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# Future-Proofing with Dark Fibre

Future-proofing your network has never been more critical. But with rising planning, construction, and supply costs, keeping up with today's demand can be challenging. We can help ISPs, carriers, data centres, and mobile operators create a bespoke, fast, and reliable network that serves your demand by providing access to our existing fibre infrastructure.

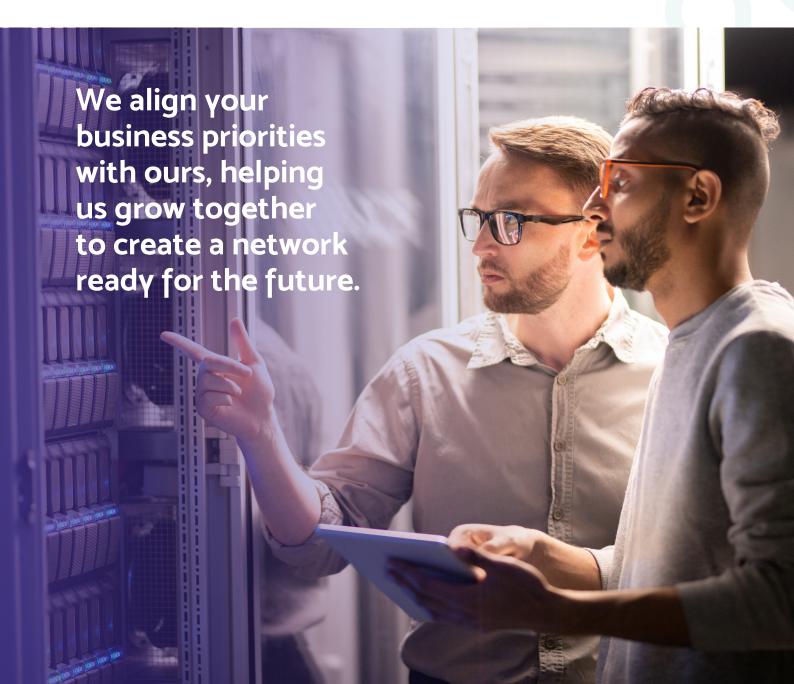
A dark fibre network can expedite your full-fibre journey, helping you use investments wisely.

## A dark fibre network offers vast business opportunities via a cost-effective solution.

Businesses need a provider with a strong portfolio and track record of managing networks for some of the most demanding requirements. If your business is outside our footprint, we can build new bespoke full-fibre networks using our expertise and experience with strategic partners.

Our mission is to enable our customers to serve *their* customers from a resilient and reliable network that fosters mutual growth in a competitive market. Better yet, our dark fibre services enable you to create entirely your own network. That means we help ISPs, data centres, mobile operators and carriers prioritise network security while offering comprehensive support to mitigate risks associated with network breaches.

With less time and money spent on new infrastructure build, you can reinvest resources into business development, racing towards a more competitive, innovative business, enabling you to differentiate. No network route challenges are too complex for us, as our network offers expansive reach. Choose a flexible future with dark fibre. Investing together for growth.



### What is Dark Fibre?

Dark fibre refers to unused optical fibre cables installed and ready to go, but with no active data transmission. This means we have cables in the ground, ready for service, and available for your complete control. Through this, you can get set up faster, as well as access a future-proof network that you can continually upgrade to keep up with increasing customer demands.

If your business is outside the reach of our infrastructure, we can help you build your own. You can access resilient and flexible fibre no matter where you and your customers are. It's just one of many ways we enable you to keep one step ahead of the competition.

### Why Dark Fibre?

We believe in overcoming your key business technological challenges with a solution that offers the bandwidth and security to grow and succeed. By using our dark fibre services, we enable you to overcome major challenges, including:

### **ISPs**

With reduced funding and the risk of overbuilding, Internet service providers face some unique "build vs buy" challenges. This makes offering a robust network to customers difficult. By accessing our existing dark fibre networks and new build expertise, ISPs can address the most pressing issues that impact their network quality and distribution, including:

- ✓ Cost
- ✓ Speed to market
- ✓ Bandwidth-hungry applications
- ✓ Network congestion
- √ Resource competition
- ✓ Routing and remote access
- √ Advancing cloudification

With our existing infrastructure, ISPs can reallocate resources to focus on more innovative business development pursuits, without wasting investment on new networks.

