

SwiNOG #41

# Rethinking Network Strategy & Building Resilience

How real incidents reshaped how we design networks

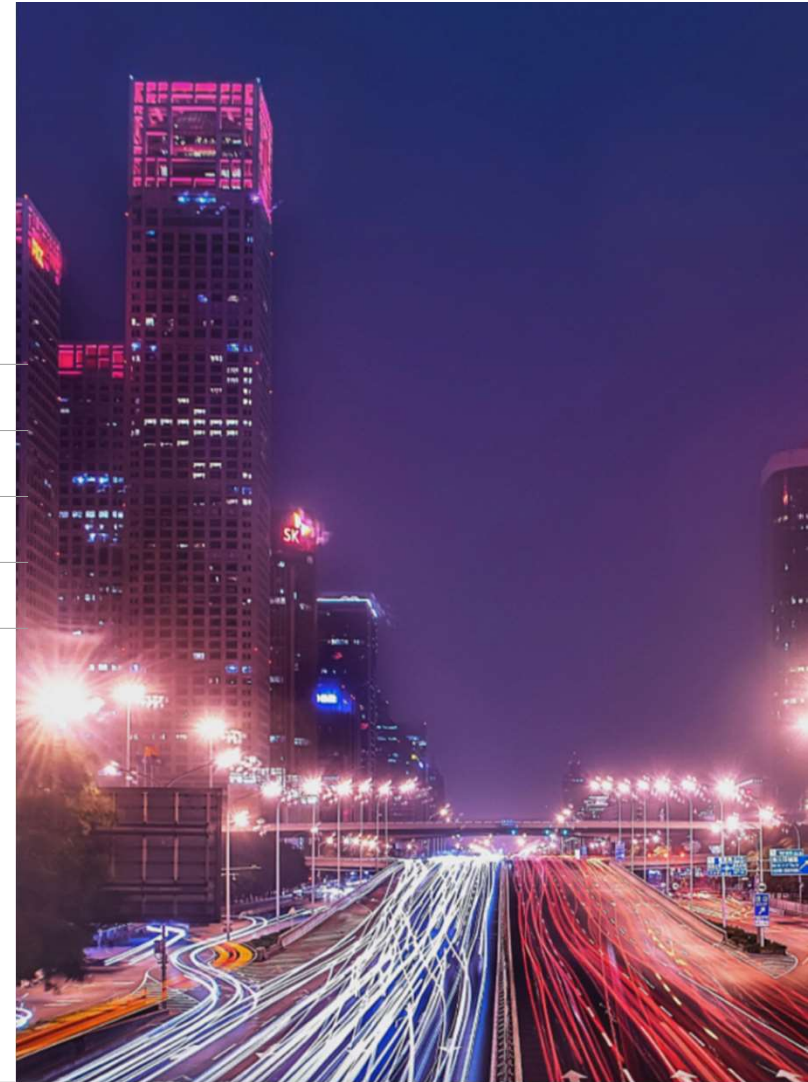
**Wouter Van Renterghem**  
Commercial Director Wholesale, RETN

**RETN**<sup>®</sup>

2026

# 6 stages of network de-sh\*tification

- 1 Denial: Industry's Infrastructure Delusion
- 2 Anger: Real World Examples
- 3 Bargaining: An internal fight to work out what matters
- 4 Depression: Rules to help the change
- 5 Acceptance: Build like it Matters
- 6 Enlightenment: Resilience first philosophy in application





