

LANCOM receives Passpoint™ certification for Wi-Fi Alliance's Hotspot 2.0

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Aachen, March 4, 2013 - LANCOM Systems, the German specialist in network connectivity and wireless LAN, has received Passpoint™ certification from the Wi-Fi Alliance for its current range of 802.11n access points (4xx series). Passpoint-certified mobile devices will automatically find and connect to Wi-Fi networks containing Passpoint-enabled access points.

Passpoint certification is based on the "Hotspot 2.0" and "IEEE 802.11u" standards, which enable devices to automatically switch between cellular and wireless LAN networks. Devices equipped with WLAN only also find the appropriate WLAN network instantly. Users no longer have to manually login, which saves them the laborious searches for the right WLAN network (SSID) and the corresponding login information. This makes WLAN access as easy to use as cellular networks. Passpoint-enabled mobile devices automatically connect to the WLAN using WPA encryption – a significant improvement of security especially at public WLAN access points.

Hotspot 2.0 also makes it possible to seamlessly and automatically roam between the WLANs of different hotspot operators.

Mobile providers can use Passpoint to automatically offload traffic from cellular networks to WLAN. With the ever increasing number of smartphones and tablets taking up so much bandwidth that cellular networks can hardly meet the demand this can be a real advantage

Dr. Martin Krebs, Head of Product Management at LANCOM explains: "Hotspot 2.0, or Passpoint, will transform the user's experience of WLAN. No longer will they have to search for the right network in a list of SSIDs in a hotel or at the company. Selection of the network and logging-in are completely automatic, just the way we know it from today's cellular networks."

Passpoint/Hotspot 2.0 functionality will be available as a free update to the LANCOM Operating System (LCOS Version 8.82) for all WLAN routers and access points. Expected as of Q2/2013, it will be available as a download from the LANCOM web site.

LANCOM Systems background:

LANCOM Systems is the leading German manufacturer of reliable, innovative network solutions for the commercial and public sectors. The focus is on solutions for high-security site connectivity (VPN) for branch offices, enterprises and public authorities, and also on the wireless networking (WLAN) of public and corporate applications. LANCOM Systems GmbH is headquartered in Würselen near Aachen, Germany and has sales offices in Munich, Barcelona and Amsterdam.

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