





April 13 2016 Marco Polo Hotel Manila, Philippines



CYGNALTECHNOLOGIES

www.cygnaltech.net

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Introduction



- Dan Santillan (owner of Cygnal Technologies)
- A Dial-up ISP in the Middle East (1997-2000) (Providing internet access to Military bases and personnel)
- A WISP operator from 2000 to 2013
- Mikrotik ROS user since late 1998 to present





What we do...

IT Solutions provider for SME and Corporate

- System Integrator
- P-t-P and P-MtP Solution Provider
- Software Development and integration with Mikrotik products
- IP-VPN Infra Provider (Traditional and Wireless)
- VPN provider / Cloud hosting / Managed Services.
- Hotspot Solution (Public Events, Schools, Hospitals, Resorts, Hotels, Manufacturing, Warehouse, etc..)





IP Hotspot Masking



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Why hotspot security topic?

There's an increase demand for Mikrotik AP's for hotspot purpose. Philippines is new to hotspot service and majority of hotspot operators do not fully understand the security of a public hotspot or the lack of it

Who can benefit from this topic?

- Malls and Store Chains who offer Limited Free Internet Access
- Hotel, Restaurants and Resorts
- Small Business Owners
- WISP's and ISP's
- Government and Private Companies
- Home users
- OR anyone who already deployed a Mikrotik hotspot but lacking of security



Is Mikrotik Hotspot secure?

Can anyone penetrate the hotspot service and steal client's data or disrupt the hotspot service? If so... by what methods?





Passive Attack

The intent to steal information over wired or wireless communication by means of "eavesdropping"

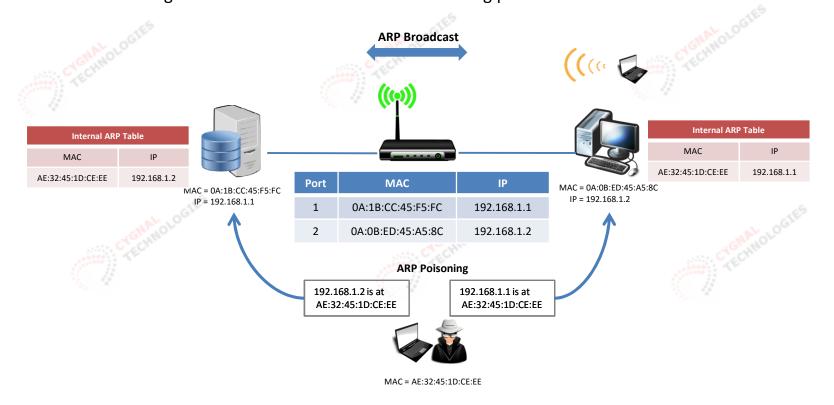






Passive Attack

The intent to steal information over wired or wireless communication by means of "eavesdropping" ARP Poisoning is one of the oldest method of redirecting packets.



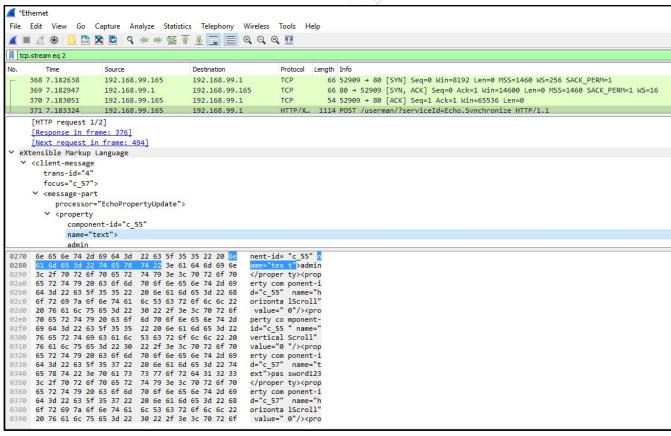




• Passive Attack on wireless network, sniffing on Mikrotik Usermanager admin account accessed from the hotspot interface.



Wireless listening + Wireshark

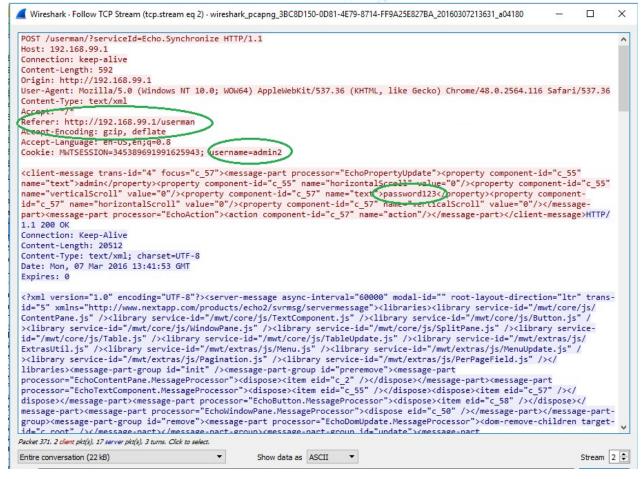






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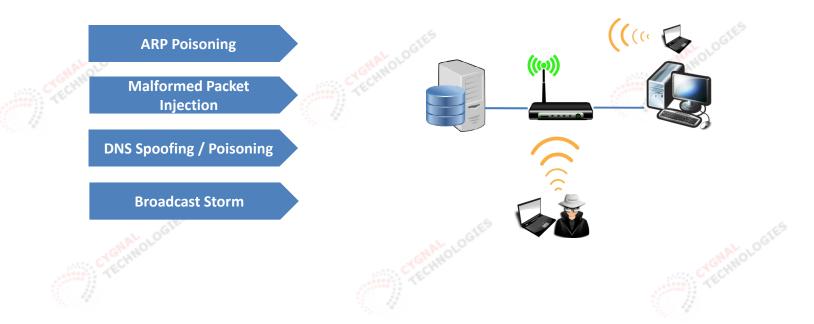






• Active Attack on an opened wireless network.

