



RF Planner

Overview

Because of the many variables that can affect RF propagation, planning a wireless LAN network used to be a complex and time-consuming endeavor. It required manual site surveys with marked up floor plans and tedious recording of measurement data everywhere in the coverage area. The complexity of the task only increased as the size of wireless LAN deployments grew. Colubris Networks has solved this problem with RF Planner, a software tool set that takes the time and complexity out of wireless LAN planning. RF Planner enables network planners to accurately model WLAN coverage by factoring in common variables, such as physical features, building materials, and WLAN equipment characteristics. RF Planner also facilitates deployment by enabling the assessment of security risks and generating equipment lists.

A Set of Rich Tools for Precise Modeling

RF Planner is built on a unique, patent-pending RF propagation model. This model provides outstanding accuracy by drawing from a comprehensive knowledge base of RF characteristics for Colubris MultiService access points, third-party equipment (client cards, access points and directional antennas), and building materials. Open air modeling capabilities facilitate the design of outdoor campus and municipal networks.

Security Coverage Modeling and Risk Assessment

RF Planner also provides precise insight into security exposure by graphically displaying the extent of RF spillage from a wireless LAN beyond the facility. In addition, RF Planner builds in security coverage modeling to ensure that every installation has the proper level of coverage for its security risk profile.

Easy Change Simulation

Whether installing a new WLAN, expanding an existing network, or modifying an office layout, network planners can rely on RF Planner for immediate insight into wireless LAN performance and security. The user simply enters the changes into the floor plan or changes the equipment parameters, and RF Planner automatically updates the coverage. RF Planner is simple to use, enabling users to freely drag and drop access points onto the floor plan. Planners can also experiment with what-if scenarios by trying out different access point models, antenna types, and power levels.

Post-Deployment Security Risk and Performance Auditing

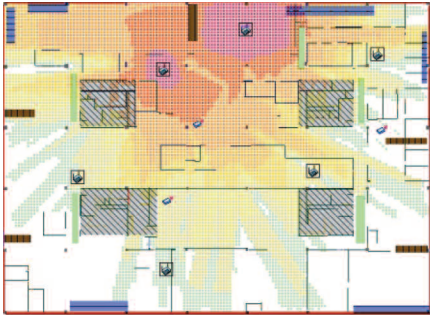
After deployment, RF Planner helps to ensure ongoing network performance. It enables users to validate their design by checking actual RF performance in real time. When loaded on a laptop, RF Planner can suggest a small set of measurement points in several locations to be fed back into the original model. This correlation of the actual coverage with the predicted model results in an even more precise model for further what-if analyses.

Family of WLAN Management Products

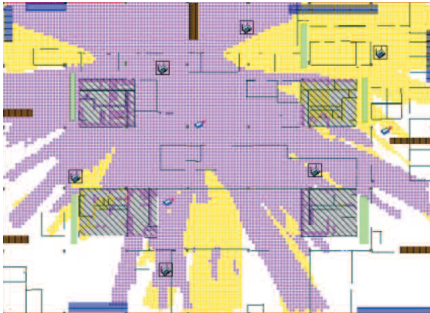
The RF Planner is part of a comprehensive family of WLAN management products offered by Colubris Networks, including the Colubris Network Management System and the RF Manager, a strong intrusion prevention, RF security and location detection system.

Key Features:

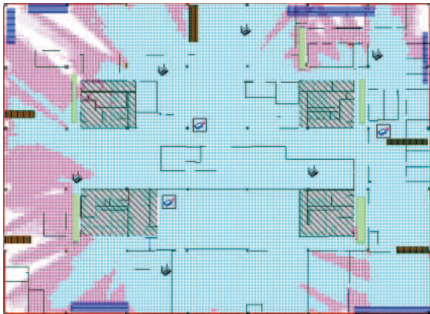
- Models wireless LAN coverage quickly and accurately, without physical site surveys
- Fine-grain heat map overlaid on floor plan enables users to visualize coverage
- Graphically displays wireless LAN spillage for easy evaluation of security risks
- Performs security sensor density analysis
- Supports 2.4 and 5 GHz frequencies and 802.11a, b, and g wireless LAN protocols
- Includes extensive knowledge base of third-party client cards, antennas, and access points
- Enables assessment of changes using simple drag and drop technique
- Generates equipment lists for installation teams
- Outdoor modeling capability extends planning to open air environments



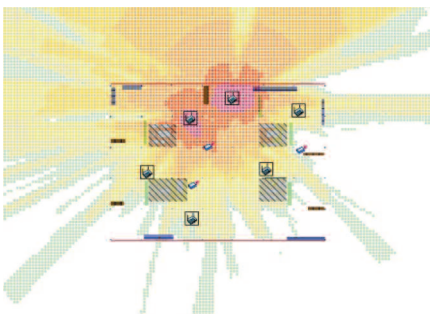
AP Coverage View



AP Channel View—Model wireless LAN coverage without a physical site survey



Sensor Coverage View—Determine security sensor coverage for your risk profile



Spillage View—Understand RF spillage outside of your building

RF Prediction Engine	
Protocols Modeled	802.11a, 802.11b, 802.11b/g
Wi-Fi Sensor Coverage Modeled	Yes, InReach 330 Sensor
Modeling Inputs	Access Point Vendor, Power Level, Antenna Type
Building Floor plan Inputs	TIF, JPEG and BMP AutoCAD files (DWG and DXF) can be converted into these formats and input as well
Placement Method	Drag and drop
Reports	
Views Modeled	Indoor RF Coverage, Outdoor RF Coverage, Link Speed, Channel Allocation, AP Placement, Sensor Placement, Sensor Coverage, Spillage
Report Contents	Input Model, Network Security and Performance Assessment, Wireless LAN Equipment List
System Requirements	
Processor	Intel P4 x86 architecture platform (or equivalent with minimum 1.4 GHz processor speed)
Memory	512 MB (minimum)
Hard Disk	100 MB available space required on the system drive with adequate disk space for generated data files
Operating System	Windows 2000, Windows XP
Screen Resolution	1024 x 768 recommended



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