Wavelink Communications announces Meru Networks awarded patent that addresses problem of Wi-Fi network congestion meltdowns

Ground breaking Virtual Port technology delivers switch-like performance for enterprises with growing density of iPads, Androids, iPhones and other smart mobile devices

Melbourne, February 15, 2011 – Wavelink Communications, a value added distributor of business IP, wireless and communication solutions, has announced that Meru Networks, the leader in virtualised 802.11n enterprise wireless networking, has been awarded a patent for its ground breaking virtualised wireless LAN (WLAN) architecture.

Patent no. 7,826,426 covers Meru's Virtual Port technology, designed to address the problem of a Microcell Wi-Fi meltdown and wireless network congestion. Meru's newly patented unique technology provides wired switch-like bandwidth optimisation and security for enterprises that increasingly need to manage environments with growing density of iPads, iPhones and similar next-generation smartphone mobile devices, such as Android-based wireless devices.

Ilan Rubin, managing director, Wavelink Communications, said, "The explosion of mobile devices used by mobile workers in all types of businesses will drive infrastructure density in many places over the next few years increasing the demand, and sophistication required, for wireless networks.

"Meru's virtualisation technology provides the solution to addressing density issues and avoiding the bottlenecks and meltdowns that can be difficult to avoid when wireless networks are in high demand."

To manage this rapid increase in density and wireless network congestion, Meru's Virtual Port uniquely provides switch-like port isolation to devices over the air. Network managers gain fine-grain access control and improved security, while the infrastructure optimises the allocation of the wireless bandwidth to address the problems of Microcell Wi-Fi meltdowns caused by Wi-Fi spectrum congestion.

Meru's Virtual Port architecture is designed to provide a dedicated virtual network connection for each mobile device, giving users the performance, reliability and security expected from wired networks. The network architecture also delivers the mobility benefits of wireless and the flexibility of virtualisation for mobile applications, all while delivering quality-of-service (QoS) and predictable

service levels.

Meru's virtualised WLAN solutions are purpose-built to scale and easily handle the highest user density environments created by the use of Wi-Fi enabled devices such as iPads, iPhones, smartphones and laptops accessing voice, video and data content and applications.

Rubin said, "A Microcell Wi-Fi meltdown is not an isolated incident and businesses are looking to understand how they can avoid them. Meru's virtualised WLAN architecture was designed from the beginning to avoid these issues."

Users of Meru's Virtual Port are able to avoid wireless failures in high-density environments, because client devices are provided a unique virtual wireless network with dedicated bandwidth and network control. On the other hand, legacy microcell users may continue to experience increasing incidents of Wi-Fi meltdowns, because every device must share bandwidth, and as more and more devices are introduced, the more unstable and unreliable the network becomes.

Key facts

- Optimisation and management of the Wi-Fi network is crucial to successfully managing spectrum congestion. Unlike legacy microcell WLAN designs, Meru's Virtual Port technology can operate on a single channel for use enterprise-wide, and is designed to maximise network performance while accelerating and simplifying deployments. With its zero-handoff technology, mobile devices need not switch channels when roaming, so users and applications can experience uninterrupted connections. Meru's single channel set-up is designed to mitigate interference so users can cover larger areas with fewer access points and support much higher density of mobile devices.

- With Meru's architecture, enterprises can layer additional channels simultaneously, letting them harness the spectrum wasted by multiple-channel microcell networks to support even greater density, reliability and continuity of their applications.

- Microcell Wi-Fi meltdowns are a growing occurrence everyday across enterprises. Meru's core technology is designed to support the proliferation of wireless devices and applications and more critically, avoid such Wi-Fi meltdowns. Meru's ability help enterprises avoid a Wi-Fi meltdown has been demonstrated with its WLAN 500 demo, with more than 500 wireless devices in an area of less than 47 square metres – streaming voice, video and data concurrently and deliver full quality of service whether stationary or mobile.

About Wavelink

Wavelink Communications (www.wavelink.com.au) specialises in the supply, marketing and support of a range of leading edge IP, wireless and communication solutions. Wavelink distributes a range of products from Meru Networks, Polycom, Digium, Cisco, AirTight and amigopod.

About Meru Networks

Founded in 2002, Meru Networks provides a virtualised wireless LAN solution that cost-effectively optimizes the enterprise network to deliver the performance, reliability, predictability and operational simplicity of a wired network, with the advantages of mobility. Meru's solution represents an innovative approach to wireless networking that utilises virtualisation technology to create an intelligent and self-monitoring wireless network, and enables enterprises to migrate their business-critical applications from wired networks to wireless networks, and become all-wireless enterprises. Meru's solutions have been adopted in major industry vertical markets, including Fortune 500 enterprises, healthcare, education, retail, manufacturing, hospitality and government. Meru is headquartered in Sunnyvale, Calif., and has operations in the Americas, Europe, the Middle East and Asia Pacific. For more information, visit www.merunetworks.com.

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