

# AMD's Malaysian Plant Controls Network Physical Layer with the SYSTIMAX® iPatch® System

CommScope's interactive, automated monitoring and management system delivers better network security and faster troubleshooting



With approximately 16,000 employees at 80 locations worldwide, Advanced Micro Devices, Inc. (AMD) is among the world's leading integrated circuit manufacturers. During 2006, it generated revenues exceeding \$5.6 billion, and it is well known as a market innovator in microprocessors, graphics and media solutions.

The company's site within the Bayan Lepas Free Industrial Zone in Penang, Malaysia, was its first manufacturing plant outside the USA. Today, this site is a world-class, 21,200m<sup>2</sup> facility with advanced cleanrooms, state-of-the art equipment and leading-edge production processes. All these technologies depend on a network that uses CommScope network infrastructure solutions.

SYSTIMAX® GigaSPEED® XL copper cabling and TeraSPEED® fiber cabling serve more than 900 network users in the site's three-floor building. As well as production departments, the building houses administrative offices and a data center. The network cabling connects many mission-critical applications, including voice over IP and data storage in addition to key production systems, so the technology leadership and reliability of SYSTIMAX network infrastructure solutions are important in maintaining peak efficiency and avoiding network downtime at the Bayan site.

To give the highest level of control over its network, AMD decided to upgrade the existing SYSTIMAX cabling at its Bayan plant to include the iPatch intelligent infrastructure solution. This improves managers' knowledge of their network, allowing them to respond promptly to any issues that threaten system availability. By automating the management of moves, adds and changes, the iPatch solution also makes best use of technical resources and helps reduce the risk of patching errors.

SYSTIMAX BusinessPartner, Linear Online, also based in Bayan, installed the iPatch solution in AMD's data center with help from CommScope iPatch specialists. Using the iPatch System Manager software on their desktop PC's, the data center's network administrators can now constantly monitor connections in every part of the organization. They can also trace end-to-end connectivity and have instant access to complete physical layer documentation that is automatically updated in real-time.

One benefit of the iPatch solution that is of particular value is its ability to track laptop PCs that users are connecting to the network via outlets other than their own. The system can identify the IP address of all connected devices, so users who are "IP hopping" from outlet to outlet can be monitored.

In total, the 20-strong team from Linear Online installed 1,000 copper and fiber iPatch ports at the Bayan site. The racks for managing GigaSPEED XL connections have 24-connector panels while the racks for TeraSPEED cabling have 12 SC fiber connectors per panel.

The iPatch equipment is located in two hub rooms as well as the data center and forms part of a star-configured network with tier 3 redundancy. In combination with the iPatch solution, the redundant connections help ensure the high level of network availability essential to run the Bayan plant at peak efficiency.

Commenting on the installation, Reginald Evans, Regional Director for South East Asia Pacific, CommScope Enterprise Solutions, said: "The physical layer can be a blind spot in network management, denying managers the knowledge and vision they need to run the network - and the business - effectively. Networks must constantly change as the business changes, so they need to be carefully managed and monitored to ensure they always meet the organization's demands - this is exactly what the iPatch solution is designed to do."



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