Similar to passive attack but with intention to disrupt the system, such as

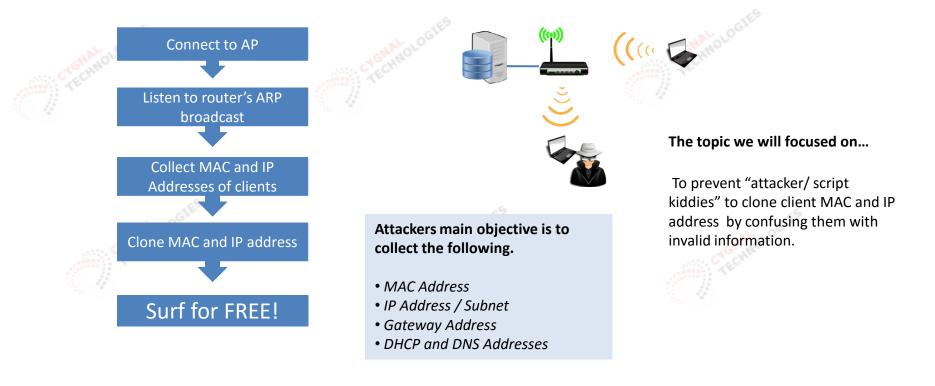






Piggybacking (the most common form of attack used by freeloaders)

An attack with the intent to use the internet for free, not to steal data or disrupt the system.





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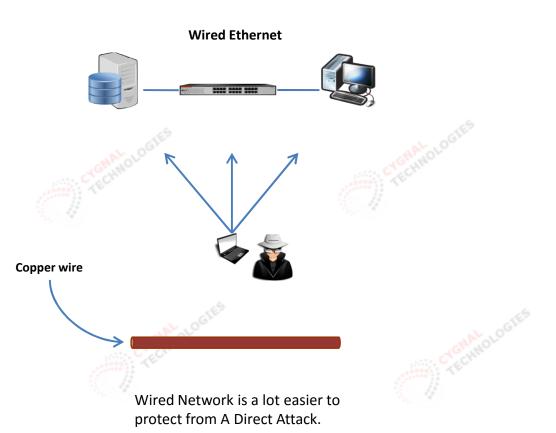


Piggyback on Mikrotik Hotspot (using Standard Wizard Setup)



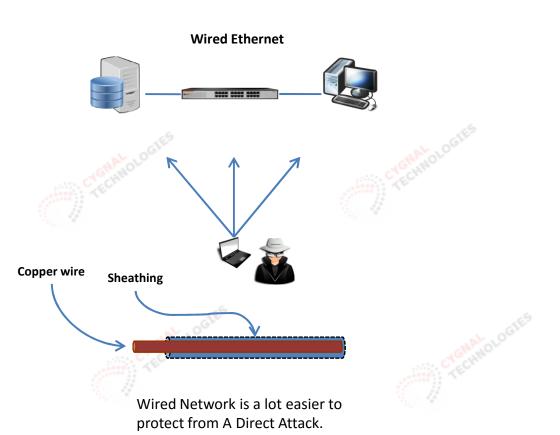


Isolate and contain the network from external access (i.e. secured server room)
Hide cables or use a conduits.
Use 802.1x port authentication





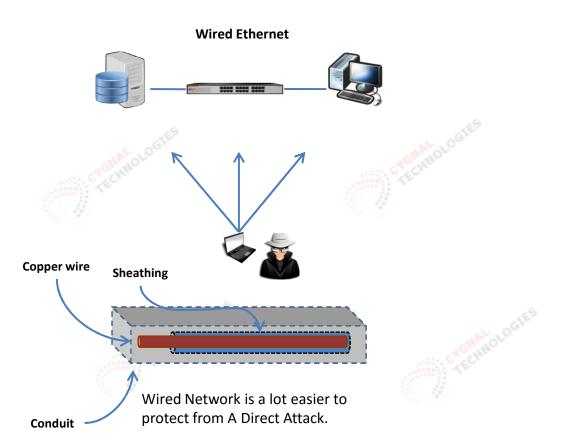
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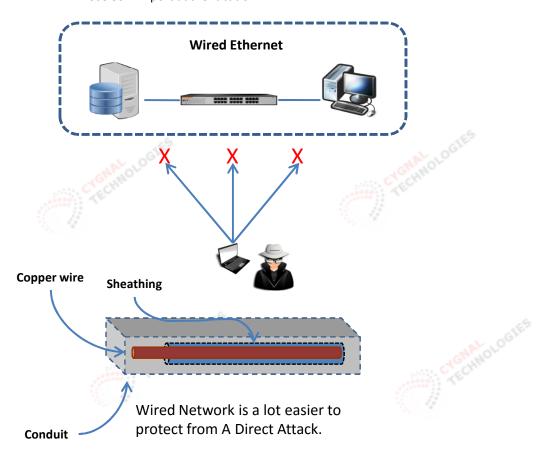


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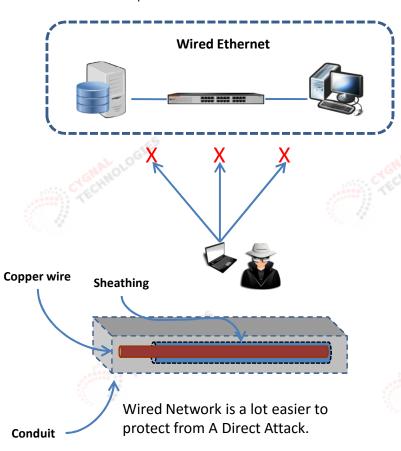


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Wireless cannot be contained or isolated, as radio waves can pass through walls and obstructions



An open wireless network is 100% vulnerable to all kinds of Direct Attack.

