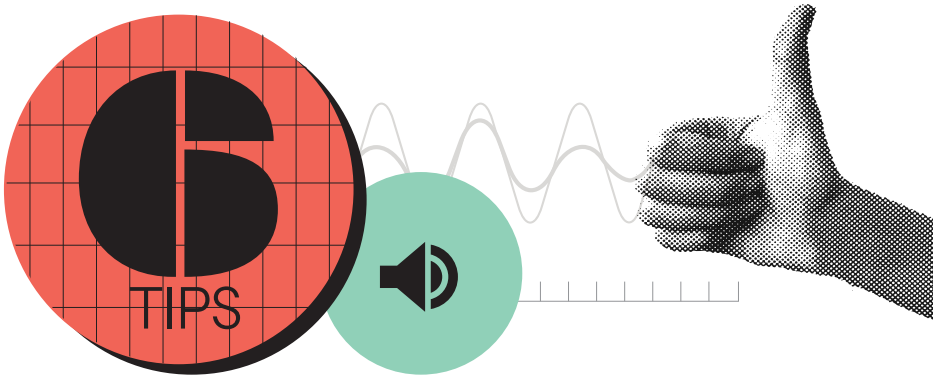
Build it Right:



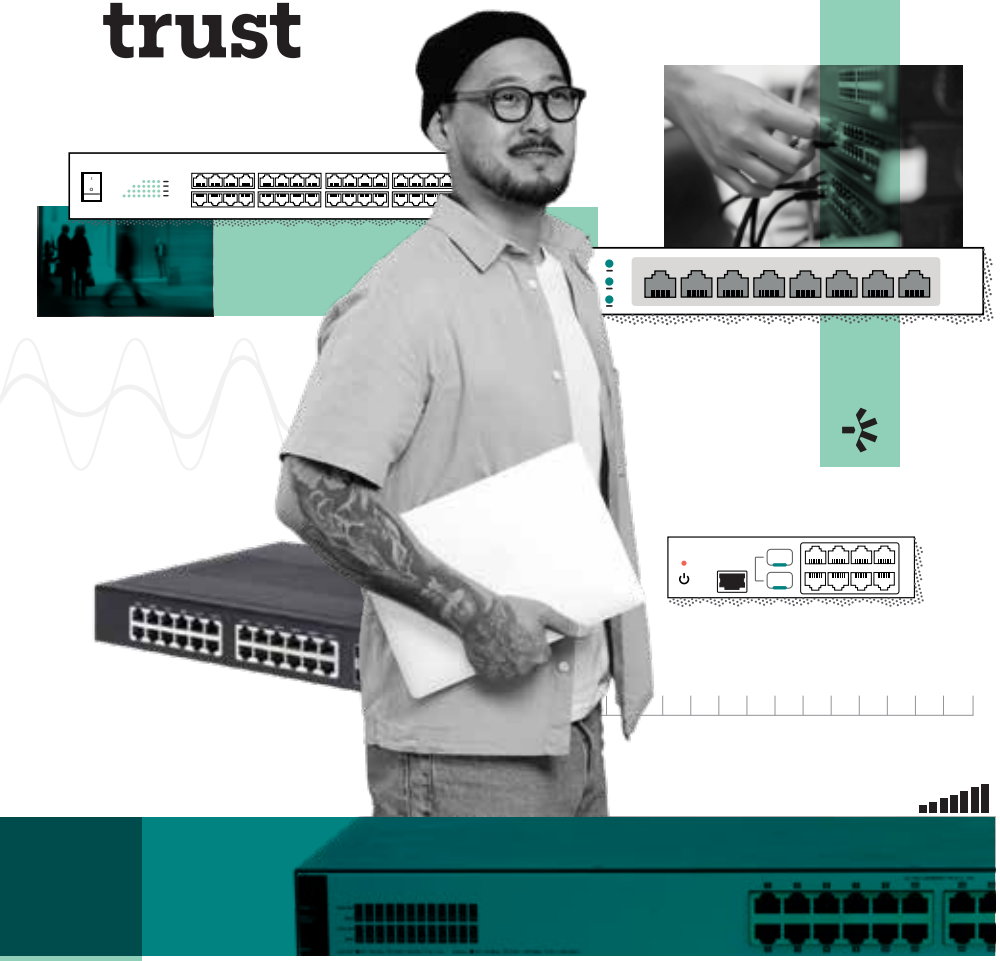
for Designing a Dante Network for Live Sound

Good system design has always been the foundation of great live sound. Today, that starts with the network. This guide covers the core principles of designing a Dante network that performs consistently, from topology and redundancy through to scaling beyond Dante.

