

# Point-to-Point vs. Interface Engine

**Objective:** Discuss the pros and cons between Point-to-Points vs. Interface Engine, provoke thought, and an open dialogue on the topic.

Presenter:

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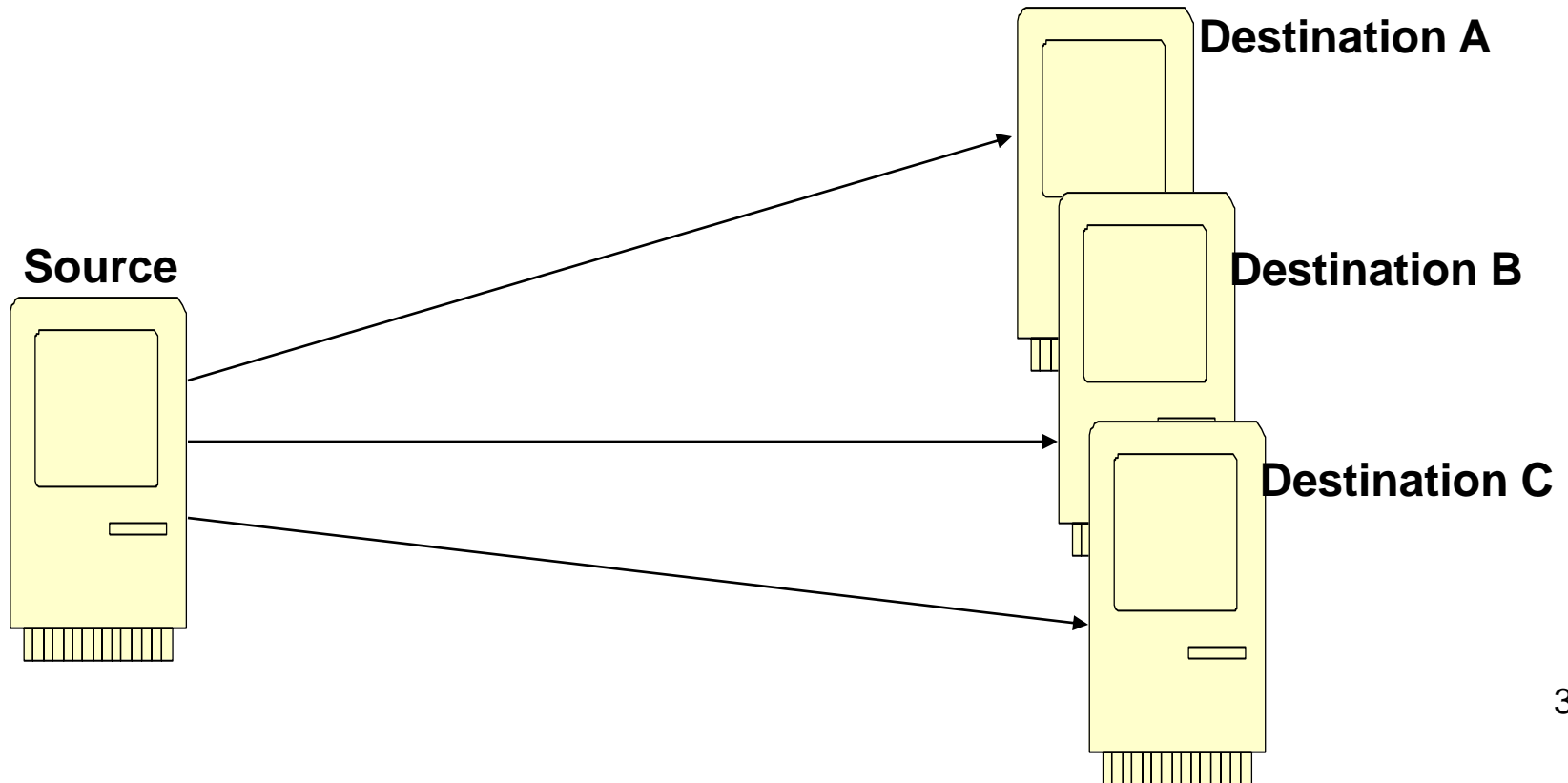
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## **Topics:**

- **Define Point to Point**
- **Define Interface Engine**
- **Point-to-Point Pros/Cons**
- **Interface Engine Pros/Cons**
- **Case Study using HL7 ADT Interface**
- **Cost of Ownership Analysis**
- **Open Discussion**