# Denial

# The Industry's Infrastructure Delusion

## The Taiwan Wake-up Call

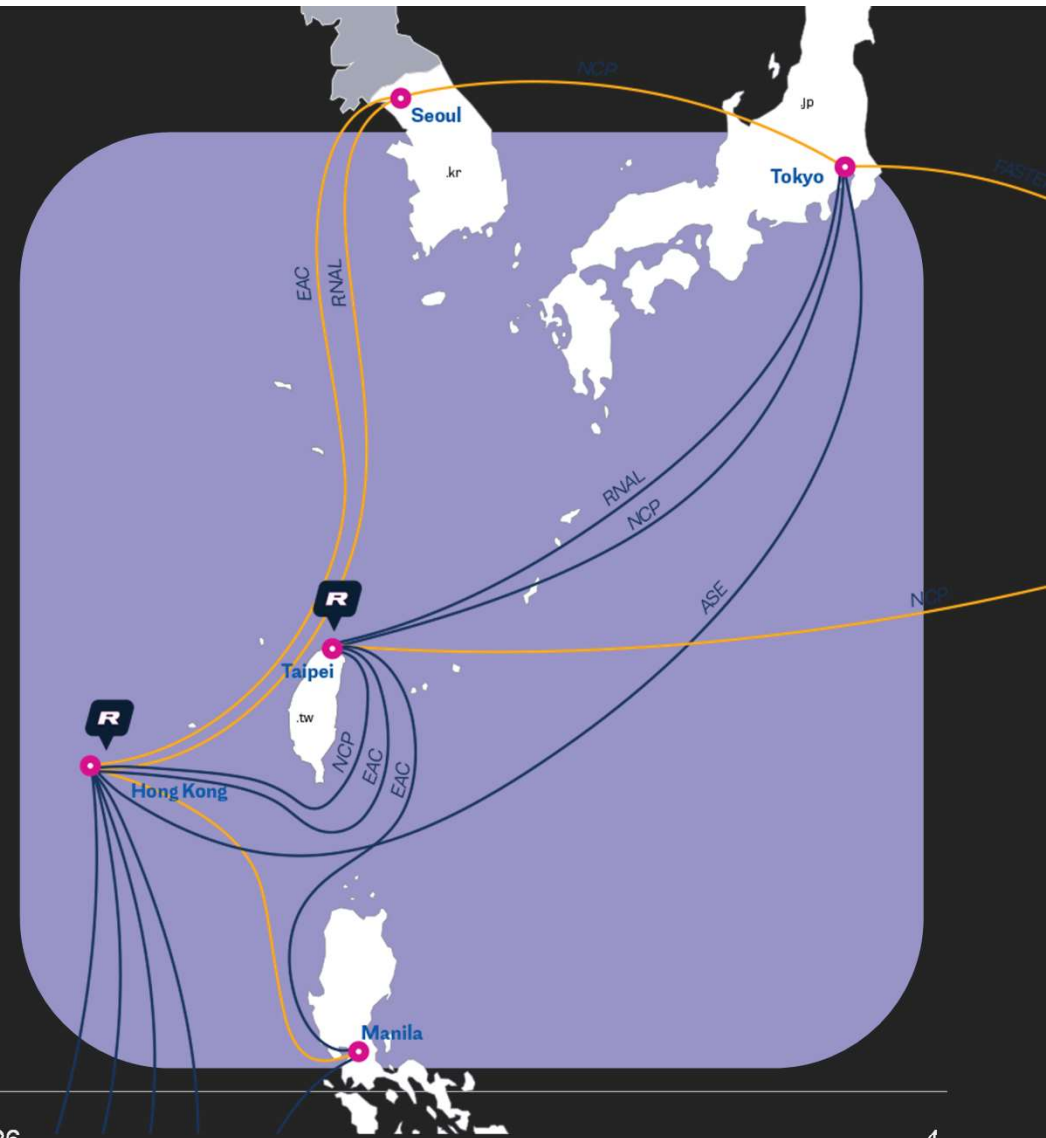
Tier 1 providers in other geographies eg: Taiwans stalled for weeks—and sometimes months.

## The Congestion Trap

Concentration risk hiding in plain sight

## The Disconnect

Marketing does not reflect operational reality.





# Anger: Real-World Proof

# Case Study: Taiwan Cable Cuts 2025

## Multiple Subsea Cuts

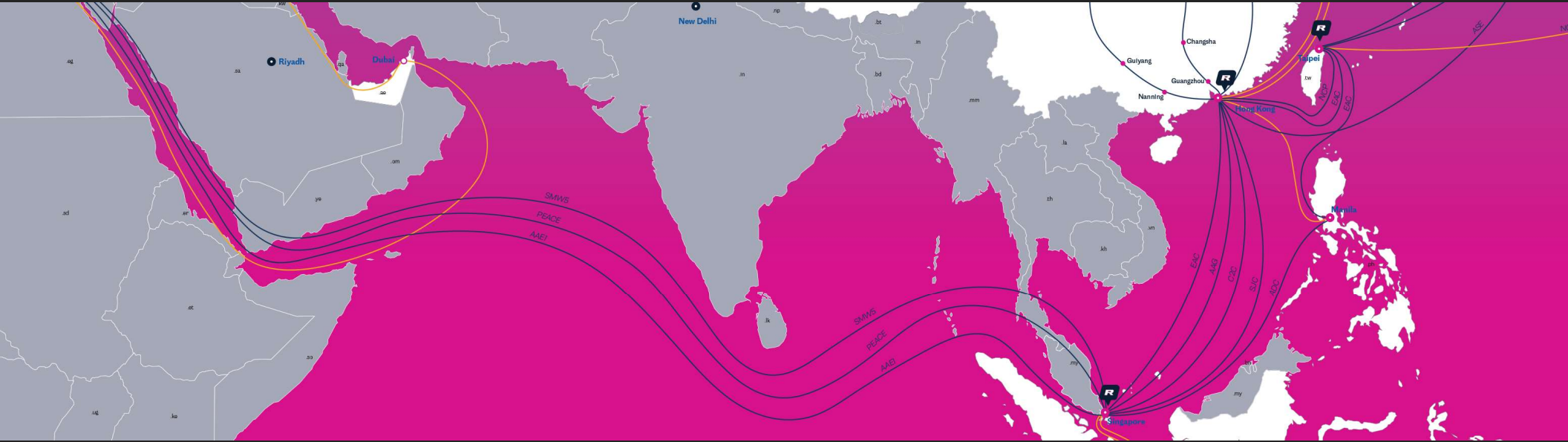
2025  
(two suspected sabotage)

