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LAN Cabling: Segment Size and Distance Between Devices

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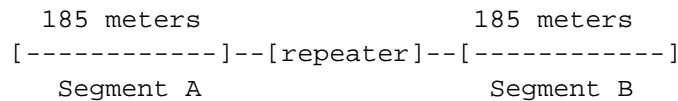
TOPIC ---

I'm confused by figure 16 on page 20 in the "Local Area Network Cabling
Guide." What's the difference between "minimum distance between devices"
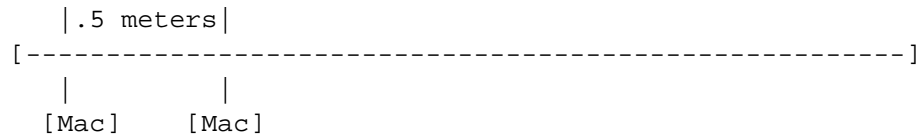and "maximum segment length"? What does "segment" mean in this context?

DISCUSSION --

The minimum distance between devices specifies the minimum distance between
adjacent nodes on a wire. Maximum segment length specifies the maximum
length of the wire. A segment is a single network entity or wire without
repeaters used to extend the over-all length of the network. You can use
repeaters to extend the network to its maximum length specified by the
"Maximum network length" information given in Figure 16.

Maximum Segment Size:

```
  185 meters                    185 meters
[------------]--[repeater]--[------------]
   Segment A                   Segment B
```


Minimum Distance Between Devices:

```
    |.5 meters|
[--------------------------------------------------------]
    |         |
  [Mac]     [Mac]
```
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