



Aruba Wireless

Review From A Customer



From IT Central Station, the leading review site for enterprise technology solutions.

Review by a Real User

Verified by IT Central Station



Senior Systems/Network Administrator at a financial services firm with 501-1,000 employees

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VALUABLE FEATURES

Integrated firewall, integrated WIDS/WIPS on the controllers and the ability to tunnel LAN traffic from the switches through the controllers to set consistent 802.1x and access controls that are consistent across both wired and wireless LANs.

IMPROVEMENTS TO MY ORGANIZATION

It improves security by helping us to centralize access controls and dot1x and set common policy across both wired and wireless LANs without having to install additional components.

ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

The controllers used to include heat map functionality. This was removed in a recent release. To get this functionality now, you need to be using Airwave (AWMS), which adds additional cost. On the other hand, Airwave can be used to manage a multi-vendor environment, so there may be some other benefits to having it deployed, but it would be nice to have the heat map back in the controller.

USE OF SOLUTION

I've been using it for five years.

DEPLOYMENT ISSUES

No issues encountered.

STABILITY ISSUES

No issues encountered.



SCALABILITY ISSUES

No issues encountered.

CUSTOMER SERVICE AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Customer Service: It's excellent. Technical Support: It's excellent.

INITIAL SETUP

Default settings are sufficient to get a functioning wireless network up and running fairly easily. Complexity increases add VLANs, security policy, dot1x, redundancy, etc.

IMPLEMENTATION TEAM

At my previous employer we had a relatively large wireless installation so we worked with a vendor team. The network at my current employer is small enough that I could handle it myself.

PRICING, SETUP COST AND LICENSING

Licensing has improved. In the past all redundant controllers required licenses for all the access points. They've not implemented a centralized licensing model so that you only need to license your access points once.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED

We evaluated Cisco. Cisco's solution, at the time, required additional components to provide the same functionality. For example you'd need external firewalls, IDS/IPS, and authentication servers. Aruba controllers had all this built in. I haven't looked at Cisco's current offerings, so this may not still be the case.

OTHER ADVICE

I'd recommend you do the training.

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