Site Over Remote Access (SORA)
MX109020A
Measuring Instrument Remote Control Solution
Network Master Pro
MT1000A/MT1040A
• Necessity for Remote Operation
  • Introduction to Site Over Remote Access (SORA)
  • From SORA Product Purchase to Usage
  • Q&A
When inexperienced technicians are testing and troubleshooting using measuring instruments, sometimes on-site expert support is required. In these cases, remote operation allows an expert to remain in the office while operating the remote measuring instrument and viewing the screens to offer advice to the operator while also cutting maintenance costs.

**Efficient Network Installation and Troubleshooting**

- **<Onsite>**
  - Manager
  - Connected operation and results evaluation
  - Center
  - Subscriber’s Home
  - Mobile Router

- **<In Office>**
  - Manager
  - Monitoring work on each floor. Integrated progress management improves work efficiency.
  - Technician (Floor A)
  - Technicians (Floor B and Floor C)
Base-station on-site work is becoming more complex with the spread of 5G services. More fiber runs, conversion to fronthaul Ethernet, and adoption of PTP supporting small-cell installations and CRAN, require new measurements, such as time synchronization.

On-the-job training by remote operation is an effective method for training experienced RF testing technicians in how to perform optical transport tests.
End-to-End Service Tests

Network-based services, such as IoT, remote medicine, self-driving vehicles, 4K/8K broadcasts using IP streams, factory automation via local 5G networks, etc., are all expanding. Ensuring the necessary quality for the services not only requires better reliability and lower latency but also demands assured service quality from the end application viewpoint.

Efficient measurement of circuit quality, such as packet loss, throughput, and latency, under near-to-live conditions is best achieved by remote control of several instruments.

**CATV Broadcast Quality Tests**

Measure one-way latency from CATV office using instrument at subscriber’s premises

**V2N2V Communications Quality Tests**

Measure V2V one-way communications latency from center by controlling two instruments in running vehicles
For Remote Operation

Anritsu measuring instruments have an IP interface as standard for remote operation. The simplest connection method is to use a LAN (Local Area Network) to connect the office PC and measuring instrument. However, the LAN connection must either be to the same site or to a station administrated by the same operator.

LAN connection must either be to same site or to station managed by same operator

To operate a measuring instrument that is not on the LAN remotely, such as on-site, a connection must be made via a WAN. In this case, a communications device such as a mobile router with a carrier-contracted SIM must be provided.

However, this is not the only requirement because the office PC connection destination cannot be specified because the measuring-instrument IP address is unknown. Successful connection requires the following two additional preparations:

1. Provision of a mobile router with a fixed IP address or a global IP address service contracted by the communications carrier
2. Port forwarding settings enabled on the mobile router
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Easy Connections Anywhere Using SORA

Using the MX109020A Site Over Remote Access (SORA hereafter) software measuring instruments can be remotely controlled easily anywhere. The SORA cloud-based service allows office users to log-in to an Internet webpage to control the measuring instrument from the office via a smartphone.
No Dedicated Application Install
The web-based service can easily be used from a general web browser. Recommended browsers: Chrome, Firefox

Easy Use via Smartphone
The measuring instrument can be connected to the Internet using smartphone tethering. Both iPhones and android smartphones are supported, eliminating the need for dedicated communications infrastructure.

Low Cost
Using a mobile router for remote control incurs monthly communications costs for each measuring instrument. Using SORA, the communications costs are part of the smartphone data contract. Although use of SORA requires a periodic license, it is a flat-rate annual cost irrespective of the number of measuring instruments.

High Security
Communications between the remote measuring instrument and office PC use high-security protocols. Measurement results can be transferred to files created by customers and these files are not resident in the cloud. (SORA is not a storage service, it is a connectivity service.)
**Remote Operation Function**
Measuring-instrument screens are displayed as is by the web browser. The PC keyboard and mouse are used to perform instrument operations. PC operations are displayed on the remote instrument screen. Several measuring instruments can be operated on one PC desktop.

**Administration Functions**
The serial number, firmware version, and available options of measuring instruments at each site can be listed on the PC screen.

