EXTRICOM WLAN SYSTEM USER GUIDE

EXSW-400/800
EXSW-1200/2400
MULTI SERIES 1000
EXRP-20/40/30N
EXRP-20E/40E/40EN

For System Firmware Release 4.2
Document Version 4.0

Copyright

Important Notice:
Read this user manual, safety instructions, and the release notes for your switch firmware, before installing and operating the Extricom WLAN system.

Disclaimer

Extricom makes no representations or warranties whether express or implied, that the Extricom wireless local area network (WLAN) system or any component thereof shall meet the purchaser's operating requirements or that system operation will be uninterrupted or error-free. All WLANs, including the Extricom WLAN system, can potentially be affected by outside sources of interference such as other broadcasting devices, radiation, device immunity level, and other external sources of interference.

This equipment has been approved for mobile applications where the equipment is to be used at distances greater than 20cm from the human body (with the exception of hands, wrists, feet and ankles). Operation at distances of less than 20 cm is strictly prohibited.

Changes or modification to equipment not expressly approved by Extricom Ltd. is strictly prohibited and could void the user's license to operate the equipment.

- ***Extricom access points are for indoor use only.***
- ***The maximum antenna gain is 4dBi***
- ***An Extricom access point includes multiple WLAN radio modules; each radio module is configured separately and serves a different set of clients. There is no relation between transmissions on different radio modules, hence :***
  - ***The same information cannot be transmitted over separate Radio modules***
  - ***Radio modules cannot transmit simultaneously over the same radio channel***
  - ***Client can transmit and receive data through one Radio module.***

Please check the release notes for your version of Extricom firmware, before installing or operating the system. The relevant release notes supersede this user guide.

The availability of some specific channels and/or operational frequency bands are country dependent and the firmware programmed at the factory to match the intended destination. This firmware setting is not accessible by the end user.

Federal Communication Commission and Industry Canada Interference Statement

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC and IC rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna
- Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver
- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help

FCC Caution: Any changes or modifications not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user's authority to operate this equipment.

This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC & IC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions:

1) This device may not cause harmful interference
2) This device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

Important Note:

FCC and IC Radiation Exposure Statement

This equipment complies with FCC and IC radiation exposure limits set forth for an uncontrolled environment. This equipment should be installed and operated with a minimum distance of 20 cm between the radiator and your body.

This transmitter must not be co-located or operating in conjunction with any other antenna or transmitter.

Operations in the 5.15-5.25 GHz band are restricted to indoor usage only, to reduce potential for harmful interference to co-channel satellite systems.

The maximum antenna gain permitted (for devices in the 5725-5825 MHz band) must comply with the e.i.r.p. limits specified for point-to-point and non point-to-point operation as appropriate, as stated in section A9.2(3).

Sec. A9.2 (3): For the band 5725-5825 MHz, the maximum conducted output power shall not exceed 1.0 W or 17 + 10 log10 B, dBm, whichever power is less. The power spectral density shall not exceed 17 dBm in any 1.0 MHz band. The maximum e.i.r.p. shall not exceed 4.0 W or 23 + 10 log10 B, dBm, whichever power is less. B is the 99% emission bandwidth in MHz.

Fixed point-to-point devices for this band are permitted up to 200 W e.i.r.p. by employing higher gain antennas, but not higher transmitter output powers. Point-to-multipoint systems, omni-directional applications and multiple co-located transmitters transmitting the same information are prohibited under this high e.i.r.p. category. However, remote stations of point-to-multipoint systems shall be permitted to operate at the point-to-point e.i.r.p. limit provided that the higher e.i.r.p. is achieved by employing higher gain directional antennas and not higher transmitter output powers.

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About This Guide

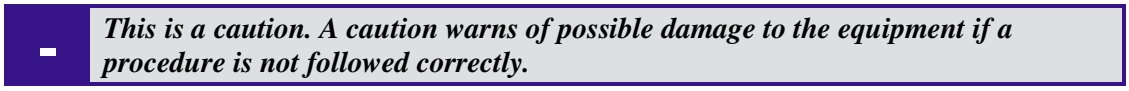
This guide provides detailed instructions for installing, configuring, and troubleshooting the Extricom EXSW-400/800/1200/2400 and Multi Series 1000 WLAN switches and Extricom EXRP-20/40/30n and 20E/40E/40En UltraThin™ Access Points (APs).

This version of the user guide has been updated to include product changes up to and including switch version 4.2.43.04.

Audience

This guide is intended for enterprise IT managers and system installers who are familiar with installing and configuring networks.

Conventions

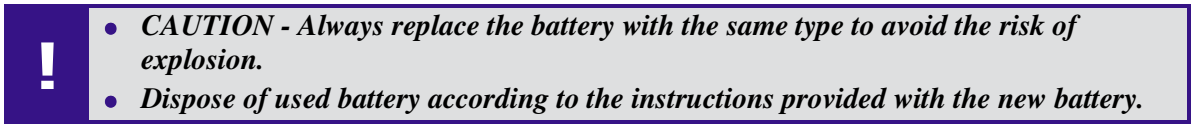


Safety Precautions

Follow the instructions in the guide to ensure proper installation and operation of the switch and APs.

- Operate the switch and APs in an indoor environment.
- Disconnect the switch and APs from power sources before servicing.

- The switch and AP enclosure must not be opened by anyone other than an authorized service representative.
- To comply with FCC RF exposure compliance requirements, maintain a minimal separation distance of at least 20 cm/8 inches between the AP and all persons.
- The power cable included should not be used with any other electrical equipments other than Extricom switches.
- The switch contains an internal battery.



Chapter 1

Introduction to the Extricom Wireless LAN System

A Wireless Local Area Network (WLAN) based on the IEEE 802.11 standard enables laptops, PDAs, phones, and other "Wi-Fi" equipped devices to wirelessly connect to the enterprise network.

However, large scale deployments of traditional cell-based WLANs, in which each access point (AP) operates on a different channel than that of adjacent APs, have been hindered by issues such as poor coverage, low capacity, high-latency mobility, and expensive interference analysis or site survey and maintenance costs.

Extricom's WLAN, on the other hand, takes a different and novel solution approach, by avoiding the coverage and capacity trade-offs of traditional cell-based WLAN architecture. In addition, the need for cell planning and interference analysis, a highly expensive aspect of owning a WLAN, is also eliminated. Finally, Extricom's innovative approach does away with most WLAN maintenance tasks. Extricom's WLAN System is specifically designed to provide increased network capacity, seamless mobility, high level of security, and easy installation and configuration.

Overview of the Extricom WLAN System

The Extricom WLAN consists of a wireless switch (EXSW-400/800/1200/2400, &EXSW-1600 based on the Multi Series 1000 platform) connected to a set of UltraThin™ APs (EXRP-20/40/30n and EXRP-20E/40E/40En). The Extricom WLAN system eliminates the concept of cell-planning and replaces it with the "Channel Blanket" topology. In this topology, each Wi-Fi radio channel is used on every access point to create continuous "blankets" of coverage. By using multi-radio APs, the Extricom system is able to create multiple overlapping Channel Blankets from the same physical set of devices, as illustrated in Figure 1.

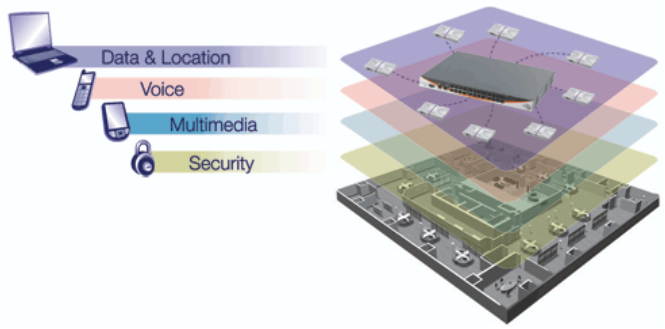


Figure 1: Four Channel Blanket Coverage

The Extricom solution is based on a fully centralized WLAN architecture, in which the switch makes all of the decisions for packet delivery on the wireless network. In this configuration, the access points (APs) simply function as radios, with no software, storage capability, or IP address. Even the basics of connecting are different: clients associate directly with the switch, not with the AP. The AP acts as an "RF conduit" to rapidly funnel traffic between the clients and the switch. The Extricom architecture has essentially centralized the 802.11 logic in the switch, while distributing the wireless electronics in the APs.

Centralization of the Wi-Fi environment enables enterprises to deploy 802.11a/b/g/n channels at *every* AP, creating multiple overlapping "Channel Blankets" that leverage each of the radios in the multi-radio UltraThin AP. Each channel's bandwidth is delivered across the blanket's service area (i.e. the combined coverage of all APs connected to the switch), with interference-free operation and consistent capacity throughout.

As the client moves throughout the blanket, different APs will be in the best position to serve the client at different times. The switch always uses the uplink and downlink path that is optimal to serve the client. While this is going on "behind the scenes," the client never experiences an AP-to-AP handoff (i.e. de-association and re-association), resulting in seamless mobility.

Within each Channel Blanket, the switch avoids co-channel interference by permitting multiple APs to simultaneously transmit on the same channel only if they won't interfere with each other. This is the essence of the TrueReuse™ functionality.

Extricom supports the 802.11n standard. 802.11n builds upon existing 802.11 standards. 802.11n can be used in both the 5 GHz and 2.4 GHz frequency bands, introduces enhancements to the MAC and the PHY layer, and makes use of multiple-input multiple-output (MIMO) technology. MIMO is a technology that employs multiple transmitter and receiver antennas to support simultaneous data streams. Such technology is capable of increasing data throughput via enhancements such as spatial multiplexing (data streams), 40MHz channel bonding, Block Acknowledgment and frame aggregation, and use of spatial diversity to increase range.

