Sentry Edge™ provides critical monitoring at the edge of your network and offers specific reporting and alerting capabilities for services in the RF domain.

**Key features**
- Scalable RF monitoring (64/256QAM / 8VSB)
- Historical reporting and graphing
- Designed for large deployments
- Intelligent tuning
- Alert filtering and resolution tracking

**Applications**
- Monitor linear broadcast programs
- Be alerted to RF and TS errors
- Generate historical and trending reports
- Program statistics and availability reporting

**Video quality monitoring with Sentry Edge**
Sentry Edge extends the visibility into Transport Stream quality by detecting Transport Stream and RF modulation errors at the edge of the network. Correlate reports and conduct comprehensive, cross-layer, root-cause analysis across locations.

Sentry Edge is a cost-effective solution for large-scale deployments to hub sites and other remote locations. It offers the ability to add additional service monitoring capabilities such as QoE, EBIF, ad insertion, tru2way™, and much more. A compact 1RU rack-mounting footprint with dual tuners allows for efficient monitoring of all RF channels.

Sentry Edge is part of the Sentry family S2E (Source-to-Edge) monitoring solution, which provides the most comprehensive 24/7 real-time monitoring system with a 60-day historical database, executive reports, and trending analysis capabilities. It can be easily integrated with Medius to provide a seamless monitoring package.
Sentry Edge monitors the edge of the network just before content is sent to subscriber homes. Typically operators use Sentry to validate the video and audio quality (QoE) of their digital content in the video headend, Sentry Verify to report on video-over-IP transport issues on the programs that are received downstream at the hub sites, and Sentry Edge for monitoring services post QAM.
Software options

Ad insertion (DPI)

Digital ad insertion technology allows multichannel service providers to offer advertisers market segmentation that broadcast networks cannot. Maximizing this advantage requires integrating a complex system of ad insertion technology into an existing network. Today, an average of 2% of digital advertisements fail to air or air incorrectly due to scheduling, insertion, and other errors. In addition, advertisements often suffer the same audio and video quality issues that plague regular programming. As a result, monitoring and auditing capabilities are critical to successful ad delivery.

Monitoring Ad Insertion

The Sentry suite of products provides the most complete digital ad insertion monitoring solution by combining real-time monitoring and alerting with historical auditing across the entire channel lineup in all advertising zones. The Sentry product line delivers extensive data that improves digital ad insertion on any platform, allowing engineering teams to ensure proper function of insertion technology by identifying and correcting system errors when they occur. In addition, the ad insertion verification capability allows ad sales groups to provide higher levels of customer service, resulting in greater revenue potential. Using the web-based interface you can monitor digital ad insertion across your entire network. By strategically placing Sentry or Sentry Verify in each of your ad zones, you can monitor and be alerted on all insertion opportunities network-wide, as well as issues that arise from problems.

Carousels tru2way™ / OCAP/MHP / DSM-CC

The OCAP Monitor is a tool for monitoring tru2way™/OCAP carousels. Digital set-top boxes receive continuous delivery of applications and data from the headend or uplink center. These data and applications are critical for normal set-top box function and service delivery.

With the advent of tru2way™ (OCAP) and other carousels, multichannel service providers are introducing a vast array of complex, interactive services to their subscriber base. Monitoring the carousel activity is essential to ensuring the quality and consistency of experience for subscribers.

Sentry Edge supplies detailed reports of carousel performance and activity based on their real-time behavior and data output. Service providers are able to identify the root cause of errors and make necessary changes to eliminate issues and guarantee rapid application deployment. The reports show detailed source and file structures and carousel changes in real-time while observing streaming metrics such as cycle time, bandwidth utilization, and stream packet continuity. Real-time alerting notifies users of critical situations, enabling them to resolve issues such as outages, cycle-time fluctuations, and unauthorized changes.

Monitoring tru2way™/OCAP Carousels

EBIF monitoring

Interactive applications and associated advertising allow you to deliver enhanced capabilities to your subscribers and monetize advanced digital services in a broad range of digital set-top boxes. eTV content consisting of the applications and metadata is, however, prone to errors during transport, rate-shaping, and muxing. Old video-over-IP metrics such as MDI and Continuity Counter (CC) errors are incapable of detecting any content errors, especially with eTV.

Monitoring EBIF/eTV
The EBIF/eTV monitoring solution breaks down and reports on eTV application data and critical signaling information, so service providers can be assured they are delivering the best possible quality of experience for their subscribers. In addition, a 60-day application-level historical report (available by service and by location) provides critical trending information about eTV delivery. Tailored alerting and dashboards provide proactive eTV monitoring and fast troubleshooting.