**File Transfer Function**
Measurement results, etc., saved in the instrument internal storage can be transferred as a file to the office PC (GET), and files on the PC can be copied to the measuring instrument (PUT).
Remote Operation of Multiple Instruments by Multiple Administrators

Up to eight PCs can log-in simultaneously to SORA. Although there is no upper limit to the number of measuring instruments that can connect to SORA, the maximum number that be can be controlled simultaneously is two. It is necessary to add a purchase option to remotely control more instruments.

Operations by Administrator A are shared on the screens of the Instrument A operator and Administrator B.

Administrator A remotely controls Instrument C while Administrator B remotely controls Instruments A and B. In this case, an additional option is required to remotely control the three instruments simultaneously.
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Ordering Information

The following products are required to use the SORA server.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model / Order No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MX109020A</td>
<td>Site Over Remote Access Basic License</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MX109020A-TL001</td>
<td>Site Over Remote Access 1 Year License</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MX109020A-001</td>
<td>Site Over Remote Access 8 Units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MX109020A-002</td>
<td>Site Over Remote Access Unlimited Units</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Purchasing a 1-year license in addition to the basic license is mandatory.
- When extending the usage period, purchase another 1-year license.
- Up to two measuring instruments can be remotely controlled simultaneously with the basic license. This number can be increased to up to 8 units by purchasing the MX109020A-001 option, and up to 100 units by purchasing the MX109020A-002 option.

Use of SORA requires the following two products for the measuring instrument. (Refer to the separate catalog for the configuration of each measuring instrument.)

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Model / Order No.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MT1000A-011</td>
<td>Site Over Remote Access Connect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT1000A-003</td>
<td>Connectivity for WLAN/Bluetooth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT1040A-011</td>
<td>Site Over Remote Access Connect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT1040A-003</td>
<td>Connectivity for WLAN/Bluetooth</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The MT1000A-011/MT1040A-001 validity period is unlimited. The MX109020A can be used within the license validity period.
- Use of WLAN/Bluetooth options is subject to national and regional certification.

→ [MT1000A Certified List](#), [MT1040A Certified List](#)
Although there is no upper limit on the number of measuring instruments that can be connected to SORA, the number that can be remotely controlled simultaneously from a PC differs according to the purchased license option.

**Simultaneous Multiple Control Option**

The purchased option can be upgraded retroactively. The annual license fee is the same whichever option is used.
The steps from SORA purchase to usage are shown below.

**Delivery**
- Dispatch of license proof of purchase from Anritsu
- License proof of purchase provided for both MX109020A and MT1000A-011/MT1040A-011

**Validation**
- Creation of SORA login account according to MX109020A license proof of purchase procedure

**Registration**
- Log-in to SORA and registration of remotely operated MT1000A/MT1040A
- Password for registration appended to license proof of purchase appended to MT1000A-011/MT1040A-011
Sample Proof of License Purchase

The following shows a sample of the license proof of purchase provided on delivery of the purchased MX109020A.

Access the URL described here and create an account. This must be completed within 1 year from purchase.

Access the URL below to create an account.
Enter the desired username and your email address, and create an account. When the account is created, a temporary password will be sent to the registered email address.

https://us1.okta.anritsu.net/account?hash=072fb1c23536e4e166a54c2c6dee235b9eb66bea3c6f4d245c1c013b387

Then, access the URL below to log in with the temporary password, and set your new password.

https://us1.okta.anritsu.net/
The following shows a sample of the proof of purchase provided on delivery of the purchased MT1000A-011/MT1040A-011.

Use the serial number and password described here when registering the MT1000A/MT1040A for use with SORA. Only the registered MT1000A/MT1040A can be remotely controlled.

The password and serial number can be confirmed at the MT1000A/MT1040A screen, too.
Account Creation Procedure (1/2)

The following screen is displayed when accessing the URL described in the MX109020A proof of purchase license. Register the username and email address at this screen.

A temporary password is sent to the registered email address.

The email registered at account creation is used for provision of important information. If this email address changes, change the registered email address at the User Config screen displayed after SORA log-in.
The password can be changed after log-in using the temporary password. Set a password containing at least one lowercase and uppercase alphabetic character, one numeric character and one symbol from the following list (`^$.*(){}[]\[\]{}()?'`;|~`).