Features and Benefits

Extricom's WLAN system solution offers the following features:

- **Ease of deployment - No cell planning**
  Extricom's architecture requires no cell planning and experiences no constraints due to RF interference or channelization. Consequently, Extricom APs can be deployed wherever needed, in any density or even varying density, to meet the desired end-client service level (stipulated in terms of connection rate). The traditional site survey is therefore reduced to just physical equipment installation planning.

- **Multi-Layer WLAN**
  Using multiple radio Access Points, a single set of APs enables deployment of multiple high-data-rate Channel Blankets with overlapping coverage, resulting in multiplied aggregate capacity. Separate Channel Blankets also offer the unique ability to guarantee Quality of Service by physically segregating different user types, traffic, and roles onto different channels.

- **Same band operation**
  The Extricom WLAN system enables WLAN channels, in the same band (e.g. Channel 1, 6, and 11 in 2.4 GHz), to be simultaneously used within the same AP, to form overlapping Channel Blankets using the same physical set of APs. It is possible to configure up to four channels of same band when using EXRP-40/40E/40En APs.

- **TrueReuse bandwidth**
  TrueReuse technology multiplies the bandwidth of a standard 802.11 channel by dynamically optimizing the reuse of each frequency. Within a Channel Blanket, up to three APs are permitted to simultaneously transmit on the same channel, when the TrueReuse algorithm determines that they can do this without causing each other co-channel interference.

- **Zero-latency mobility**
  In an Extricom WLAN, wireless device remains on the same channel everywhere within the Channel Blanket. Inter-AP handoffs delays or packet loss do not occur as the client moves across the range of different APs.

- **Wi-Fi Collaboration**
  Extricom's patented Wi-Fi Collaboration technology in which all APs are able to receive on the same channel, provides uplink path diversity for client transmissions, making the system highly resistant to RF instabilities and outside interference.

- **Dense AP deployment**
  In an Extricom WLAN, APs can be deployed in any density convenient to the enterprise, to achieve both blanket coverage and a guaranteed communications rate to all users. In fact, while cell-based solutions shy away from dense deployments because of their inherent RF obstacles, Extricom's system performance actually increases with AP density.

- **Wire-line quality VoWLAN**
  Extricom's Interference-Free architecture is perfectly suited for VoWLAN providing zero-latency mobility, voice and data separation, reduced power consumption, and high RF resiliency, all together resulting in superior voice performance.

- **IEEE 802.11n**
  Extricom architecture supports 802.11n both in the 2.4 GHz and in the 5GHz bands, using both 20MHz and 40MHz wide channels. The advantages of Extricom's architecture are numerous in the 802.11n setting. Among them is the unique ability to deliver full-bandwidth performance in the 2.4GHz band, to both 802.11n and 802.11b/g devices. By contrast, cell-planning architectures cannot be used with 802.11n 40MHz channel-bonding, since the number of non overlapping channels is insufficient for this.

- **IEEE 802.11i support**
  Extricom's products support WEP-64, WEP-128, WPA-TKIP, WPA2-AES (CCMP) encryption. The authentication modes supported include: RADIUS (802.1x) and WPA Pre-Shared Key (PSK).

- **Power save**
  Full power conservation management is enabled for associated mobile devices over unicast, multicast, and broadcast frames. This is based on various IEEE 802.11 standard power-save specifications such as PS-Poll and U-APSD for 802.11a/b/g devices, and SM & U-PSMP power save for 802.11n devices.

- **Centralized configuration**
  New switches are added to the network via a single Web interface either manually by the user, or automatically using an Extricom protocol.

- **System redundancy**
  Extricom enables full redundancy by connecting two switches in a cascade or hot-standby topology. The switchover parameters are user-configurable

- **SNMP**
  The Extricom system supports SNMP V2 based on standard and private MIBs, enabling the user to configure the switch using SNMP Set operations, read switch status using SNMP Get operation and determine the status of the system, including the status of APs and Redundancy, using SNMP Traps. SNMP is provided for customers wishing to use their existing network management system to administer multiple Extricom switches. Alternatively, the Extricom EXNM-2000 network management software platform is available as a dedicated centralized Extricom WLAN management system.

- **Multiple RADIUS & RADIUS Redundancy**
  The Extricom system supports multiple RADIUS servers per ESSID, enabling the user to set redundancy between these RADIUS servers.

- **Network Time Protocol (NTP)**
  The Extricom system supports synchronization of the system clock over the network, thereby ensuring accurate local time keeping with reference to radio and atomic clocks located on the Intranet and/or Internet.

- **Fast Handoff (Opportunistic Key Caching)** - WLAN clients roaming between APs of the same channel blanket within a single switch's coverage area will experience zero-latency mobility. Clients roaming between different Extricom WLAN switches use the standard 802.11 handoff mechanism, which is further facilitated by the opportunistic key caching mechanism in the 802.11i standard. In addition to this, the Extricom system speeds up 802.11i handoff between Extricom switches by use of Extricom's inter-switch protocol. This permits the client to avoid repetitive 802.1x authentications, thereby enabling faster transition between Access Points connected to different switches with minimal session interruption

- **Captive Portal –** The Captive Portal technique compels any HTTP client to view a special web page (usually for authentication purposes) before accessing the rest of the network. Captive Portal turns a Web browser into a secure authentication device. This is done by intercepting an internet access request and redirecting it to an Extricom local logging web page which may require authentication, or simply display an acceptable use policy and require the user to agree.

- **MAC authentication –** MAC authentication technique enables the Extricom switch to authenticate WLAN devices via RADIUS server even if they have no native support for 802.1x. This mechanism is normally used in "dumb" device WLAN topology (such as barcode readers) where WLAN client authentication is to be managed via a central RADIUS server.

Overview of the Extricom Switches

The Extricom WLAN switches are connected to Extricom APs to form an Extricom WLAN.

The Extricom EXSW-400, EXSW-800, EXSW-1200, and the EXSW-2400 switches are Fast-Ethernet capable; the EXSW-1600 and EXSW-800G are GbE-capable switches based on the Extricom Multi Series 1000 platform.

The EXSW-400 and EXSW-800 can connect to EXRP-20/40 or EXRP-20E/40E APs to provide legacy 802.11a/b/g service with up to 4 or 8 APs respectively. Alternatively, these switches can connect to EXRP-30n or EXRP-40En APs to provide 802.11n and 802.11a/b/g service. However, both switches can support up to a maximum of two channel blankets, regardless of the Extricom AP model that is being used.

The EXSW-1200 and EXSW-2400 can connect to EXRP-20/40 or EXRP-20E/40E APs to provide legacy 802.11a/b/g service. Alternatively, these switches can connect to EXRP-30n or EXRP-40En APs to provide 802.11n and 802.11a/b/g service; the EXSW-1200 can connect to up to 12 APs and the EXSW-2400 switch can connect to up to 24 APs.

When deployed with EXRP-20/20E access points, the EXSW-1200/2400 switches support up to two channel blankets, and when they are connected to EXRP-40/40E/40En access points, the EXSW-1200 and 2400 switches support up to four channel blankets. When deployed with EXRP-30n access points, the EXSW-1200/2400 can support up to three channel blankets, two with 802.11a/b/g/n support, and one with 802.11a/b/g support.

EXSW-1200/2400 switches are equipped with hardware for two LAN ports with 100 Mbps Ethernet line speed. However, only one uplink port is used currently; the second port is reserved for future port redundancy development. AP connectivity is also 100 Mbps.

The EXSW-800G and EXSW-1600 provide GbE speeds (1,000 Mbps) on both the AP ports and LAN uplink port. The 800G and 1600 can connect to EXRP-20/40 or EXRP-20E/40E APs to provide legacy 802.11a/b/g service. Alternatively, these switches can connect to EXRP-30n or EXRP-40En APs to provide 802.11n and 802.11a/b/g service; the EXSW-800 can connect up to 8 APs and the EXSW-1600 can connect up to 16 APs.

When deployed with EXRP-20/20E access points, the EXSW-800G and 1600 switches support up to two channel blankets, and when they are connected to EXRP-40/40E/40En access points, the EXSW-800G and 1600 switches support up to four channel blankets. When deployed with EXRP-30n access points, these switches can support up to three channel blankets, two with 802.11a/b/g/n support, and one with 802.11a/b/g support.

Configuring a switch and its associated set of APs is as simple as configuring a single traditional AP, greatly reducing the effort required to deploy and maintain the WLAN. Configuration is done via a dedicated, secured Web interface that comes standard with every switch, or via the optional EXNM-2000 Network Management System.

Figure 2: Extricom EXSW-2400 Switch

Figure 3: Extricom EXSW-1200 Switch

The Extricom EXSW-1200 is derived from the EXSW-2400, with the same hardware and firmware. The only difference between the two models is the number of WLAN ports supported.

Figure 4: Extricom EXSW800 Switch

The EXSW800 switch only supports two channels, so when it is connected to EXRP-40, only two radios will operate.

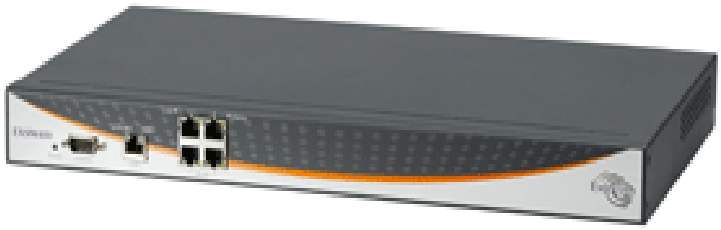


Figure 5: Extricom EXSW-400 Switch

The EXSW400 switch only supports two channels, so when it is connected to EXRP-40, only two radios will operate.

Overview of the Multi Series 1000 Appliance Platform

Figure 6: Extricom Multi Series 1000

The Extricom Multi Series 1000 is a high-performance hardware platform, and is software-configurable to support a range of wireless and networking functions in an Extricom WLAN System.

