FFT Secure Link™ Case Study – Japanese Communications Carrier

Shallow buried cables that run down the centre of many of Japan’s major roads were the company’s means of service delivery, as well as the cause of enormous problems for one of Asia’s premier communications carriers.

These fibre optic cables were being inadvertently damaged by excavation vehicles and repair equipment, virtually every time repair work was carried out on roads in which the cables were buried.

When the communications links went down, the communications carrier was then being financially penalised for failing to meet network availability obligations. In addition, negative publicity about the company resulted. Future Fibre Technologies (FFT) was commissioned to install FFT Secure Link™, which could be run on the existing network cable, greatly reducing installation costs.

Critical requirements of this project included:

- A single system had to protect up to 40km of fibre optic cable
- There was to be no power or electronics required in the field
- It had to be a simple retrofit, requiring no new cables to be installed
- The solution had to deliver the precise location of an intrusion
- There must be the flexibility of setting zone lengths in software
- The User Interface (FFT CAMS™) had to be available in Japanese
- It had to integrate with and control CCTV
- The system had to be of high quality and acceptable to the Japanese market

Secure Link now provides the customer with the ability to sense Third Party Interference (TPI) such as excavation and construction vehicles right from the outset. The carrier now promptly dispatches a response crew, thereby preventing damage to their trunk cabling.