Dante®

Tip 1:

Start with the switch you trust



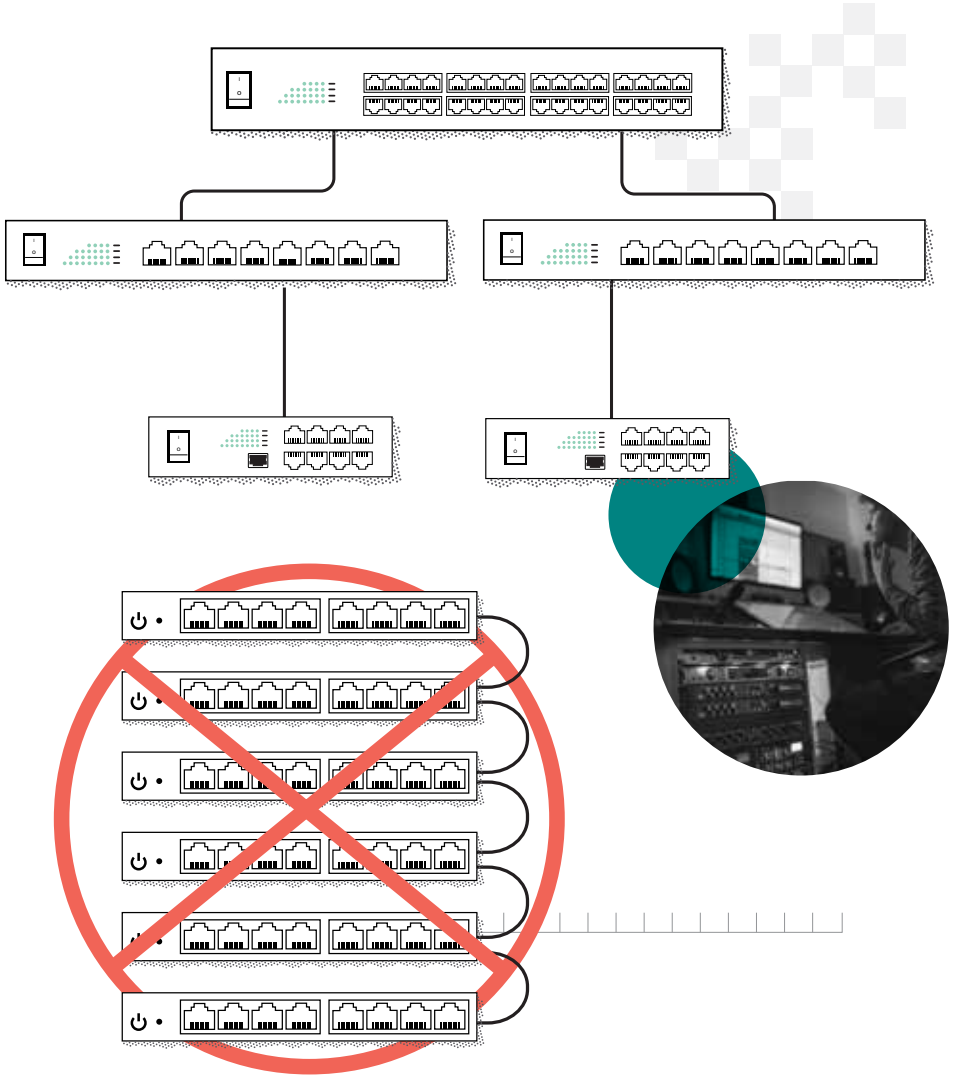
Dante runs on standard managed switches. Use what's already installed, specify what you know, or choose a switch with a Dante profile to get up and running faster.