The Multi Series 1000 is equipped with two RJ45/SFP GBE Combo port uplinks, and 16 GBE PoE edge-side ports. The Multi Series 1000 is therefore capable of performing different wireless and networking functions, depending on the firmware installed on it,

In the current release, the Multi Series 1000 platform is used to support the EXSW-1600, EXSW-1600C, and EXSW-800G. The EXSW-1600, EXSW-1600C, and EXSW-800G are the ultimate platforms for full 802.11n implementation.

The EXSW-1600C is a special version of the EXSW-1600. The EXSW-1600C is designed and licensed for use only as part of a Switch Cascade pair.
The EXSW-1600 can be used as a standalone edge switch or as part of a Switch Cascade pair.

SFP modules are not shipped with the Multi Series 1000. To use the SFP ports, you must use Class 1 laser certified SFP modules according to IEC/EN 60825-1 and /or CDRH.

Overview of the Extricom Access Points

Access Points with Internal Integrated Antennas

Extricom's EXRP-20, EXRP-40 and EXRP-30n UltraThin APs are high-bandwidth devices. The EXRP-20 contains two 802.11a/b/g radios, the EXRP-40 contains four 802.11a/b/g radios, and the EXRP-30n contains two 802.11a/b/g/n and one 802.11a/b/g radio.

The EXRP-20 and EXRP-40 APs have internal diversity antennas – one diversity antenna for each radio. The EXRP-30n possesses three (3) antennas per 802.11a/b/g/n radio (for supporting 3x3 MIMO).

The APs do not require configuration, enabling plug-and-play installation. If stolen, the APs do not pose a security risk, since all encryption is performed in the switch.

With all intelligence residing in the WLAN switch, APs may be placed as close together as necessary to provide high-quality, high-speed connectivity from all locations within the enterprise.

Extricom APs are connected to the Extricom WLAN Switch via standard Cat5e/6 cables. The APs are powered by the standard 802.3af Power over Ethernet (PoE), and only a single Cat5e/6 cable connection is required to support all radios in an Extricom AP.

An EXRE-10 or 1000 range extender can be used between the AP and the switch, for extended reach.

Figure 7: Extricom EXRP-20 and EXRP-40 AP

Figure 8: Extricom EXRP-30n AP

Access Points with Connectors for External Antennas

Some applications may require an access point capable of connecting to external antenna(s). The EXRP-20E/EXRP-40E, and EXRP-40En accommodate this requirement. The EXRP-20E/EXRP-40E have the same electronics as the EXRP-20/40 (respectively), but with a metal, plenum-rated casing, and connectors for attaching external antennas. The EXRP-20E contains two 802.11a/b/g radios and has four external antenna connectors. The EXRP-40E contains four 802.11a/b/g radios and has eight external antenna connectors. The EXRP-40En contains two 802.11a/g/n radios and two 802.11a/b/g radios. The EXRP-40En has ten external antenna connectors.

An external antenna may be desired to make the AP less visible by mounting it in the plenum. There may also arise situations where, to ensure connectivity and service levels within a complex coverage environment, directional antennas may be needed, rather than the omni-directional antennas that are standard inside Extricom integrated antenna APs. In such cases, the antennas may also be located at some distance from the AP in order to cover a specific area.

Figure 9: EXRP-20E/40E access points

The EXRP-20E/40E and EXRP-40En APs are connected to the Extricom WLAN Switch via standard Cat5e/6 cables, in exactly the same manner as integrated antenna AP models. The APs are powered by the standard 802.3af Power over Ethernet (PoE), but can be powered by an external power supply if desired.

An antenna with an RP-SMA plug (male) connector can be connected to the EXRP-20E/40E and EXRP-40En . For purposes of product homologation testing, Extricom used a “Rubber Duck”-type antenna, specifically the Netgate 2.4-2.5 / 5.1-5.9 GHz Dual Band Rubber Duck RP-SMA (part number: ANT-2458-5RD-RSP). More specifications on this antenna can be found at http://www.netgate.com/product_info.php?products_id=386.

! With EXRP-20E/40E/40En - Use only xPVC or similar jacket cable which is NEC Article 725 and 444 Compliant and plenum rated per NFPA 262 (UL 910) standard

A Typical Extricom Wireless Network Topology

An Extricom WLAN switch is connected to the wired LAN, and the APs distributed throughout the enterprise. Figure 10 shows a typical Extricom enterprise topology, consisting of an Extricom switch and eight APs.

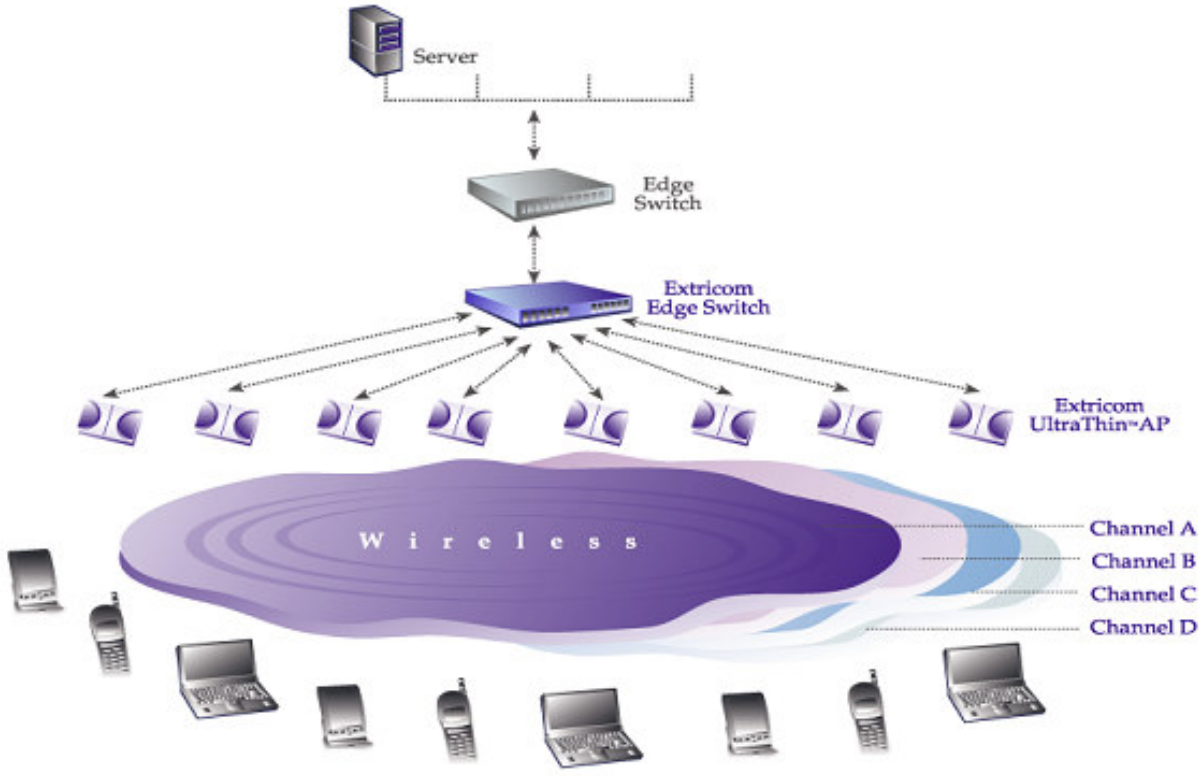


Figure 10: Typical Extricom Typology

Extricom uses standard WLAN protocols (IEEE 802.11). As a result, any 802.11a/b/g/n standard wireless device can work seamlessly with the Extricom system.

- **Mixing different types of Extricom AP's on the same switch is not permitted, except for EXRP-20 and 20E AP's or EXRP-40 and 40E AP's.**
- **When using the EXSW-400/800 with EXRP-40, EXRP-30n, or EXRP-40En, only two radios will operate.**
- **Extricom APs must be directly connected to the switch to function.**
- **An Extricom range extender or media converter, may be used between the AP and the switch, when extra range is required.**

Switch Cascade (Multi Series 1000 Platform Only)

Switch Cascade is a new Extricom topology in which two Multi Series 1000 switches are interconnected together to create one larger logical switch with enhanced redundancy. One Multi Series 1000 switch serves as the primary, and the other Multi Series 1000 switch serves as the secondary. A diagram of the Cascade topology is shown below, in its standard configuration:

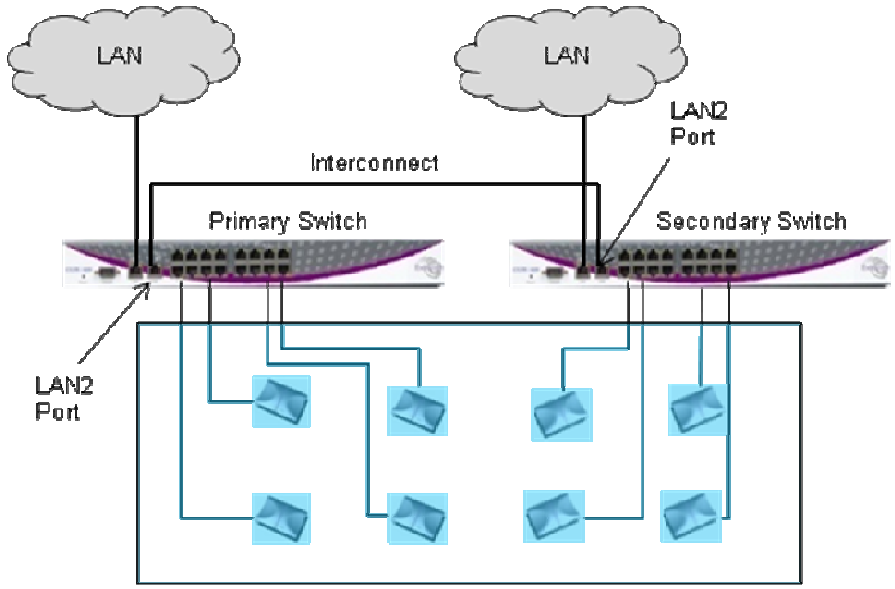


Figure 11: Switch Cascade Topology

The interconnect is connected to the LAN2 port of each switch. See page 26 for more details about the interconnect hardware and maximum length.

