TALK

Wi-Fi Stress Test with Keith Parsons

Keith Parsons · Stephen Foskett · 2013-02-15

Keith Parsons demonstrates his Wi-Fi stress testing method at Wireless Field Day 4, February 2013: an overview presentation, then upload and download tests.

Key points

- Describes a vendor-independent stress test of access points, run with no vendor funding: 30 iPads streaming video at once, plus file transfers and throughput tests.
- The question came from K-12 schools planning one-to-one device programs: can one access point stream to a full classroom of iPads?
- Everything was held constant (room, iPads, server, positions) and only the access point changed, with spectrum analyzers watching the whole time.
- Early findings: access points differ, 20 MHz channels fill up quickly, and how each product spread clients across the 2.4 and 5 GHz bands affected the results.
- Includes a live walk-through of the test setup in the room.

Chapters

1. 00:02 What the stress test is
2. 02:17 The equipment: 30 iPads
3. 04:06 The question from K-12 schools
4. 06:02 Holding everything constant
5. 08:02 Spreading clients across bands
6. 10:01 Channel width results
7. 16:16 How the tests were monitored
8. 20:11 The test cycle
9. 30:02 What was learned
10. 36:38 Live setup walk-through

Watch on YouTube (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EXma3V2K8PQ). More conference talks: wlan-talks.net (index by Victor Gatuna).

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