**QoE monitoring**

When monitoring 8VSB channels in the clear, Sentry Edge can be upgraded to perform Quality of Experience (QoE) monitoring. The QoE module scores the video and audio based on customer impacting events such as frozen video, loss of audio, tiling, audio level issues, etc. The scores are based on human perceptual analysis of hundreds of audio and video PIDs (in monitored programs) simultaneously in real time. Should issues arise that affect the quality of the viewers’ TV viewing experience, the score is reduced.

The magnitude and duration of the score reduction is based on an analysis that includes the position of the error on a viewer’s screen, the duration of any reduction in quality, and the frequency that quality issues occur on a program. The system models these results based on the average TV viewer’s reaction into an easy-to-understand, continuously graphed Audio/Video QoE score chart. In addition, reason codes provide added detail to show the cause of the QoE impairment.

All QoE scores less than 100 on a program indicate that video and audio problems are degrading the actual viewing experience for the viewer. The worse the subscriber experience is, the lower the score becomes.

**SA-BFS monitoring**

Sentry is designed to identify and monitor data carousels within the transport, which enables it to keep detailed information about the real-time and historical status of the Scientific-Atlanta Broadcast Files System (BFS). Similar to the way other application carousels (tru2way, DSM-CC, etc) are monitored, Sentry is able to provide critical information about the status of BFS carousels. Multichannel service providers can set alerts to be notified of bit rate errors, file changes, file cycle times, and if files are missing.

**Audio loudness monitoring**

When monitoring 8VSB channels in the clear, Sentry Edge can be upgraded to perform audio loudness monitoring. The ALM module is a subset of the QoE monitoring module and strictly focuses on audio volume discrepancies. The ALM module supports the ITU-R BS.1770 audio level specification and allows service providers to monitor all programs in real time for audio level issues.

Monitoring and reporting on audio volume level issues helps service providers address issues such as varying volume levels on different channels or during commercial inserts. Alerts can be configured to trigger when the audio levels go above or below a specified dB value or dialnorm during a given time period.

The ALM module also helps U.S. service providers comply with the CALM Act.
Characteristics

Platform characteristics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Browser support</th>
<th>Firefox, Safari, and Internet Explorer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dual tuner</td>
<td>QAM Annex B (ITU-T J.83)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management port</td>
<td>1000BASE-T Ethernet interface</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Supported protocols
HD/SD programs, SPTS or MPTS, multicast (IGMP v3) and unicast MPEG-PSI, DVB-SI, ATSC-PSIP table support, SNMP trap and MIB support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Video</th>
<th>MPEG-2, H.264, H.265 (HEVC), VC-1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Audio</td>
<td>Dolby AC-3 (5.1 Surround)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MPEG-1 Layer II (Mono, Stereo)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AAC, HE-AAC, and HE-AAC v2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Physical characteristics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dimensions</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Height</td>
<td>50.8 mm (2 in.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Width</td>
<td>432 mm (17 in.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depth</td>
<td>381 mm (15 in.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight (net)</td>
<td>9.2 kg (20.2 lb.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Power supply</td>
<td>100-240 V AC, 50-60 Hz</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Environmental characteristics

| Max storage temperature   | 70 °C                                     |
| Max operating temperature | 35 °C                                     |
| Max humidity              | 85%                                       |

Tektronix is registered to ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 by SRI Quality System Registrar.
Sentry Edge Datasheet

ASEAN / Australasia (65) 6356 3900
Belgium 00800 2255 4835*

Central East Europe and the Baltics +41 52 675 3777

Finland +41 52 675 3777
Hong Kong 400 820 5835

Japan +81 (3) 0714 3010

Middle East, Asia, and North Africa +41 52 675 3777
People’s Republic of China 400 820 5835
Republic of Korea +82 2 6917 5058, 82 2 6917 5080
Spain 00800 2255 4835*
Taiwan 886 (2) 2656 6688

Austria 00800 2255 4835*
Brazil +55 (11) 3759 7627

Central Europe & Greece +41 52 675 3777
France 00800 2255 4835*

India 000 800 650 1835
Luxembourg +41 52 675 3777

The Netherlands 00800 2255 4835*

Poland +41 52 675 3777

Russia & CIS +7 (495) 664 7564
Sweden 00800 2255 4835*

United Kingdom & Ireland 00800 2255 4835*

Balkans, Israel, South Africa and other ISE Countries +41 52 675 3777
Canada 1 800 833 9200

Denmark +45 80 88 1401

Germany 00800 2255 4835*

Italy 00800 2255 4835*

Mexico, Central/South America & Caribbean 52 (55) 56 04 50 90

Norway 800 16098
Portugal 80 08 12370

South Africa +27 52 675 3777

Switzerland 00800 2255 4835*

USA 1 800 833 9200

* European toll-free number. If not accessible, call: +41 52 675 3777

For Further Information. Tektronix maintains a comprehensive, constantly expanding collection of application notes, technical briefs and other resources to help engineers working on the cutting edge of technology. Please visit www.tek.com.

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