The APs of each switch form a seamless channel blanket that extends across the APs of both switches. Up to 4 seamless channel blankets can be deployed. Up to 32 APs can be deployed in the cascade topology.

In the above topology, the switch configuration is redundant, but the APs are not. To achieve AP redundancy, the APs from each switch should be deployed in a mesh configuration, as illustrated below:

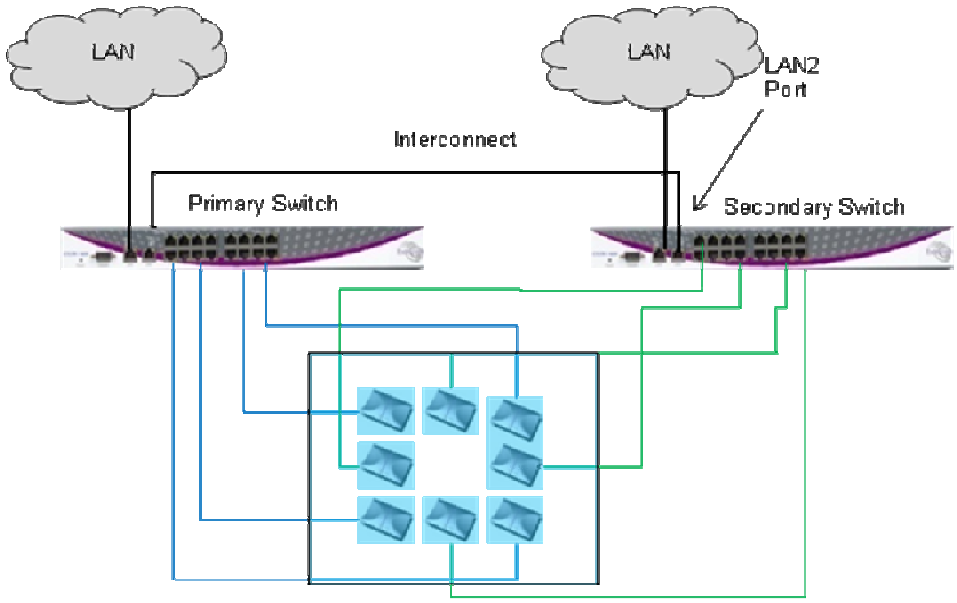


Figure 12: Switch Cascade With AP Redundancy

It is also possible to deploy the APs in a semi-mesh, according to the degree of service required in the event of a failover. In a semi-mesh deployment, most APs are configured as in Figure 12, but one or more APs from the Primary are placed in the coverage area of the secondary, or vice versa.

In a switch cascade, the secondary switch routes all of the traffic from its APs to the primary switch over the interconnect cable. The primary switch performs the full set of Extricom edge switch functions on the secondary switch's traffic, as well as on traffic from its own APs. The same is true for traffic downloaded to the APs: the primary switch performs the Extricom edge switch functions, such as determining to which AP to transmit each packet, and the secondary switch routes the traffic it receives to the correct AP.

Heartbeat checks are performed over the LAN links. A failover takes place if there is a critical failure of one of the switches, one of the LAN links, or in the interconnect.

Extricom Support for 802.11n

802.11n is a breakthrough technology that enables Wi-Fi networks to do more, faster, over a larger area. 802.11n Wi-Fi provides optimized connectivity for enterprise computer networking, delivering the range, bandwidth, and performance that multimedia applications and products demand.

For 802.11n deployment, Extricom offers the EXRP-30n, and EXRP-40En APs. The EXRP-30n contains two 802.11a/b/g/n radios and one 802.11a/b/g radio, and the EXRP-40En contains two 802.11a/b/g/n radios and two 802.11a/b/g radios.

All current Extricom switches support 802.11n. However, for new 802.11n deployments, the Multi Series 1000 platform (EXSW-1600/800G) is recommended because of its GbE capability which takes full advantage of the GbE capability of the EXRP-30 and 40En.

Brief Overview of 802.11n

The following section describes at a high level the main features and terms of 802.11n. It also outlines which features of the standard are supported by Extricom products at this time. This section is provided to give customers using Extricom's 802.11n products an overview of 802.11n technology, and to help them understand what parameters need to be to configured on the Extricom switch in order to support 802.11n.

802.11n is a member of the 802.11 family of standards; it can function in both the 2.4 GHz and 5GHz bands using OFDM transmission (as with 802.11a and 802.11g). The emphasis in 802.11n design was mainly on increasing bandwidth, range and performance of the 802.11 protocol itself. This was largely achieved by using multiple transmitters/receivers (MIMO) and enhancements to the OFDM PHY and 802.11 MAC layers.

MIMO

Definition: 802.11a/b/g devices used SISO architecture (single input, single output) for transmitter and receiver paths. 802.11n uses MIMO (Multiple inputs / multiple outputs) architecture. That is, multiple transmitter and multiple receiver antennas **(NxM)** are used to support multiple, simultaneous data streams**.**

Extricom 802.11n: Extricom Access Points are equipped with three receivers and three transmitters, so as to make 3x3 MIMO possible. Initially, however, the firmware in the radio chipset will operate in a 3x2 MIMO configuration. This will be firmware upgradeable when the chipset manufacturer makes this enhancement available.

Data Streams

Definition: Spatial multiplexing divides data into multiple streams and sends it simultaneously over multiple paths using the multiple transmitters (antenna) over the channel. These streams are recombined by the multiple receivers to get the original data.

Extricom 802.11n: Extricom Access Points support two data streams over the 3x3 transmitter/ receivers.

Channel Bonding

Definition: All earlier versions of 802.11 have used 20 MHz wide channels, defined in the 2.4 GHz and 5 GHz bands. 802.11n- Draft 2.0 specifies operation in the same 20 MHz channels used by 802.11b/g in the 2.4 GHz and 802.11a in the 5 GHz bands, but adds a mode where a full 40-MHz wide channel can be used. This offers approximately twice the throughput of a 20-MHz channel.

Extricom 802.11n: Extricom products support 20 and 40MHz channels *both* in 2.4GHz and 5GHz.

Guard Interval

Definition: In OFDM, inter-symbol interference occurs when the delay between different RF paths to the receiver exceeds the guard interval, causing a reflection of the previous symbol to interfere with the strong signal from the current symbol: a form of self-interference. 802.11n allows a shorter guard interval to increase PHY performance.

Extricom 802.11n: Extricom supports configurable guard interval (400 or 800 ns). However, short guard interval is only supported with 40MHz channel.

Frame Aggregation

Definition: With MAC-layer aggregation, a station with a number of frames to send can combine them into an aggregate frame (MAC MPDU). The resulting frame contains fewer headers in overhead than would be the case without aggregating, and because fewer, larger frames are sent, the contention time on the wireless medium is reduced.

Extricom 802.11n: Extricom supports frame aggregation.

Block Acknowledgment

Definition: Block Acknowledgment works in conjunction with frame aggregation, allowing the transmitter to request a block ACK for a multiple frame improving overall performance.

Extricom 802.11n: Extricom supports block acknowledgment.

Operating Modes

Definition: 802.11n defines three modes of operation for 802.11n devices:

1. Legacy mode – In this mode, the 802.11n radio works in legacy 802.11a/b/g mode only.
2. Mixed mode – In this mode the 802.11n radio can work with both 802.11n & 802.11a/b/g clients
3. Greenfield mode – In this mode the 802.11n radio works only with 802.11n clients.

Extricom 802.11n: Extricom products support both Legacy and Mixed modes. Currently there is no support for Greenfield mode. With this release, however, Extricom is introducing a unique feature, the "**HT Only**" blanket in which a specific Channel Blanket can be configured so that only 802.11n clients (working in mixed mode) can associate to it. This enables a deployment to support co-existence of 'n' and 'b/g' clients, from the same set of APs, but separated on different channels, so there is no mixed-mode throughput degradation occurs.

Coexistence

Definition: 802.11n is designed to operate with backward compatibility for 802.11b/g/a devices—the method of operation known as mixed mode that was previously described. 802.11b/g/a, on the other hand, does not have forward compatibility with 802.11n. Therefore 802.11n must protect 802.11b/g/a stations from 802.11n transmissions that may be interpreted as interference

Extricom 802.11n: Extricom supports PHY layer protection (L_SIG protection) for OFDM transmissions (802.11a/g clients). MAC layer protection is supported (Dual CTS protection) for non-OFDM (802.11b) clients.

MCS

Definition: The complexity of 802.11n rate adaptation has given birth to the concept of Modulation Coding Scheme (MCS). MCS includes variables such as the number of spatial streams, modulation, and the data rate on each stream.

Extricom 802.11n: Extricom supports two data streams; therefore MCS 0 to 15 can be configured.

SM Power Save

Definition: The basic 802.11n power save mode is based on the earlier 802.11 power save function. Power save in 802.11n is enhanced for MIMO operation with SM power save mode. Since MIMO requires maintaining several powered-up receiver chains, standby power draw for MIMO devices is likely to be considerably higher than for earlier 802.11 equipment. A new provision in 802.11n allows a MIMO client to power-down all but one RF chain when in power save mode. When a client is in the 'dynamic' SM power save state, the AP sends a wake-up frame, usually an RTS/CTS exchange, to give it time to activate the other antennas and RF chains. In static mode, the client decides when to activate its full RF chains, regardless of traffic status.

Extricom 802.11n: Extricom supports SM power save mode static mode.

Chapter 2

Installing the Extricom WLAN System

This chapter provides instructions for unpacking and installing the Extricom WLAN system.

Unpacking the Extricom WLAN System

The Extricom WLAN system is shipped with the following:

- One Extricom switch.
- CD which contains The Extricom WLAN System User Guide, Release Notes and EULA
- APs (the number of APs is based on customer order and provided in separate boxes) are shipped as part of the overall order.
- One power cable.

