Demand for bandwidth-intensive services such as video streaming, HDTV, and smart-device applications continues to grow rapidly. To address this growth, service providers are scrambling to quickly deploy, expand, and upgrade their broadband access networks—often working with new technicians who have little experience with fiber.

An optical time domain reflectometer (OTDR) is an essential fiber test tool that helps service providers ensure that their fiber network infrastructure is optimized to deliver reliable and robust services. OTDR operation and usability has been simplified over the years; however, it is still considered an advanced instrument to operate and interpreting measurement results can be complex.

In response, VIAVI offers SLM, a field-installable software application that removes the complexity from OTDR testing and results interpretation. Using advanced software, SLM analyzes any passive elements, impairments, and faults on optical fiber links and displays each of these in a simple, icon-based map view that is understandable at any skill level.

**Benefits**

- Eliminate OTDR interpretation errors by providing objective results and immediate diagnostics of problems
- Evaluate fiber links twice as fast with instant identification of faults and impairments
- Simplify data reporting, file sharing, and management in compliance with industry standards
- Easily upgrade T-BERD/MTS OTDR platforms directly in the field to get the benefits of SLM

**Applications**

- Installation and commissioning of enterprise, access, and metro networks
- Installation and maintenance of wireless backhaul
- Link characterization of long/xWDM networks
- Troubleshooting of any fiber network
- Singlemode and multimode fiber links

*SLM is compatible with all T-BERD/MTS OTDR platforms: 2000, 4000, 6000 (with s/n >10000), 6000A, 8000 (v2)*

Discover our SLM Portfolio for Dedicated Applications
Empower Every Technician to be an Instant OTDR Expert

OTDR Is an Essential Test Tool but Is Complex to Use

An OTDR provides a full picture of the fiber plant with detailed analysis of the link components—cable attenuation, connectors’ loss and reflectance, and splice losses—and shows problems in the link. This test proves the quality of the installation and ensures that an optical link meets required specifications. An OTDR also troubleshoots cabling component problems by locating common causes of failures such as breaks, high loss, and reflective defects and bends. These capabilities are critical to minimize costly network downtime.

Despite an OTDR's capability and performance, the ability to read and interpret the information gathered from an OTDR trace can be very challenging.

Remove Human-Interpretation Errors

SLM analyzes and identifies events of any OTDR trace, new or old. It represents them as simple icons with immediate pass/fail information based on user-defined or IEC/TIA standards thresholds. It explicitly names the type of optical element such as a splice or connector.

OTDR analysis expertise is also required to understand how elements failed. SLM offers immediate diagnostics of faults, which appear in red on the icon-based map view, and provides guidance to fix them.