ESG Lab Validation Report Summary

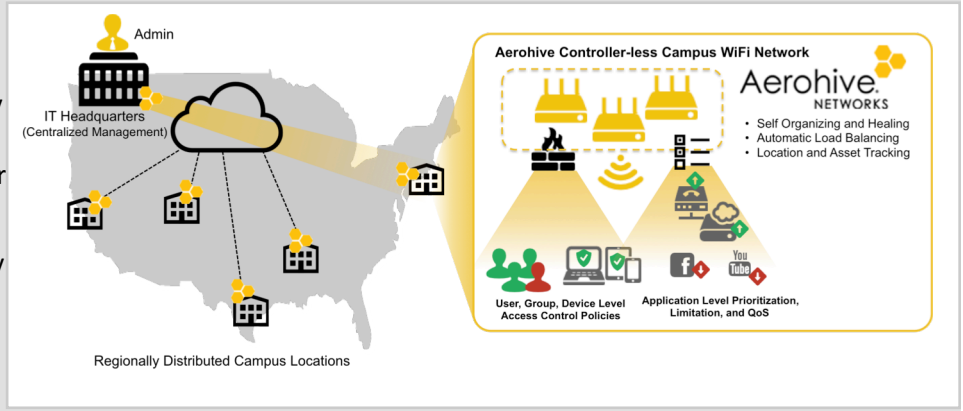
Aerohive Networks

Scalable, Application-aware Wireless Networking

IT organizations are being challenged to deliver a robust, individualized wireless experience for an ever-increasing number and variety of devices and use cases. ESG research shows that BYOD policies have driven new challenges in handling increases in network traffic, security risk, and administrative overhead. In this report, ESG Lab examined Aerohive Networks' controller-less wireless architecture with a goal of validating the ease of deployment, management, and performance scalability of Aerohive's distributed-intelligence approach to wireless networking.

Read the Full Report at http://www.aerohive.com

Aerohive Networks' secure, controller-less, distributed architecture was designed from the ground up to provide a scalable, high-performance mobile wireless LAN (WLAN) for distributed enterprises. By eliminating the need to deploy a dedicated network controller at each campus, Aerohive Networks enables distributed organizations to deploy networks that are more cost-effective, more secure, and simpler to manage and maintain.



Planning and deployment is greatly simplified as compute power, wireless coverage, and network reliability can be scaled easily by simply adding wireless access points (AP) to the self-configuring, self-optimizing, self-healing, HIVE network. Management is greatly simplified through centralized cloud-based management, the automatic sharing of network policies, and application awareness that eliminates the need to configure each end-user's mobile devices.

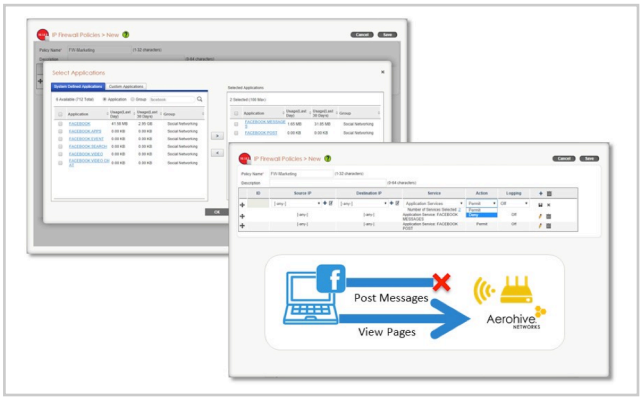
Why This Matters

Planning for, deploying, managing, and monitoring a traditional wireless network can be a difficult task that requires complex coordination of multiple areas of expertise. It is not surprising that many IT organizations have chosen to sub-contract this function to wireless professionals. The organizations that handle this responsibility in-house often must staff a team of administrators to manage and monitor the network and oversee time-consuming planning, coordination, and deployment cycles.

Using Aerohive's simple controller-less architecture and HiveManager cloud-based management platform, ESG Lab was able to plan, configure, manage, and monitor a wireless deployment quickly and securely, using guided wizards and intuitive tools. HiveManager is designed to reduce administrative overhead while providing the ability to manage and monitor the entire wireless environment with a simple, intuitive interface. Based on hands-on testing, ESG Lab has concluded that an Aerohive controller-less deployment can save an organization time and effort, leading to reduced operational expenses while providing robust wireless coverage using comprehensive planning tools.

ESG Lab Validation Highlights

ESG Lab performed hands-on evaluation and testing of Aerohive Networks Wireless Access Points at Aerohive's San Jose, CA facilities. The following is a summary of the results:



- ESG looked at how Aerohive Networks controller-less architecture can scale by simply adding APs. Each AP adds performance and reliability without adding management complexity, and at a predictable cost.
- Planning and deploying an Aerohive Networks wireless deployment was quick and simple using Aerohive's advanced planning tools and deployment wizards.
- Monitoring the Aerohive wireless deployment was very easy. Dashboards and reports made it simple to understand exactly what applications, users, or devices were doing on the network.
- Management using the cloud-based Hive Manager was simple, yet full featured. ESG Lab was able to manage APs at geographically dispersed locations from a single pane of glass, greatly reducing management complexity.
- ESG Lab used application visibility and control (AVC) to monitor, prioritize, and restrict application activity.
- Using AVC, ESG lab was able to identify inappropriate usage of network resources, locate the users and clients that were using the network inappropriately, and restrict these users' access to particular application functionality.
- ESG Lab was able to create policies to allow and restrict access, control network resources, and prioritize application level performance with quality of service (QoS) enforced at the edge of the network.

Issues to Consider

The test results and data presented in this document are based on testing in a controlled lab setting. Due to the many variables in each production environment, it is important to perform planning and testing in your own environment to validate the viability and efficacy of any solution.

The Bigger Truth

Advancements in technology and support for flexible policies such as remote workspaces and bring-your-own-device (BYOD) initiatives have resulted in a demand on IT organizations to deliver an individualized wireless experience for an ever-increasing number and variety of devices. ESG research shows that the support of the popular BYOD policy has resulted in new challenges handling increases in network traffic, security risk, and administrative overhead.[1]

Aerohive Networks is poised to solve these challenges with their distributed wireless solutions. A pioneer in controller-less wireless networks, Aerohive's tools make it easy for an organization to plan, deploy, manage, monitor, and grow a secure, high performance wireless network. ESG's 2014 Economic Value Validation (EVV) of Aerohive's Controller-less architecture[2] showed that Aerohive networks not only solves the complexity problem, but allows organizations to do so at a significant cost savings versus a traditional controller-based architecture.

Aerohive Networks is in a great position for success and growth delivering their solutions to organizations looking to cost-effectively deploy an enterprise grade wireless network that seamlessly delivers a high performing and secure wireless networking experience for all users, devices, and applications. If your organization is looking to provide secure, dependable, and simple wireless access to your employees, customers, and guests, ESG Lab recommends you consider the next-generation, distributed, controller-less solution from Aerohive Networks.

Read the Full Report at
http://www.aerohive.com

[1] Source: ESG Research Report, *Campus and Wireless Network Trends*, August 2014.

[2] http://www.aerohive.com/pdfs/ESG-Economic-Value-Validation-Whitepaper.pdf