Radio signal do not have a "physical protection" like the sheathing and conduit to protect it, instead, we encapsulate the data with an encryption such as WEP/WPA/WPA2 etc..



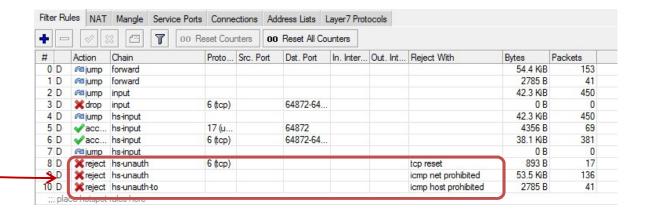
Things to remember!

Public hotspot is inherently not secured as it must be open for public use.

WPA/WPA2 and other encryptions cannot be used on Public Hotspot otherwise, the public cannot connect to it without the key.

Mikrotik hotspot "Security" is based on a simple Firewall Rules manipulation and some internal process.

Rejecting unauthenticated user's IP address with TCP-RESET, ICMP 3:0, 3:1, etc.



Can be circumvented by ignoring these flags





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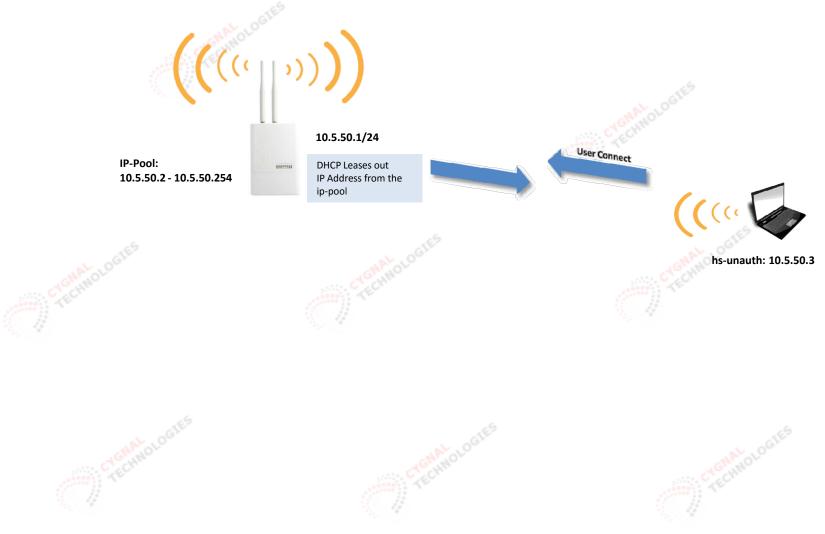
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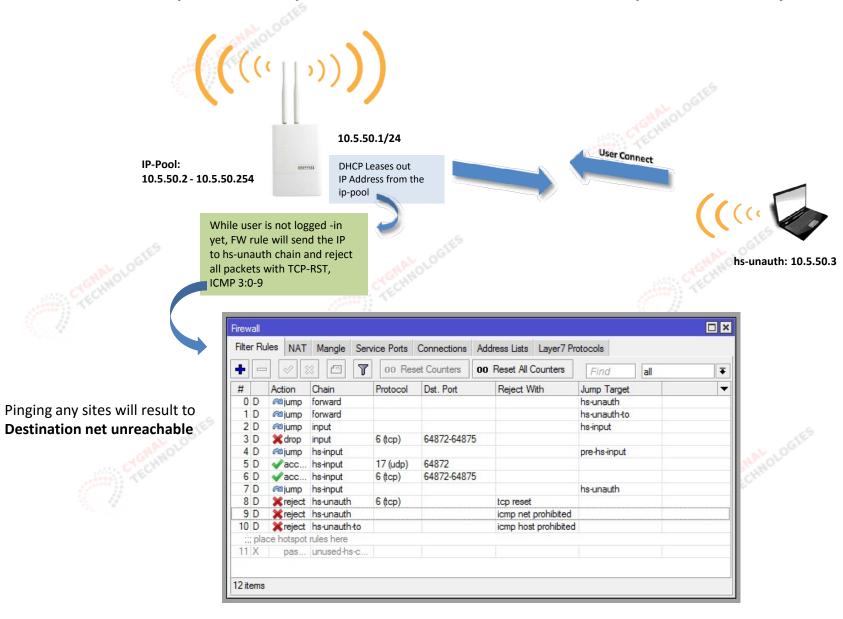