## RETN's Response

70-day repair period → stable latency

## Tier 1's Response

Tier 1 providers: degradation for weeks



# Case Study: Red Sea 2024 (& 2025; here we go again)

## Multiple Cuts

~70% subsea EU–Asia  
capacity loss

## TRANSKZ Solution

RETN instantly moved 60–70%  
of traffic to TRANSKZ

## Uptime Priority

Maintained 99.9% uptime



# Case Study: Ukraine War

## Immediate Response

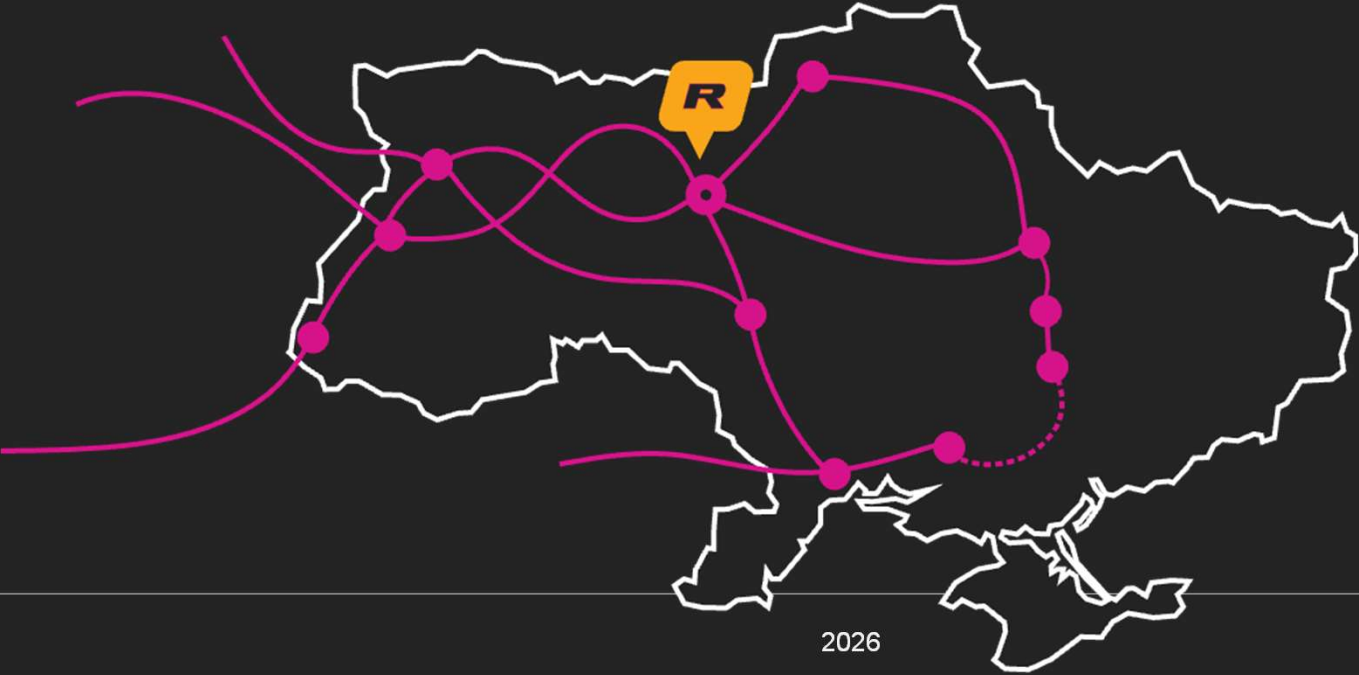
Capacity-swap deal within a week of invasion

## New Routes

New southern Kyiv route to bypass exposed paths

## Autonomous PoPs

72-hour autonomous PoPs; pre-positioned spares



2026



# Depression: Following the Rules

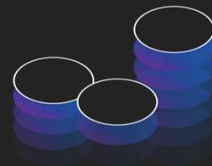
# Three Rules for Engineering

Engineering Principles for When Lives and Businesses Depend on You



## Build for Risk

Geo, supplier, and infra diversity;  
automated reroute, MTTR <6 hrs.



## Design Smart, Not Big

Unique routes (e.g., Milan-Zurich  
bypass); lean team, global reach.



## Optimise Efficiency

400GbE rollout, vendor energy  
benchmarking, low watts/Gbps.

# Three Rules to Stop the BS

1.

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“If it seems too good to be true...”

Stop buying solutions which are obviously under-engineered

2.

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**Demand Transparency**

Shared accountability for infra truth-telling

3.

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**Educate and Inform**

Customers must know their Plan B



# Acceptance

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Build Like it Matters

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Protect Your Budgets

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Trust & Supply Chain Risk

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Business and Operations



# Enlightenment: Putting Resilience First

# RETN's Resilience-First Philosophy

Resilience is our foundation, not a feature.

Calculate your acceptable cost of failure

Build to this:

- Network diversity
- Deliberate Multi-Vendor Strategy
- No Single-Supplier Dependency
- In-House Engineering
- Controlled supply chain
- Diversified business operations

Thank You

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