Additional Equipment

The following additional equipment is required for installing the Extricom WLAN system:

- One CAT-5e/6 cable for each AP.
- One CAT-5e/6 cable(s) for connecting the WLAN switch uplink to the LAN switch.
- A range Extender (EXRE) is required for any AP that will be located between 100 and 200 meters from the WLAN switch.
- For cabling distances over 200 m, media converters must be used.
- Two (EXRP-20/40/30n) stainless steel pan head 8x1-1/4" self-tapping Phillips screws for wall or ceiling mounting each AP (optional).

Determining the Location of the Extricom Access Points

Before installing the switch and access points, plan the placement of the APs. Before permanently mounting the APs, Extricom recommends testing the network (using a laptop client) to identify potential coverage holes. If such a problem exists, relocate an AP or add additional APs to resolve the coverage hole. To find the best location for the required coverage, the Extricom Deployment Tool may be used.

The APs should be placed in a stable, secure location, such as on top of a closet or bookshelf, or mounted on a wall.

The switch should be placed near the distribution point of the LAN line. This is usually in the communications closet of your enterprise.

EXSW-400/800/1200/2400/Multi Series 1000 Switch (EXSW-800G, EXSW-1600)

The Extricom EXSW-400 switch has 6 connectors and 4 LED types on the front panel (refer to Figure 13).

The Extricom EXSW-800 switch has 10 connectors and 4 LED types on the front panel (refer to Figure 14).

The Extricom EXSW-1200 switch has 15 connectors and 4 LED types on the front panel (refer to Figure 15).

The Extricom EXSW-2400 switch has 27 connectors and 4 LED types on the front panel (refer to Figure 16).

The Extricom Multi Series 1000 Appliance Platform has 21 connectors (refer to Figure 17).

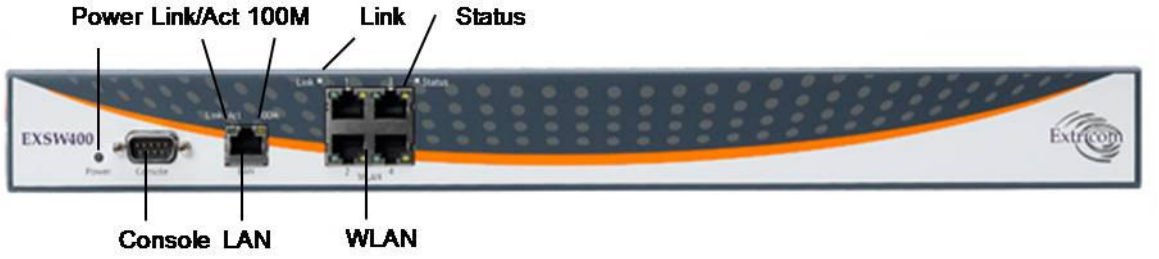


Figure 13: Extricom EXSW-400 Switch

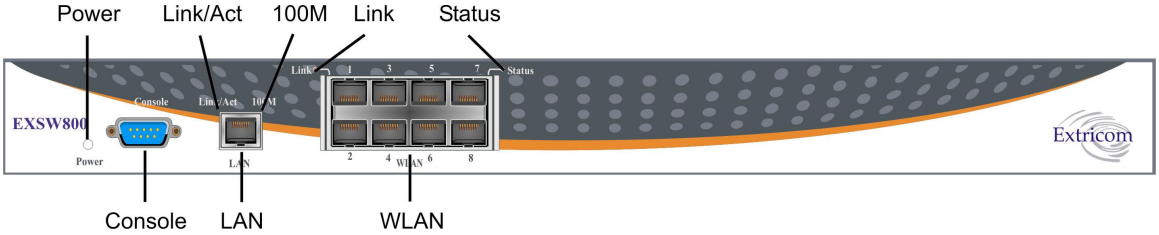


Figure 14: Extricom EXSW-800 Switch

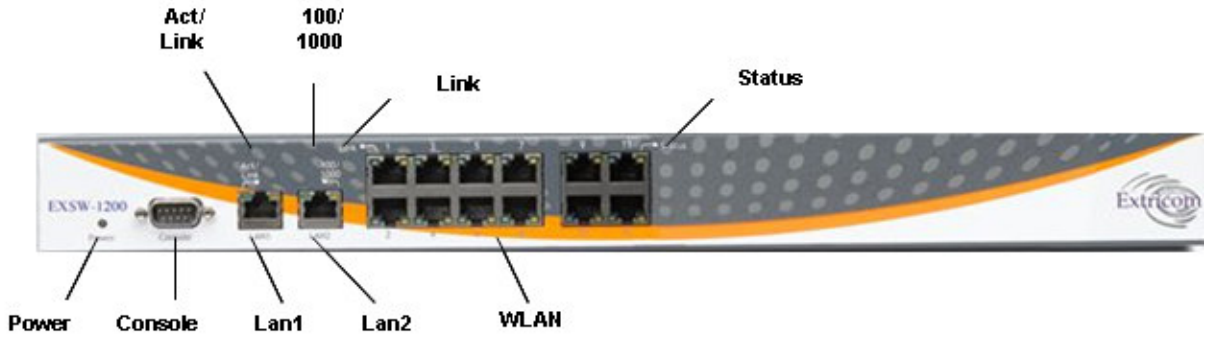


Figure 15: Extricom EXSW- 1200 Switch

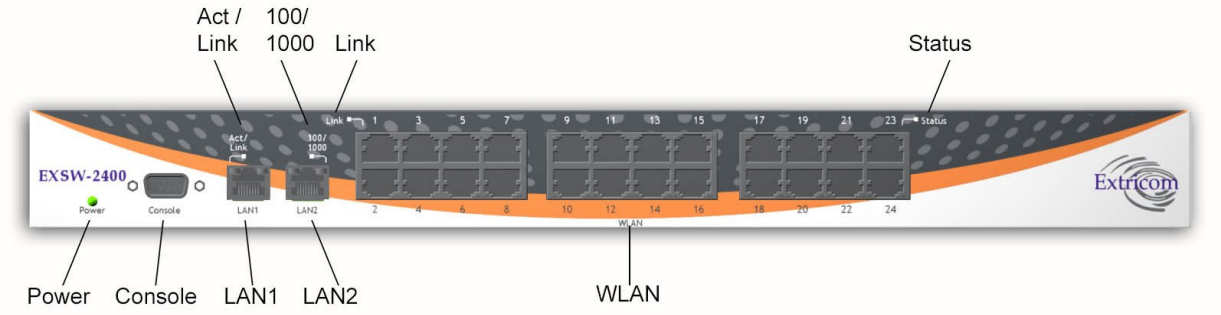


Figure 16: Extricom EXSW-2400 Switch

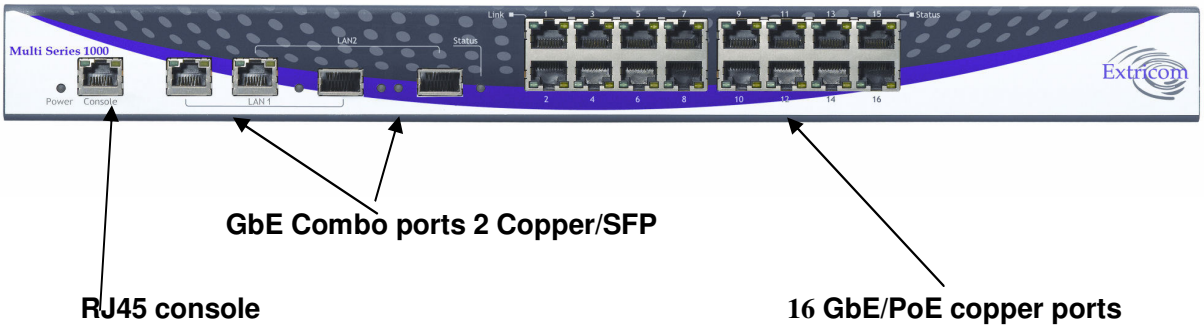


Figure 17: Extricom Multi Series 1000

Table 1 below describes the front panel and connectors of Extricom EXSW-400/800/1200/2400/Multi Series 1000 switches.

Connectors	Description
Console	Serial connector – only to be used by, or as instructed by, Extricom personnel for troubleshooting, support, or maintenance. Can be accessed using a Null modem cable.
LAN	2 Fast Ethernet RJ-45 ports – used to connect the switch to the wired

Connectors	Description
(EXSW-400/800) LAN1, LAN2 (EXSW- 1200/2400)	LAN. Only LAN1 is used for connection to the wired LAN. LAN2 on EXSW-1200/2400 is currently not in use.
LAN1,LAN2 (Multi Series 1000)	2 GbE RJ-45, 2 GbE SFP combo ports – used to connect the switch to the wired LAN. Use only GbE or SPF. Only LAN1 is used for connection to the wired LAN. LAN2 is used for Switch Cascade interconnect only.
WLAN (AP) Ports	RJ-45 connectors – used to connect Extricom APs to the switch. These ports provide 802.3AF PoE compatible power. Maximum current: 270 mA, 48 volts. ***Do not connect any device other than Extricom APs to the WLAN ports.***

Table 1: Extricom EXSW-400/800/1200/2400/1600 Switch Connectors

Table 2 below describes the front panel LEDs of Extricom EXSW-400/800/1200/2400 and Multi Series 1000 Appliance Platform.

LED	Color	Description
Power	None	• No power
	Green	• *Blinking* - switch is loading • *On* - switch is ready/operational
	Red	• *On* - Error after loading
	Green-Orange	• *Blinking* - RF localization error
LAN, LAN1, LAN2 Ports		
Act/Link	Green	• *On* - connection • *Blinking* - activity over connection • *Off* - no connection
100 (EXSW-400/800 only)	Orange	• *On* - 100 Mbps full duplex connection • *Off* - 10Mbps full duplex or no connection
100 /1000 (EXSW-1200/2400 only)	Orange	• *On* - 100 Mbps full duplex connection • *Off* - No connection Only a 100 Mbps LAN connection is supported.

