Cisco Small Business Wireless Access Points

Product Overview

As business applications become more powerful and sophisticated, organizations are looking for new ways to improve productivity. Mobile computing and communication devices have become more prevalent, requiring businesses to expand the performance, security, and reach of their office networks. Delivering secure, high-speed wireless connectivity with business-class features to employees, partners, and guests anywhere in the office is critical.

The Cisco Small Business 100, 300 and 500 series wireless access points now support Single Point Setup controller-less technology. The WAP121 is a simple, affordable way to improve the performance and reach for your small business network with advanced 802.11n supporting 2.4 GHz wireless technology. The WAP321 is suitable for connecting up to 16 users on a single WAP321.

The WAP321 makes it easy to deliver advanced 802.11n, supporting either 2.4 or 5 GHz wireless networking with business-class features, at an affordable price. This flexible solution is perfect for connecting up to 32 users on a single WAP321.

The WAP551 and WAP561 provide cost-effective selectable or concurrent dual-radio Wireless-N connectivity for high capacity and support for additional users. This highly scalable solution lets organizations connect dozens of employees and provides business-class features.

Single Point Setup

With Single Point Setup deployment is easier and faster. This helps to enable the wireless LAN to scale up to four WAP121, up to eight WAP321 devices, and up to 16 WAP551 or WAP561 devices in order to provide broader coverage and support additional users as business needs change and grow.

Cisco Small Business 100, 300 and 500 Series Wireless Access Points Product Highlights

The primary features and benefits of the WAP121, WAP321, WAP551 and WAP561 include:

- Access points feature multiple-input, multiple-output (MIMO) technology to deliver superior performance with the fastest speeds possible to expand range and coverage. With MIMO technology, Cisco wireless access points multiply the effective data rate and use the inherent signal reflections to provide a reliable wireless infrastructure throughout the office, including conference rooms, lobbies, lunch rooms, and quads for improving staff communications and productivity.
- Single Point Setup controller-less technology can enable multi-access point setup, configuration, management, and expansion from a single access point. This allows partners and customers to save time and money both in deployment and troubleshooting costs. Combined with Single Point Setup, web-based GUI configuration tools and setup wizard make it more intuitive for customers to install their Cisco wireless access points and set up their network devices. Setting up a wireless network through one device with a web-based GUI enables remote management and monitoring in or out of the office.
- To help protect sensitive business communications and data, advanced security standards, encryption protocols, rogue device detection, and secure guest access provide robust protection so that Cisco wireless access points offer the same strong security that exists in wired networks.
- Captive Portal (for WAP321, WAP551, and WAP561) allows secure guest access in the office with customized login page.
- Optimized SmartSignal Antenna system (for the WAP551 and WAP561) increases the wireless coverage area in the office.
- Cisco wireless access points can be powered by either AC power or PoE (WAP551 and WAP561 use PoE only). This flexibility provides convenient options to best suit your facility and reduce network cabling concerns and costs.
- Cisco wireless access points are backed by a Limited Lifetime Warranty and are supported by the Cisco Small Business Support Center as well as the Small Business Support Community.

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Figure 1 features Single Point Setup, device connectivity, and connection to wired network and devices.

