PARTNER SOLUTION OVERVIEW

Aruba and DeCurtis
Real-Time Shipboard Location Services for Cruise Ship Guests and Staff

Making complex indoor spaces on cruise ships easier to discover and navigate is important for guest experience and operational efficiency. With the right tools, crew members can quickly locate high-value assets or members onboard, while guests can easily navigate to points of interest and find family members with the touch of a button. In today’s environment, it may also be important for health reasons to know where a person has been within the ship so that proactive mitigation steps can be taken if there are health or safety concerns.

While Global Positioning Systems (GPS) can provide location, signal is usually unavailable or unreliable in indoor spaces, and even more challenging onboard a moving ship. Cloud-based infrastructure for computing location is not feasible on ships that use slower satellite communications that often lose Internet connectivity.

DeCurtis offers the DeCurtis Experience Platform to transform the cruise line experience for staff and guests. The platform works with a variety of proprietary Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) devices such as wearables, cards, and tags. Aruba and DeCurtis have partnered to integrate Aruba 802.11ax (Wi-Fi 6) and 802.11ac (Wi-Fi 5) wireless access points with DeCurtis’ BLE tags and location platform to support use cases at sea that will enable new experiences for guests such as food and beverage delivery while guests may be moving aboard the ship.

BETTER TOGETHER

Positional data is advertised by BLE transmitters in DeCurtis cards or wearables (like badges or bands) worn by people or secured on equipment or assets. This positional data is captured by the BLE radios in Aruba’s wireless access points (APs). No additional hardware needs to be connected to the AP. The APs pass the data on to the Aruba Controller which collects and normalizes the data, and then forwards it on to the DeCurtis Location Solution.

WHY ARUBA AND DECURTIS?

- Enable new location-based services and experiences for guests and staff
- Safety solutions for security, safety, mustering, emergency search, and contact tracing
- Self-contained shipboard deployment for adding location context, wayfinding, and asset tracking while in port or out at sea
- Leverages existing wireless infrastructure - no additional gateways or dry dock time required
- Joint certified interoperable

The DeCurtis Location Solution processes the BLE data packets along with a pre-created virtual construct of the physical layout of the ship to determine location and provide routing information. Routing information is sent to guest devices (such as smart phones) running a DeCurtis guest application which has maps of the ship to provide positioning and turn-by-turn wayfinding. Location information is also available to DeCurtis safety applications for mustering (assembly) or emergency search. The DeCurtis Location Solution includes a patent pending Privacy Engine which can be configured to offer time-based or location-based privacy in areas such as passenger cabins or other private spaces.

Location information becomes invaluable in the event of an illness outbreak. Retroactive timelines and true contact tracing can keep passengers and staff healthier and safer by mitigating outbreaks and identifying potentially exposed areas that require immediate cleaning protocols.
With Aruba’s WLAN infrastructure and DeCurtis’s on-premises location solution, real-time location services can be provided without cloud connectivity or dependence on GPS. The solution improves guest experience and operational efficiency by allowing both guests and staff to quickly locate and navigate to each other and/or specific areas of interest with ease. Security for sensitive equipment or assets is increased with tracking, and overall safety is improved by having location data available to safety authorities during emergencies. When there are health concerns, location data can be queried real-time or retroactively to determine where and when at-risk persons may have visited or who they may have been proximal to within the ship so that appropriate risk mitigation steps may be taken early.

**USE CASES**

The joint solution provides:

- Shipboard location and wayfinding for guests and staff
- New services like dynamic delivery of food or beverages to guests wherever they may be within the ship
- Location and tracking of equipment or valuable assets
- Safety mustering (assembly) and emergency search
- Live and retroactive reporting of location for contact tracing
**SUMMARY**

Together, Aruba and DeCurtis provide a Bluetooth Low Energy enabled location solution for cruise ships while in port or out at sea. The solution leverages existing Aruba wireless infrastructure and enhances guest experiences with wayfinding, safety features and dynamic delivery using location positioning and tracking. The solution also enables contact tracing through live or retroactive location reporting. The actionable location data captured within this solution leads to greater operational efficiency for staff and enhanced health, safety and security for everyone onboard.

To learn more about Aruba's wireless portfolio, visit: www.arubanetworks.com/products/networking/access-points/

**DEPEND ON DECURTIS**

DeCurtis Corporation is the first choice for agile, product-focused SaaS software solutions powering any indoor, complex environment. We are the leader in transformational experience technology focused on the cruise industry but applicable to restaurants, theme parks, and the extended hospitality industry.

**CONTACT US TODAY, SO WE CAN START BUILDING YOUR CUSTOMIZED CLOUD NETWORKING SOLUTION.**

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