LED	Color	Description
(1000) (Multi Series 1000 only)	Orange	• Not in use. Only a 1000 Mbps LAN connection is supported. In v4.2, Orange LED is not used.
Status (SFP links) (Multi Series 1000 only)	Green	• *On* - 1000 Mbps full duplex SFP connection • *Off* - no SFP connection
WLAN (AP) Ports		
Link	Green	• *On* - connection • *Blinking* - activity over connection • *Off* - no connection
Status (EXSW-400/800/1200/2400 only)	Orange	• *On*- 100 Mbps full duplex connection • *Off* - no connection
Status (Multi Series 1000 only)	Orange	• *On* - 1000 Mbps full duplex connection • *Off* -100 Mbps full duplex or no connection

Table 2: Extricom EXSW-400/800/1200/2400/1600 Switch LEDs

Extricom EXRP-20/20E/40/40E/30n/40En Access Points

Extricom EXRP-20/40/30n APs have two connectors (AP to WLAN switch communication, power) located on the side of the device and four LEDs located on the top of the device (see Figure 18).

In addition to these two connectors, the EXRP-20E/40E APs also have four or eight external antenna connectors respectively (see Figure 19). The EXRP-40En has 10 external antenna connectors.

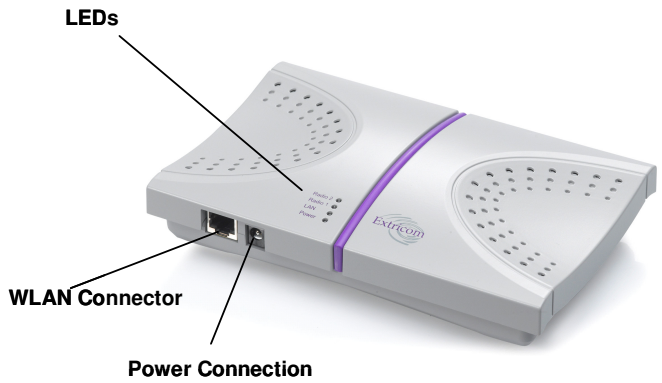


Figure 18: Extricom Integrated Antenna AP

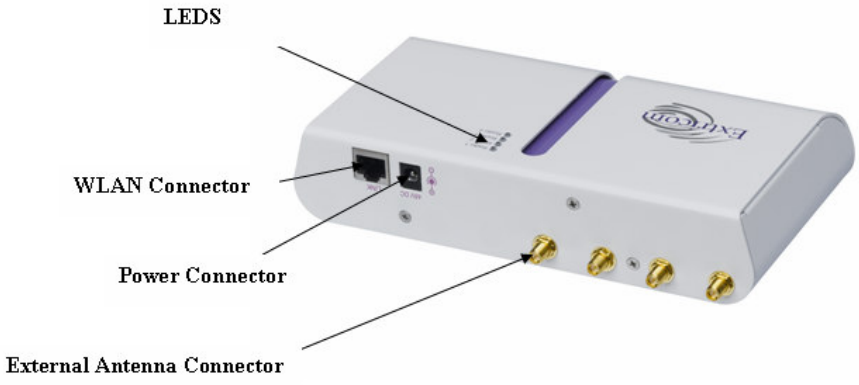


Figure 19: Extricom External Connector Antenna AP (EXRP-20E shown)

Table 3 below describes the Extricom Access Point connectors.

Connectors	Description
Power	External power is not required for most applications. Power is supplied via the Ethernet cable (PoE). In case of an external power requirement (e.g. when media converters are used and POE is blocked), use a UL Listed LPS (Limited Power Source) or NEC Class II power adapter. Rating – Input: 90-240VAC, 0.8A max. Output: 48VDC, 0.56A max. The DC output plug of the power supply must be a standard round DC plug with 5.5mm outer ring diameter and 2.5mm inner ring diameter. Plug polarity: Outer (-), Inner (+). ***Due to regulatory requirements in Europe (CE) and the pending certification process for the power supply connector, an external power supply should not be used with EXRP20/40/20E/40E.***
WLAN	RJ-45 connector – used to connect the Extricom AP to the Extricom switch. Power is provided by the Extricom switch to the AP when directly connected to it.

Table 3: Extricom AP Connectors

LEDs	Color	Description
Radio 1	Green	1st Radio is active
	Red	1st Radio is malfunctioning
	Off	1st Radio is off
Radio 2	Green	2nd Radio is active
	Red	2nd Radio is malfunctioning
	Off	2nd Radio is off
LAN	Green (flashing)	Connection to Extricom switch is active
	Off	Not active
Power	Green	On/Off

Table 4: Extricom EXRP-20/EXRP-20E AP LEDs

LEDs	Color	Description
Radio 1	Green	1st Radio is active
	Red	1st Radio is enabled with no assigned ESSID, or malfunctioning
	Off	1st Radio is off
Radio 2	Green	2nd Radio is active
	Red	2nd Radio is enabled with no assigned ESSID, or malfunctioning
	Off	3rd Radio is off
Radio 3	Green	3rd Radio is active
	Red	3rd Radio is enabled with no assigned ESSID, or malfunctioning
	Off	3rd Radio is off
Radio 4	Green	4th Radio is active
	Red	4th Radio is enabled with no assigned ESSID, or malfunctioning
	Off	4th Radio is off

Table 5: Extricom EXRP-40/EXRP-40E/En AP LEDs

LEDs	Color	Description
Radio 1	Green	1st Radio is active
	Red	1st Radio is malfunctioning
	Off	1st Radio is off
Radio 2	Green	2nd Radio is active
	Red	2nd Radio is malfunctioning
	Off	2nd Radio is off
Radio 3	Green	2nd Radio is active
	Red	2nd Radio is malfunctioning
	Off	2nd Radio is off
LAN	Green (flashing)	Connection to Extricom switch is active
	Off	Not active

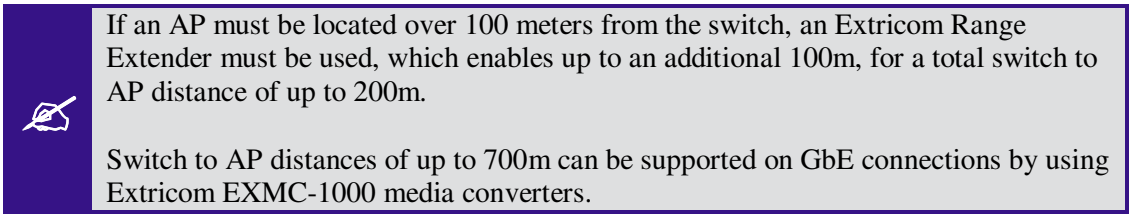
Table 6: Extricom EXRP-30n LEDs

Connecting the Switch and Access Points

The Extricom switch is connected to the wired LAN and to the APs that are located throughout the enterprise.

To connect a switch and access points:

1. Using CAT-5e/6 100/1000Mbps cable, connect the RJ-45 LAN1 connector located on the front panel of the switch (refer to Figure 16) to the LAN switch.
2. Using a CAT-5e/6 cable, connect each AP (refer to Figure 16) to one of the switch's RJ-45 WLAN connectors.



3. Connect the power cable to the power connector located on the rear panel of the switch, and plug the other end of the power cable into a power source.
4. Verify that the Power LEDs on both the switch and connected APs are green.

Mixing AP types in the same deployment is not permitted, except for EXRP-20 and 20E APs, or EXRP-40 and 40E APs.

When using the EXSW400/800 with EXRP-30n/40E/40En APs, only two radios will operate.

If using fiber media converters (ATI/100Mbps, CTC/1000Mbps) to extend switch-to-AP distance:

- Each converter requires external power
- Once all cables are connected (Switch – copper – converter – fiber – converter – copper – AP) perform a port power down/up in the web GUI of the switch to renew switch awareness of the AP connection.
- Fiber mode is Multi for 100Mbps
- Fiber mode can be Multi or Single for 1000Mbps per the SFP module selected. Note both ends of the fiber termination must be in the same (SFP) mode.

To connect a switch cascade:

1. Connect the primary and secondary switch to the LAN and to its APs, as directed in the section above.
2. Verify that both switches are running the same firmware release, and that this is the newest release that supports Switch Cascade.
3. Refer to the chart on the following page for important switch interconnect guidelines
4. Connect the switch interconnect from the LAN2 connector located on the front panel of the primary switch, (refer to Figure 17) to the LAN2 connector located on the front panel of the secondary switch.

The maximum length of the primary to secondary switch interconnect is computed according to the following tables: (all distances in meters)

Interconnect Using CAT-5e/6 100/1000Mbps Cable:

Distance Between Secondary Switch and Its Farthest AP	Max. Switch Interconnect Distance (Copper Interconnect Cable)
50	150
100	100
150	50
175	25
190	10

Interconnect Using Fiber Media Cable:

Distance Between Secondary Switch and Its Farthest AP	Max. Switch Interconnect Distance (Fiber Interconnect Cable)
50	500
100	300
150	150
175	75

Note: Beyond 100 m, copper-based cables require a range extender.

Mounting the Access Points (Optional)

Extricom EXRP-20E/40E/40En APs can be mounted on the wall or ceiling. For this purpose, a separate mounting bracket is provided for ease of installation. The bracket has two holes for mounting to the wall, and one hole for a screw that mounts the AP to the bracket.

Extricom EXRP-20/40/30n APs can be mounted on the wall or ceiling. To mount the APs, you will need two stainless steel pan head 8x1-1/4" self-tapping Phillips screws.

To mount the EXRP-20/40/30n Access Points:

1. Place the installation template (refer to **Error! Reference source not found.** in this Guide) on the wall where you want to mount the AP.
2. Mark the "Point for Drilling" locations on the wall.
3. Screw the two stainless steel pan head 8x1-1/4" self-tapping Phillips screws into the wall leaving enough of the screws protruding to enable you to hook the AP over the screw.
4. Align the holes on the back of the AP with the screws and slip the AP into place.

