Challenge

OT network owners in critical infrastructure sectors spend a great deal of time, budget, and resources selecting and installing cybersecurity and monitoring sensors at small or remote locations. Once a sensor is deployed, networking personnel often make requests of their solution vendors that go beyond the core functions of the sensor. One common example is hoping the sensor can do a packet capture since it's already connected to the SPAN port on a Switch. Although this request sounds logical (and convenient), most OT sensors are not designed to be a PCAP solution.

■The TAP to Tool[™] Solution

- 1. A portable SPAN Aggregator/Regenerator (part number P1GCSSP) with hardware data diode design can be installed between the SPAN port on a switch and the OT sensor.
- 2. The portable SPAN Aggregator/Regenerator can be configured manually with DIP switches on the back to regenerate or aggregate one, two, or three SPAN inputs to both the OT sensor and a packet analyzer like Wireshark.
- 3. Engineered as a hardware data diode, the portable SPAN Aggregator /Regenerator enforces unidirectional traffic to ensure the OT sensor cannot send traffic back into the network.
- 4. The OT sensor and Wireshark receive the exact same copy of traffic on the SPAN from the portable SPAN aggregator/Regenerator, guaranteeing no packet loss or degradation.

Benefits

- Optimized OT sensor performance
- Packet analyzer receives exact same copy as sensor
- Network personnel confident in cybersecurity and enjoy a complete packet capture file
- Zero risk of packet injection back in the network
- Prevent cyber threats from moving from the OT sensor to the Switch
- Cost effective, simply to deploy solution



