



Firetide WLAN Controller

Firetide WLAN Controller is a software platform enabling advanced wireless LAN management and control within an enterprise deployment. Working in concert with HotPoint® wireless access points and HotView Pro™ network management software, Firetide WLAN Controller delivers advanced functionality to enable deployment of wireless access points with ease.

Superior Coverage and User Experience

Firetide WLAN Controller is the latest addition to the Firetide Wi-Fi access solution, which includes HotPoint access points, HotClient™ customer premises equipment, HotView Pro network management software and Firetide Mobility Controller for client and infrastructure mobility. Building on its extensive experience with wireless mesh backhaul, where bandwidth is precious, Firetide designed its access solution to distribute intelligence at the edge, resulting in superior coverage and user experience with only a minimal amount of bandwidth taken up by critical control traffic to the centralized WLAN controller.

Flexibility of Deployments

Firetide mesh and access product portfolio delivers full WLAN management capabilities and ubiquitous coverage, even in areas where



Coverage gap detection tool in Firetide WLAN Controller

access points cannot be hardwired. The combination of wireless mesh backhaul and client access managed from a single network management interface delivers unprecedented ease and flexibility of deployments, allowing areas without existing infrastructure—such as parking garages, elevators, and outdoor spaces—to be covered so that workers, visitors or residents alike never disconnect from the network.

Advanced WLAN Capabilities

To facilitate enterprise deployments, Firetide WLAN Controller provides radio power management, Wi-Fi coverage mapping and gap

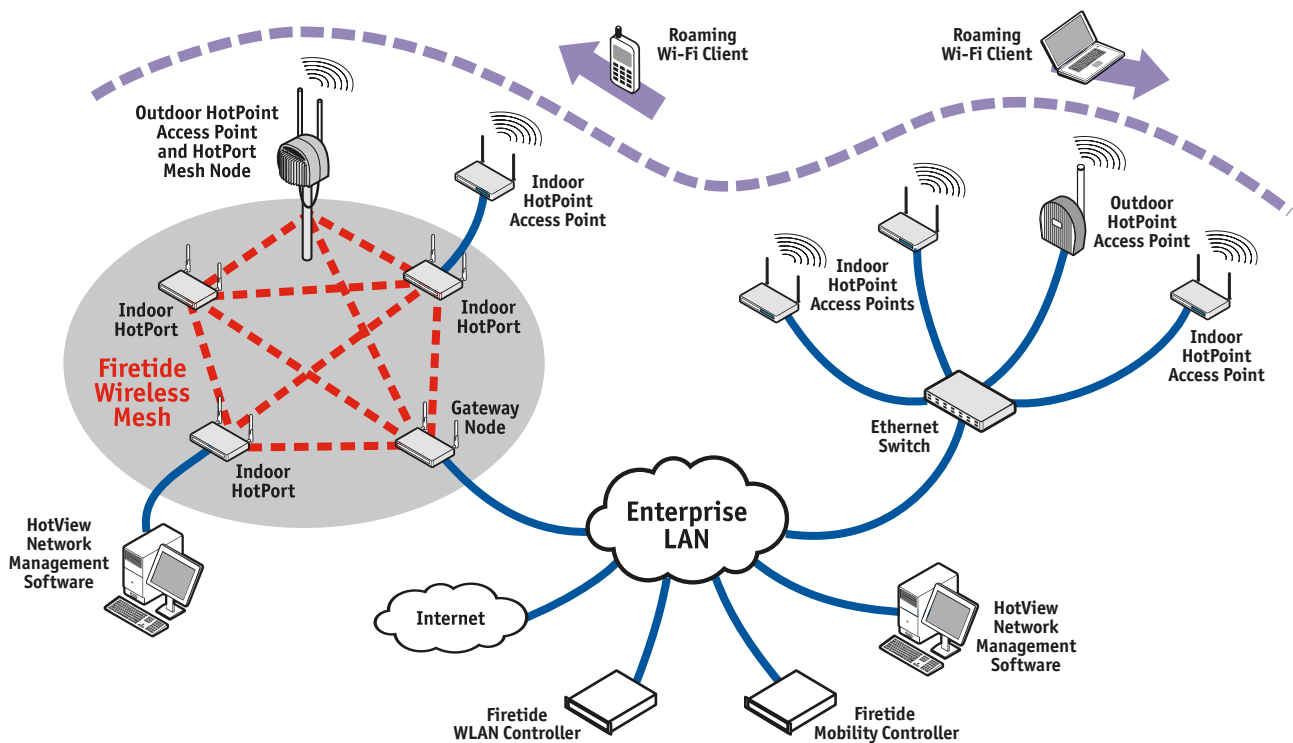
analysis, policy and user management, AAA functionality, mobility and security features. Integrated DHCP authentication services, plug and play access point configuration, and zero-touch management make the Firetide WLAN solution ideal for small footprints with limited onsite IT staff as well as distributed environments where access points can span buildings, campuses or entire cities.