Tip 2:

Network design

IS system design

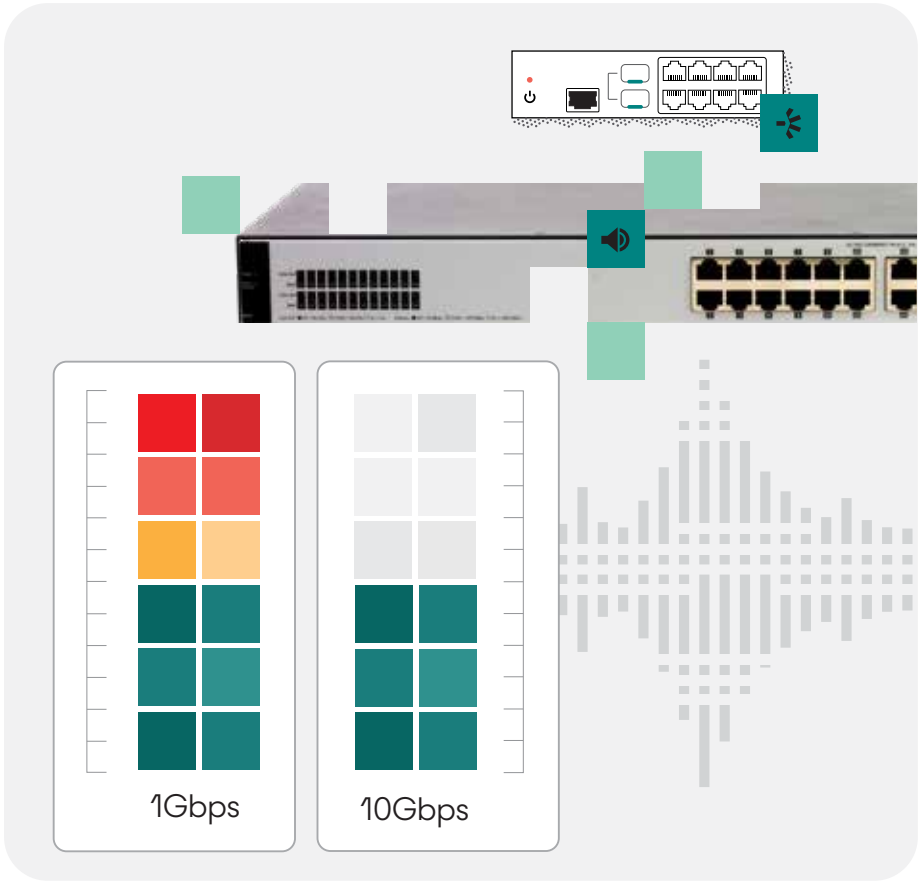
Keep your switch hops to a maximum of 2-3 between any two devices. Fewer hops reduces latency in your monitoring path and points of failure in your network.