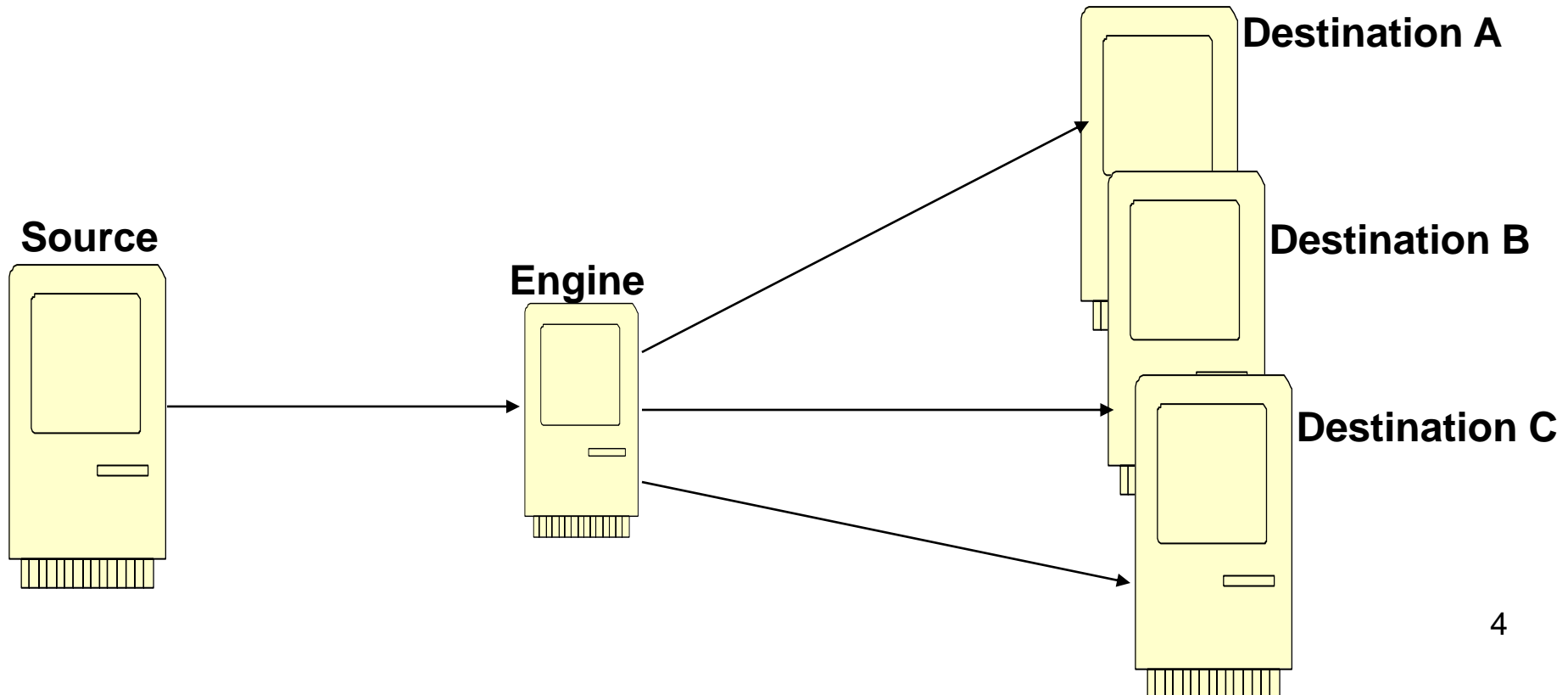
## Define Point to Point Interfaces

- Involves two points of physical connection, **Source** and **Destination**



## Define Interface Engine

- Involves four points of connection, Source to IE, IE to Destination



## Point-to-Point Pros/Cons – Cost considered later

### Pros

- Involves less physical connections/points of failure
- Involves fewer people (source, destination)
- High availability hardware
- Involves fewer points of troubleshooting
- Less physical hardware, backup, etc...
- Fewer FTE needed
- 

### Cons

- Requires vendor involvement to modify feed (Source/Dest)
- Alerting tools less developed (arguable from Iatric position)
- Limited secure transmission technology
- Less developed auditing tools

## Interface Engine Pros/Cons – Cost considered later

### Pros

- Hospital has control to change data feeds
- Hospital can add additional feeds with little or no source feed vendor involvement
- Removes processing resource from source system
- More developed auditing/alerting.

