

I would recommend Consolidated Supplies to take a hybrid approach to upgrading their network to address operational challenges without missing out on future technological advances. Under this approach, they would replace the most critical components of their existing network equipment that are either failing or severely affecting performance. This would likely include core switches, routers, and any devices that have reached the end of their useful life while retaining other hardware that is functional. Additionally, implementing WLAN into the areas that they need immediate productivity overhaul would greatly benefit the system and allow for a more seamless implementation. This approach would be budget friendly and meet immediate operational needs, effectively tackling the downfalls of the old system.

At the same time, this would allow for the freedom to switch to newer technology if it does come about. For example, portions of the budget could be allocated to future technological use to either expand their warehouses or replace out-of-date pieces of the network. The phased nature of this approach could provide financial flexibility, enabling the company to benefit from future gains in networking technologies. Overall, this allows the company to meet their current needs within their budget while also being able to adapt to tomorrow's technological landscape.