Success Story

Historic Hotel in Venice Chooses ZyXEL Wireless Hospitality Solution

Overview

Customer Name
Hotel Continental Venice

Customer Industry
Hospitality

Challenges
• Upgrade wired and wireless network for hotel guests and staff
• Network must by secure and stable
• Ability to manage different use policies for staff and guests
• Provide high-speed Internet connection
• Create two separate networks for staff and guests

Solutions
• 802.11 a/b/g/n Unified Access Point
• Wireless LAN Controller
• GbE Smart Managed Switch with GbE Uplink
• Unified Security Gateway

Benefits
• Dual VLANs allow separate access for guests and staff to the Internet
• Smart managed switches link high-speed wired network
• Firewall provides UTM services for network security
• Ability to manage staff Internet use for more productivity
• High-speed and stable Internet access provided free of charge to guest through easily managed usage protocols
• Future-proof for eventual expansion

Background

The Hotel Continental is situated in one of the many historical buildings found among the timeless streets of Venice, Italy, located in close proximity to the famed San Marco Square and Grand Canal. Built in the 15th century, its interior design is both elegant and sophisticated, accented with marbles imported from Portugal and Siena, and appointed with furnishings typical to Venetian style and tastes. The hotel comprises 93 rooms, a bar and restaurant, and offers high-quality services to its customers, which includes both business and leisure travelers.

Challenges

The Hotel Continental needed to upgrade its old wireless network with a new future-proof professional solution to provide a better service to its guests and staff. In particular, it was necessary to design two separate networks with two different Internet connections. One would be for internal use, dedicated to the reception, office, and back office, while the other would be directed at guests only. The guest’s wireless connection had to be free, stable, high-speed and easy to manage.
Solutions and Benefits

Wi-Fi connectivity is handled by 18 NWA5121-NI 802.11 a/b/g/n Unified Access Points installed along the hotel’s corridors, managed by a NXC2500 wireless LAN controller. Guests and staff can access the two VLANs, with guests being redirected to a captive portal managed by the wireless LAN controller. Staff access directly via the hotel’s internal network. Four GS1900 24-port GbE smart managed switches link cabling and provide power supply. Two ZyXEL USG210 unified security gateways in high availability configuration provide UTM services for the security of the network.

With the implementation of two separate network infrastructures, Hotel Continental Venice benefits from a high-speed wired network, as well as a wireless network provided to guests free of charge, but with logging capabilities and security options that fulfill compliance requirements. With these features, the hotel can provide a high-quality service to its guests, allowing them to connect to the Internet anywhere in the hotel, with total security.

The distinct networks provide for the adoption of separate usage policies and monitored access options for staff and customers. For example, the internal staff network can limit access to certain applications to maximize productivity.

The Hotel Continental now has a private network for its employees, and a free wireless network for its guests, with full security features, high-speed connectivity, and easy management. In the near future the network will be expanded to outside the building and across the canal.

Product Used

USG210
Unified Security Gateway

• High-performance, high-value Next Generation Firewall (NGFW) for small and medium-sized businesses
• Anti-malware protection with firewall, anti-virus, anti-spam, 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 18 APs
• Comprehensive mobile broadband USB modem compatibility and multi-WAN load-balancing, failover and fall back support

NWA5121-NI
802.11 a/b/g/n Unified Access Point

• Ceiling and wall mountable
• Plenum rated housing
• 2-in-1 standalone/managed AP design
• CAPWAP management supported
• High-performance RF technology: Tx Beamforming and Rx Maximum Likelihood Demodulation (MLD)
**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 above

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**GS1900**
**24-port GbE 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

ZyXEL Communications Corp., founded in 1989 and headquartered in Taiwan, is the leading provider of complete broadband access solutions. As one of the early modem manufacturers, ZyXEL has gone through transformations in the fast-paced networking industry. Delivering cutting-edge communications innovations to more than 400,000 businesses and more than 100 million consumers throughout the world, today ZyXEL is one of the few companies in the world capable of offering complete networking solutions for Telcos, small to medium-sized businesses, and digital home users for a wide range of deployment scenarios. Telco solutions include Central Office Equipment, Customer Premise Equipment, Wired and Wireless Access Network Devices, and Carrier Switches. SMB and Enterprise solutions include Unified Security Gateways, LAN Switches, WLAN, and IP Telephony. Digital Home solutions include Network Connectivity Devices and Multimedia Solutions.

The company has 1000 employees and distributors in 70 countries, reaching more than 150 regional markets. The ZyXEL Communications Corp. includes 35 subsidiaries and sales offices and two research and development centers worldwide. For more information, visit the company’s Website, http://www.zyxel.com.

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