racks

- Description in A25026N0000.
- Dual 1+1 redundancy.
- Contains CPCC, MCCC, boot servers, switch.
- 19” COTS racks, all COTS components/computers.
- CPCC: rack-mount PC or CompactPCI.
  - My vote is rack-mount PC...generic, easily replaced.

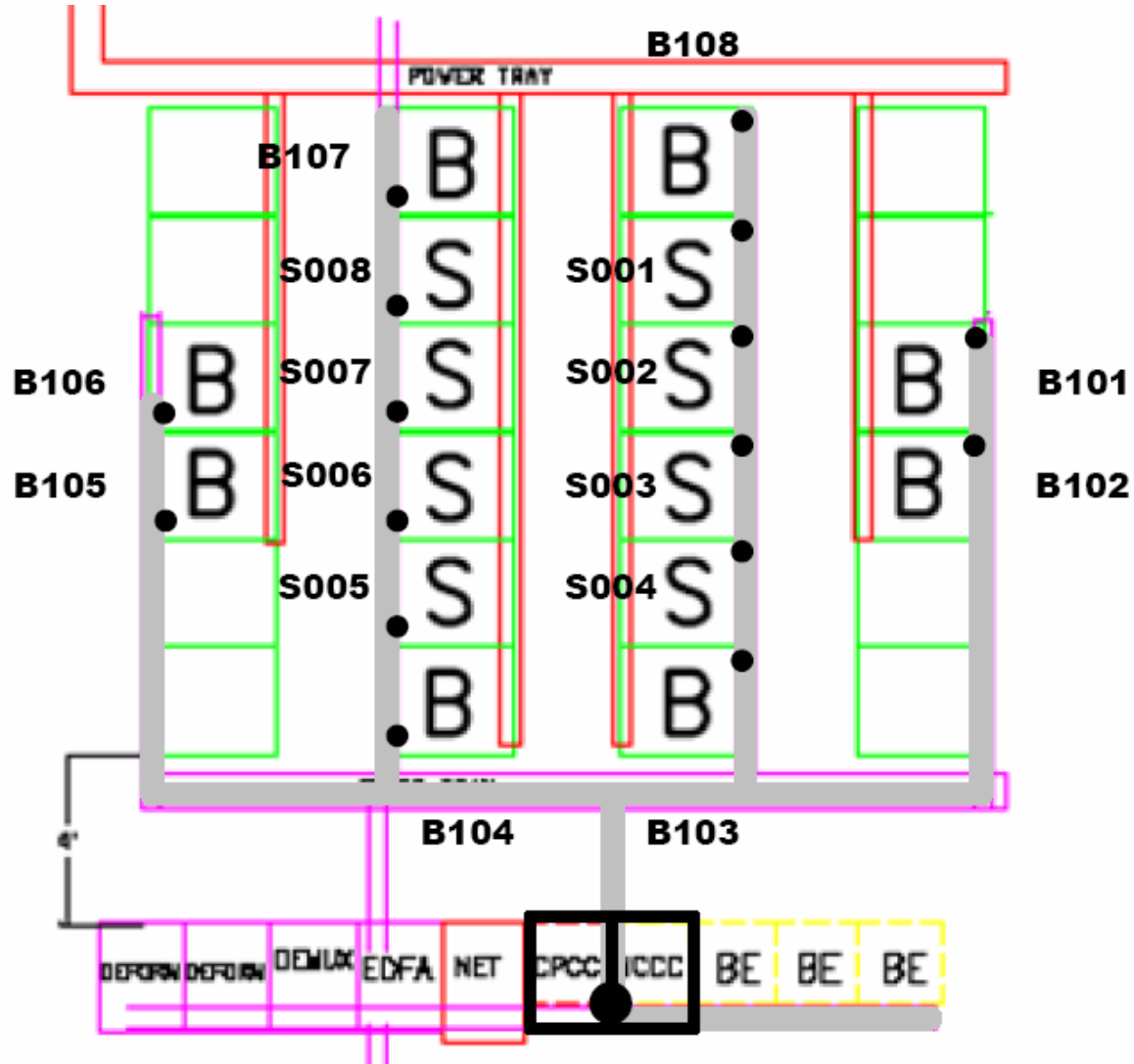






## Control Racks

- 100-pin RPMIB “SCSI” cables are unbroken from CPCC/NI6509 card to RPMIBs in racks.
- Custom cables...custom lengths. 2 cables per rack.
- Need final overhead tray configuration so final lengths can be determined and these cables can be ordered.
- Preliminary spreadsheet ready, based on the following diagram.
  - Qtys/lengths: 8x12.9 m; 8x12 m; 4x11.3 m; 4x10.5 m; 4x9.7 m; 4x9 m
  - 32 in total for EVLA; 2 for eMERLIN (15 ft)



## Ethernet Cables

- All cables are cat6 solid, UTP.
- All cables broken out at top-front of rack with ~3 ft leader, and cat6 RJ-45 couplers.
  - Station rack: 4 x BLUE M&C cables out the top...all into Control Rack switches.
  - Baseline rack: 2 x M&C BLUE; 16 x CBE RED; 16 x VLBI YELLOW out the top.
    - BLUE into Control Rack switches; RED into CBE switch; YELLOW into VLBI switch.
- Rack-to-Control Rack, CBE, Ethernet cables can be built on-site, or sized and built in Penticton, once all rack and tray locations known.
  - Add another 5 ft of cable for margin, if pre-built.

## VLBI Recorder Rack

- Location in room doesn't matter for rack assembly.
- Each B-rack breaks out a cat6 cable for 1 GigE from each B-board.
- For full phasing/selection flexibility, route all 128 cables into 1 GigE/10 GigE switch...software then turns on BB data sources for those sub-bands that are to be recorded.
  - This allows expansion to full 16 GHz phasing capacity.
- NRC provides access to cat6 signals at top of rack. NRAO provides cabling, switch, VLBI recording equipment.



## Summary

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