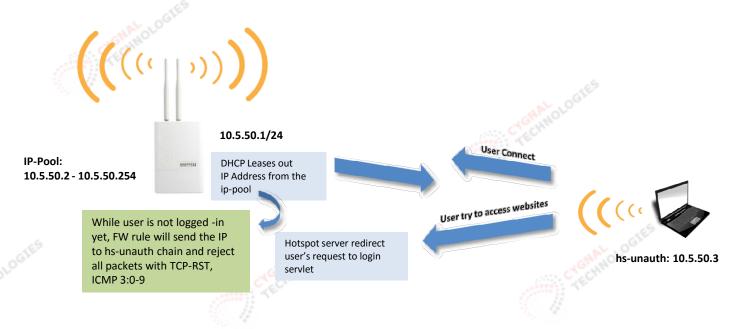










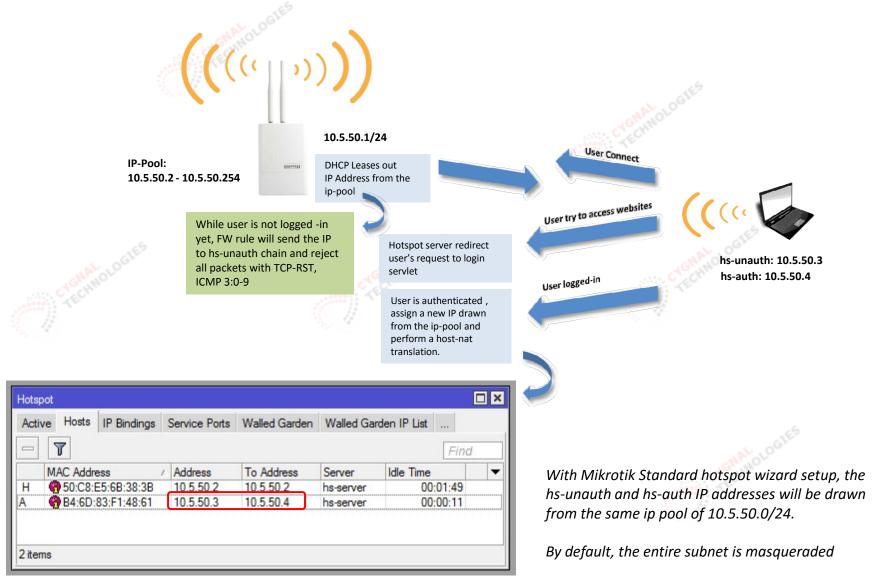














Why with the concern?

- Philippine is fairly new to Hotspot service, especially using Mikrotik products, most new comers to Mikrotik hotspot are unaware of its security issues.
- Many Hotspot Operators are not Technical knowledgeable in networking
- Even I.T professionals who are new to Mikrotik Hotspot are not aware of its vulnerabilities
- Any opened wireless network is vulnerable to all kinds of attacks and it can compromise end user's sensitive information and it can also lead to legal problems between the users and hotspot operators.
- Anyone can freely use and abuse your Hotspot without you knowing it. (especially at night when you are not monitoring) ☺



What the "IP masking" can and can't do

- Cannot protect you from all known Passive and Active Attacks
- Cannot stop attackers from MAC cloning and Piggybacking

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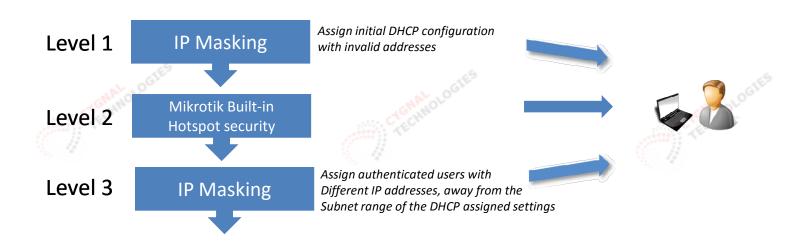
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- Can make harder for attackers to figure-out your network layout, therefore; piggy backing is "twice as harder" to perform.
- Can give you extra layer of defense aside from the built-in "security"
- Can make network professionals scratched their heads when they see how you assign IP addresses to your clients. ©



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My solution is based on "Misdirection", this solution is **NOT 100**% fool-proof but sufficient enough to keep "wannabee hackers", "script kiddies", and someone who has little knowledge of networking at bay, this could also make I.T professionals to scratch their heads when they see the IP addresses.

An opened Wireless AP cannot be protected at all, a series of Firewall rules and Redirections is the *only* way to "prevent" unauthorized users from using the hotspot service which can be easily circumvented.

I called this solution as "**IP hotspot Masking**", The idea is, we hide information as much as we could by providing the end users with false and invalid IP addresses and gateway address, hence; the "**masking**", thus; it will create confusion and misdirection.



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Is this a correct format?