Position the EXRP-20/40 AP so that the connectors are on the bottom left corner of the AP.

The EXRP-20 and EXRP-40 are similar in appearance. Please double-check the LED titles or label on the underside of the unit to make sure you have the right type of AP for your deployment.

The EXRP-20E, EXRP-40E, and EXRP-40En resemble each other but have a different number of external antenna connectors.

Chapter 3

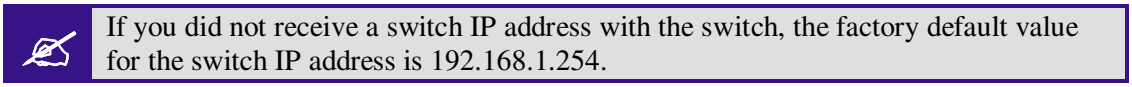
Configuring the Extricom WLAN System

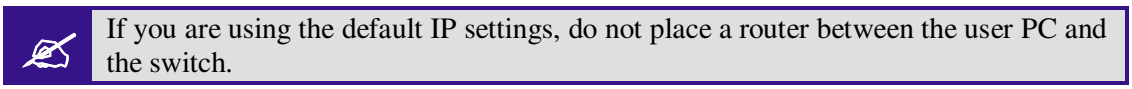
Accessing the Extricom Switch GUI

After connecting the switch and AP, configure the Extricom WLAN system through Extricom's web configuration GUI using a terminal or PC connected to the same LAN as the switch.

To access the Extricom web configuration pages:

1. In your Web browser, enter the following: `https://<IP address of the switch>` where `<IP address of the switch>` is the IP address of the switch provided with your purchase (for example, the URL should be https://1.2.3.4 if the IP address of the switch is 1.2.3.4). Note that **https** must be used, *not* http, in order to initiate a secure browsing session. **https** initiates an SSL session with the switch.





2. On the first login you will receive a notice in your browser that there is a problem with the website's security certificate. Click on "**Continue to this website (not recommended)**".

3. The *Login* page appears, as shown below in Figure 20:

Figure 20: Login Page

4. Enter your user name and password (as provided by your system installer) and click **OK**. The *Summary* page appears.

> If you did not receive a user name and password with your switch, use the following factory default user name and password:
>
> **user name:** *admin*
> **password:** *Switch1*
>
> The user name and password are case-sensitive.

When System Pop-up Windows Appear In Explorer 8

1. You will receive a notice in the pop-up window that there is a problem with the website's security certificate.
2. Press the **tab key** on your keyboard until you see the link "**Continue to this website (not recommended)**"
3. Click on it.

System pop-up windows are used in only a few situations, for example, when clicking on System Tools \Maintenance \Factory Defaults button.

Using the Extricom Web Configuration Pages

The Extricom Web Configuration pages have four main areas:

- Switch image – The Extricom Web configuration page displays an image of the configured switch (the EXSW400, EXSW800, EXSW-1200, Multiseries 1000, or the EXSW-2400); the image shows dynamic status of the PoE of each AP port (grey= PoE off , green=PoE on).
- Navigation tree

- Configuration display, and editable work area (for some screens)
- Event and alarm area

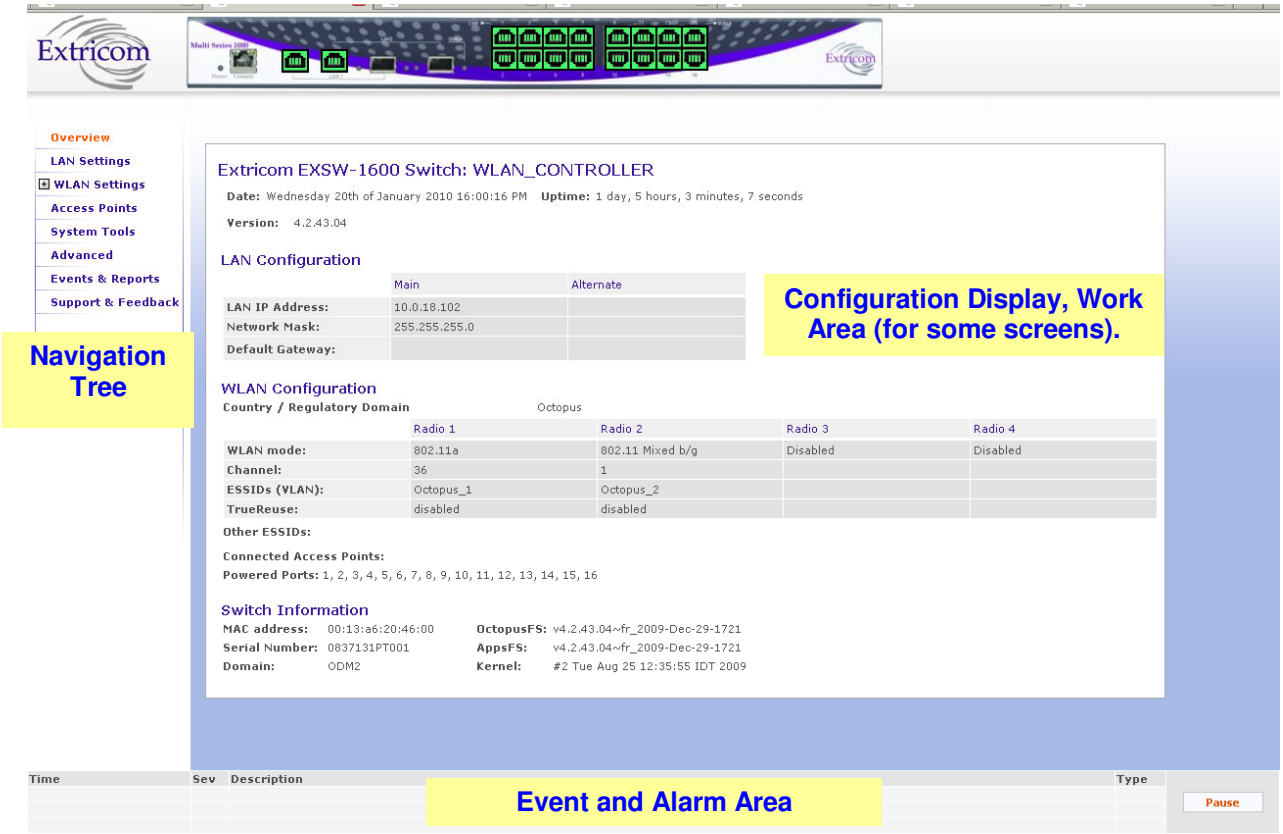


Figure 21: Typical Web Configuration Page

The *navigation tree* provides access to the following Extricom Web configuration pages:

- *LAN* Settings – used for configuring LAN parameters.
- *WLAN Settings* – used for configuring WLAN parameters including ESSID-related configuration and Radio configuration.
- *Access Points* – used for viewing ports in use, and activating/deactivating PoE.
- *System tools* – used for configuring general system parameters such as passwords, time & date, firmware upgrade, etc.
- *Advanced*– used for configuring advanced features such as redundancy, TrueReuse, 802.11d, IDS, SNMP, and Centralized Configuration parameters.
- *Events & Reports* – used for viewing system events and performance reports.
- *Support & Feedback*

The *work area* displays the information selected in the navigation tree. Use this area to configure Extricom system parameters, where applicable. Web configuration pages may include a **Save** button; when this is selected, the configuration changes are applied to the offline configuration file. If you wish to apply these parameters, select the **Apply** option in the **System Tool** web page; this will start the reconfiguration process.

The *event and alarm* area will display real time SNMP trap messages, you can pause the traps by selecting **Pause**.

Please see page 92 for more details.

If you do not select **Apply** option (in the **System tool** web page) after clicking **Save**, the new configuration will only take effect after rebooting the switch

Configuring LAN Parameters

In the *LAN Configuration* page, you can configure the following:

- The LAN ports' IP address and network mask, as well as a backup address and mask.
- The LAN interface and management VLAN tag IDs.
- The default gateway.
- Wireless subnet tab – Configures all wireless subnets (SSID subnets) controlled by the IT manager. This may be required when Captive Portal is enabled.

To configure LAN parameters:

