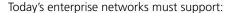Inside buildings and across campuses, network demands and economics are changing. As applications like IoT, 10GBASE-T, multigigabit Wi-Fi 6/6E/7 and PoE++ become more common, infrastructure requirements are getting tougher.

Today's enterprise networks must support:

- Increasing bandwidth and power demands
- Ubiquitous cellular and Wi-Fi, requiring multigigabit backhauls
- Migration to a converged IT/OT network
- More flexible, cost-efficient design and deployment

As a result, enterprise network managers designing greenfield projects are looking beyond Category 6 cabling to Category 6A. With 10 times the bandwidth of Category 6, a much longer lifecycle, and no need to replace the cabling for years to come, Category 6A offers a tremendous upside. Here are just a few of the compelling benefits of a Category 6A-enabled network.

Cost-effective, standardized support for current and future applications

Lowest cost per transmitted gigabit

Highly cost efficient, it offers the easy provisioning and performance to carry in-building and campus networks into the future.

Superior performance for higher-power PoE applications

Global PoE market to hit $ 1 billion by end of 2022[1]

To support next-gen IoT devices, PoE standards now enable the use of all four cable pairs. Category 6A's extended reach and better thermal dissipation give it a big edge over Category 5e and Category 6.

Standardized support

TIA specifies Category 6A for any new installation[2]

Beginning with ISO/IEC11801.6, Category 6A is now specified for many multigigabit applications. TIA-1179 (Healthcare) and TIA-4966 (Education) have made it the de facto solution for many verticals, too.

Better support for Wi-Fi 6

Wi-Fi 6 market: 73 percent CAGR through 2028[3]

To operate at full speed, 6.77 Gbps, Wi-Fi 6 access points need a 10GBASE-T connection—a strength of Category 6A, which also happens to support Wi-Fi 6E and Wi-Fi-7.

Connect with CommScope and keep evolving

The changes in the enterprise network are both empowering and disruptive. Rely on CommScope. For 40+ years, our vision and expertise have helped enterprise networks of all sizes adapt and evolve. We keep you ahead of the curve, ready to navigate to what's next.

For more information on Category 6A, visit commscope.com or contact your CommScope representative.

[1] https://www.marketresearchfuture.com/reports/power-over-ethernet-market-2091
[2] https://www.flukenetworks.com/blog/cabling-chronicles/cat-6a-bright-future-ahead
[3] https://www.meticulousresearch.com/product/wifi-6-market-5238