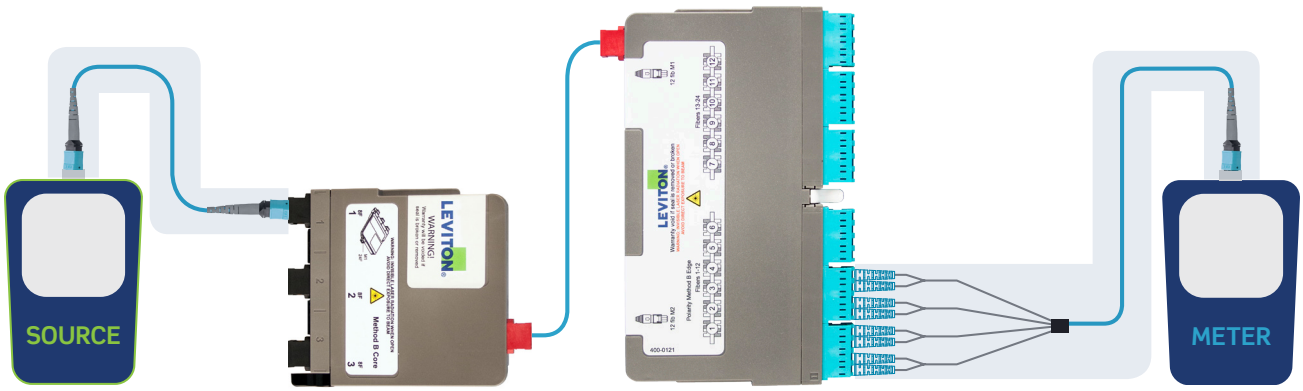
Simplifying MULTIFIBER TESTING

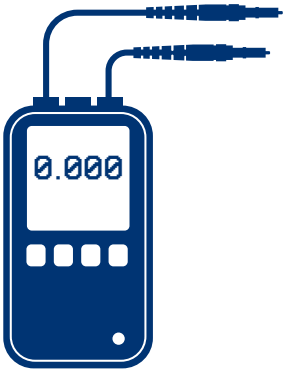
The emergence of cloud computing has acted as a catalyst for driving even faster adoption of new network technology and higher bandwidth. Projections indicate that by 2018 there will be 2.7 networked devices per person. **Data centers need to move quickly to manage these ever-increasing bandwidth demands.** While switch-to-switch connections of 40G and 100G accounted for 8 percent of data center infrastructure speeds in 2014, those combined speeds are expected to rise 26 percent by the end of 2016, according to research organization BSRIA.



40G Networks Require Simpler Testing

By 2017, 40G speeds will be in significant demand, becoming almost commonplace as we start to see more 100G networks being regularly deployed near 2020. Multifiber installation and testing best practices will be critical to maintaining a competitive edge as network migration strategies evolve. And while the idea of multifiber testing is intimidating, having the right training, tools, and methods will simplify the process and provide the forward-thinking strategies needed to help grow your business and reputation.

Having the Right Tools



As an installer, you understand the importance of having the right tool for the job. When conducting multifiber testing there are a number of different testing methods to choose from, but not all methods are ideal for providing optimal results.

Testers used to confirm 10G channels are capable of conducting 40G testing. However, testing with these older devices requires considerably more time, adds additional steps to the process, and increases the probability for human error. Most multifiber testers can get the job done 15 times faster than standard LC testers. And by reducing the number of testing steps you minimize inaccuracies.

Investing in a Multifiber Tester

While using a duplex tester to conduct 40G testing can save you money in the short term, the amount of additional time spent on site will quickly offset any potential cost savings. Investing in a multifiber tester is a significant commitment, but if you want to stay competitive you will need to familiarize yourself with these tools in the near future. The added benefits will compensate for the initial investment cost.

By using a multifiber tester, you can expect:

- Faster setup and less time spent conducting tests on site
- Actual test reports, minimizing the need for documentation
- Fewer patch cords and harnesses needed for testing
- Better verification of the polarity method for tested channels

Looking Forward

The same tools and methods recommended for 40G multifiber testing also apply to 100G multifiber testing. By becoming familiar with these methods now, you can stay competitive while maintaining your capability to assist customers with future migrations.

For a comprehensive look at 40G multifiber testing methods, take a look at Leviton's white paper: **The Method Behind the Magic, Multifiber Testing.**

Released August 2016 H16 6074