

One Box Solution for WLAN Analysis

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TECHNOLOGY AWARD



For high speed testing of 802.11 WLAN devices, Anritsu offers an integrated single instrument solution that can conduct both transmitter and receiver measurements.

Anritsu Company debuts the MT8860A, a fully-integrated single instrument test solution for wireless local area network (WLAN) devices. The system can conduct both transmitter and receiver measurements based on the IEEE 802.11 standard. With the ability to perform these measurements 10x faster than existing test alternatives, the MT8860A provides engineers designing and manufacturing cards for PCs, PDAs, and other products featuring WLAN interfaces with a fast, easy, and cost-effective solution for ensuring product performance and compliance. At home in production facilities, laboratories, and end-user applications, this test set will set the standard for next-generation WLAN testing.

A One Box Solution

The MT8860A is an improvement over existing rack-and-stack test solutions that are based on multiple instruments plus "golden" radios (reference standards) from various WLAN chip manufacturers. It was developed in conjunction with first and second tier chip manufacturers, so a universal golden radio is incorporated into the test set. The result is that WLAN device makers have a single test set that provides highly accurate and repeatable measurements, with a built-in reference standard. Therefore, chip developers no longer have to design and support golden radios, allowing them to concentrate solely on chip development.

Features, Functionality, and Interface

The MT8860A covers both the 2.4 GHz and 4.8 GHz to 6 GHz WLAN bands and supports all 802.11 WLAN standards, with options. Accurate high-speed transmitter power, frequency, carrier suppression, and harmonic measurements can be made with the test set. Each of the measurements can be conducted on all frequency channels and all specified power levels. A PCI bus design makes it simple to add measurement capability.

Anritsu has developed the MT8860A with a number of features that ensure measurement accuracy and improve measurement speed. In addition to the internal golden radio, the test set features a high-speed spectral processor that allows measurements to be conducted at faster rate, with better accuracy, and a friendlier interface than has been possible with traditional multi-component equipment. The test set also has advanced triggering and gating features, as well as inputs for an external golden radio and interfering signal sources.

To simplify operation, Anritsu developed LANLook, a Windows-style user interface that runs on any PC and displays multiple trace results such as burst profile and spectral mask simultaneously. LANLook is a Visual Basic program written with an open source code so that users can modify it to establish their own production test programs.

The MT8860A 802.11 Radio Layer Tester has a base price of \$26,000 and is available in 8 weeks.

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