



## Change is in the Air: Pervasive Wireless LAN in a Warehouse Environment

Perhaps no other group is more determined to benefit from wireless LAN (WLAN) than companies whose logistics operations are critical to their business model. For these enterprises, the incremental time-savings and productivity increases enabled by WLAN can translate into bottom-line profitability and an edge over their competitors.

Companies are deploying pervasive WLAN in warehouses in response to shifting operational realities, such as the move towards real-time inventory systems and more accurate materials-handling technologies. These trends make network availability and real-time communications as business-critical as the highways and railroads that move products from factories to retail stores.

Logistics and warehousing companies are rapidly adopting WLAN for:

- **RFID/Asset Tracking:** Pervasive WLAN is a key component of enabling this revolutionary technology to provide significant gains in inventory management.
- Supply Chain Management: WLAN is an essential part of responsive and flexible supply chain management to help reduce excess inventory build-up.
- Infrastructure Build-outs: WLANs allow enterprises to quickly expand or modify warehouse space in response to changing operating demands.
- Communication: Voice over WLAN (VoWLAN) promises dramatically improved employee accessibility in large warehouse spaces. VoWLAN can give warehouse personnel access to real-time inventory information, voice communication, instant messaging, and even external data such as inventory at other company warehouses.

#### Overcoming the Open Space Limitations of the Warehouse

The warehouse environment creates serious challenges for traditional WLAN deployments. Though warehouses are typically open spaces that would seem suited to wireless signal propagation, their construction and layout can be problematic, with metal structures and corridors making coverage difficult to achieve. Other obstacles include a changing RF landscape due to movement of goods, and roaming and re-authentication issues that can impact the productivity of a highly mobile workforce.

Extricom's award-winning WLAN system is uniquely designed to meet these demanding requirements. Unlike other WLANs in the marketplace, the Interference-Free<sup>™</sup> Architecture enables dramatically easier WLAN deployment and lower total cost of ownership, while achieving a generational leap in capacity, coverage, seamless mobility and security capability. The result is a large-scale WLAN infrastructure delivering campus-wide triple play services with the dependability of a wired network.



Wireless technology has revolutionized the warehousing and logistics operations environment in the past two decades. The advent of pervasive WLAN promises to accelerate productivity and profitability gains even further. The challenge now is to identify the right solution that can make this promise a reality.

Wireless On the Move



The Extricom Interference-Free™ Architecture

Impressive Performance Surprising Simplicity Lowest Cost of Ownership

- Converged Voice, Data, & Video, with Zero-Latency Mobility
- Plug-and-Play Simplicity, with no RF Cell Planning
- Blanket Coverage for Ubiquitous Service without Co-Channel Interference
- Wire-like Connection
- TrueReuse<sup>™</sup> Bandwidth
- Multi-Blanket Operation, in One Infrastructure

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#### Warehousing Core Requirements

#### Reliable, Comprehensive Communications

The WLAN solution has to meet high standards of reliability. Connectivity issues will directly impact employee productivity and bottom-line profitability.

#### Support Highly Mobile Workforce with Diverse Operational Needs

The WLAN solution must be able to meet the performance needs of employees who are continually moving within the warehouse space without roaming and re-authentication issues.

#### Wire-Like VoWLAN

As VoWLAN becomes an increasingly important tool in the warehouse environment, the quality of communications becomes critical to business operations.

#### Ease of Installation

The WLAN must be capable of quick installation to meet changing space needs, and should be able to handle a dynamic RF environment in which large amounts of goods and cargo are being moved around.

#### Extricom's Unique Value

#### **Guaranteed Service**

Extricom's technology is the only WLAN technology that can deliver a guaranteed and consistent level of connectivity speed, to all users, everywhere on the property, always.

# A Multi-Layer System that Ensures No Performance Trade-offs

Extricom's unique channel blanket infrastructure provides maximum bandwidth, mobility, and coverage to every employee – as if they each had a dedicated system of their own.

#### Zero-Latency, Seamless Mobility

No handoff delays. No dropped calls. Superior voice quality and battery life. This is the Extricom WLAN built for voice over Wi-Fi.

#### The Lowest Cost of Ownership

Extricom's solution eliminates the cost of RF cell planning and RF staff expertise, seamlessly extends your existing wired network, and is deployed and maintained with plug-and-play simplicity. The bottom line is Total Cost of Ownership that is 50% lower than competing solutions.

#### The Future of Wi-Fi

Major companies with large logistics and warehouse operations clearly see the importance of Wi-Fi to their business success. The question is: how confident is your company's IT staff that today's technologies can meet the current and future demands of their environment?

Ask us how retail and shipping companies, as well as clients in the healthcare, hospitality, and enterprise arenas have succeeded with Extricom. Extricom's Wireless LAN is specifically designed to answer the challenges posed by pervasive Wi-Fi, providing the high-performance, resilient, and future-proof infrastructure required by your logistics and warehouse environment.