Wi-Fi Upgrade Guide

MAKE AN INTELLIGENT WI-FI INVESTMENT
Top 6 considerations for upgrading your Wi-Fi solution
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The growing need for users to be productive on their mobile devices is driving organizations everywhere to look for ways to cost-effectively build and support Wi-Fi networks that deliver the best connectivity and user experience.

Aruba, a Hewlett-Packard Enterprise company, surveyed over 4,000 individuals to better understand the current pain points and unique requirements of Wi-Fi buyers. Respondents represented solution providers working with small and medium business (SMB) customers across the USA, Canada, and Latin America.

Based on this research, we’ve outlined the top six factors that should be taken into consideration when choosing the right Wi-Fi solution for your small or medium business:

- **PERFORMANCE**
  Meet user expectations

- **PRICE**
  Make a smart investment

- **GUEST WI-FI**
  Automate secure guest access

- **FLEXIBILITY**
  Manage it your way

- **VISIBILITY**
  Get your apps under control

- **SIMPLICITY**
  Deploy without an expert
## PERFORMANCE  Meet user expectations

There are two primary reasons why businesses get user complaints about poor Wi-Fi:
- Too many devices connecting to old networks
- Networks unable to support increasing application traffic

### RECOMMENDATION
Consider upgrading your 802.11a/g/b/n network to the latest Wi-Fi standard – 802.11ac. The need for gigabit speed, improved capacity, and reliability is amplified as mobile users, devices, and application usage continue to grow rapidly.

### 7 in 10 businesses get user complaints about poor Wi-Fi

## PRICE  Make a smart investment

When choosing a cost-effective solution that fits your budget, keep in mind that it’s not just about the initial cost of access points. Additional hardware, licenses, and subscriptions can drive up the total cost of ownership, increasing your capital and operational expenses.

### RECOMMENDATION
Look for a complete Wi-Fi solution with lifetime hardware warranties and zero to low recurring costs for software licenses or subscriptions.

### 50% of Wi-Fi buyers are very cost-conscious

## GUEST WI-FI  Automate secure guest access

Providing customers, contractors, and other visitors with guest access to the Wi-Fi network has become mandatory for almost all businesses. The majority of these businesses are offering network access via pre-shared key (PSK), which can have security implications and puts the network at risk.

### RECOMMENDATION
Consider a solution that offers secure guest access features like a customizable captive web portal, self-registration for guests, and back end reporting.

### 85% of businesses are currently giving network access to their guests
Choosing how you want to manage your network can be tricky. Some vendors might try to lock you into a mandatory management option, but a one-size-fits-all approach can’t possibly meet your needs as your business evolves.

**RECOMMENDATION** Consider a solution that offers the flexibility of cloud vs. on-site management but also the ability to scale with advanced networking options as your business grows.

Getting visibility and control of the applications running on your network is necessary to secure and optimize network performance and also provide a seamless user experience.

**RECOMMENDATION** Consider a solution that offers granular application layer visibility, enabling you to prioritize, block, or limit bandwidth for specific apps.

Complex Wi-Fi solutions can be a drain on IT resources. Many SMB IT teams don’t have Wi-Fi experts on staff to deploy, manage, and monitor their networks.

**RECOMMENDATION** Consider a Wi-Fi solution that offers quick, out-of-the-box deployment and automates advanced features like RF management, intrusion detection and prevention, and guest management.
MAKE AN INTELLIGENT WI-FI INVESTMENT WITH ARUBA INSTANT

ARUBA INSTANT IS A PURPOSE-BUILT WI-FI SOLUTION THAT MEETS THE UNIQUE NEEDS OF SMALL TO MEDIUM BUSINESSES. It delivers superior Wi-Fi performance, enterprise-grade security, and the simplicity of zero-touch deployment — all at an affordable price.

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