

# A+ Core 1 and Core 2 CertMaster Perform 15.0

## 5.2.3 Patch Panels

In most types of office cabling, the computer is connected to a wall port and via cabling running through the walls to a **patch panel**. The cables running through the walls are terminated to insulation displacement connector (IDC) punchdown blocks at the back of the panel.

### IDCs at the rear of a patch panel

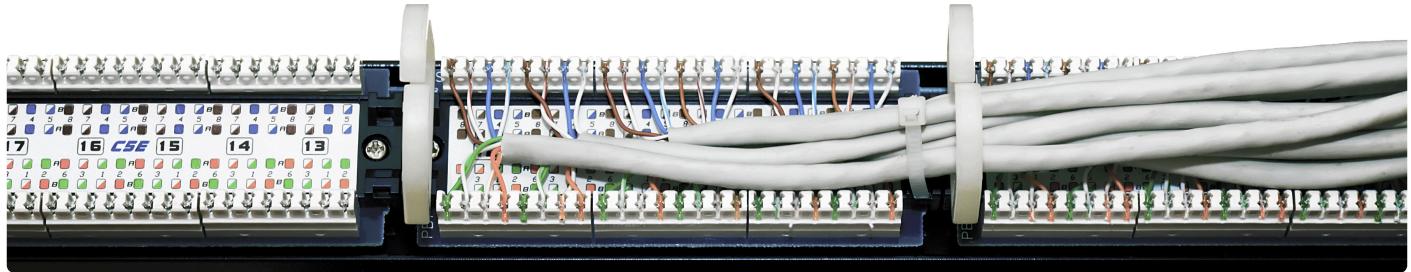


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The other side of the patch panel has pre-wired RJ45 ports. A patch cord is used to connect a port on the patch panel to a port on an Ethernet switch. This cabling design makes it easier to change how any given wall port location is connected to the network via switch ports.

### Patch panel with prewired RJ45 ports

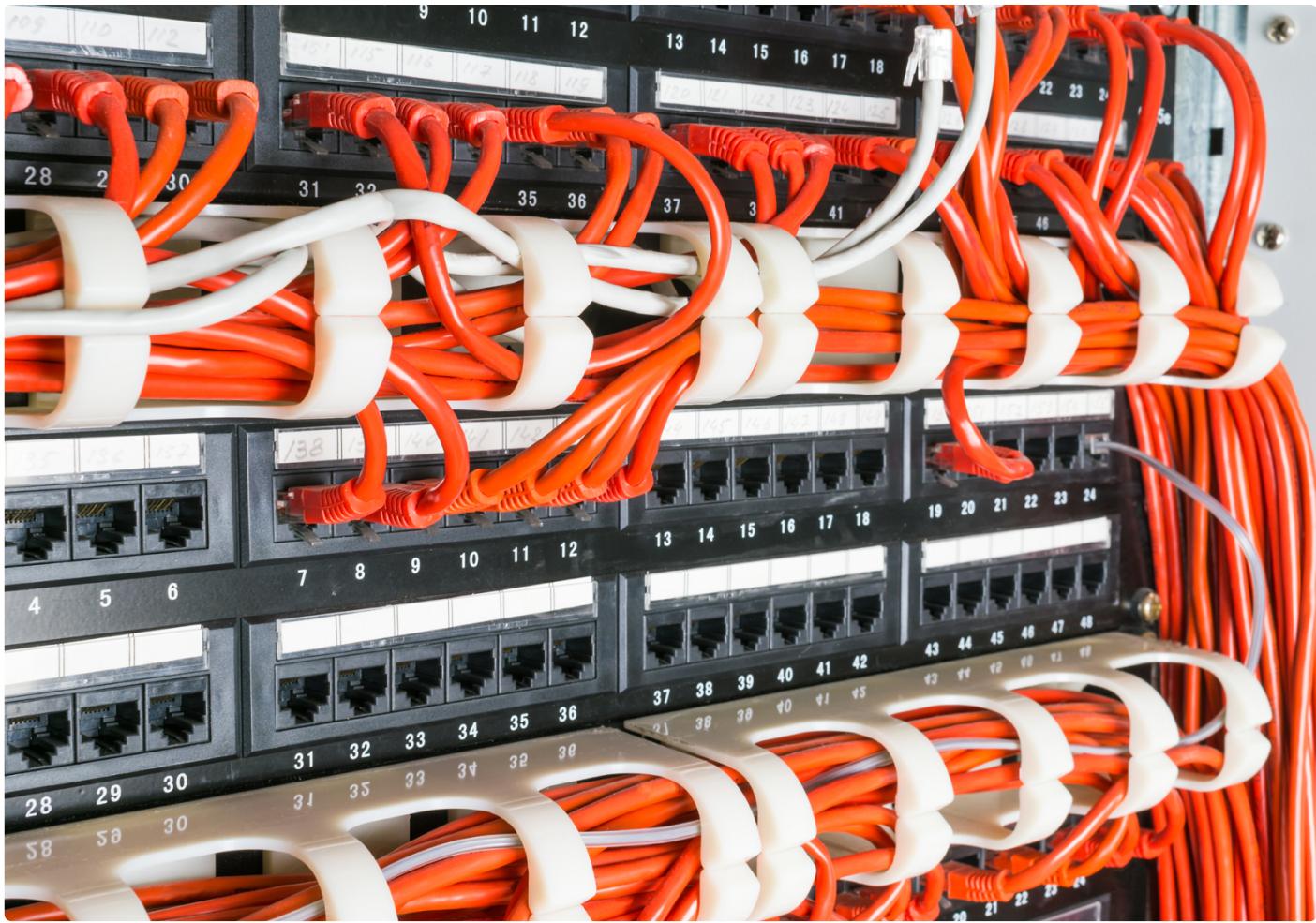


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-  It is vital to use an effective labeling system when installing structured cabling so that you know which patch panel port is connected to which wall port.

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