



New Firetide MIMO-Based Infrastructure Redefines Wireless Mesh With Breakthrough 400 Mbps Performance

4th generation infrastructure mesh extends company's technology lead in large-scale, high-bandwidth networks

Los Gatos, Calif., Mar. 31, 2009 – Firetide, Inc. (<http://www.firetide.com>), the leading provider of wireless infrastructure mesh networks, today announced the new, MIMO-based Firetide HotPort® 7000 wireless solution delivering up to 400 Mbps throughput, enabling, for the first time, the deployment of large-scale municipal, industrial and enterprise wireless networks for video, data and voice applications. Until now, municipalities and others have been constrained by the lack of bandwidth needed to support such large-scale and multi-service networks. Now with the HotPort 7000 infrastructure mesh, they have fiber-equivalent performance with all the benefits of Firetide's proven technology and at a fraction of the cost and time to deploy wired networks.

“Game-Changing” Advance

MIMO (multiple input, multiple output) infrastructure mesh technology from Firetide provides municipal, industrial and enterprise users with the bandwidth needed to expand the reach of their existing networks, while adding a variety of fixed and mobile applications: city-wide video surveillance, traffic management and intelligent transportation systems, Wi-Fi access for mobile city workers and wireless broadband for underserved areas. Firetide MIMO infrastructure mesh also makes possible high-bandwidth mobile applications, including voice, data and video, to enhance productivity of government workers and provide new capabilities to transportation networks.

“Firetide has always taken a pragmatic approach towards the wireless infrastructure mesh market and chose the right segment – public safety – from the start. As it turns out, public safety is where the market is crystallizing with other city applications to follow,” said Godfrey Chua, Wireless and Mobile Infrastructure research manager at IDC. “Now, with the introduction of its next generation family of infrastructure mesh products with 400 Mbps performance, Firetide has a game changing, disruptive technology that raises the bar for everyone and makes large-scale, municipal wireless networks possible.”

Fiber-Equivalent Performance and Reliability

Firetide MIMO-based infrastructure mesh delivers the throughput, reliability and security of fiber, without the cost and delays:

- **Highest performance:** up to 400 Mbps throughput; fiber-equivalent latency at .9 ms per hop; 1,000 VoIP calls per node
- **Greater reliability:** built-in interference mitigation; intelligent routing; end-to-end QoS on a per-flow basis
- **Easier deployment:** integrated spectrum analysis; network capacity planning and antenna alignment tools
- **Flexibility:** dual configurable radios in 2.4, 4.9 (U.S. public safety licensed band) and 5 GHz frequency bands; indoor and outdoor models.

Viable Alternative to Wired Infrastructure

Firetide HotPort 7000 MIMO-based infrastructure mesh delivers best-in-class performance with throughput of up to 400 Mbps, exceeding that of current wired solutions like T1, Fast Ethernet and OC-3 fiber, and provides a viable alternative to fiber or leased lines.

"The new generation of Firetide wireless infrastructure mesh technology offers us an immediate alternative to fiber for our ASAP initiatives, including video surveillance and automatic license plate recognition," said Chris Kovac, Deputy Sheriff, ASAP – Advanced Surveillance and Protection, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. "These new capabilities have significant implications for many public safety agencies that are looking for communication networks to support high-bandwidth applications across large areas. Fiber-equivalent performance means that these agencies can roll out their networks without 100% reliance on fiber, and without delays or funding concerns associated with building out an extensive fiber infrastructure."

"We've worked with Firetide for close to a year, and we've been impressed with the current generation of the product in terms of video performance," added Kovac. "The next generation is expected to deliver increased performance for our video and data applications, and can also serve as a backhaul transport reducing our reliance on leased infrastructure."

4th Generation MIMO-based Infrastructure Mesh Extends Firetide's Technology Lead

Firetide's infrastructure mesh technology has been proven through the most demanding application – real-time video surveillance – in many U.S. municipalities, including Buffalo, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Los Angeles County, Phoenix and St Paul. The new product line builds on the existing strengths of Firetide's technology, which made the company a leader in providing wireless infrastructure mesh for public safety applications:

- **Mesh topology** provides high reliability, extensive reach and a dynamic architecture allowing automatic re-routing of traffic in case of network disruptions;
- Firetide's unique **distributed Ethernet switch** approach delivers ease-of-deployment, the highest level of security of data, and seamless interoperability with IP-based wired and wireless networks;

- Firetide's only **dynamic flow management technology** enables end-to-end QoS, load balancing, fiber-equivalent throughput and latency, high speed mobility, and linear networks without throughput degradation.

"MIMO-based technology and our patented distributed Ethernet switch architecture enable Firetide to extend our leadership in high-bandwidth, real-time wireless networks – from public safety video surveillance deployments to large-scale, multi-application systems," said Bo Larsson, chief executive officer of Firetide. "We've taken the 'infrastructure mesh' approach right from the start, and now, in the 4th generation of our product, can deliver fiber-equivalent throughput and latency, building on the technology know-how we've developed since the company was launched in 2003."

Firetide will demonstrate Firetide HotPort 7000 at ISC West booth 15109 in Las Vegas, Nev. April 1-3. Firetide HotPort 7000 will be available through Firetide distribution channels in the second quarter of 2009.

About Firetide Inc.

Firetide is the leading provider of wireless mesh infrastructure networks that enable concurrent video, voice, and data for municipal, public safety, and enterprise applications. Firetide provides reliable high performance wireless infrastructure mesh and access solutions for video surveillance, Internet access, public safety networks and temporary networks wherever rapid deployment, mobility and ease of installation are required. Headquartered in Los Gatos, Calif., Firetide is a privately held company with worldwide product distribution. <http://www.firetide.com>

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