

Enterasys RoamAbout® Wireless

Unified Wired and Wireless Visibility and Control

Overview

Today's wireline networks often include highly effective methods for controlling LAN access and leveraging edge-based traffic control policies for system-wide security. However these controls and policies do not easily extend to Wireless LAN (WLAN) infrastructure. Since most wireless networks are deployed alongside existing wireline infrastructures, it is essential to unify wired and wireless access and policy controls as business requirements for end user mobility increase. This is particularly the case as organizations rollout Network Access Control (NAC) and Security Information Management (SIM) solutions, and as Voice over IP (VoIP) handsets become WiFi enabled.

In many cases, the differences between the wireline and wireless control systems are enough to prevent the wireless components from utilizing the same authentication directory and policy management platforms. In this scenario IT operations must implement and maintain a separate back-end directory and policy management control system designed specifically for the WLAN. The capital investment, ongoing costs and management complexity of operating parallel control systems can quickly get out of hand.

The optimal approach is to deploy a WLAN solution that has specifically been designed and built for seamless integration with the existing wireline network to utilize the same directory authentication, management software and policy-based control mechanisms. Both LAN and WLAN can be effectively managed as one contiguous entity, greatly simplifying security, priority, manageability and troubleshooting. IT is then empowered to easily deploy Network Access Control, enforce acceptable use policies and audit network activity – regardless of the method used for network access.

The Enterasys Solution

Enterasys RoamAbout Wireless LAN solutions seamlessly integrate with the back-end directory and policy management mechanisms already in use on the wireline network. And RoamAbout enables best-in-class visibility and granular traffic control over users, applications and services for both the WLAN and LAN networks.

Enterasys offers business-oriented, policy-based visibility and control of users and applications; in contrast to competitive approaches which require technology-oriented manual configuration of access control lists (ACLs) on each device for individual ports and VLANs. With Enterasys, each user and networked device (computer, printer, camera, badge access reader, etc.) is authenticated before being granted access to the network with a specific set of authorized privileges based on time and location. Advanced QoS capabilities deliver deterministic control of the voice, video and data applications found in today's business environments.

Benefits

Mobility that is secure and scalable

- Role-based user/application priority and security based on authenticated identity
- Security information management and network behavioral analysis to proactively sense and automatically respond to threats
- [Direct Path Forwarding](#) enables voice and video applications while easing the migration to upcoming 802.11n WLAN standards

Unified wired and wireless

- Network Access Control (NAC) to ensure only the right users have access to the right information from the right place at the right time – regardless of LAN or WLAN connectivity
- Authentication, authorization and audit across wired and wireless infrastructure
- Location services deliver reliable real-time positioning data for mission-critical applications

Flexibility of thick or thin deployment

- A proven line of both thick and thin mode wireless access solutions designed for standards-based, open-architecture interoperability
- Unique support and services to integrate both thick and thin wireless systems and/or migrate from one to the other without disruption
- 15 years experience planning, designing, implementing and optimizing intelligent, integrated and automated wireless systems

Enterasys has a long heritage of developing both LAN and Wireless LAN products – in fact RoamAbout was the industry's first to market standards-based WLAN access point. Enterasys' experience and expertise – combined with advanced professional services and global presence – make us an industry leader in deploying enterprise-class LAN / WLAN solutions.

Contact Us

For more information, call Enterasys Networks toll free at **1-877-801-7082**, or +1-978-684-1000 and visit us on the Web at enterasys.com



Thought Leadership

Over 500 global patents

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