With the continued rollout of mobile broadband services enabled by technologies such as 5G and LTE, accurate measurement of the user experience is more complex and critical than ever before. In mobile device development and deployment, engineers require lab test solutions that enable replication of real-world conditions and quantifiable metrics that are predictive of the actual end-user experience.

Spirent’s Live2Lab® Virtual Drive Test-Conversion Tool (Live2Lab VDT-CT) is a tool that works in conjunction with Spirent’s Vertex channel emulators. It imports drive logs captured in the field and automates the conversion process without requiring any additional software effort. The resultant data can be easily stored and played back in the lab to allow troubleshooting for issues found in the field. Live2Lab VDT-CT can be integrated with service experience measurement systems in a lab environment or a live network—enabling correlation of metrics between field and lab, a necessity for evaluating the mobile experience.

Applications
- Device benchmarking and comparison
- Research and development
- Design verification
- Regression testing
- Device design
- User experience measurement
**Key Features**

- Supports all major mobile wireless technologies on all bands and Wi-Fi
- Supports high-speed train and air applications
- Supports QXDM and other logging tools in native format
- Hybrid logging supports simultaneous scanner and phone logging (on up to 3 devices) to enhance data collection for 5G, LTE, CDMA, and WCDMA
- All data can be graphically displayed to allow easy and intuitive analysis
- Supports multi-system processing
- Enhanced Noise Simulation provides fine-tuned noise level control

**Benefits**

- **Reduced development costs.**
  Minimize the need for expensive drive testing.
- **Reduced time-to-market.**
  Fewer physical drive tests eases the strain of tight deployment schedules. Fix more problems quickly in the lab rather than in the field.
- **Enhanced product quality.**
  An absolutely repeatable drive test on a bench top. Quickly isolate RF issues that might otherwise go unnoticed until after deployment.
- **Simplified, efficient testing.**
  Seamless integration with Spirent’s Vertex and XD5 Multi-link Duplexer reduces necessary cabling and increases testing capacity.

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**Replaying the Live Network in the Lab**

Live2Lab VDT-CT takes drive logs captured in the field and converts and maps them onto the lab test setup for realistic playback. It supports lab connections of up to 40 RF channels, which can be configured to:

- Unidirectional 2x2 downlink for 20 cells
- Bidirectional 2x2 for 10 cells
- Bidirectional (FDD or TDD) SISO for 20 cells
- Bidirectional 4x2 for 5 cells
- Unidirectional 4x2 for 10 cells
- Unidirectional 2x8
- Hybrid 2x2/1x4
- Unidirectional Dual 2x2 + Quad 1x2

Live2Lab VDT-CT supports the processing of all major mobile technologies, including:

- 5G NR
- FDD LTE, TD-LTE
- HSPA+, HSDPA
- Wi-Fi 802.11n/ac 2.4GHz, and 5GHz
- EDGE, GPRS, GSM
- EV-DO, cdma2000
- 1X TD-SCDMA

Users can capture drive logs in a variety of popular logging tools:

- QXDM in ISF format
- JDSU (stand-alone or with up to 3 UEs)
- Anite Nemo
- Accuver XCAL
- Transcom
- Rohde & Schwarz
- PCTEL

After they are imported, multiple logs can be concatenated or merged to generate more sophisticated logs for conversion.

In a drive route, users could see more than a hundred cells. It is unlikely most of the time that the lab setup can match the number of cells in the field. However, engineers still want the realistic cell dynamics as seen by the UE in the field for lab testing. Live2Lab VDT-CT makes it possible by introducing a number of mapping algorithms to suit different situations:

- Serving cell preservation in normal and harsh conditions
- Cell Preservation in normal and harsh conditions
- One-to-one mapping of strongest cells or longest appearing cells

**High-Speed Applications**

As users move into faster mobility scenarios such as traveling on high-speed trains and aircraft, devices are subjected to higher Doppler spreads. Live2Lab VDT-CT has the capability to import and analyze logged data at speeds up to 1620km/hr (1007mph)
Rich and Intuitive Graphical User Interface

In addition to the playback files for the channel emulators, Live2Lab VDT-CT also provides a rich set of graphics for intuitive analysis and verification. It visualizes the mapping process and the dynamics of cells during the drive as seen by the logging device and the device under test.

The graphical interface includes the following:

- Composite power graphics of multi-technologies for inter-RAT and handover analysis
- Filtered data graph for drive log data visualization
- Mapping data to show the results of cell mapping algorithm
- Geographic maps with many standard Google Map controls for drive route visualization and selection
- Selective call event identifiers (such as drops and handovers) for adding or removing instances from the drive test route

Live2Lab VDT-CT shows events like call origination, handover (idle and active), call drop, and throughput on the map along the route.

Simplified Connections and Greater Capacity

Spirent’s XD5 Multilink Duplexer allows a seamless integration with Vertex that drastically simplifies cable connections and increases cell testing capacity. Live2Lab VDT-CT software detects the XD5 and displays its configuration editor, which allows XD5 provisioning and guidance for the cabling necessary for the chosen drive test. The XD5 eliminates external duplexers, splitters, and combiners, and reduces external cabling by almost half. It has a flexible architecture to support a wide variety of drive test scenarios with configurations of up to 16 SISO or eight 2x2 MIMO eNodeBs. See the XD5 datasheet for more information.
Live2Lab VDT-CT Integration Provides End-to-End Performance Testing in the Lab

Live2Lab VDT-CT is a key component in Spirent’s end-to-end solution for user experience performance testing in the lab environment. Live2Lab VDT-CT maps the RF data captured from the live network to Spirent’s Vertex channel emulator, which then emulates the RF environment in the lab. Spirent’s channel emulators can connect directly to your lab-based network infrastructure or to one of Spirent’s network emulators. And for a more comprehensive solution, Spirent’s service experience measurement systems can be integrated to provide voice/video quality, call performance, data speed, battery consumption, and multi-service performance metrics, enabling correlation between field and lab tests and accurate evaluation of the user experience.

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