Optical transceivers: Tunable and pluggable - the future is here | Meeting the needs of the telecoms market

Next-gen telecoms sparks optical comms | Optical switching in fiber-to-the-home networks

The Danish business model for FTTx | Wavelength plan standardization critical to WDM-PON deployments
Polatis launches Compact Latching Switch for FTTH services

Polatis, a leading manufacturer of optical switch technology, has today announced the launch of its Compact Latching Switch (CLS). The CLS allows service providers to monitor and restore fiber paths while maintaining connections without electrical power.

The CLS, which is being demonstrated on the Polatis booth (#15017), allows operators to peer up or downstream a fiber path by either tapping off a portion of the power or fully switching a given link. This increases carrier network availability by automating critical monitoring and switching functions in FTTx, Metro and Long-Haul networks and greatly reduces mean time to repair (MTTR).

The CLS is ideal for network monitoring, intrusion detection, deep packet inspection, or any application where a large number of fibers need to be remotely accessed.

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Today's network connection speeds are just a beginning: look out for 100 Mbps by 2013 and up to 1Gbps in 2020. It's all thanks to developments in FTTH technology, which are lowering the barriers to next-generation networks.

Draka

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The final frontier

While optical fibre is now the norm for long-haul and metropolitan networks, the so-called last mile into people's homes and offices is still dominated by copper. The result is something akin to trying to pour a river down a domestic drainpipe.

Which is where Fibre-to-the-Home comes in. FTTH offers a huge jump in speed and capacity. The passive optical network technology upon which it is based is intrinsically cheaper than alternative wired systems. And it is more reliable and more secure than wireless solutions.

Cables, connectivity, service

For all the pros, there has remained one key hurdle: the cost and inconvenience of laying a new fibre optical cable to every home and office. It is in this light that Draka Cometeq's LightNet solutions are so interesting.

Based on the company's cable, connectivity and service philosophy, LightNet is a complete range of cable and connectivity components that are designed to smooth the implementation of this next-generation technology. Things like Draka's Jetnet microduct jetting technology, BendBright® optical fibres, plus optical distribution frames, street cabinets and more.

New business model

What do Draka's advances in FTTH mean for network operators and their customers? At its simplest, Draka Cometeq is helping lower the cost of implementing FTTH networks, so creating a new business case. And this can only bring closer the day when we all enjoy Internet at 1Gbps. And more.