

TRAINING & EDUCATION NEWS

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Instructor Corner

OTDRs Never Go Out of Style

By: Larry Johnson

The optical time domain reflectometer (OTDR) is now thirty-six years old and aging gracefully. While fiber optic cables had been installed in North America since 1977, one major concern was and still is: how do we accurately locate a fault? This is the major reason that OTDRs exist. Fortunately, as the communications industry has matured, so has the OTDR. Why use it?



[Learn More](#)

Upcoming Training Classes

Portland, OR • Cincinnati, OH • Huntsville, AL • Spartanburg, SC

[See All Classes](#)

Did you know...

...The first televised broadcast using fiber optics was at the Winter Olympics?

[See All](#)

What is Your Learning Style?

Do you find a picture is worth a thousand words? Do you easily retain the details of a good story or a vibrant conversation? Does your best learning happen when you curl up with a book? Or do you like to just jump in and get your hands dirty?

Learning styles generally fit into one of four categories; Visual, Auditory, Reading/Writing, and Kinesthetic.



Visual Learners tend to learn best from flowcharts, graphics, or animations that represent a concept.

Auditory Learners retain information best from conversations, lectures, discussions and stories.

Reading/Writing Learners remember best through lists, manuals, glossaries, handouts and notes.

Kinesthetic Learners acquire knowledge and skills best by doing and experiencing.

In order to ensure training materials meet the needs of all learners, the course design should balance all styles as much as possible.

Light Brigade strives to meet the needs of all learners. Our instructors encourage student questions and participation during lectures to engage Auditory Learners. Presentations include detailed charts and engaging graphics and animations to entice Visual Learners. Comprehensive course manuals enable Reading/Writing Learners to dive deep into material. And our extensive lab sessions let Kinesthetic Learners to practice and internalize concepts.

(The Adult Learning Specialists at Light Brigade work hand-in-hand with our fiber experts to build learning experiences that ensure an effective, efficient, and engaging transfer of knowledge and skills for all learners.)

Stop by and See Us at OFC 2018 in San Diego!

Once again Light Brigade will have a big presence at the [Optical Networking and Communication Conference & Exhibition \(OFC\)](#) in San Diego on March 13-15. We are managing the Test & Measurement Resource Center, giving an OFC technical presentation and having a tradeshow booth.

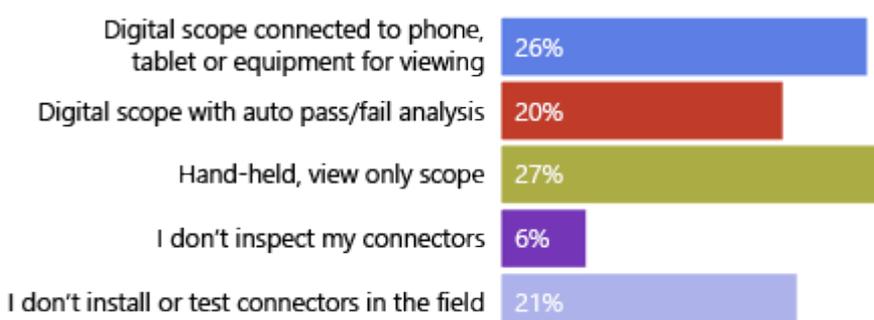
The [Test & Measurement Resource Center](#) showcases new test equipment products and technologies. Over twenty OFC exhibitors have dedicated space in the center and can easily meet with you. In addition, a small theater area will have scheduled presentations and demonstrations.

Larry Johnson is moderating and speaking on "[Understanding Optical Signal-to-Noise Ratio](#)". This presentation is on the exhibit show floor at Theater 3 on Thursday March 15 at 1:15.

Stop by our booth 5623-A in the Test & Measurement Resource Center to discuss your fiber optic training needs and how we can help. The conference is at the San Diego Convention Center on March 13-15. [Go here](#) to register for a free pass to the exhibition. Hope to see you in San Diego!

Results From our February Survey

What type of scope do you use for fiber optic connector inspection in the field?



A special thank you to the 335 people who replied. Congratulations to Ron M., Chad K., Robbie O., and Michael B., who each won \$25 gift cards for participating.

[See All Surveys](#)

Additional Information

- [Schedule of Upcoming Classes](#)
- [Special Events Calendar](#)
- [Fiber Optic Product Catalog](#)
- [Contact us with your questions, feedback, etc.](#)