Brochure

VIAVI Solutions

VIAVI
NoiseTrak
Your virtual I-Stop for nodes and amplifiers

Find ingress faster by remotely isolating noise sources down to a single leg of a node or amplifier before rolling a truck. Localize and restore service within restricted MDU's remotely, then schedule access for final fix.

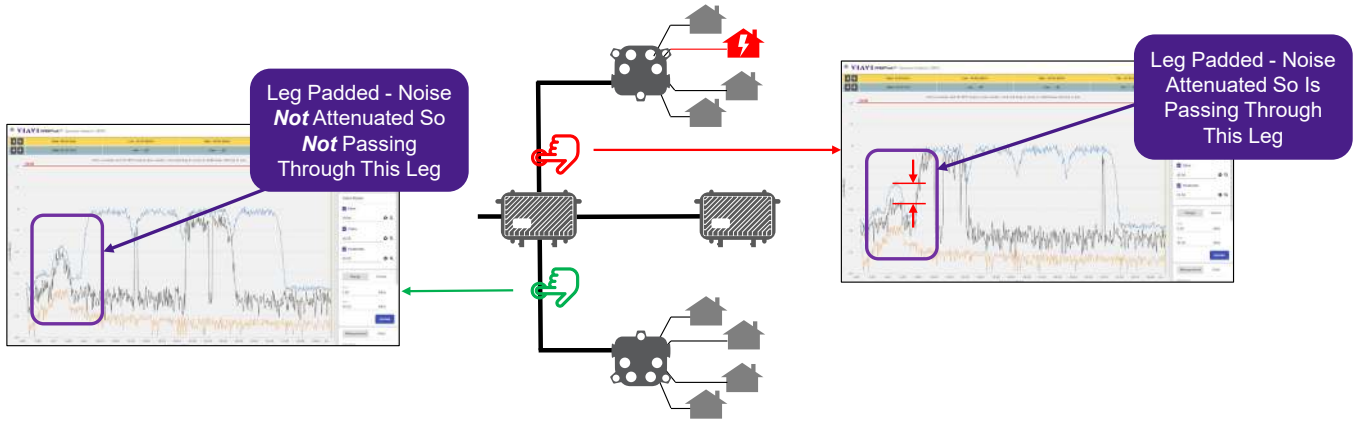
Upstream ingress has long been the #1 problem for cable operators, both from a cost and customer satisfaction standpoint. Existing find and fix methods work but are expensive, time-consuming, and are often service-impacting themselves. With NoiseTrak, Tech's follow their traditional processes but replace driving to actives with clicks on a screen, saving time, money, and improving customer satisfaction through shorter outage durations and reduced MTTR.

Benefits

- Double digit % savings on maintenance budgets
- Drastically narrow search area before rolling a truck
- Eliminate delays waiting for MDU access, immediately localize and restore services remotely before scheduling a window to fix
- Prevent hours spent travelling to actives in distant rural or crowded urban environments
- Find ingress sources faster without pulling pads or opening housings

Let Your Techs Do What They Already Know How To Do, But Virtually

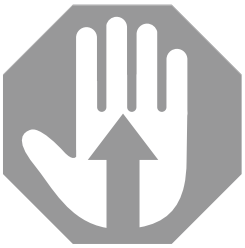
Traditional ingress find and fix is typically a matter of starting at the node and working outward, looking at the ingress contribution of each amp/node leg relative to the combined spectrum until the responsible leg is identified. NoiseTrak uses the same approach but virtualizes the segmentation process via remote control of ingress switches supported by many node and amplifier vendors. Techs can view the combined spectrum for a return on a tablet as they remotely select and activate the switches from the XPERTrak network hierarchy display.



Examples of Problems Solved by NoiseTrak

Restricted Access MDU's

Have you ever tracked ingress to the entrance of an MDU, waited hours for access, and had to schedule a return trip for the next day to get in? With NoiseTrak, the Tech can immediately access an amplifier within the restricted MDU remotely, segment the noise to one leg of an amp, and remotely pad it down to restore service for the rest of the node. Building management can then be contacted to schedule building access to fix the root cause within the MDU.



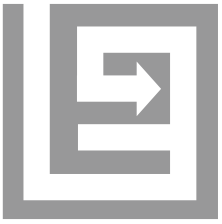
Maintenance-Induced Customer Service Interruptions

Network maintenance is frequently service impacting as technicians open amplifiers letting ingress in or pulling pads to quickly find the worst leg (yes, technicians still pull pads). With NoiseTrak, node and amp housings do not need to be opened to segment noise, and checks are in place to ensure that remote attenuation of legs will not take any modems offline. Minimize collateral damage to subscriber services during troubleshooting with NoiseTrak.



Logistical Challenges

Don't spend hours driving to distant rural nodes or navigating traffic and parking nightmares in dense urban areas, remotely segment actives and restore services immediately with NoiseTrak instead. Fences, dogs, and underground vaults are just a few of the challenges that technicians face in accessing actives – equip your toughest-to-access actives with NoiseTrak to reduce outage durations and MTTR.



Intermittent Issues

We've all experienced it – two hours into chasing down an ingress source it just disappears. Sometimes it's because the noise source stops, sometimes it's the plant that changes with wind, temperature, etc. Regardless of the cause it's frustrating for the Tech and impacted customers. With NoiseTrak, technicians can rapidly isolate the ingress source to a small section of plant while it is occurring, greatly increasing the chances finding and fixing it the first time.



Now is The Ideal Time To Deploy NoiseTrak

Chances are that you are considering one or more of the following network evolutions, all of which generally involve rolling trucks to actives as part of the deployment process:

- Upstream split changes – high split will require visiting every active for diplexer changes at a minimum
- Distributed access architectures (DAA) involve replacement of analog nodes with Remote PHY or Remote MACPHY devices (RPD/RMD's)
- Downstream frequency extensions including extended spectrum DOCSIS (ESD) often require amplifier replacements

This is the perfect time to consider including ingress switch capabilities in new node/amp bills of material (BOM's) or retrofitting existing actives as you visit them for the above deployments. The incremental cost of the switches is minimal relative to the benefits they provide, they can often be covered by a single truck roll eliminated by their remote use.

Suggested Deployment Models

- Deploy in all new RPD/RMD's
- Opportunistically retrofit existing amps when visited for sweep, ingress, maintenance
- Selective deploy to hard-to-access amplifiers
- Retrofit nodes, N+1 or N+2 amplifiers – those visited most often
- Include in BOM for all amplifier replacements
- Include in standard process for high-split amplifier deployments

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Contact Us **+1 844 GO VIAVI**
(+1 844 468 4284)

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visit viavisolutions.com/contact

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