### **Mobile Operators**

The evolution of Open Radio Access Network (ORAN) standards means that mobile network architectures are radically changing.

5G and mobile edge technologies now require base station connections to be Ultrafast and Ultra Low Latency (ULL).

Only dark fibre is suitable; without it, radio networks won't evolve to deliver the 5G-enabled applications that impact our lives.

Access to nationally available and commercially viable dark fibre will enable public and private 5G network operators to build and operate new networks that will bring innovation and efficiency gains to all sectors.

### **Carriers**

With the evolution of "edge" technologies, an ever-increasing number of new data centres are being built to accommodate them. Like all existing data centres, these new data centres need to have secure, diverse and resilient networks behind them. Carriers typically provide these networks, but without the initial "anchor tenant", it's difficult for them to make the business case to build their networks out to these new data centres.

Our innovative use of dark fibre to establish a neutral host point of presence within data centres provides carriers with a low-cost, low-friction way of bringing this on-net and growing their businesses by supporting more customers within them. Our dark fibre services enable carriers to address the fast-advancing network challenges of supporting customers by delivering IoT, robotics, blockchain and AI services. Presently, carriers need help to harness network infrastructure that's secure enough for complex data management, but with a dark fibre network with no existing data transmission, data is safe and secure.

Carriers also face the challenge of wanting to control their assets. With an ITS dark fibre partnership, carriers benefit from complete control, supporting them in the face of so much competition.

### **Dark Fibre and Lit Fibre:**

### What's right for you?

	Dark Fibre	Lit Fibre
Data Transmission	Dark fibre has no active business or data transmission connected to the line.	Lit fibre has active transmission.
Cost	By leveraging existing infrastructure, the cost of setting fibre up is significantly less than putting cable in the ground.	Lit fibre is subject to bandwidth, package charges, and service level agreements which can increase costs.
Security	A dark fibre network is exclusively your own, with no other data transmission on the fibre, so you're investing in more robust security.	With existing data transmissions on the line, securitγ is less robust.
Deploγment Time	By using a dark fibre network, γου're using existing infrastructure that's in the ground and ready to go. That means γου can get connected in a fraction of the time.	A lit fibre network requires additional configuration.
Control	Once set up on a dark fibre line, γου have total control over γουr network.	Lit fibre networks are subject to the management and maintenance of the telecommunications service provider.
Scalability	With inherent XGS-PON capability, you can scale networks remotely when it suits you. Our dark fibre network also offers point to point capability, providing the same ultra-fast speeds that all businesses need.	A lit fibre network is determined on the ISPs existing infrastructure.

### Why Work with ITS Technology Group for Your Dark Fibre Network?

We don't take the easy route. We fully understand the importance and immediacy of securing a robust network for continued innovation, but we also have the technical expertise and customer service to make your experience with dark fibre a breeze. The proof of our wealth of knowledge is our experience supporting significant demand, so we're ready to support your growth. We're your ideal choice for a dark fibre network because of our:



### **Far-Reaching Network**

We have a vast reach across major cities. With a considerable team and scale of operations covering thousands of businesses, we have the resources needed to support your network and put you in control of large-scale infrastructure projects.

#### **Resilience and Customer Care**

ITS is a resilient company in an ever-changing market, so you can put your worries about supply aside when you work with us. Not only do we future-proof our network with a flexible solution, but we're also only interested in providing our customers with a network and connection that suits them.

#### Don't Want to Buy? We Can Build

Our work doesn't stop if your desired network location is out of our reach. We can build a network dedicated to your requirements with full fibre that's flexible, scalable, and cost-effective.

#### Our Relationship with the Public Sector

ITS goes far beyond just offering fibre that's resilient; we take an active interest in local communities. Our relationship with the public sector means we can help to level up entire communities with reliable fibre that facilitates continued learning and industry development.

With our infrastructure, businesses can facilitate strong inward investment, helping to support local communities, drive innovation and education, close digital skills gaps and hire top talent as a result.

### Could Dark Fibre Make Your Money Go Further?

We're proud to offer competitive prices for businesses. We only deploy networks that are flexible enough to deliver multiple services, from access and backhaul to fully managed Direct Internet Access. This means our networks are built to service multiple stakeholders, keeping overall prices low.