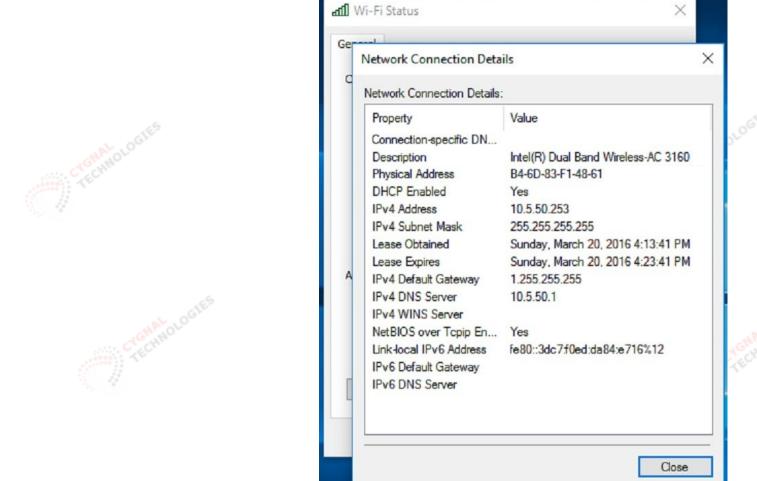
IP Address: 10.5.50.253

Subnet Mask: 255.255.255.255

Gateway: 1.255.255.255

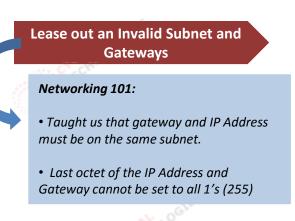


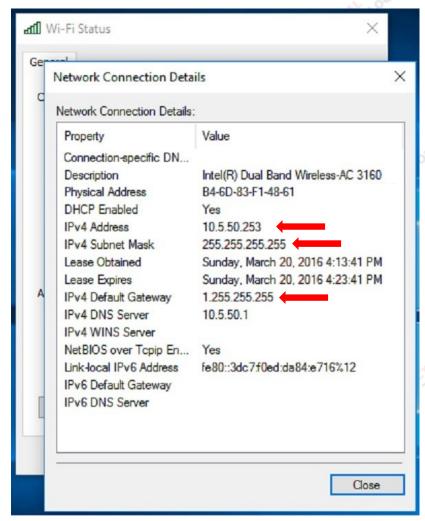
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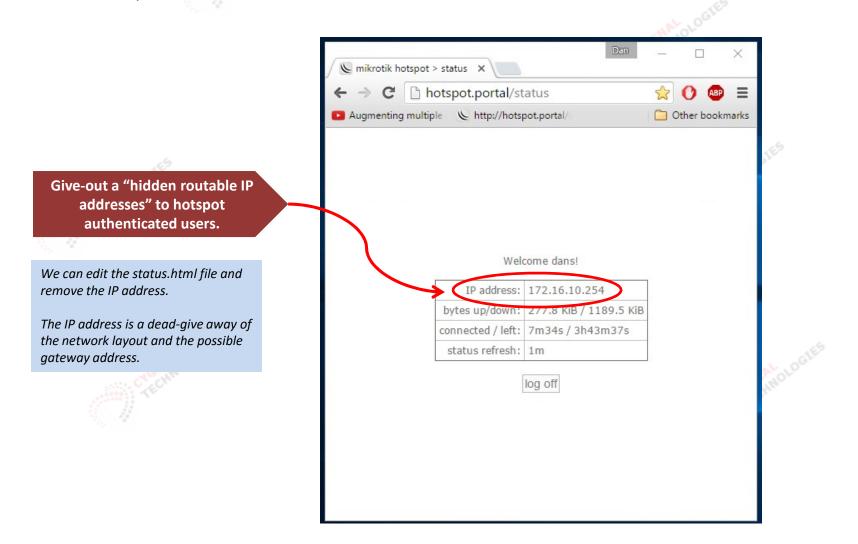
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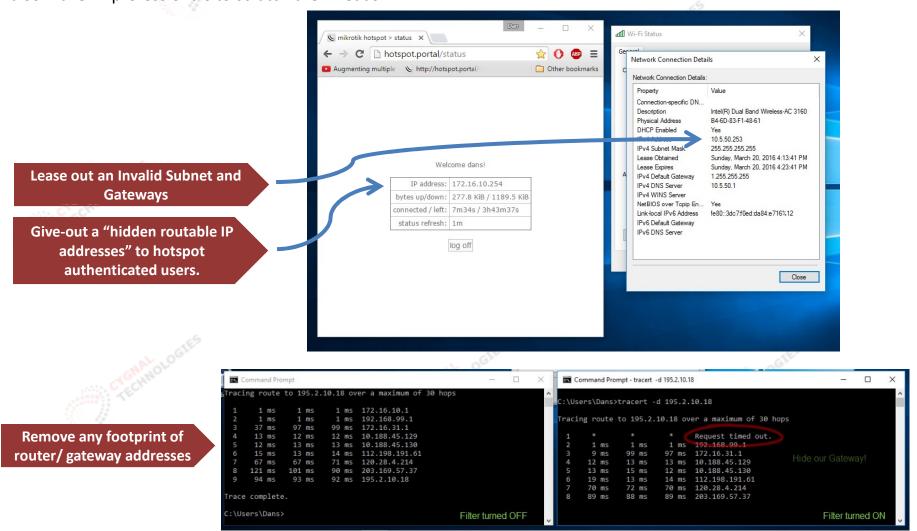


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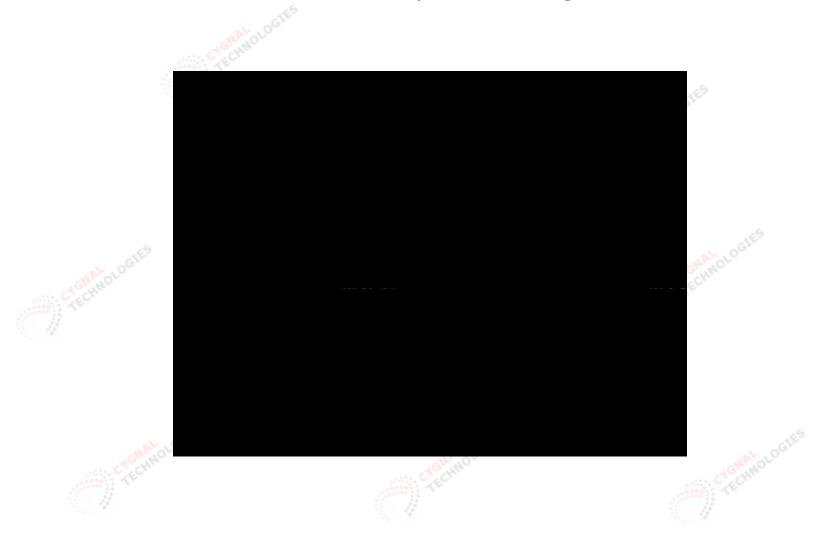


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IP Hotspot Masking





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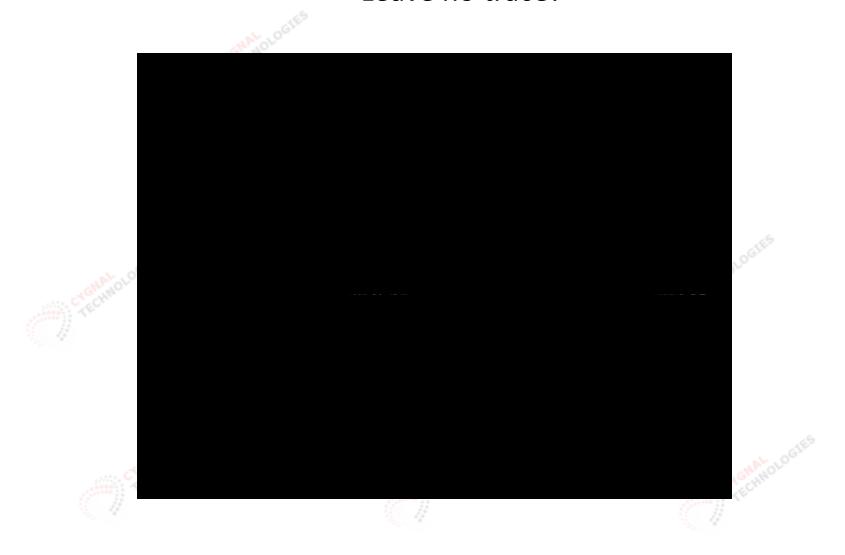
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Leave no trace!





