

New CiscoWorks Wireless LAN Solution Engine Release 2.0 Increases Capacity, Adds Cisco IOS Software Support

Cisco Systems® is pleased to announce the availability of a new hardware and software release of the CiscoWorks Wireless LAN Solution Engine (WLSE)—key to the new Cisco Structured Wireless-Aware Network framework. The new CiscoWorks WLSE release adds support for Cisco IOS® Software on Cisco® Aironet® access points, allows management of thousands of local and remote access points or wireless bridges and provides new tools for managing large enterprise wireless deployments. This bulletin provides a brief description of each new feature, followed by some frequently asked questions.

The CiscoWorks Wireless LAN Solution Engine (WLSE) is a turnkey, centralized management solution for the entire Cisco wireless local area network (LAN) infrastructure. This CiscoWorks tool eases the deployment and management of wireless networks by automating repetitive, time-consuming tasks, such as the mass configuration of large numbers of access points and bridges, firmware updates, trouble shooting and the monitoring of security policies, faults and performance. As part of the new Cisco Structured Wireless-Aware Network framework, this new release of CiscoWorks WLSE enhances security, simplifies new Cisco wireless deployments, and reduces ongoing operational administration costs.

Key enhancements in release 2.0 include:

- Management of thousands of local and remote devices—The new CiscoWorks WLSE hardware model CWWLSE-1130-K9 contains a faster processor, additional memory and software improvements that support as many as 2,500 access points and bridges

per solution engine. Larger networks are supported by adding management domains.

- Support for all Cisco Aironet Series access points—The new CiscoWorks WLSE release supports the full line of Cisco Aironet Series access points including the Cisco Aironet 1200, 1100, 350 and 340 Series access points. Cisco Aironet Series access points running VxWorks and Cisco IOS Software are supported.
- Cisco IOS Software Release 12.2(11)JA support—Cisco IOS Software release 12.2(11)JA, a component of the Cisco Structured Wireless-Aware Network, is fully manageable by this new CiscoWorks WLSE hardware and software release. This new Cisco IOS Software release provides support for Wi-Fi Protected Access (WPA) and Wireless Domain Services (WDS) including fast secure roaming and IEEE 802.1X local authentication services.



- Cisco Aironet Conversion Tool for Cisco IOS Software support—The new CiscoWorks WLSE includes an expanded release of the new Cisco Aironet Conversion Tool for Cisco IOS Software. This tool facilitates the conversion of Cisco Aironet 1200 Series access point VxWorks operating system configuration files to Cisco IOS Software configuration files. The CiscoWorks WLSE release of the tool facilitates the automatic, mass conversion of Cisco Aironet access points from the VxWorks operating system to Cisco IOS Software. This tool saves time and preserves current access point configuration settings.
- Monitoring Authentication Server Performance—To ensure a seamless user experience, the new CiscoWorks WLSE monitors the authentication response time from the Cisco Secure Access Control Server (ACS) extensible authentication protocol (EAP) service. Both Protected Extensible Authentication Protocol (PEAP) and Cisco LEAP authentication types can now be monitored.
- Archiving Device Configurations—CiscoWorks WLSE release 2.0 stores the previous four configuration versions of each managed access point and wireless bridge, and allows users to search and view these configurations.
- Data Export Capability via XML API—Device inventory data, fault information, management reports and network polling statistics may now be exported via an XML interface, better integrating the CiscoWorks WLSE into a larger network management environment.

Availability

Customers interested in purchasing the CiscoWorks Wireless LAN Solution Engine can place orders through their normal sales channels. Customers who want to upgrade the software on their existing CiscoWorks WLSE may download the CiscoWorks WLSE 2.0 software update available from the CiscoWorks Software Center at:

<http://www.cisco.com/cgi-bin/tablebuild.pl/wlan-sol-eng>.

CiscoWorks WLSE software contains encryption technologies controlled by the U.S. government, and users who want to download software will be prompted to apply for permission to access the encrypted files.

CiscoWorks WLSE 2.0 software upgrade will be available for download to customers with older versions of CiscoWorks WLSE after June 25, 2003. Newly purchased appliances will ship to customers beginning July 16, 2003.

Ordering Information

Note: This product includes strong encryption technology that is restricted for some types of U.S. export

Table 1 Ordering information for the CiscoWorks WLSE

Product ID	Description
CWWLSE-1130-K9	CiscoWorks Wireless LAN Solution Engine 2.0; includes the Cisco 1130 hardware platform and wireless LAN management software release 2.0
CON-SAS-CWWLSE20	Software Application Support service contract for CiscoWorks WLSE 2.X provides Cisco Technical Assistance Center (TAC) support, Cisco.com Software Center access, and maintenance updates
CON-SNT-CWLSE1130¹	SMARTnet 8x5xnb service contract for the hardware component of the CiscoWorks 2.X provides TAC support, Cisco.com access, and hardware parts replacement

1. Additional hardware service programs are available. Please contact your Cisco Sales Representative for information



Existing Product Affected

With the availability of CiscoWorks Wireless LAN Solution Engine 2.0, Cisco is announcing the End of Sales (EoS) for the Wireless LAN Solution Engine 1.3 software. Older versions will continue to have extended support contracts offered for them as indicated below. More information on the End of Sales for the Cisco 1105 hardware platform can be found in a separate bulletin located at http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/sw/cscowork/ps3915/prod_bulletins_list.html.

Table 2 CiscoWorks Wireless LAN Solution Engine 1.3 Software End of Sales Dates

Product ID	Description	End of Sales	End of Software Support
CWWLSE-1105-K9	CiscoWorks Wireless LAN Solution 1.3; includes the Cisco 1105 hardware platform and Wireless LAN Management software release 1.3	June 25, 2003	July, 2006
CON-SAS-CWWLSE1.3¹	SAS Service contract for the software component for WLSE 1.3; provides TAC support, Cisco.com Software Center access and minor updates	June, 2005	July, 2006

1. Note: Support may require customers to move to a higher product release for resolution.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Can CiscoWorks WLSE be used to manage deployments of more than 2,500 access points?

A. Yes. Networks larger than 2,500 access points and bridges may be managed with multiple CiscoWorks WLSEs, because dynamic, customer-defined grouping allows the network to be organized into management domains. To unify multiple domains, the CiscoWorks WLSE supports northbound alarms and traps via SNMP and Syslog, allowing wireless fault management information to be consolidated using a higher level network management system such as HP OpenView™.

Q. Can older versions of CiscoWorks WLSE hardware run release 2.0 software?

A. Yes. Older versions of the CiscoWorks WLSE can run release 2.0 software, but the number of access points and bridges supported is limited to 500 devices per CiscoWorks WLSE. Customers wishing to scale to more than 500 devices per CiscoWorks WLSE will need to upgrade the complete CiscoWorks WLSE to product ID CWWLSE-1130-K9.

Product Information

For additional information, visit <http://www.cisco.com/go/wlse>

For answers to questions, please send e-mail to the product marketing group at ciscoworks@cisco.com



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