Our networks are designed to support a comprehensive range of dark and lit fibre services, so if dark fibre isn't initially right for you, we can support you in many other ways. All our networks are built to support point-to-multipoint XGS-PON and point-to-point Ethernet architectures, offering a future-proof, flexible and fast solution that allows you to scale up in bandwidth. This enables carriers, data centres and ISPs to upgrade remotely, making scaling your network more efficient and cost-effective.

We also have extensive experience working with strategic partners, leveraging existing ducts and using this knowledge to optimise how we utilise and deploy fibre.

Our ability to avoid immediate price hikes with an adaptable network means ISPs, carriers, mobile operators and resellers can be confident they're getting the best price for service. Without the need to dig and put new cables in the ground, our solution is better value for money, efficient, environmentally sensitive, and perfect for any advancing business in today's fast-paced market.



### **Eurovision Song Contest 2023**

Our growing portfolio puts into perspective just how reliable our network is.

LCR Connect, our joint venture with the Liverpool combined authority and NGE, supported Eurovision in 2023. We supported broadcasters by helping to distribute information to a global audience without a hitch.

Our extensive network diagnostics and support team was able to monitor cybersecurity activity to ensure our coverage was uninterrupted throughout the contest. We can offer the very same support, with remote diagnostics, monitoring, remote fix and more, when you choose a dark fibre network.

This is just one example of why our network is a resilient dark fibre solution.

### **Dark Fibre: The Impact on Your Community**

We are a responsible network operator that cares about local communities and your business profile. That's why putting new cables in the ground is always the last resort. We'll always try to find a way to connect you with our existing fibre network, reducing disruption to local areas.



### What's Next for Dark Fibre? Why you need to act now

As more advanced technology takes over the business world, internet service providers, data centres, carriers, and mobile operators must find new ways of supplying end users with a network that can support some of the most innovative technologies, including robotics and Al.

We know that the demand for dark fibre is also increasing significantly globally with the growth of 5G and increased bandwidth-hungry applications, with the overall market expected to grow 12.5% from 2023 to 2028.

With a dark fibre network, businesses will have the connection toolkit available to unlock a world of opportunity, encouraging innovation that helps them take a step forward into the future. Dark fibre can help ISPs, data centres, and carriers address all of the top five priorities for CTOs in 2023, including:



**Cybersecurity:** A dark fibre network is entirely within your control, meaning no other businesses can interrupt connections or intercept business and customer data. This reinforces business cybersecurity - which is paramount to business continuity.



**Transformation:** You'll likely be reinventing digital transformation initiatives to boost ROI post-pandemic, so give yourself a reliable network to help you build more transformative processes. A dark fibre network offers the connectivity strength to implement more transformative initiatives.



**Data and intelligence:** A fast and secure network allows γou to collect and store data securely, reinforcing γour business intelligence and allowing γou to continue innovating with transformative processes.



**Collaboration:** Both remote and in-person collaboration and communication require a resilient network connection. You can keep businesses collaborating at lightning-fast speeds with a dark fibre connection.

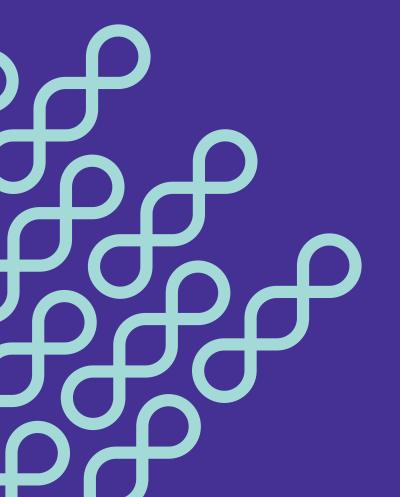


New technologies: It's no secret that we're seeing more intuitive technologies transform businesses. However, it's only possible to implement these emerging technologies, like robotics and AI, with a reliable, scalable network. A strong network supporting even the most demanding initiatives ensures businesses can adapt and reap the value of new technologies sooner than competitors.

# Take Control of Your Connectivity with a Dark Fibre Solution from ITS

Create your partnership with ITS to find out how you can get connected with a solution delivered in a fraction of the time compared to putting cable in the ground. We align our business philosophy with yours, so we're investing together for growth.

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its.

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