

Bridge

the Digital Divide with Technetix

When European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen made her State of the Union speech in October 2020, she emphasised that 40 per cent of people in rural areas still do not have access to fast broadband connections. She stressed the need for data connections to keep pace with the rapid speed of change, as they are required for home working, home learning, online shopping and for key services such as medical consultations.

The €8bn NextGenerationEU scheme was launched to revitalise rural areas and enable them to fully exploit their potential and attract more people and investment. The scheme is focused on secure connectivity and on the expansion of 5G, 6G and fibre.

Equally, the US Senate passed a \$1.2 trillion infrastructure package in August 2021, which includes \$65 billion in funding for upgrading the broadband network and improving digital literacy. "Access to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband is essential to full participation in modern life in the United States," the infrastructure bill states.

Network operators are considering a range of options to increase both capacity and the performance of access networks. To meet this demand, Technetix has further extended its FTTx capability with the addition of a carrier ethernet switch (cX) and a remote optical line termination (rOLT) to its portfolio of products.



The Technetix cX is a compact, passively cooled, field hardened carrier ethernet switch designed for a wide range of applications including the award-winning Virtual Segmentation™ virtual fibre solution and the rOLT.

The switch is flexible, rugged, compact and self-contained unit for deployment in the field. It can be installed in any environment, in a variety of rack and enclosure systems and excels in extreme conditions, and can be standalone, pole or wall mounted. The cX can be used for 1GE and 10GE access and aggregation, and supports SyncE and IEEE1588v2, for mobile backhaul.

The rOLT builds on this platform and includes an environmentally sealed enclosure which supports up to 768 FTTx subscriber connections via 6 ports of XGS-PON. Technetix tells *Broadband* it is ideal for rural, remote and select deployments including business and science parks and campuses. The rOLT incorporates fibre management and optical splitter options for ease of deployment and can be provided in a range of configurations depending on the application. They also tell us it is ideally suited for distributed

architectures and supports all-fibre networks, in addition to augmenting HFC networks moving to a distributed access architecture (DAA) and flexible MAC architecture (FMA). Both environmentally hardened products are passively cooled offering high performance and low power consumption.

When combined with other products in Technetix' virtual fibre solution range, the cX and rOLT can be deployed as an extension of the HFC network with up to 10Gbps of uplink capacity transported over the coax network.

"The cX and rOLT are tremendous additions to the Technetix access network product portfolio", says Mark Basham, Vice President, FTTX-xHaul Products, at Technetix told *Broadband*, "and fits perfectly with the DNA of the business in providing robust networking solutions that are deployed deep in the network. Both products complement our virtual fibre solution and provide a baseline for our family of FTTx products."



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