

WPA3, Wi-Fi 6 and 5G - what are the key benefits for businesses?

Connectivity and data are essential to the make-up of any business. With these, security is the hot topic for many businesses.

The next generation of mobile connectivity, and the opportunities/new developments it will bring, are cause for excitement. First and foremost, there is WPA3 – the latest Wi-Fi security standard. As internet connections become faster and more agile, more and more business is conducted online. Companies must be able to trust these systems to provide high-quality security to reliably protect data.

In addition, the influx of new technologies such as Wi-Fi 6 and 5G will provide a growth in opportunities for business. With the increase in rapid Internet speeds and high bandwidth efficiencies, coupled with increased security, Wi-Fi 6 and 5G are set to drastically change the ways we experience connectivity, how we do business, and how we stay connected.

WPA3 for business

The roll-out of WPA3 is the latest and most important part of a continuously evolving certification programme that aims to improve Wi-Fi security standards. It is set to be vital for product design for Wi-Fi technologies moving forward, for the simple reason that it provides a great deal more security than its predecessor WPA2 – which is known to be universally compromised.

WPA3 features

WPA3 will deliver improved authentication, increased security, and improved resilience in Wi-Fi networks.

Businesses can expect more consistent security controls, creating a clearer picture of their network. Plus, with WPA3, data travelling wirelessly across a Wi-Fi network is protected – which means access to the internet, even publicly, is much safer, simpler and more reliable.

WPA3 will simplify how consumers and businesses alike connect to the internet on a day-to-day basis. WPA3 allows IT managers to deploy security and policy tools to enterprise Wi-Fi networks and ensure more consistent and stronger authentication.

WPA3 will be key for large scale spaces, such as stadiums, where multiple devices regularly connect to the same Wi-Fi network at any one time. It will help make these environments more secure as the number of devices connecting to a single network increases.

This is why solutions such as modern network management tools are well placed to support track and trace programmes, especially as many of these are already widely used in the hospitality sector. Solutions such as Nuclias enable business owners to not only automate and monitor their network, giving them complete visibility, but also allows them to make the most out of features such as the customisable captive portal and 3rd party integration that can provide Wi-Fi analytics, wayfinding and marketing automation.



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Wi-fi 6 advantages

Wi-Fi 6 will offer four-times better wireless performance in dense or congested areas, compared to Wi-Fi 5 (802.11ac), and offer 30% faster network speeds. Users can expect increased network efficiency, and more importantly, lower latency made possible by the next generation Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiple Access (OFDMA). This allows APs to centrally schedule data transmission, and divide frequencies so that data can be channelled to and from multiple clients at the same time. This essentially provides more bandwidth; enabling more avenues of connection for access points to communicate along, and in turn support additional connected devices on the network.

This update drastically improves access to internet in high demand spaces and venues. It also means that outdoor Wi-Fi deployments will become much more reliable and provide faster internet access. This will provide multiple benefits for businesses, from offering enhanced security to supporting specific areas of business such as customer experience, where providing faster Wi-Fi for customers results in a positive brand experience. On another level, Wi-Fi 6 can support business efficiency while helping to reduce network and device costs, allowing businesses of all sizes to embrace increased connectivity.

What about 5G?

5G is a wide-area network (WAN) and is designed for cellular data, IoT applications and other exterior connections. Set to be a game changer over the next decade promising rapid speeds and amplified bandwidth, 5G will enhance connectivity through a new range of higher frequency bands and will also offer significantly increased data rates and a viable alternative to fixed-line broadband.

In addition, 5G will offer incredibly low latency and transfer large amounts of data at high speed – ushering in a wide range of new opportunities; from generating new products, services and industries, to remotely helping small businesses to become more productive and competitive. The new technology will continue to power digital transformation especially in manufacturing industries and industrial environments – this trend is already seeing a shift in adoption of private cellular networks.

New 5G technology will also enable simpler and faster deployment of security systems and will benefit the creation of smarter cities, connecting urban infrastructure to improve quality of life.

How better, safer connectivity will shape tomorrow

As protocols and standards evolve, the internet becomes a more efficient and safer place – allowing businesses to build a network with complete connectivity, speed, mobility, and improved security standards. D-Link is harnessing these technological advancements to build reliable and secure connectivity solutions, enabling a more dynamic and resilient future for businesses around the world.

5G coupled with Wi-Fi 6 has the potential to change the way we live and work; remote working will become easier with superfast broadband and improved connectivity. WPA3 will provide stronger embedded security, giving businesses the knowledge that connections are safer and more resilient. With more flexibility and security, the possibility for business owners to run businesses almost anywhere, at any time, is becoming more and more achievable.

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