

Monitoring Network Splitter



Overview

Through the network splitter, you can reduce the frequent plugging and unplugging of cables and protect your equipment.

Key Takeaways

Network monitoring splitters are devices that duplicate network traffic for monitoring purposes without disrupting the original data flow.

Network monitoring splitters, also known as network taps or optical splitters, are used to mirror or split network traffic so that monitoring tools can analyze data without affecting the live network. They are essential for network performance monitoring, security analysis, and troubleshooting.

Types of Network Monitoring Splitters



1. **Passive Fiber-Optic Network Taps** Passive fiber taps, such as the G-TAP M Series, split optical signals to provide full-duplex monitoring of fiber links without requiring power or software. They typically have four ports: network A, network B, monitor A, and monitor B. Traffic flows uninterrupted through the network ports while a copy is sent to the monitor ports, which can feed tools like intrusion detection systems, packet analyzers, and VoIP recorders. These taps support speeds from 1Gb to 400Gb and various configurations including unidirectional, bidirectional, and breakout links .
2. **Optical Splitters for FTTH Networks** Optical splitters, commonly used in Fiber To The Home (FTTH) networks, distribute light from a single fiber to multiple fibers, enabling point-to-multipoint communication. They are available in bare, connectorized, or module formats and support various split ratios. These splitters reduce the number of fibers needed, lowering deployment costs while allowing network monitoring and management .
3. **PLC Splitters** Planar Lightwave Circuit (PLC) splitters, like Corning's QuickPath™ PLC splitters, provide high-performance optical splitting with minimal insertion loss. They are used in monitoring and managing optical networks and are available in components, cassettes, or rack-mount modules, making them suitable for both central office and enterprise environments .

Applications

- **Network Performance Monitoring:** Splitters allow continuous observation of traffic to detect congestion, latency, or packet loss.
- **Security and Compliance:** Monitoring tools can analyze traffic for anomalies, malware, or unauthorized access.
- **Troubleshooting:** Network engineers can capture traffic for diagnostics without interrupting service.
- **Integration with Monitoring Tools:** Splitters feed data to software like PRTG, Auvik, or ManageEngine OpManager for real-time analysis and alerting .

Key Advantages

- **Non-intrusive:** Traffic is mirrored without affecting the original network flow.
- **Scalable:** Supports multiple speeds and network types, from 1Gb to 400Gb fiber links.
- **Flexible Deployment:** Available in modular, rack-mount, or inline formats for different network architectures.
- **Cost-Efficient:** Reduces the need for additional fibers while enabling comprehensive monitoring. Network monitoring splitters are therefore a critical component for enterprises and service providers aiming to maintain visibility, security, and performance across complex network infrastructures.

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Network Switch vs Splitter

Managed switches, in particular, offer advanced options for network control, such as port mirroring, security

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