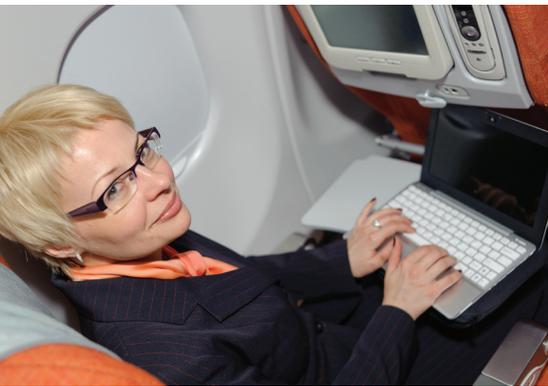


Communication & Aviation Leader Reduces Test Time from Eight Hours to Seconds



Increases Repeatability and Improves Quality of Service

A leading supplier of in-cabin electronics for commercial aircraft is riding the wave of year-over-year growth currently enjoyed by the business aviation industry. But this growth requires advanced network testing facilities, and so this manufacturer turned to APCON for a solution. By implementing an APCON INTELLAPATCH® intelligent network monitoring switch, this customer reduced configuration and test time from hours to minutes, saving staff expense and speeding time to market.



In-cabin electronic systems offer the business passenger the latest technologies for in-flight connectivity, mobile office tools, and entertainment. To ensure quick delivery and high performance, vendors in this industry perform extensive testing prior to shipping every custom system.

Challenge

On-board network uptime and quality are critical to business aviation customers who count on cabin management and communication systems to use travel time to the fullest. A leading supplier of in-cabin electronics produces several systems that make it “easier than ever for business jet passengers to remain connected to the world below.” The systems operate over an on-board Ethernet network at either 100 Mb/s or 1 Gb/s.

To ensure the highest quality, the verification lab performs both systems integration testing on components in the design phase and performance verification testing on complete systems prior to shipping to customers. To test their modules, the lab employed a manual patch panel. Testing each system required configuring over 100 patches.

Test times typically ran from four to eight hours, depending, in part, on the speed and accuracy with which test personnel were able to wire and reconfigure the necessary physical connections within the network. Tests could run for hours before an engineer might detect a set-up error, at which time the entire process would have to be restarted.

The testing group was challenged by management to reduce test and reconfiguration time to less than one hour. To meet this challenge, the senior systems engineer needed a new test strategy.

Solution

Test times were reduced by up to 90 percent by combining APCON’s APCON INTELLAPATCH switch, application software, and test scripts. Human error during setup was virtually eliminated, and the INTELLAPATCH switch enabled test engineers

- Network uptime and quality of service are business-critical
- Lab testing is a requirement
- Reconfiguring physical connections was expensive in staff time
- APCON reduced reconfiguration times up to 90%

Communication & Aviation Leader Reduces Test Time From Eight Hours To Seconds



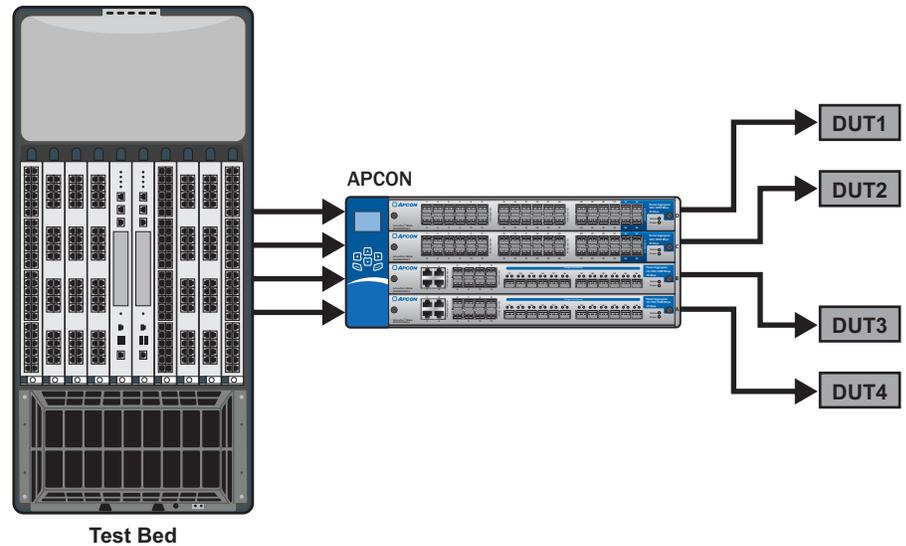
ABOUT APCON

APCON develops innovative, scalable technology solutions to enhance network monitoring, support IT traffic analysis, and streamline IT network management and security. APCON is the industry leader for state-of-the-art IT data aggregation, filtering, and network switching products, as well as leading-edge management-software support. Organizations in over 50 countries depend on APCON network infrastructure solutions. Customers include Global Fortune 500 companies, banks and financial services institutions, telecommunication service providers, government and military, and computer equipment manufacturers.

Contact Us

Please email sales@apcon.com or call 503-682-4050 if you have any questions

to physically cable devices under test to the switch once and reconfigure different test topologies in seconds with the software GUI. Test engineers were able to save specific test topologies to presets to recall and build the test infrastructure with the press of one button. Greater time savings were realized by automating connectivity of test devices to the test head through scripting. The time required to configure the test bed dropped from days to seconds. The senior systems engineer exceeded the management challenge beyond all expectations, implementing time savings far greater than the goal of reconfiguration in under one hour.



The APCON INTELLAPATCH switch allowed electronic repatching – saving precious staff time and allowing more usable test time.

Results

The APCON INTELLAPATCH solution transformed the test bed setup from an error-prone, time-consuming ordeal to a fast, reliable process.

APCON INTELLAPATCH switches enable the company's test engineers to reconfigure test topologies quickly and efficiently using its "wire once" technology. The APCON INTELLAPATCH flexible connectivity enables reconfiguration of all physical layer connections to all other connections. Tedious, error-prone manual cable pulling and reconfiguration were completely eliminated by electronic reconfiguration which was accomplished in minutes within the test bed.

The electronic test bed, now using APCON's INTELLAPATCH switch, means faster delivery time of integrated systems to the aircraft. Customers waiting to receive their newly configured \$40M aircraft expect on-time delivery of working systems. The INTELLAPATCH switch provided this vendor with a clear advantage to provide exceptionally high levels of cabin electronics performance.