### Cons

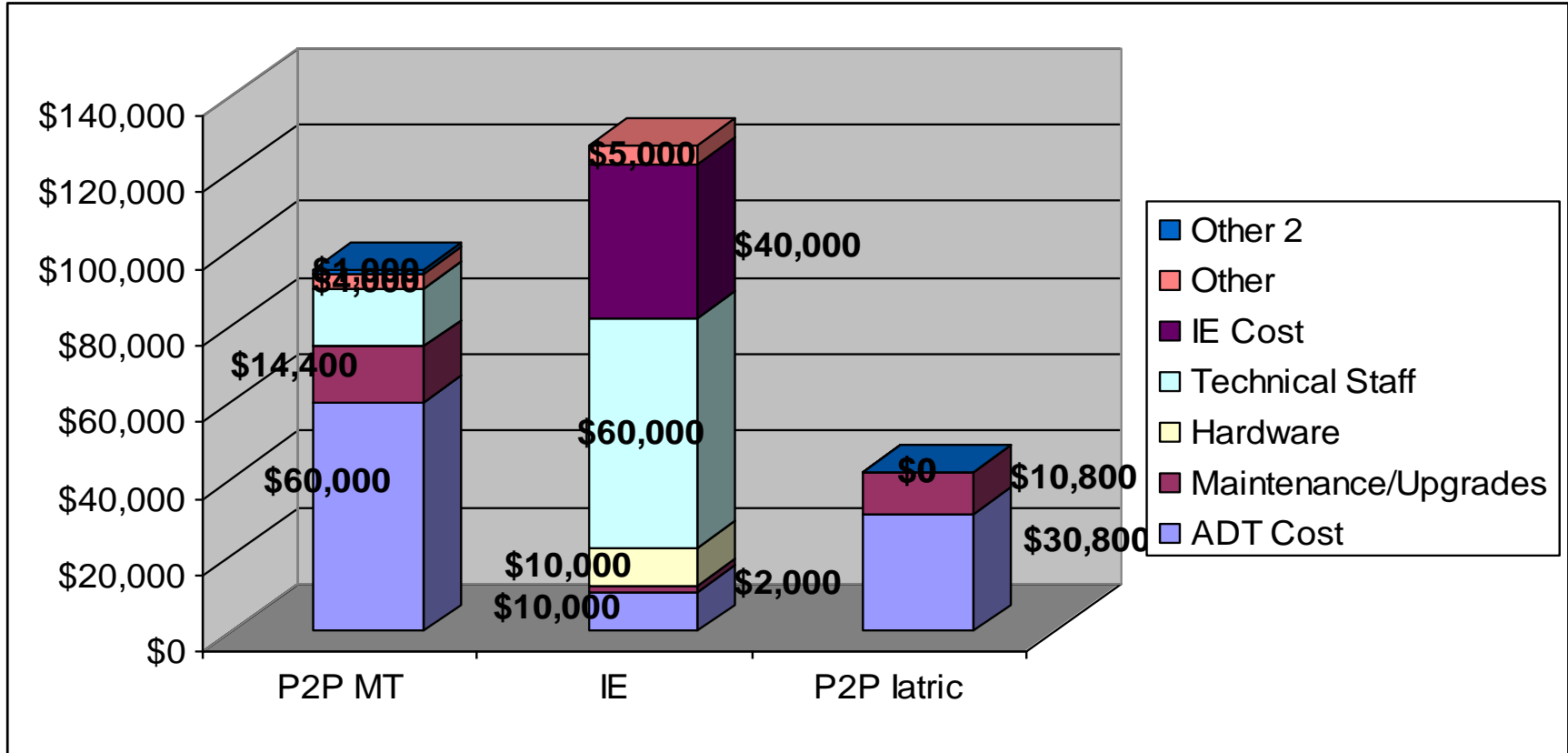
- Requires more technically trained staff
- Requires additional hardware
- Additional point of failure
- Source feed single point of failure
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### **Cost Comparison/Analysis Considerations**

- **Interface Engine cost - vary from \$10k - \$150k**
- **Ongoing maintenance/upgrade costs**
- **Technical Staff**
- **Hardware cost**
- **Source feed cost**

