FNT Telco Active Inventory

Centralized Management of All Network and Service Resources

Disruption within the telecommunications industry is impacting all areas of business. How an operator responds to these challenges will determine the success of their digital transformation and ability to remain competitive in a hyper-connected digital world.

Becoming a digital service provider (DSP) is a top priority for most telecommunication companies. They know they need to transform to stay competitive. Improved digital processes and workflows and increased automation make it possible to launch and fulfil new product and service requests faster, increase service quality, and further reduce operating costs. But to leverage the advantages of digital workflows and automation, a holistic and complete digital view of relevant assets and resources is needed. Yet, this is the one thing service providers often lack.

FNT Telco Active Inventory solution provides a centralized view. It delivers and maintains an accurate and up-to-date inventory of all physical and logical network and service resources. The resulting transparency is the hallmark of a modern infrastructure. It enables providers to maximize the use of network resources in digital workflows, make confident decisions about how to plan, build, deploy, and manage critical business processes, and react quickly to maintain service quality.

CENTRALIZED MANAGEMENT

The solution enables holistic management of all network and service resources in the telecommunications environment. It forms a single source of truth repository of all network and service data and provides all relevant resource information for planning and engineering, service fulfillment, and service assurance processes. Having a common central database for all resource related data ensures that all activities carried out by various people and roles within the organization are always based on a shared master data source. This gives all involved people the same consistent view of the network, at all times.

DOCUMENT AND PLAN

FNT's solution supports all types of transport network technologies and provides seamless navigation throughout all hierarchical layers. It gives network managers immediate insights into all the connections in their networks, independent from underlying hardware technology. It leverages accurate as-is documentation for more precise planning of all physical and logical network resources. Both highly configurable schematic visualizations and GIS-based network representations on maps enable users to get a graphical overview of all these dependencies and relationships and to drill down into details of this complex network infrastructure.

Based on EMS/NMS integration, the physical and logical resource data can be automatically reconciled and updated according to network changes. In planning mode, users can schedule network transformations and changes. They can also see the impact of planned changes before implementation. Work orders are created automatically, for changes to both physical equipment and logical connections. Corresponding asset information can be managed in combination with the integrated spare part management functionality.

The solution integrates with key systems, such as existing ERP systems, to consolidate and share data. Relevant repair, change, and rollout processes can therefore be managed using integrated workflow capabilities.

// USE CASES

PLANNING & ROLLOUT MANAGEMENT – NETWORK TRANSFORMATION

Businesses are actively planning and preparing for network rollouts and transformation. Whether to upgrade to 5G, move from TDM to packet data technology, or expand wireline access technologies to meet bandwidth requirements – all require software support.

- Handles all types of transport network technologies:
  - wireline transport networks (MPLS, Carrier Ethernet, xWDM, SDH/SONET, etc.)
  - wireline access networks (GPON, HFC, DSL, etc.)
  - network transformations, e.g. from SDH/SONET to MPLS - Carrier Ethernet
  - transport networks in mobile fronthaul and backhaul

- Automatically creates work orders according to planned activities
  - physical equipment (active + passive)
  - logical connectivity

- Distributes work orders via a workflow engine

- Graphically represents network layout and logical hierarchies for easy consumption

- Manages leased lines and dark fiber
  - Plan connections and services across a combination of owned and third-party resources

TELCO NETWORK OPERATIONS & SERVICE ASSURANCE

A proven way to improve service quality is to increase transparency of infrastructure resources and all dependencies. Network reliability and resiliency are achievable with a comprehensive source of all network and service data to rely on, and a management tool that simplifies everyday tasks.

- Impact analysis, in case of outages and failures

- Maintenance window analysis and management (What-If scenarios)

- Data enrichment of monitoring and trouble ticketing solutions, to automate incident and problem management processes

- Repair process support, i.e. spare part management, card (type) change, and lifecycle management

- Leased line/dark fiber management
  - Manage external resources, commercial aspects, SLAs, partner contact details
  - Provide transparency about usage of external resources and relation to services

CAPACITY MANAGEMENT

Precise load and capacity information is key to accurately assess capacity needs and proactively strengthen infrastructure. The right tools and information make it possible to manage, route and provision network capacities across the entire service chain, across all physical and logical network and service resources.

- Report on used and available resources per technology, e.g. links between nodes / sites, ports per node / site, etc.

- Identify and assign usage of external leased lines and dark fiber

- Support capacity management and similar uses with graphical network representations and navigation through the layers

- Dashboards with graphical representation of capacity data

Major Benefits of FNT Telco Active Inventory

FASTER IMPACT ANALYSIS

- Identify affected services and customers immediately in case of outages
- Provide data enrichment to optimize incident and problem management processes
- Prioritize tasks in daily operations to avoid SLA breaches accordingly

TRANSPARENCY ON REDUNDANT CIRCUIT ROUTING

- Differentiate and manage various types of service protection scenarios
- Manage diverse routing end-to-end on active transport and passive infrastructure layer
- Cross media auto-routing on circuit and service layer

EFFICIENT PLANNING OF MAINTENANCE WINDOWS

- Identify services and customers affected by a planned activity and inform them in advance
- Identify protections and plan necessary circuit re-routing to avoid SLA breaches
- Make informed decisions by knowing interdependencies and implications of changes at any point in time

PLAN ROLLOUTS

- Plan network expansions and rollouts based on accurate as-is documentation
- Automatically create work orders for field teams to execute planned tasks
- Keep data current by automatically updating the documentation as a result of planning
- Achieve a closed loop by comparing planned resources with actual network and correcting any errors

OPTIMIZE NETWORK CAPACITY UTILIZATION

- Gain transparency on capacity utilization across the network on all resources and layers
- Optimize usage of links and capacities based on comprehensive reports and dashboards
- Optimize CAPEX investments by executing capacity expansion where required

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