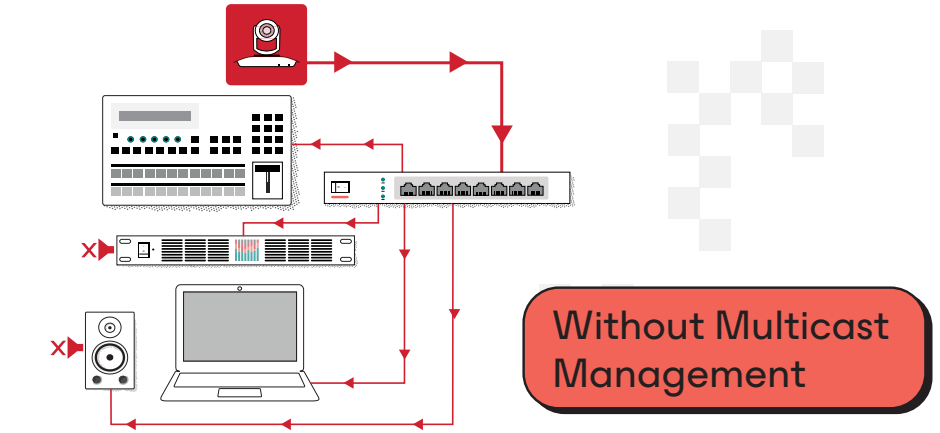


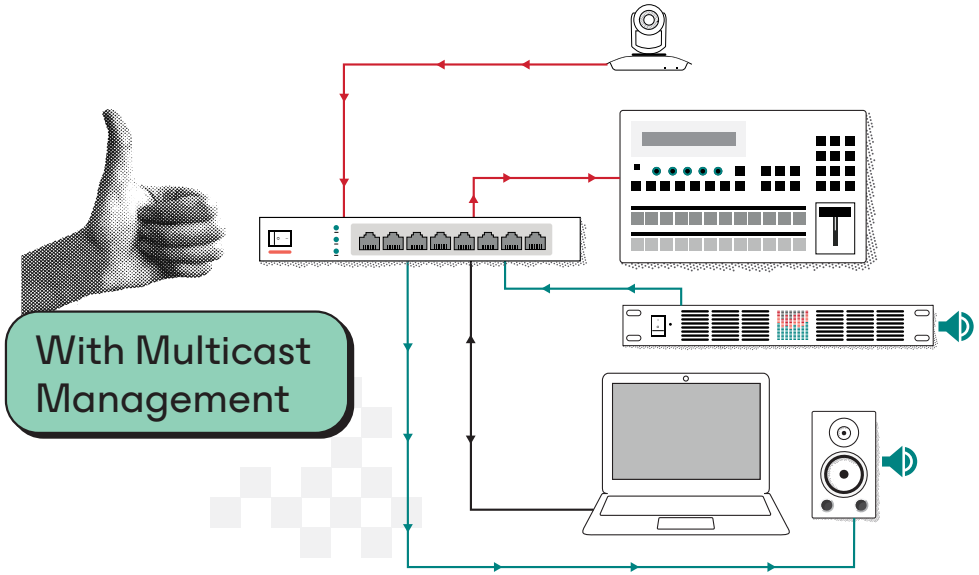
Tip 3:

Leave headroom on your network like you would on your mix

As your system grows, stepping up to 10Gbps links between switches keeps bandwidth utilization low, maintaining predictable performance without having to rely on traffic shaping strategies.



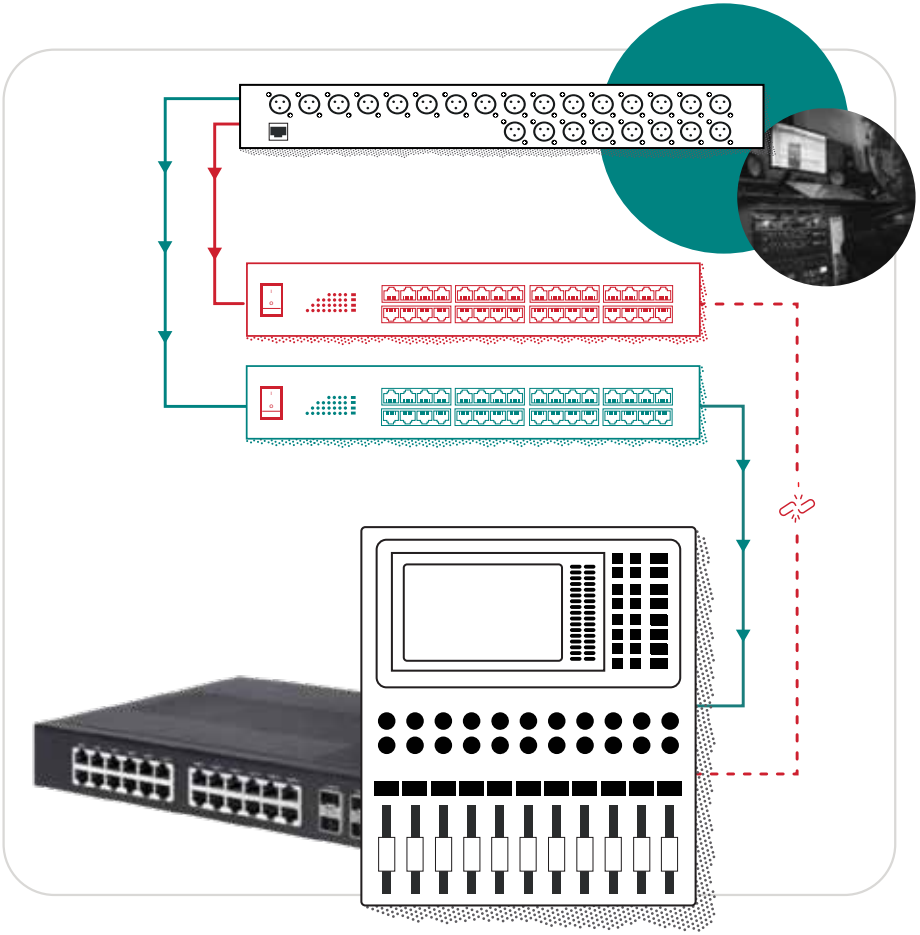




Tip 4:

Keep multicast where it belongs

Unmanaged multicast traffic gets delivered to every device whether they need it or not. Multicast management, a standard feature on managed switches, contains it to only the devices that need it, keeping your audio dropout free.