Figure 1. Single Point Setup and Connection to Wired Network and Devices

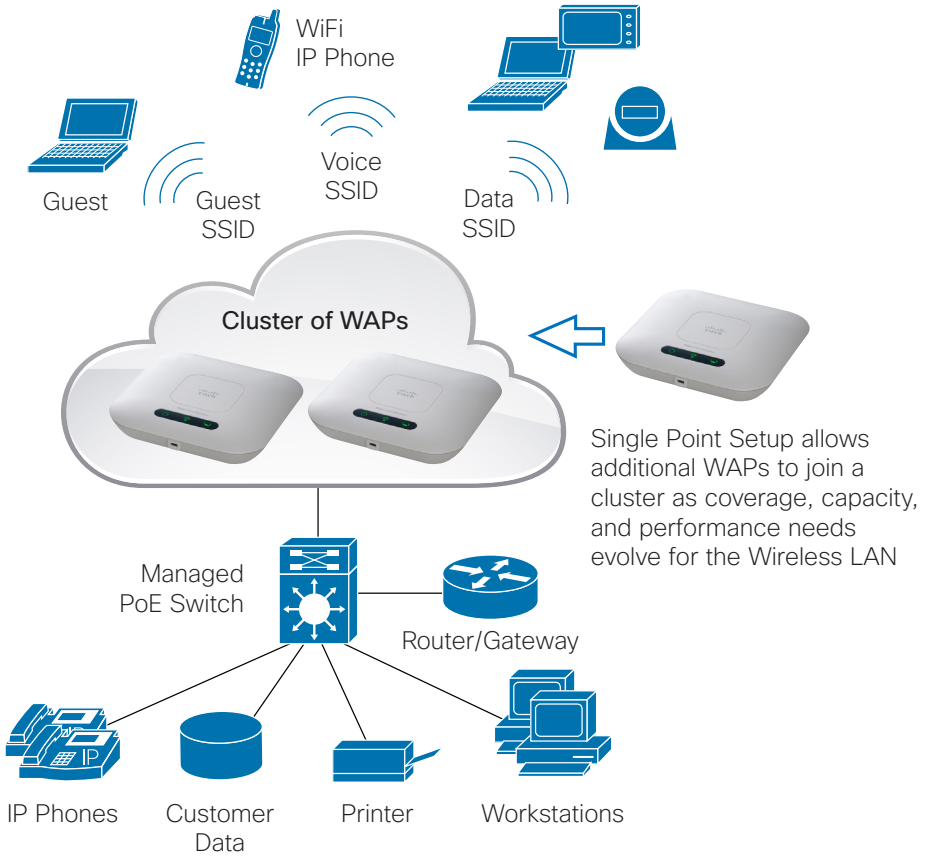

Table 1. Cisco WAP121, WAP321, WAP551, and WAP561 Feature Comparisons

Feature	WAP121	WAP321	WAP551/561
Wi-Fi Standards (a/b/g/n)	b/g/n	a/b/g/n	a/b/g/n
RF Band (2.4 GHz, 5 GHz, or Dual)	2.4 GHz	2.4 or 5 GHz	WAP551: Selectable radio band (2.4 or 5 GHz) WAP561: Dual concurrent radios (2.4 and 5 GHz)
MIMO Support	2x2:2	2x3:2	3x3:3
Maximum Active WLAN Clients	16	32	64 per radio
Number of SSID Supported	4	8	16
Ethernet Port Speed	10/100	10/100/1000	10/100/1000
Captive Portal	No	Yes	Yes
Maximum Number of Access Points Supported in a Single Point Setup Group (Cluster)	4	8	16

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Figure 2 explains how Cisco WAP121, WAP321, WAP551, and WAP561 fit with other Cisco products.

Figure 2. Positioning Cisco WAP121, WAP321, WAP551, and WAP561 to Other Cisco Access Points and Services

	Small Business APs	Cisco Aironet® APs and Controllers
Target Market	SMB	SB, Mid-market and Enterprise
TCO	Lower CapEx	Lower OpEx (overall network life)
Integration	Seamlessly integrates with other Cisco SMB solutions	Foundation for Borderless Networks solutions
Support	Cisco Small Business Support Center (SBSC)	Cisco TAC
Features	SMB Architecture, ease-of-use	Advanced Architectures – TrustSec, Medianet, EnergyWise, Smart Operations
Software	Linux-based Software	Cisco IOS Software
Orderability/ Refresh Cycles	3-5 years orderability (2 tier Only) 1-2 years product refresh	5-7 years orderability (2 tier & direct) 3-5 years product refresh
Services	Small Business Services	Cisco SMARTnet®/SmartCare Services
Scalability	Scale to a few sites	Scale up to world's largest networks
Management	Optimized for deployment and management of SMB networks	Multiple enterprise-level management options: CAN, Prime LMS for large/ multi-site networks with TCO emphasis
Warranty	Limited Lifetime Hardware Warranty	90-Day Limited Hardware Warranty

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Table 2 outlines how Cisco WAP121, WAP321, WAP551, and WAP561 compare against competitors' offerings.

Table 2. Competitive Comparison Chart

Feature	Cisco WAP121	Cisco WAP321	Cisco WAP551/561	D-Link DAP-2310	D-Link DAP-2553	Netgear WNAP320	Netgear ProSafe WNDAP620	Netgear ProSafe WNDAP660
Wi-Fi standards (a/b/g/n)	b/g/n	a/b/g/n	a/b/g/n	b/g/n	a/b/g/n	a/b/g/n	a/b/g/n	a/b/g/n
RF Band (2.4 GHz, 5 GHz, or Dual)	2.4 GHz	2.4 or 5 GHz	2.4 and/or 5 GHz	2.4 or 5 GHz	2.4 or 5 GHz	2.4 or 5 GHz	2.4 or 5 GHz	2.4 and 5 GHz
Controller-Less Management Technology	Single Point Setup with clustering	Single Point Setup with clustering	Single Point Setup with clustering	Access point array	Access point array	Requires a separate controller	Requires a separate controller	Requires a separate controller
Simplified Deployment	Wizard-based setup guides the setup process	Wizard-based setup guides the setup process	Wizard-based setup guides the setup process	Access point array's master/ slave concept that is not simplified	Access point array's master/ slave concept that is not simplified	N/A	N/A	N/A
Scale	4 – WAP121s per cluster. Deploy multiple clusters as scaling needs evolve	8 – WAP321s per cluster. Deploy multiple clusters as scaling needs evolve	16 – WAP551/561s per cluster. Deploy multiple clusters as scaling needs evolve	Manage up to 8 D-Link AirPremier business access points	Manage up to 8 D-Link AirPremier business access points	N/A	N/A	N/A

For More Information

For more information on the Cisco WAP121, WAP321, WAP551, and WAP561 Wireless-N Access Points with Single Point Setup visit www.cisco.com/cisco/web/solutions/small_business/products/wireless/.

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