

ARUBA NETWORKS RELEASES NEW WHITE PAPER ON WIRELESS LAN RF ARCHITECTURE

Paper Explores the Theory, Features, Benefits, and Limitations of Adaptive Multi-Channel and Single-Channel Wireless LANs

SUNNYVALE, California, March 4, 2008 – Aruba Networks, Inc. (NASDAQ: ARUN), a global leader in wireless LANs and secure unified mobility solutions, today announced the availability of a new white paper on adaptive multi-channel and single-channel wireless LAN architectures. The paper dissects the theoretical underpinnings of both technologies, the potential benefits and limitations, and the practical reality of real-world implementations. Included is a discussion of Wi-Fi client design, testing, and performance and the impact on client interoperability of using non-standards based wireless LAN implementations.

“My objective in writing this paper was to describe in technical detail, and without the clutter of marketing messages, why there is more than one model of wireless LAN architecture, and what one can really hope to accomplish with each of them,” said Peter Thornycroft, author of the Aruba white paper. “I start with the theory of operation, explain the letter and spirit of the Wi-Fi standards, look at the design of the clients with which these wireless LANs are to be used, and then examine the practical reality of deploying Wi-Fi in a dynamic, RF interference-laden world.”

Single-channel wireless LANs were designed along the lines of 1st generation cellular networks in which all handovers between access points were centrally managed. What was true in the cellular world was found also to be true in the Wi-Fi world – centrally managed cellular networks could not scale, and an alternate distributed architecture was instead adopted for 2nd and modern 3rd generation cellular networks. In an adaptive multi-channel wireless LAN the clients manage handovers, but the network is intelligent enough to optimize itself for the type of traffic (data, voice, video) that needs to be handled.

“If one considers the world’s largest wireless LAN deployments – those in which all of the access points are managed from a central controller – they are all adaptive multi-channel networks,” said Keerti Melkote, Aruba’s founder and head of products and partnerships. “The reason is because using multiple channels makes the best use of all available airtime, and adaptive control mitigates interference from nearby networks and densely deployed access points. There is hard science to back this up, and the new white paper lays out the fundamental differences between the two technologies.”

The new white paper, *WLAN RF Architecture Primer*, can be downloaded directly from Aruba’s Web site at http://www.arubanetworks.com/pdf/technology/whitepapers/wp_RFARCH.pdf

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About Aruba Networks

People move. Networks must follow. Aruba securely delivers networks to users, wherever they work or roam. Our unified mobility solutions include Wi-Fi networks, identity-based security, remote access and cellular services, and centralized network management to enable the Follow-Me Enterprise that moves in lock-step with users:

- Follow-Me Connectivity: 802.11a/b/g/n Wi-Fi networks ensure that users are always within reach of mission-critical information;
- Follow-Me Security: Identity-based security assigns access policies to users, enforcing those policies whenever and wherever a network is accessed;
- Follow-Me Applications: Remote access solutions and cellular network integration ensure uninterrupted access to applications as users move.

The cost, convenience, and security benefits of our unified mobility solutions are fundamentally changing how and where we work. Listed on the NASDAQ and Russell 2000® Index, Aruba is based in Sunnyvale, California, and has operations throughout the Americas, Europe, Middle East, and Asia Pacific regions. To learn more, visit Aruba at <http://www.arubanetworks.com>.

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Media Contacts

Michael Tennefoss
Aruba Networks, Inc.
+1-408-754-8034

mtennefoss@arubanetworks.com

Jay Nichols
Sterling Communications, Inc.
+1-415-392-2300

jnichols@sterlingpr.com

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