

WLAN Standards Activities (The "Alphabet Soup")		WiFi ™
	Develop Spec	Cisco.com Interoperability Testing
<u>Standard</u>	<u>IEEE</u>	Wi-Fi Alliance
 5 GHz, 54 Mbps 	802.11a	802.11a
 2.4 GHz, 11 Mbps 	802.11b	802.11b
 Multiple regulatory domains 	802.11d	
 Quality of Service (QoS) 	802.11e	WME
 Inter-Access Point Protocol 	802.11f	
 2.4 GHz, 54 Mbps 	802.11g	802.11g
 DFS & TPC 	802.11h	
 Security 	802.11i	WPA, WPA2
 Japan 5 GHz Channels 	802.11j	
 Measurement 	802.11k	
 Maintenance 	802.11m	
 High-Speed 	802.11n	
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The 8	302.11g Standard	
Wi-Fi	standard ratified by IEEE in June '03 802.11g interoperability testing began July '03 wide usage	
•	s in the same 2.4 GHz band as 802.11b the same three non-overlapping channels	
	kward compatibility with 802.11b tment protection	
Conce	eptually similar to Ethernet vs. Fast Ethernet	
due to imple	hroughput is reduced in "mixed cells" with both .11b & .11g clients backward compatibility constraints; however, with the recently mented "RTS-to-Self" default on the AP, mixed cell throughput has improved.	
 Uses Of 	FDM for 802.11g data rates, CCK for 802.11b	
OFDN	1: 54, 48, 36, 24, 18, 12, 9 & 6 Mbps	
CCK:	11, 5.5, 2 & 1 Mbps	
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802.11a/b/g Comparison: Throughput

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	Data Rate (Mbps)	Throughput (Mbps)	Throughput as a % of 802.11b Throughput
802.11b	11	6	100%
802.11g (with .11b clients in cell)	54	14	233%
802.11g (no .11b clients in cell)	54	22	367%
802.11a	54	25	417%

802.11g throughput is reduced in "mixed cells" with both .11b & .11g clients due to backward compatibility constraints; however, with the recently implemented "RTS-to-Self" default on the AP, mixed cell throughput has been improved.

Circa as Circa

Wireless LAN Technology Spreading Throughout Cisco Product Line

- Access Points, Client Cards, Outdoor Bridges and Antennas
- Switches Catalyst 6500 Services modules.
- Management CiscoWorks WLSE
- Security ACS, Access Registrar
- Mobile Access MAR3200 Mobile Router
- Voice 7920, Soft-phone Clients
- Public Access SIM-authentication
- Secure Guest Access BBSM and SSG
- Home Linksys



Debate:
2.4 GHz 802.11g vs. 5 GHz 802.11a

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Q: Which is better?

A: Both! Home Environment → .11g

Business Environment → .11a/b/g

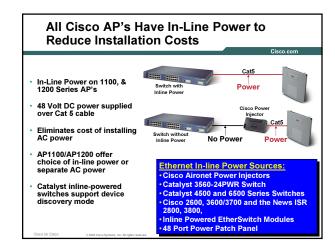
• Silicon Vendors focusing on .11a/b/g chipsets

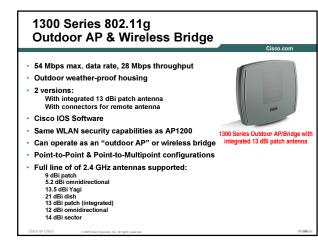
• "Dual-Band .11a/b/g is the Future"

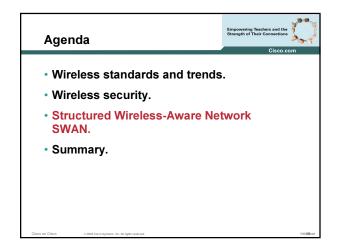
-Gartner Group

-META Group

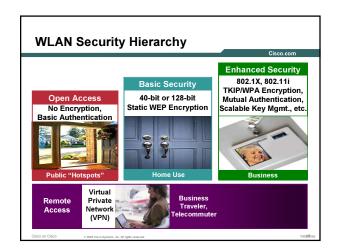
No reason not to begin migration to 802.11g For Cisco, .11g APs same cost as .11b, no 802.11b performance degradation New site survey not a necessity, most installed antennas supported increased throughput, enhanced security, better 802.11b range Dual band 802.11a/g clients are becoming mainstream .11a/g chipsets are now commonplace from the leading silicon vendors Customers can start planning for a dual-band infrastructure Cisco Aironet 1200 Series Access Point supports dual radios at time of purchase or as a field upgrade 802.11a AP radios can be added in response to increases in number of users, WLAN traffic, and % of clients that are 802.11a-capable

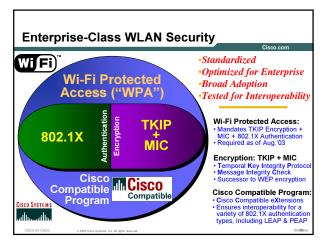


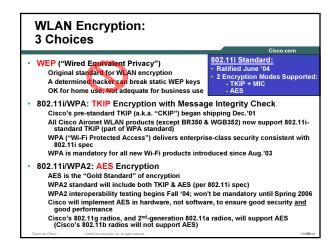












WLAN Encryption: How To Decide What To Use? Devices Most WLAN devices can support WPA/TKIP At present, AES is not widely supported (but this will evolve over the next few years as more new devices are shipped that can support AES) Applications AES is appropriate for some critical apps (healthcare, financial, national security) For most mainstream office apps, WPA/TKIP is more than sufficient (WPA/TKIP has never been broken) Interoperability Between WPA testing and Cisco Compatible testing, a large number of devices have been tested for WPA/TKIP interoperability AES/WPA2 interoperability testing will begin Fall '04, but existing products in the market do not need to go through this testing VLANs You can "mix & match" security on your WLAN by using VLANs VLAN-1: For devices that can handle AES, and applications that require AES VLAN-2: For all other devices that can handle WPA/TKIP VLAN-3: For application-specific or legacy devices that only support WEP (WEP is insecure and puts the network at risk)