Per-user Performance Management

To ensure fair bandwidth usage amongst all clients, Firetide WLAN solution rate limits clients both at per user level as well as at entire virtual access point level. This capability ensures that malicious users are not able to bring down the overall throughput of an access point and delivers fair bandwidth allocation amongst all clients associated with a HotPoint access point. Firetide access solution also has the capability of configuring and enforcing service level contracts between the access point and clients.

Interference Mitigation

For optimal connectivity between the clients and the HotPoint access points, Firetide WLAN Controller automatically scans the environment for radio interference and assigns the channel with minimal interference to an access point. Use of historical data to make



Firetide WLAN Controller

these decisions improves performance of the network and user experience.

Deployment Tools

Firetide WLAN solution comes bundled with deployment tools—coverage hole analyzer, statistics and throughput analyzer—to help in network design and optimal placement of access points. The control functionality is integrated with HotView network management software for real-time view of the state of the network.

RADIUS Server Authentication

Firetide WLAN controller has RADIUS (Remote Authentication Dial in User Service) server integrated for centralized end user authentication, authorization, and accounting for access applications and seamless client mobility across domains. Standards based RADIUS implementation ensures easy integration with third-party billing systems.

Enhanced Functionality

- Sophisticated auto-channel detection algorithm to minimize interference
- Coverage hole detection for optimal planning and deployment of access points
- Policies for advanced user management, such as abuse prevention, rate management and control
- Service level agreement enforcement with dedicated (CPEs) or shared bandwidth (CPEs and clients)
- RADIUS authentication, accounting and administration for ease of deployments

Hardware Independent Architecture

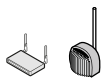
Firetide WLAN Controller is a software module from Firetide that runs on a standard server like IBM system x3550 7978AC1. This hardware independence provides a scalable, multi-service platform for network growth and investment protection. The Firetide WLAN Controller software module is provided via a CD. The table at right lists the hardware requirements for running Firetide WLAN Controller.

WLAN Access Features				
Flexible Architecture	Multi-level Security	Management & Deployment	Access Control	Hotspot Service Control
Backhaul w/ HotPort mesh or Ethernet	802.11i, WPA2, 802.1x	Physical AP grouping	Policy Management – RSSI, idle time, modulation rate*	Virtual AP and virtual AP groups
16 ESSIDs / VLANs per AP	RADIUS authentication*	Auto AP discovery	Inter-cell/Intra-cell blocking	Login based URL redirection
802.11e WMM QoS	MAC access filtering	Remote firmware upgrades	Zero client configuration*	Walled garden
Automatic channel mgmt and assignment*	SSID suppression	Multiple management interfaces: SNMP, CLI, HTTP	Access control server*	RADIUS accounting*
NAT	Firewall	Explorer navigation	Power control*	User-based rate limiting
WDS client server	VPN tunneling & filtering	Coverage gap analysis*	QoS management per client*	
DHCP	Rogue AP detection			

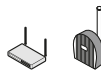
* Functionality enabled by Firetide WLAN Controller

Hardware Requirements	
Processor	Intel® Xeon™ 5150 Dual Core Processor at 2.66GHz/2x2MB L2 Cache
Operating System	Red Hat Enterprise Linux Operating System (Customer Installed)
Additional PCI Express Adapter Intel	PRO/1000 PT Dual Port Server Adapter
Memory	512 MB, DDR2, 667MHz,
Primary Hard Drive	160GB 7200 RPM 3.5" Simple-Swap SATA Hard Drive
Network Adapters	Dual integrated 10/100/100 Mbps Ethernet (Standard)
CD/DVD Drive	Combo V Ultrabay Enhanced
2nd Hard Drive	Additional 160GB 7200 RPM 3.5" Simple-Swap SATA Hard Drive
Hard Drive Configuration	2 Drives Attached to Onboard SATA Controller, Software assisted RAID
Power Supply	670 W

Other Firetide Products



Mesh Nodes
HotPort Indoor & Outdoor Mesh Nodes



Access Points
HotPoint Indoor & Outdoor Access Points



CPE
HotClient Indoor & Outdoor Customer Premises Equipment



Software
HotView & HotView Pro Network Management Software



Accessories
Antennas, Mounting Kits, Cables, etc.



www.firetide.com
140 Knowles Drive, Los Gatos, CA 95032
Phone: +1 408-399-7771 | Fax: +1 408-399-7756 | Email: info@firetide.com