Mikrotik for Public/Open Access Deployments

(ALTERNATIVE TITLE: HOW I OPENED MY MODEM TO EVERYONE)

What was the project?

- Build a Public Wireless Network
- -Cover a small metro space
- Work with/work around buildings
- Support the widest variety of client devices



Challenges

- -Clients need to roam from AP-to-AP
- -- Hand out portable addresses
- -- Clients need to hit a landing page before getting their access



Who was the target customer?

-BIAs

Buisness Improvement Areas (i.e. downtown city environments)

Wanting to offer free wireless access to visitors.



Deployment Technologies

-Mikrotik devices

-Tubes which include a pair of groove ap's, joined together, one in 5ghz and one in 2ghz.



Deployment Technologies (cont..)

-WDS on the 5ghz radios work together for backhaul.

- WDS on the 2ghz radio to allow client roaming



Unexpected outcomes

-It worked

(That was expected!)

Other customers wanted to deploy their on similar networks in the same coverage area



How to create multiple visible networks

-Mikrotik Groove AP's supported VirtualAP mode.

-Combined with vlan and smart bridging, we're able to deploy virtual SSID's which present completely independent network addressing/rules.



Bringing it all together

-A key component of the initial access network deployment was using the right device(s).

-Cloud core networks serve to filter and manage all of the access layer traffic.



Key points on the first network

-Traffic management. It's a whole, huge subject.

Queues are your best friend, especially when they're in a parent/child configuration.

- Don't be afraid to mark connections & packets.



Questions?

Please contact me at:

Pepin Woolcock

Retrocade, Inc.

pepinw@gmail.com