Government & Military

Customer Case Study

THE CHALLENGE

In today's world where rapidly evolving technology is a critical part of modern battlefield combat, it is crucial for the Armed Forces to be able to test and deploy new technology as quickly as possible to maintain the edge over their opponents. Faster, smaller, more intelligent equipment must go through a rigorous testing and integration process to be proven before it is ready for the rigors of combat.

This APCON customer was tasked with the ongoing process of qualification and approval of all network equipment for production use in this branch of the Armed Forces. It is vital that this equipment be thoroughly tested and approved to interoperate with existing technologies before it is put in the hands of troops and deployed. The unique challenges associated with battlefield technology require specialized testing techniques to assure deployed equipment is "bulletproof," simple and reliable.

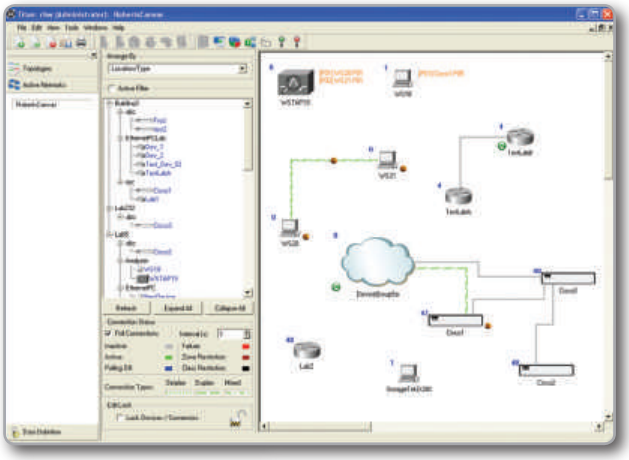
In order to meet these stringent requirements, this testing organization must repeatedly build and rebuild networks, replacing one vendor's equipment with another's to effectively test for interoperability. This form of interoperability testing is both tedious and time consuming, but necessary.

This branch of the Armed Forces was seeking ways to reduce the time required for testing without sacrificing the quality that is required for this critical infrastructure, thereby allowing new technology to be more quickly and efficiently introduced to the battlefield.

THE SOLUTION

As the only completely integrated provider of physical layer switch technology, APCON was uniquely positioned to provide this customer with a viable solution. Using a series of interconnected APCON IntellaPatch® switches for cable management and connectivity, along with the seamlessly integrated TITAN management platform, APCON was able to provide a simple solution that allowed the customer to build and implement numerous network testing environments and easily change the network infrastructure setup at the push of a button – all in a matter of seconds.

CASE STUDY



TITAN's intuitive drawing canvas

Because of TITAN's intuitive graphical interface, users were able to pick up and use the interface without extensive training. Additionally, installation of the TITAN product was quick and easy – requiring only a few hours, rather than complex customization and days of installation.

By drawing network connectivity diagrams in TITAN's device-centric drawing canvas, users were able to connect devices in real-time, or design tests and schedule their execution for a later timeframe. Using the TITAN platform as a repository for test infrastructure designs additionally allowed the users to exactly duplicate a testing environment if the test results proved to be inconsistent or erroneous in the following days, weeks or months.

That solution significantly reduced the time spent on network setup and tear down. Time is now spent more productively on this group's core mission of equipment testing. Network infrastructure setup/teardown times were reduced from days to seconds. That reduction in time directly translated to increased ability to deploy new technology more quickly to the battlefield.