

Single-Instrument Solution Performs Fast WLAN Testing and Analysis

This new WLAN test unit offers all the advantages inherent in a dedicated instrument—speed, accuracy and compliance with all applicable standards

Anritsu Company has introduced the MT8860A, a fully-integrated single instrument test solution for WLAN devices. The unit can conduct both transmitter and receiver mea-

surements based on the IEEE 802.11 standard. With the ability to perform these measurements 10x faster than typical 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 product performance and compliance verification. The unit can also speed testing of many components for WLAN applications.

The MT8860A replaces the typical rack-and-stack test solutions that are based on multiple instruments, plus “golden” radios from various WLAN chip manufacturers. Anritsu developed the MT8860A in conjunction with first and second tier chip manufacturers, developing a universal golden radio that is incorporated into the test set. The result is that WLAN device makers have a single test set that provides accurate and repeatable measurements. As an added benefit, chip developers no longer have to design and support golden radios, which draws resources away from chip development.

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 new measurement capability.

In addition to the internal golden radio, the MT8860A features a high-speed spectral processor that allows a set of measurements to be conducted much faster. The tester also has advanced triggering and gating features, as well as inputs for an external golden radio and signal sources that simulate interference.

The unit is operated with LANLook, an innovative Windows-style user interface developed by Anritsu 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.

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