Auckland City Wi-Fi
Final fact sheet

OVERVIEW

- The Auckland City Wi-Fi project has been launched via a public-private type alliance between Auckland City Council, Kordia and Tomizone.

- Wi-Fi is another name for IEEE 802.11, a term coined by the Wireless Ethernet Compatibility Alliance (WECA).

- Products certified as Wi-Fi are interoperable with each other even if they are from different manufacturers.

- Auckland City Wi-Fi is a central city Wi-Fi network consisting of smart network nodes with multiple 802.11b radios linked in a mesh-like network.

- Whilst the radio and network infrastructure will be owned and operated by Kordia, each Kordia wholesale customer on the network can manage their own SSID and therefore become the 'service provider'.

- The mesh network type coverage provided by the network means that users within the city coverage area have access to Wi-Fi coverage that enables any number of services to be provided, including Internet access, mobile VoIP services, and other applications.

- The network infrastructure and management systems for Auckland City Wi-Fi are provided by RoamAD.

KEY BENEFITS

- Portable log-on
- No requirement for a specialised modem or datacard (like 3G or Woosh)
- Self-service logon and payment options when you connect to the SSID's through the welcome page.
- Fast access to the internet, email and VoIP services – anywhere there is "good" or "excellent" connectivity

SERVICE DESCRIPTION

The Auckland City Wi-Fi service differs from the traditional Wi-Fi hotspot. The service is deployed as a 'Wi-Fi Zone', providing 'cocoon like' coverage over the target area. This provides coverage that does not rely on a business being open, selling time vouchers or the end-user being located within or immediately surrounding the hotspot.

Deploying services in metro zones has the following advantages;

- End users are more certain of where the coverage area is and do not have to look for hotspots
- Mobile services (such as voice) can be provided within the coverage footprint as radio sites hand-off to each other
- The service is not reliant on business operating hours
- Coverage is designed and is three dimensional. As the radios are generally externally located this means service can be provided to surrounding buildings and public spaces and is not limited to the internal building space as with a hotspot.
- Additional radios can be deployed to increase coverage and capacity as demand dictates

SERVICE SPECIFICATION

Auckland City Wi-Fi services are based on 802.11b/g technology in the unlicensed 2.4GHz bands. Due to the nature of Wi-Fi technology and variables such as end user location, network and spectrum congestion and service availability, network performance can not be guaranteed.