Tip 5:

Redundancy that’s always active

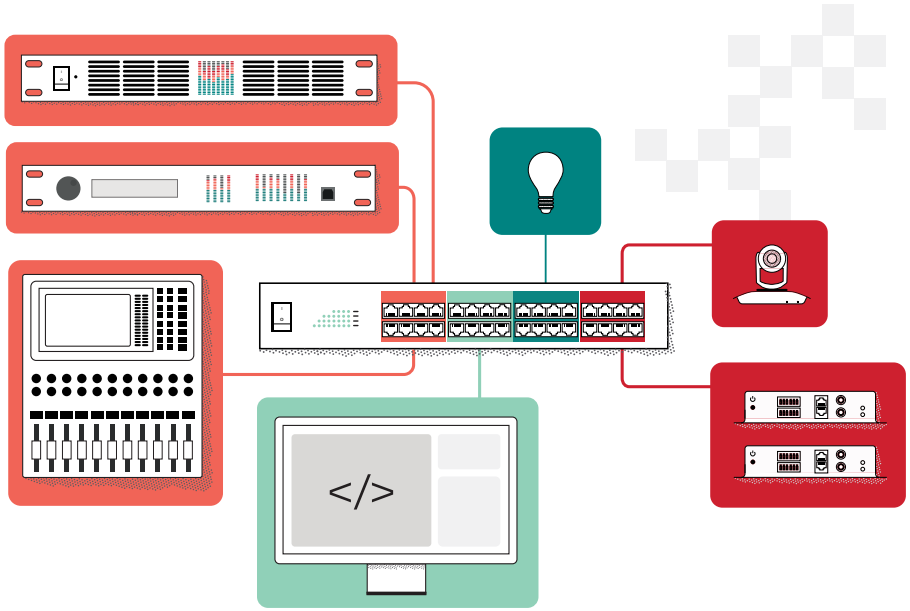
Dante transmits audio simultaneously on both primary and secondary networks. If a link fails, the other path is already carrying the signal. There's no switchover, no audio dropout. And because redundancy operates at the link level, a single cable failure affects only that path, not the whole network.

Tip 6:

Simple by default, powerful when needed

Moving from a standalone Dante network to a converged network with video, lighting, and data?

Dante's ready. Segmenting with VLANs keeps traffic types logically separated, improving performance and making your network easier to manage — no dedicated network hardware needed.



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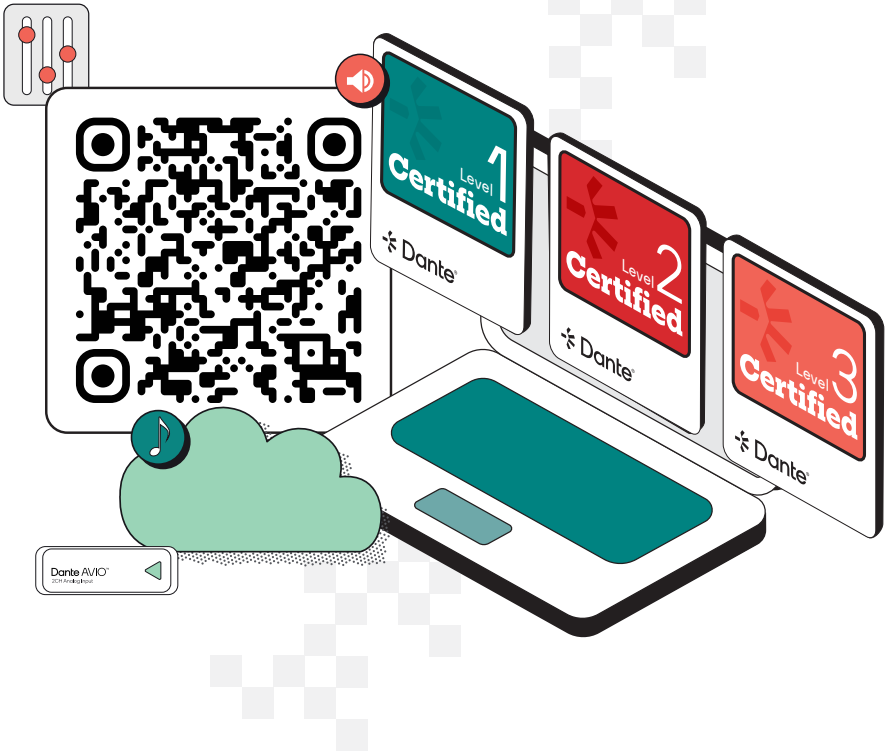
Want to learn more?

Check Out The Dante Certification Program



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