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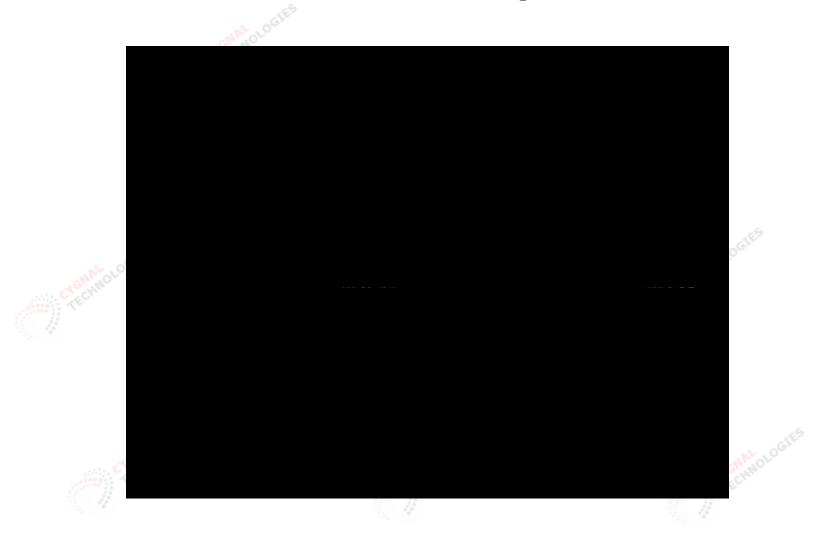
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More hiding









IP Masking Configuration

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RESET the RouterBoard without default configuration

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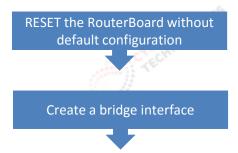
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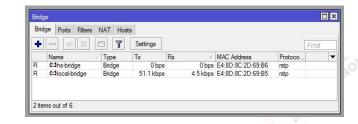
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2 Bridge interface for the LAN and Hotspot

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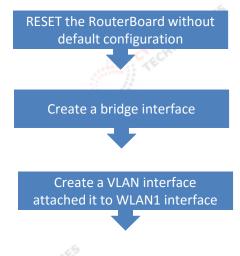
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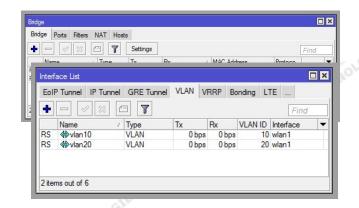
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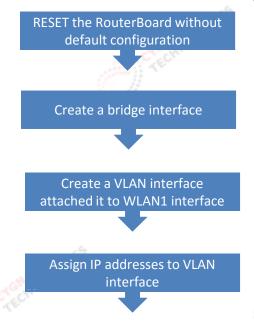
The VLAN will only act as a dummy interface to hold the IP addresses for hs-unauthenticated and hs-authenticated

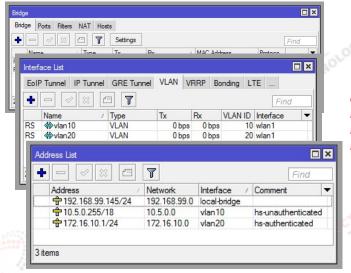
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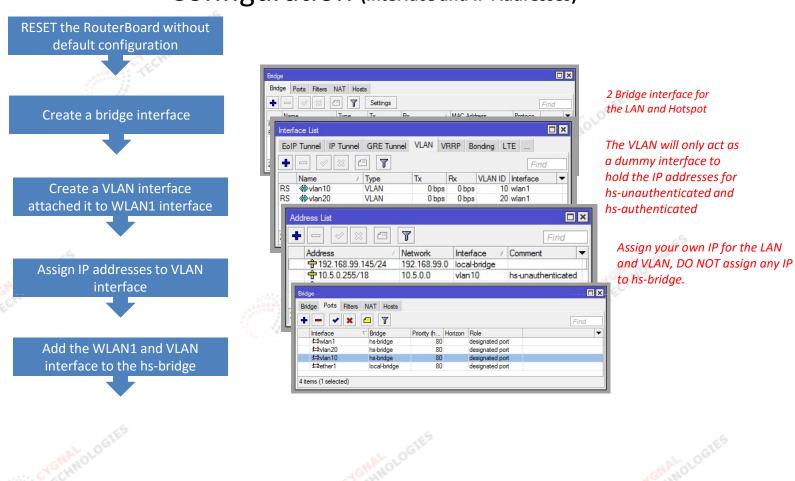
Assign your own IP for the LAN and VLAN, <u>DO NOT</u> assign any IP to hs-bridge.