## Point-to-Point vs. Interface Engine

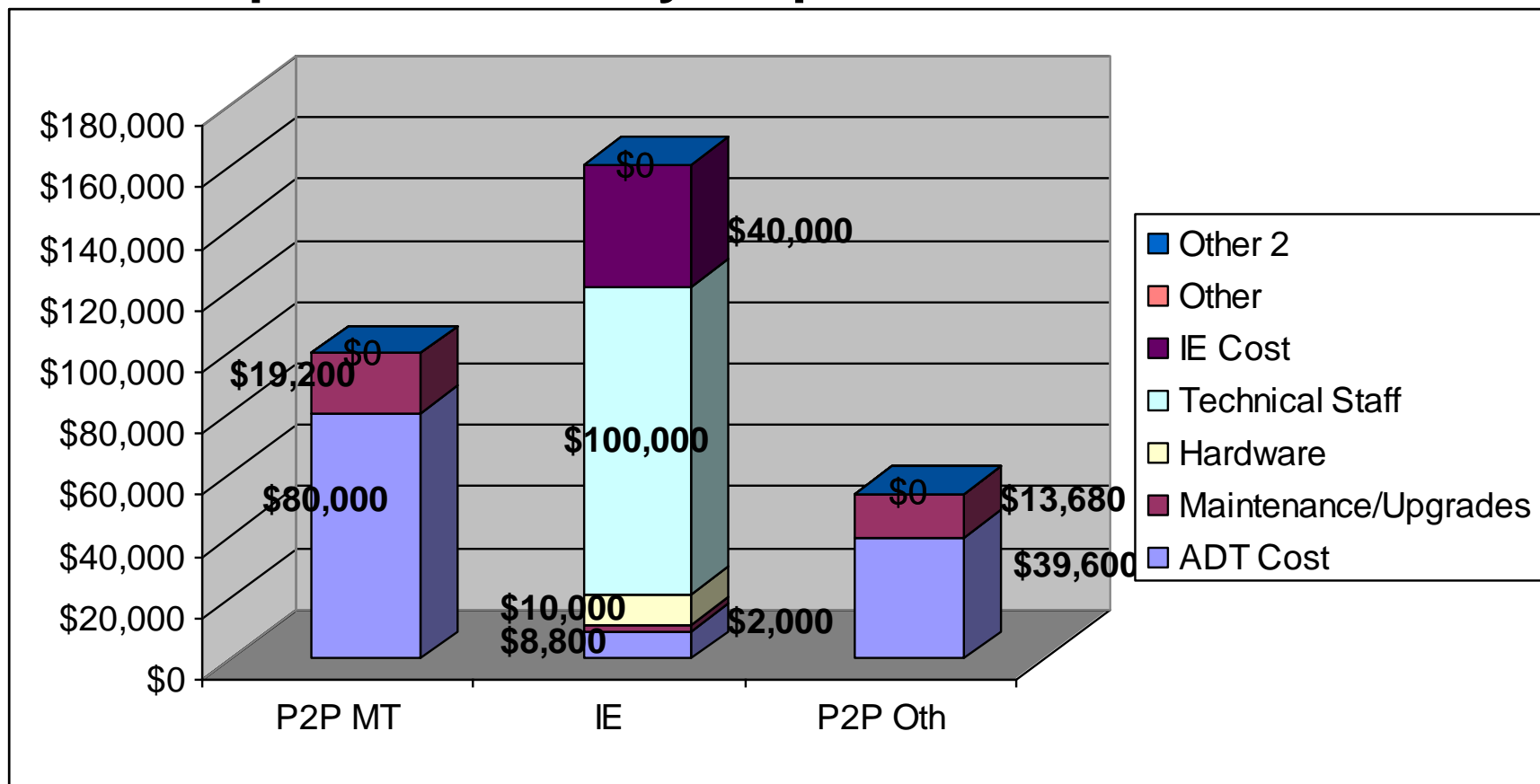
### Cost comparison over 3 year period – 6 ADT Interfaces



<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$94,400</b>	<b>\$127,000</b>	<b>\$41,600</b>
	<b>P2P MT</b>	<b>IE</b>	<b>P2P Iatric</b>

## Point-to-Point vs. Interface Engine

### Cost comparison over 5 year period – 8 ADT Interfaces



<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$99,200</b>	<b>\$160,800</b>	<b>\$53,280</b>
	<b>P2P MT</b>	<b>IE</b>	<b>P2P Oth</b>

### **Open Discussion Points:**

- **Iatric System offers both Point-to-Points and Interface Engine.**
- **Cost justification for IE based on volume? 3-5 year ownership?**
- **Meditech sells suites of interfaces that typically include all components, i.e., PACS, Transcription, etc... You have to buy the suite.**
- **Meditech interfaces, like inbound LAB or Transcription, are only licensed for a specific vendor.**

### Open Discussion Points:

- **Interface delivery timelines. Quicker with engine?**
- **What's the main motivation for one over the other?**
  - **IE?**
    - **Cost?**
    - **Frustration with MT or other vendors?**
    - **Ownership?**
    - **Timeline?**
    - **Changing feeds?**

### Open Discussion Points:

- **What's the main motivation for one over the other?**
  - **P2P?**
    - **Fewer points of failure?**
    - **Cost?**
    - **Having technical experience?**
    - **Frustrations of implementation with other vendors?**
    -

**Objective:** Discuss the pros and cons between Point-to-Points vs. Interface Engine, provoke thought, and have an open dialogue on the topic.

**That concludes my presentation.**

**My hope is that I've met your expectations.**

**If you have any questions please feel free to contact me  
at the number below.**

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