

Softing Inc. Announces NetXpert XG Plus

The NetXpert XG Plus extends copper Ethernet cable testing to now include fiber optic cable testing, fiber microscope end face inspection, fiber loss and length, and LiveLight™.

Knoxville, TN, August 18, 2020 – Softing Inc. today introduces the NetXpert XG Plus Ethernet cable tester and active network manager, the latest advancement in Softing’s network communications cable testing portfolio extending cable qualification to fiber optic cable. NetXpert XG Plus cable qualifier is part of a complete IT Network solutions portfolio from Softing for certifying, qualifying, and verifying cabling installations and active IT Networks.

IT Departments, Systems Integrators, and Communications Cable Installers are called upon to perform network qualification, network management, and cable troubleshooting. While cable certification with testers like the WireXpert is about testing cable specs, qualification testing with NetXpert XG is about proving cable performance and troubleshooting your application. And today, with the NetXpert XG Plus (copper plus fiber), the qualification platform extends to fiber optic cable.

The NetXpert XG Plus now provides the ability to test copper and fiber cables; test copper, fiber, and WIFI (active) Ethernet networks; test POE networks, and create reports, all-in-one qualification tester.

The platform extension to fiber includes the ability to connect the Softing USB fiber microscope for viewing contamination on fiber optic cable end faces. Connector end face contamination is the number one issue reported when troubleshooting fiber optic cables. Using the fiber microscope is unique in that you can capture an image of the contamination on the end face, contamination is automatically compared to global standards, and includes the image in a report.

Like with copper cable testing, NetXpert XG is now able to provide a cable length result for fiber. Fiber length is normally reserved for high end OTDR fiber testers and certifiers, but Softing developed a proprietary method in the NetXpert XG to calculate the fiber length using transmitted and received values at each end of the fiber optic cable.

This fiber launch also includes a new-to-the-world feature called LiveLight™. Measuring the loss of light in a fiber optic cable is an extremely powerful troubleshooting tool. Rather than just displaying a value for the light loss, Softing took advantage of the color screen and created LiveLight™, a real-time, continuous trend plot for the light loss. Since many field problems are attributed to connectors, LiveLight™ gives you the ability to move the connector or cable and watch the LiveLight™ trend, like a strip chart recorder, in real-time, which is a powerful tool when troubleshooting an intermittent fault. Measuring light loss has been included in NetXpert XG, eliminating the need to have a separate light loss test tool.

“Another huge milestone has been achieved for the extendable NetXpert XG platform – adding fiber optic cable to qualification testing, USB fiber microscope inspection, length and loss measurements, and LiveLight™. If you are an IT Manager or Systems Integrator, you run into everything – troubleshooting copper and fiber cables, troubleshooting active networks, even troubleshooting POE devices. NetXpert XG continues to deliver on the vision of being the all-in-one cable and network test tool and application qualifier”, says Deane Horn, Director of Product Management for Softing Inc.

For more information on NetXpert XG, visit <https://itnetworks.softing.com/xg>

About Softing AG

Softing AG is a leading global provider of products for Industrial Automation, IT Networks, and Automotive Electronics. For over 30 years, Softing has provided industrial data communications and connectivity in the form of OEM chips, development stacks, software connectivity suites, communications gateways, and PLC in-chassis

modules to get your production process connected. To help your business stay connected, Softing provides copper and fiber IT Network solutions in the form of cable certification testing, Ethernet qualification, and active network management.

Softing AG is a publicly traded company on the Frankfurt Stock Exchange, was founded in 1979, and is headquartered in Haar, Germany.

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