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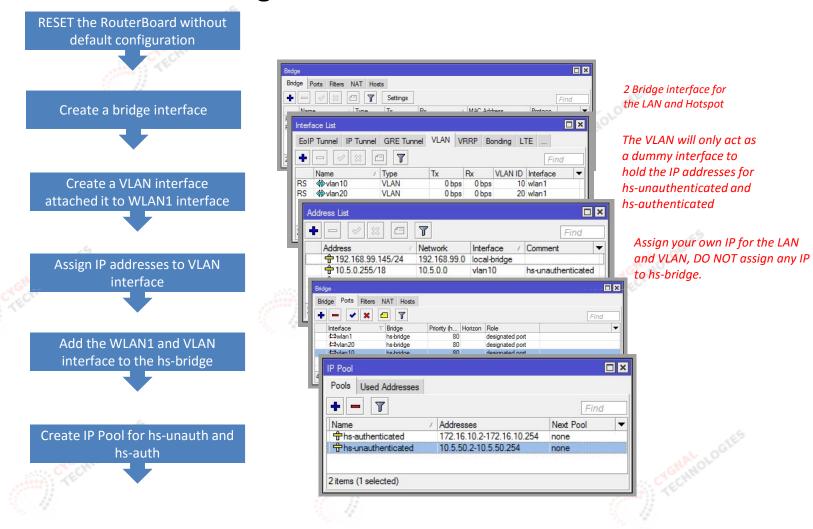
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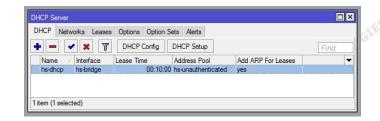






Configuration (DHCP and DNS Settings)

Create a DHCP server BINDED to the hs-bridge interface



Select the hs-unauthenticated IP Pool the hs-unauthenticated pool will be handed out to all hotspot clients.

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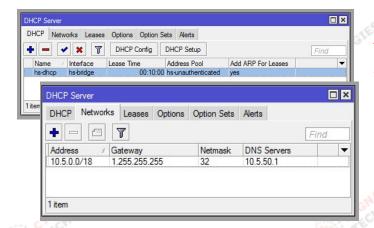
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Configuration (DHCP and DNS Settings)



Set the Network Settings for DHCP



Select the hs-unauthenticated IP Pool the hs-unauthenticated pool will be handed out to all hotspot clients.

With the gateway, you can put anything here. Better to put something invalid, please note of the Netmask to set to 32

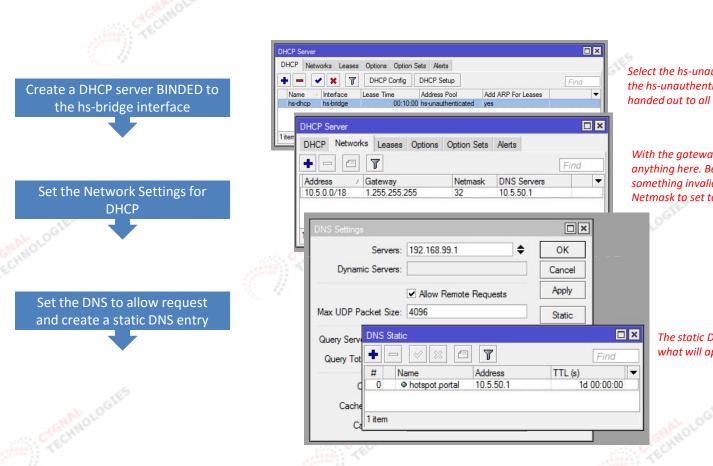
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Configuration (DHCP and DNS Settings)



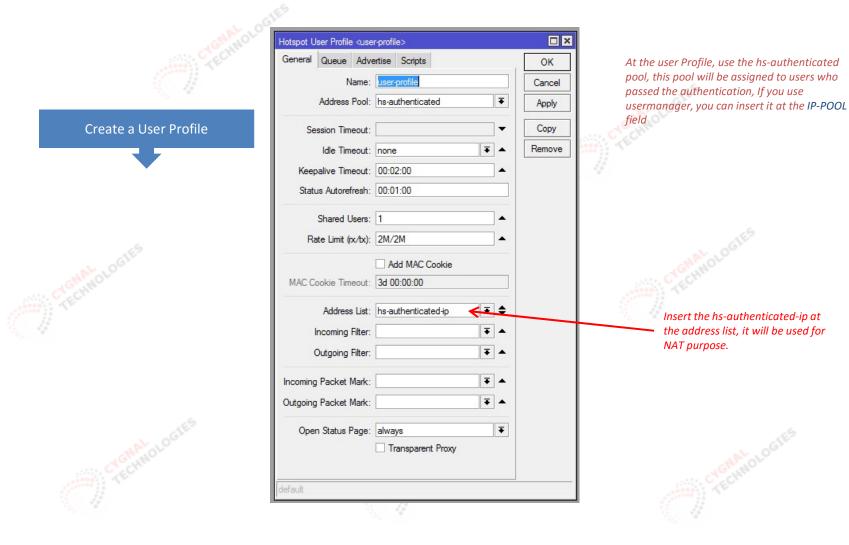
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The static DNS entry hotspot.portal is what will appear in the URL bar

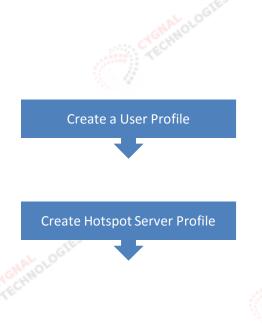


Configuration (Hotspot Server Settings)



