

WICK HILL NOW SHIPPING THE INDUSTRY'S MOST ADVANCED WI-FI OPERATING SYSTEM

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Friday, 7 December 2012

ArrayOS Powers Xirrus Wireless Arrays at the Network Edge, Delivering "Wired-Like" Performance, Scalability to Handle the Surge of BYOD, Application-Aware Policy Enforcement, and 802.11ac-Readiness

Woking, Surrey: 7/12/12 - Wick Hill is now shipping the latest, major release of Xirrus' flagship ArrayOS operating system for Xirrus Wireless Arrays.

Xirrus AOS 6.3 provides the industry's most advanced Wi-Fi operating system for optimizing the services and performance of wireless networks, uniquely addressing the growing challenges in bring-your-own-device (BYOD) environments.

ArrayOS 6.3 enables Xirrus Wireless Arrays with comprehensive, first-of-its-kind application-level visibility and policy enforcement at the network edge; support for Apple services such as Airprint and Airplay across enterprise networks; high scalability in support of dense 2.4GHz wireless environments; Passpoint certification for seamless Wi-Fi roaming and carrier data offload at wireless hotspots; and new options for migrating to 802.11ac when the new technology becomes available in 2013.

"BYOD has changed both the data transfer and performance expectations of users," said Ian Kilpatrick, chairman Wick Hill Group . " However, these expectations have not been met, with many networks still inadequate in their coverage and performance.

"This latest release from Xirrus will help organisations move to high density wireless in 2013, supporting business critical applications and delivering complete site coverage."

With vastly greater compute power in each Array compared to traditional access points (APs), Xirrus Arrays powered by AOS 6.3 enable vital services to be delivered and enforced at the network edge, outclassing approaches that centralize services on a single controller in the core of the network.

Key new functionality in the release includes:

- Application Control provides full application visibility and policy enforcement at the network edge in each Array. This enables prioritization, rate limiting, and firewalling of traffic by application – a depth of functionality unmatched by any competitive wireless vendor. By placing the classification and policy enforcement engines directly at the edge of the network, AOS 6.3 with Application Control allows enterprises to control bandwidth, security threats, and policies before the traffic enters and impacts the core network.
- Bonjour Director enables utilization of Apple devices on enterprise-grade networks through the filtering and forwarding of Apple Bonjour traffic. Bonjour traffic is multicast-based (multicast DNS or mDNS) and does not natively operate across multi-subnet and multi-VLAN networks. Bonjour Director propagates the discovery and usage of Apple iOS devices across subnets and VLANs, simplifying the integration of popular Apple services such as AirPrint and AirPlay.

- Advanced RF control features enable Wireless Arrays to support greater densities of users than competitive solutions. A new HoneyPot SSID mode eliminates much of the unnecessary traffic generated by smartphones attempting to connect to the network. This capability optimizes use of the available spectrum and increases network performance and the number of devices that can connect to the network. Additionally, new power management features help to optimize coverage patterns to support dense device situations in open environments such as stadiums and sporting venues.
- Wi-Fi CERTIFIED Passpoint™ status was achieved from the Wi-Fi Alliance for Xirrus Arrays in November 2012. See associated press release . Based on the Hotspot 2.0 specification, Passpoint enables compliant mobile devices to automatically discover and connect to Passpoint-certified Wi-Fi networks without user intervention, as well as roam seamlessly between networks while maintaining a network connection.
- 802.11ac-Ready Deployments are possible today with Xirrus' XR family of modular, multi-radio Arrays. The AOS 6.3 release adds support for a new Array model – the XR-2200 Wireless Array – which supports two modular Access Points plus two open slots supporting additional 802.11n modules or future 802.11ac modules when they become available in 2013. The XR-2200, along with all Xirrus XR Arrays, enables enterprises to quickly upgrade their wireless infrastructure to greater capacity while maintaining all of their existing investment.

About Wick Hill

Established in 1976, value added distributor Wick Hill specialises in secure IP infrastructure solutions and convergence. The company sources and delivers best-of-breed, easy-to-use solutions through its channel partners, with a portfolio that covers security, performance, access, networking, convergence, storage and hosted solutions.

Wick Hill is part of the Wick Hill Group, based in Woking, Surrey with sister offices in Hamburg. Wick Hill is particularly focused on providing a wide range of value added support for its channel partners. This includes a strong lead generation and conversion programme, technical and consultancy support for reseller partners in every stage of the sales process, and extensive training facilities. For more information about Wick Hill, please visit <http://www.wickhill.com> or www.twitter.com/wickhill

About Xirrus, Inc.

Xirrus is the leading provider of high-performance wireless networks. Xirrus' Array-based solutions perform under the most demanding circumstances with wired-like reliability and superior security. The Xirrus wireless solutions provide a vital strategic business and IT infrastructure advantage to the education, healthcare, government and enterprise industries that depend on wireless to operate business-critical applications. Headquartered in Thousand Oaks, CA, Xirrus is a privately held company that designs and manufactures its products and solutions in the USA. For more information please visit: www.xirrus.com and follow us on Twitter: @Xirrus.

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