The above procedure completes creation of the SORA account.
Manage the created password carefully so that it is neither lost nor exposed to third parties.
Next, register the measuring instrument.
Measuring Instrument Registration Procedure

At log-in to SORA, press [User Config.] → [Register Unit] to display the measuring instrument product registration screen.

Use the serial number and password described in the MT1000A-011/MT1040A-011 proof of purchase certificate. Set the expiration date if necessary. For example, when registering a rented MT1000A/MT1040A unit, specify the rental termination date.
Clicking the icon at the right side of the screen displays the server connection screen. Clicking [Setup] on the screen scans for WLAN access points.

Choose the smartphone access point and input the password.
When a checkmark is input at [Connect], the MT1000A/MT1040A tests the connection to the server; it is not necessary to input the server IP address or URL. After the connection to the server has been successful once, the MT1000A/MT1040A will reconnect automatically to the same server at the next power-on. (If a different smartphone is used, it will be necessary to repeat the same setting operation over again.)
License Extension Method

To extend the SORA license period, order the MX109020A-TL001 option. After the order has been received, Anritsu processes the license extension. In addition to changing the expiry date at the SORA log-in screen, Anritsu will also issue a new proof of license purchase certificate showing the extension period.

Applications to extend the license period must be received after the remaining days becomes 90 or less. Anritsu will notify you by email as the expiration date approaches.
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Q1. How do we confirm the license expiry?
The license expiry date is always displayed at the log-in screen. Additionally, as the expiry date approaches we will send a notification email automatically to the registered email address.

Q2. Can an expired license be revalidated?
Yes. A license consists of the basic license and the valid-period license. Even when the latter license expires, the basic license is still active and all information of registered instrument are held, and continues even when the MX109020A-LT001 extension is purchased. However, if more than 180 days have passed after the license expiry, the registered measuring instrument data is deleted and must be re-registered again.

Q3. How do we continue a license without a break?
A 1-year license extension can be purchased provided the existing license has less than 90 days remaining before expiry. This should support the needs of people wishing to extend within the current budget.

Q4. Can we increase the number of simultaneously controlled measuring instruments?
There is an option to increase the number of simultaneously controlled instruments by purchasing either the MX109020A-001 or MX109020A-002. The number of days remaining before the expiry date does not change after purchasing these options. The extension provided by this option takes over after extension of the expiry date.

Q5. Can rented MT1000A/MT1040A units also be remote controlled?
Yes. Confirm with the rental company that the MT1000A-011/MT1040A-011 option is installed. The measuring instrument serial number and password are required to register the MT1000A/MT1040A with the SORA service. The password is described in the proof of license purchase shipped from Anritsu with the MT1000A-011/MT1040A-011.
Q6. Is it possible to extend the license period to 3 years by purchasing three 1-year licenses?
No. Licenses cannot be extended when more than 90 days remains on the license validity period.

Q7. Does purchasing multiple 1-year extension licenses allow application of the second or later license 1 year later?
No. When a customer orders an extension license, Anritsu extends the license validity period within 5 business days after receiving the order.

Q8. Are there any cloud security issues to worry about?
SORA is a connection service, not a cloud storage service. Confidential data such as measurement results are not stored on Anritsu’s administration server. SORA establishes a secure connection and mediates the communications. The communications contents cannot be leaked to third parties.

Q9. What is the required communications bandwidth when using a smartphone?
384 kbps or more is recommended.

Q10. Can I remote-control a measuring instrument connected to the company LAN?
Yes. However, the concealed communications protocol used by SORA might sometimes be blocked by the company’s security policy. Confirm with the user’s IT section whether TCP port 22 is open to outside the company. If it is not open, connect to the server using a smartphone.
Conclusion

Remote instrument control helps cut OPEX in various scenarios

✓ Remotely located specialist can support measurement work
✓ Online training
✓ End-to-end communications service tests

Remote control at low cost

Technicians only require smartphone with no need for additional equipment or dedicated software installation

Fixed-period license costs remain constant even with more measuring instruments

Easy operation

After setting tethering once, automatic connection and control are implemented at subsequent instrument power-up

Check the service usage contract conditions prior to purchase.
The service terms can be accessed at the following URL: