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Mike Gilmore, Senior Partner of The Cabling Partnership and Managing Director of e-Ready Building Limited, is involved at the highest level in UK, European and international standardization of IT cabling; an activity which draws together product selection and utilization, LAN/WAN developments, EMC issues and finally, but very significantly, installation practice.

Mike Gilmore began his cabling career with STC Defence Systems as Project Manager with the Fibre Optic Division in Leeds, West Yorkshire where he was involved in the specification of complete systems covering the commercial and military applications for optical fibre within video and data transmission. In 1986, Mike became Managing Director of Optical Core Technology Limited - one of the first specialist installers of optical fibre infrastructures.

In 1988, Mike initiated the British Standards activity to create a Code of Practice for the Installation of Fibre Optic Cabling. Published by the UK Fibreoptic Industry Association in 1991 and by BSI in 1994 (as BS 7718) this document was a world leading text for the design and quality assurance of optical networks.

As the Technical and Standards Director of the UK Fibreoptic Industry Association, Mike is heavily involved in the development of training and competence standards for the fibre installation industry and sets down policy in this area. In addition he chairs the audit and arbitration committees for the FIA. His book "Fibre optic cabling; theory design and installation practice" published in 1991 remains a reference for both experts and entrants into this field.

Since 1991, Mike has been Senior Partner of The Cabling Partnership and has widened the scope of the organisations activity within the European and international cabling standards community. These activities cover all forms of telecommunications cabling.

At the European level Mike is Convenor of CENELEC TC215 Working Group 1, the group that controls the development of European standards for the design and installation of telecommunications cabling including:

- EN 50173-1:2002 Information technology - Generic cabling systems - General requirements and office areas;
- EN 50174-1: Information technology - Cabling installation - Part 1: Specification and Quality Assurance;
- EN 50346: Information technology - Testing of installed cabling.

Mike is currently overseeing the division of EN 50173-1:2002 into a series of standards covering generic cabling in different types of premises;

- prEN 50173-1: Information technology - Generic cabling systems - General requirements;
- prEN 50173-4: Information technology - Generic cabling systems - Office premises;
- prEN 50173-3: Information technology - Generic cabling systems - Industrial premises;
- prEN 50173-4: Information technology - Generic cabling systems - Residential premises;
- prEN 50173-5: Information technology - Generic cabling systems - Data centres.

At international level, Mike is Convenor of the Cabling Implementation Task Group (CITG) within ISO/IEC JTC1 SC25 WG3. This group, established in February 2006, is responsible for the strategic management of the international standards covering the specification, QA, installation, administration, operation, maintenance and repair of generic cabling. This work supports all the cabling design standards produced by ISO/IEC JTC1 SC25 WG3 including ISO/IEC 11801, the international equivalent of EN 50173-1, and ISO/IEC 24702 for industrial premises produced by ISO/IEC JTC1 SC25 WG3 IPTG (also convened by Mike Gilmore).

In the UK, Mike is Chairman of TCT/7, the BSI Technical Committee responsible for the three UK BSI Experts Panels on telecommunications cabling. He also chairs two of these Expert Panels (TCT7/-/1 and TCT7/-/3). TCT7/-/1 acts to assist development of European and international standards. TCT7/-/3 manages the implementation of European standards and others in the UK and is responsible for the production and ongoing maintenance of BS 6701: 2004 "Telecommunications equipment and telecommunications cabling - Specification for installation, operation and maintenance".

Mike is a regular speaker at seminars and conferences in all five continents. He has provided the keynote address and opening presentation in many conferences in the UK, Germany and the Netherlands. His seminars, providing regular updates on the progression of cabling standards are particularly well attended and are operating in the UK and continental Europe.

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