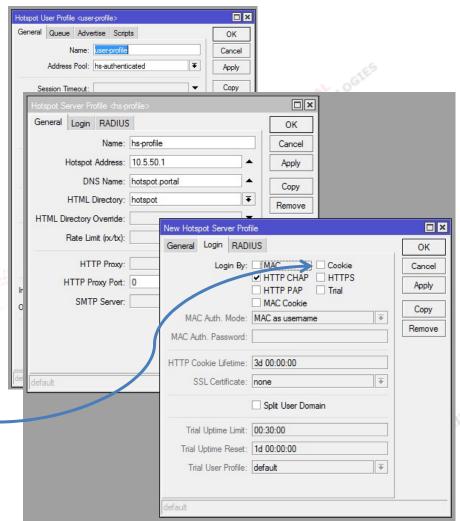


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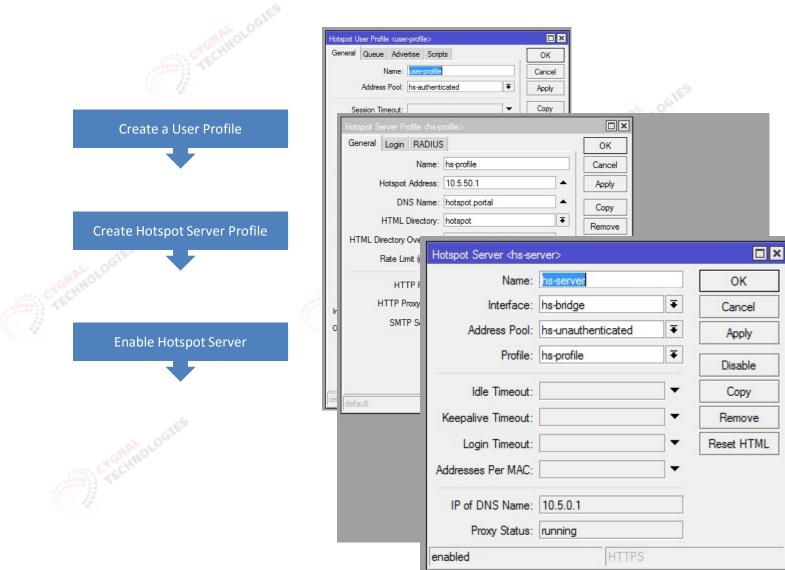
Cookie is used to allow mobile/tablet users to be logged-in automatically without entering the username and password, when the cookie is checked, mobile users do not need to re-login again until the cookie lifetime expires.

I recommend to unchecked it, as it can pose a problem, let the mobile users to be logged-out automatically when idle in a certain amount of time.





Configuration (Hotspot Server Settings)





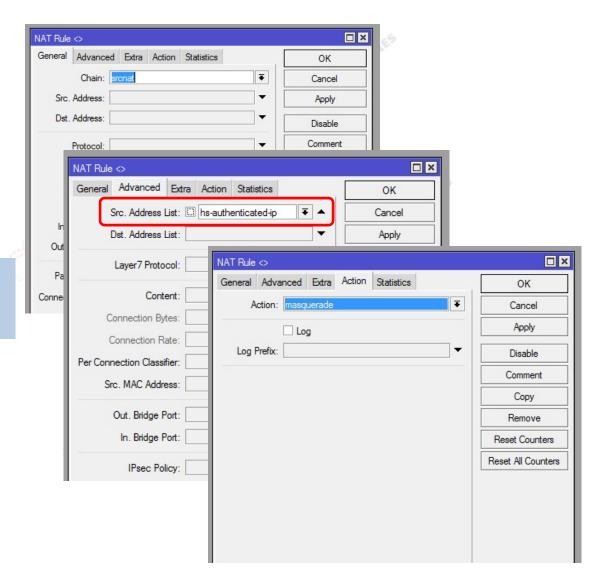
Configuration (NAT Settings)

Set the chain to SRCNAT

Use the SRC Address list to limit the authenticated user's IP to be NATTED

The Mikrotik Hotspot Wizard setup uses the entire subnet to be natted (eg. 10.5.0.0/24), this can pose a problem.

Use the MASQUERADE action





Further Security Measures

Service	Public Hotspot	Private Companies
Hotspot	Unsecured	NOT recommended for accessing company data
	Level of Security: Extremely Poor	Level of Security: Extremely Poor
VPN over opened wireless	NOT recommended	Highly Recommended with L2 security
	Level of Security: Practically useless if used with an open AP	Level of Security: Highly secure with L2 encryptions, can result to slow access due to high VPN overhead and lower payload size (ranging from 1300-1450)
PPPoE over wireless	Recommended for a permanent subscribers	Can be used with L2 Security
	Level of Security: Almost useless if used with an open AP, prone to rouge PPPoE server and ARP poisoning.	I do not know, who would use PPPoE on an encrypted Layer 2? (except if you want to have a control for the user account usage.)
802.1x with Radius AAA	Possible to use but not recommended	Recommended
	Level of Security: High but requires external server, not applicable for Public Hotspot	Level of Security: High but requires external server.



Additional Hotspot Security

What to do	What it does
Disable Default Forward	Similar to AP Isolation (prevents wireless user from seeing each other at Layer-2)
Set hotspot interface to ARP-REPLY only	It prevents user from poisoning the Router's ARP Table
Set DHCP to "Add ARP Address"	Let the router to add client's ARP to its table, (must be used with ARP-REPLY only)
Use a bigger IP pool like /23 or /22 and do not always use the first and last host address for the router	Typically, router always end in xxx.xxx.xxx.1 or xxx.xxx.254, this make it easier for anyone to attack the router.
Use the Netmask 32 at the DHCP server setting	It will assign the end user with 255.255.255 subnet mask.
Use my "IP hotspot Masking"	This will give another layer of defense by confusing the users of your network layout
Make use of HTTPS for hotspot login page	This will provide your end user a secured login process
DO NOT ACCESS your Userman page at your hotspot interface.	Limit your administrative webfig within your internal network, if you really need to access it from the hotspot interface, create a virtual AP with security and bind it to you local network interface.
Use HTTPS on all RouterOS web services and disable local web port 80, including other services SSH, TELNET, API.	Do not let these services to run on all interface especially the hotspot interface, limit it within your internal network
User RADIUS AAA for your authentication	RADIUS can provide you Authorization, Accounting and Access, a complete RADIUS package allows you to manage all kinds of services like your hotspot, VPN, dial-up, 802.1x etcetc It also provide you a billing system.



Mikrotik User Meeting

April 13 2016 Manila, Philippines



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