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Success Story

Zyxel Rolls Out the Red Carpet at Press Event with Winning Wi-Fi Solution

INDUSTRY — Event Management

CUSTOMER — Hollywood Red Carpet

REGION — United States

SOLUTIONS — Zyxel wireless solution

Overview

Challenges

- Provide wireless connectivity for high-profile media event
- Install network in large scale temporary structure
- Quickly establish stable and reliable wireless service
- Prevent cross-channel interference
- Must be able to support large number of users

Benefits

- Seamless connectivity achieved for guests, press, and staff
- Secure with rogue AP detection
- Increased signal coverage
- Reduced cross-channel interference and dropped connections
- Maximized reliability with network autohealing

Solutions

- 802.11ac Dual Radio Smart Antenna 3x3 Access Point
- 802.11 n Dual-Radio Access Point
- Next-Gen Unified Security Gateway Advanced Series
- Wireless LAN Controller
- Gigabit Ethernet Smart Managed Switch
- Unified Access Gateway

"We figured that Zyxel would have a solution that would fit for our unique environment. The breadth of products, their functionality and features, and the pricing gave us the cost-effective, reliable, high-performance solution that we needed."

Michael Scharff
COO of OnsiteMac

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Background

In Hollywood, the red carpet is where the stars shine for the press at celebrity events like awards ceremonies and film premieres. While these gala gatherings usually take place inside, much of the excitement happens outside, with journalists and paparazzi snapping pictures and shooting video.

OnsiteMac, a professional Apple consultant team located in Los Angeles, specializes in film and video post-production and pre-press environment support. For the last several years, the company has been called upon to provide wireless Internet connectivity for the media at one of Hollywood's largest and most high-profile red carpet press conference venues. This year, the company turned to Zyxel for a complete wireless solution.

Challenges

The annual red carpet press conference is held in a 300-foot tent. Due to the temporary nature of the structure, every time an event is held a new network infrastructure needs to be installed specifically for the event.

The event consistently draws around 350-450 people, including press, photographers, and digital production people that rely heavily upon the provided Wi-Fi network. In addition, most participants carry more than two devices. It is, therefore, important to ensure the availability of seamless, stable, and reliable connectivity for guests, press, and staff who will be delivering up-to-the-minute news on one of the entertainment industry's most high-profile global media events.
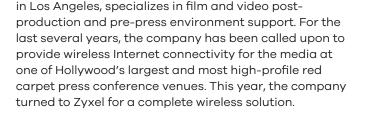

Solutions and Benefits

2016 marked OnsiteMac's fifth time providing network support for the awards show. However, they haven't always used Zyxel solutions.

"We started out using AirPort base stations," said Scharff, Michael Scharff, COO of OnsiteMac. "That worked for a little while and then we started having problems with crosstalk. The networks were continuously dropping because of interference. We needed to find a more reliable solution."

Having used the company's security gateway products for years, OnsiteMac turned to Zyxel for the solution to their demanding network requirement. "We figured that Zyxel would have a solution that would fit for our unique environment. The breadth of products, their functionality and features, and the pricing gave us the cost-effective, reliable, high-performance solution that we needed." said Scharff.

A Zyxel USG310 Unified Security Gateway was chosen to provide a complete line of defense for the venue's wireless network, including a primary and backup for failover. A GS1900-24 gigabit Ethernet smart managed switch was installed at the head of the network, a large Zyxel switch was deployed out in the field, and finally a Zyxel 802.11ac dual radio smart antenna 3x3 access point and unified access point were deployed. The latter's adjustable power settings allow the use of multiple access points in the environment, cutting down on interference while providing excellent coverage.

Zyxel's wireless solution successfully overcame the challenge of setting up a high-density Wi-Fi environment at this event. According to Scharff, the Zyxel wireless network solution provided the seamless, critical Internet connectivity that enabled the media to efficiently and effectively get their jobs done. The most important capability provided by the Zyxel network was rogue AP detection, also the set up was auto-healing to maximize the reliability of network connectivity.

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Products Used

WAC6503D-S • 802.11ac Dual Radio Smart Antenna 3x3 Access Point

- Zyxel smart antenna provides premium performance anywhere
- Advanced IEEE 802.11ac offers up to 1.75Gbps combined data rates
- Industry-leading Rx sensitivity as low as -102 dBm
- AP Flex™, Zyxel One Network utilities, DCS and tool-less bracket design streamline deployment
- Load balancing and client steering ensure optimal wireless experience
- ZyMESH easily extends reliable Wi-Fi network

NWA3560-N • 802.11 n Dual-Radio Business AP

- Centralized graphic management interface for up to 24 WLAN APs
- Back-up redundancy supported to provide reliable connection service
- Secured tunnels for communication between controller and managed AP to prevent leaking of configurations
- Built with Low Smoke, Zero Halogen (LSOH) materials for plenum rating for UL 2043 support

NWA5123-NI • 802.11 n Dual-Radio Unified Access Point

- Ceiling and wall mountable
- Plenum rated housing
- 2-in-1 standalone/managed AP design
- CAPWAP management supported
- Zyxel One Network is supported

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NXC2500 • Wireless LAN Controller

- Centralized management for up to 64* APs
- ZyMesh mitigates complex, inconvenient cabling Wi-Fi deployments
- Client steering enhances efficiency of wireless spectrum utilization
- Auto healing maximizes Wi-Fi service availability
- Seamless integration with external AD, LDAP, RADIUS authentication
- Best investment protection with built-in RADIUS server

*Management of 64 APs is supported with firmware version V4.10 or

USG310 • Next-Gen Unified Security Gateway Advanced Series

- High-performance, high-value Next Generation Firewall (NGFW) for small and medium-sized businesses
- Complete network protection with firewall, anti-virus, antispam, content filtering, IDP, next-generation application intelligence and SSL inspection
- Robust SSL, IPSec and L2TP over IPSec VPN connectivity and VPN high availability (HA)
- Built-in WLAN controller for centralized AP management and effortless WLAN scalability of up to 34 APs

UAG5100 • Unified Access Gateway

- Supports 500 concurrent logins by default and up to 800 via license upgrade
- Integrated account generator, Web-based authentication portal and billing system
- Supports up to ten (10) SP350E Service Gateway Printers and SMS ticketing with ViaNett protocol
- Per account bandwidth management
- Dual-WAN load-balancing, failover and fall back support
- Built-in WLAN controller (supports 16 APs by default and up to 32 APs via license upgrade)
- Facilitates compliance with data retention regulations
- Provides ten (10) IPSec VPN tunnels for remote management by MSPs

GS1900-24 • Gigabit Ethernet Smart Managed Switch

- 10/100/1000 Mbps GbE ports
- Easy browser-based switch management
- Quick and easy set up wizard
- Advanced network error prevention features (loop protection, dual images, storm control, DoS and SSL)
- Fanless design
- Green Ethernet IEEE 802.3az support and intelligent Zyxel green features

About Zyxel Communications

Focused on innovation and customer-centricity, Zyxel Communications has been connecting people to the Internet for nearly 30 years. Our ability to adapt and innovate with networking technology places us at the forefront of creating connectivity for telcos and service providers, business and home users. Zyxel is building the networks of tomorrow, unlocking potential, and meeting the needs of the modern workplace — powering people at work, life, and play. Zyxel, Your Networking Ally.