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MCS Index as a Measure of RF Health

By **Keith Parsons, CWNE #3** · 2026-04-07 · originally on LinkedIn

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I've been a strong advocate for using MCS Index metrics to show the 'health' of the RF in your Wireless LAN for some time now. Each and every single frame sent over the medium works through an algorithm to choose which Modulation, Coding Scheme, Channel Width, Error Correction, etc. BEFORE transmitting. It is a 'Self Reporting' function.

Though François Vergès did a great job with his https://mcsindex.net/ - and I highly recommend you go to his site for details. I've found this older, simpler chart still works wonders and is easier to carry and use.

By Keith Parsons, CWNE #3, Wireless LAN Professionals. Free to read and share. Facts