1. Click **LAN Configuration** in the navigation tree. The *LAN Configuration* page appears (refer to Figure 22).

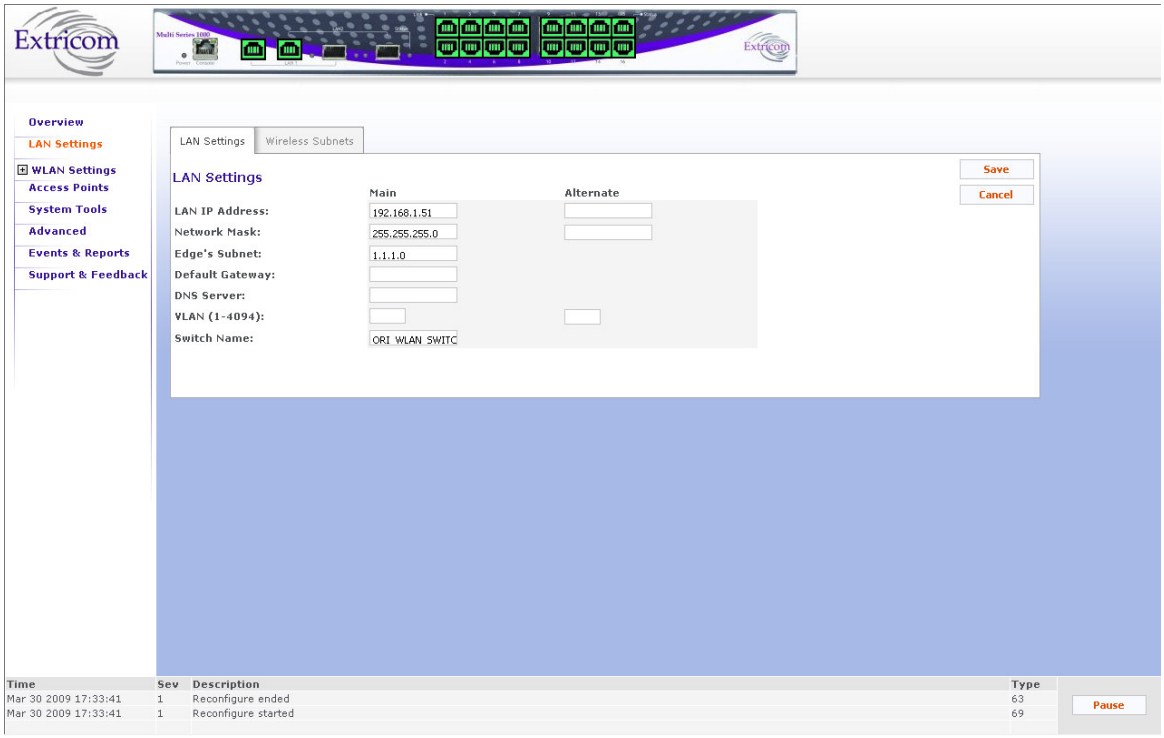


Figure 22: LAN Configuration Page

2. Configure the LAN parameters. Refer to Table 7 for a description of the LAN parameters.

Field	Description
LAN IP Address	Enter LAN IP address used for the switch management. You can add an alternate IP address if you wish to manage the switch from a different network; enter the value in the **alternate** field.
Network Mask	Enter the network mask for the LAN 1 IP address and you can also add an alternate network mask for the alternate IP address defined, enter the value in the **alternate** field.
Edge's Subnet	Subnet of a redundant pair (Primary - Secondary or Main - Standby). Only appears if switch defined as part of a redundant pair.
Default Gateway	Default gateway address.
DNS server	Add the DNS server IP address
VLAN	Management VLAN tag ID for VLAN access to manage the switch. You can add two: one for the LAN 1 IP address through the **Main** field, and an alternate VLAN id for the **Alternate IP** address defined (using the alternate field).
Switch name	A textual descriptor of the switch. Maximum length is 64 characters.

Table 7: LAN Configuration Parameters

3. Click **Save** to save the configuration.
4. When using Captive Portal, if any Captive Portal ESSID has an associated VLAN, you need to enter the IP subnet that you are planning to assign to this VLAN.

If you do not select Apply (in the **System tool**s web page) after selecting **Save on one page or more**, when you reboot the switch the new configuration is lost. (refer to **Error! Reference source not found.** on page **Error! Bookmark not defined.**).

Configuring WLAN Parameters

The *WLAN Configuration* page contains three sub-menu pages:

- ESSID definition
- Radios
- Assignments

Configuring ESSIDs

An *ESSID* (Extended Service Set Identifier) is the name of the network. Wireless devices must connect to a specific ESSID which determines the pre-defined set of privileges, settings, and limitations (such as security definitions, access privileges, VLAN assignments, etc.) of the network. Each channel can support multiple ESSIDs, thus creating "virtual" networks on the same channel.

The following is the data structure used by the Extricom system:

- Each radio is assigned *one* channel.
- Each channel can support up to *8-16* different ESSIDs (see note below).
- Each ESSID can be associated with a VLAN tag.
- The same ESSID name *can* be repeated for different channels;

On the EXSW-1200, EXSW-2400, and Multi Series 1000, up to 7 ESSIDs are allowed on channel 1, and up to 8 ESSIDs are allowed on each of the remaining channels.

On the EXSW-400 and EXSW-800, up to 15 ESSIDs are allowed on channel 1, and up to 16 ESSIDs are allowed on channel 2.

There is a maximum of 31 ESSIDs per system.

Table 8 below shows an example of possible channel, ESSID and VLAN tag assignments for the EXSW-400 and EXSW-800 switches.

Access Point	Channel	ESSID	VLAN tag
First Radio	1	Network1	1
		Network2	2
		…	…
		…	…
		Network15	15
Second Radio	6	Network16	16

Access Point	Channel	ESSID	VLAN tag
		Network17	17
		Network18	18
		…	…
		…	…
		Network31	31

Table 8: ESSID per channel Example

In the *ESSID* web page, it is possible to **Add** a new ESSID, and to **Rename** or **Delete** an existing ESSID. For a selected ESSID it is possible to configure the following features:

- Allow Default ESSID
- Display ESSID in Beacon
- Allow Store & Forward
- Allow Inter-Ess Store & Forward
- Enable Multicast
- Enable ARP Caching
- Enable MAC ACL
- Enable 802.11D support
- Enable AeroScout (Not supported in version 4.2)
- MAC authentication
- Beacon Rate Control
- In-Band Management
- Captive Portal
- Assign a VLAN to the ESSID
- Set a disassociation timeout
- Set DTIM period
- Encryption parameters
- MAC ACL (in MAC ACL tab) / RADIUS server (in RADIUS tab)

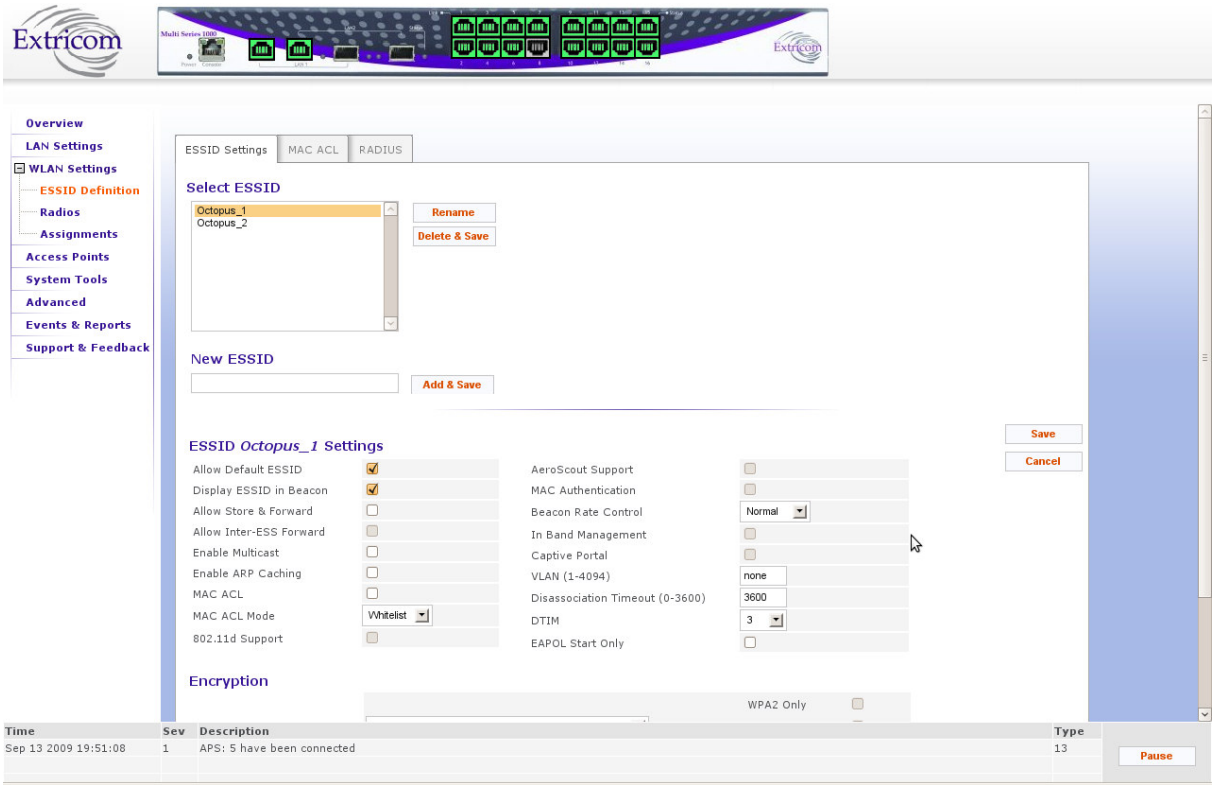


Figure 23: WLAN Configuration Page

When configuring ESSID parameters, refer to the following table for a description of the available parameters:

Field	Description
ESSID	
Select ESSID	Select an ESSID from the dropdown list. To **Add/Delete/Rename ESSIDs** from this list, use the **Add/Delete/Rename** field in the web page.
ESSID option	
Allow Default ESSID	If this option is *enabled*, a wireless device will be allowed to connect to the Extricom WLAN without requesting a specific ESSID (i.e., "default" or "any" ESSID). If this option is *disabled*, then a wireless device needs to connect to a specific ESSID in the Extricom WLAN.
Display ESSID in Beacon	This option provides an additional (though limited) level of security. The AP sends out a beacon with information about the network. If this option is enabled, the ESSID appears in the beacon. If disabled, the ESSID does not appear in the beacon.

Field	Description
Allow Store & Forward	If this option is *enabled*, two wireless devices connected to the Extricom WLAN with the same ESSID can communicate and transfer data to each other. Traffic between wireless devices will not be forwarded to the LAN switch. If this option is *disabled*, all traffic goes through the LAN switch. This could be used by IT managers to apply security settings or various policies in the LAN network.  Disabling *Allow Store & Forward* disables the *Allow Inter-Ess Forward* option.
Allow Inter-Ess Forward	If this option is *enabled*, two wireless devices connected to the Extricom WLAN with different ESSIDs will be able to communicate with each other without going through a router. Traffic between wireless devices will not be forwarded to the LAN switch.  This option must be enabled on both ESSIDs. In order for wireless devices, associated to different ESSIDs, to be able to communicate with each other, the ESSIDs must be defined on the same VLAN (or no VLAN at all). If this option is *disabled*, all traffic goes through the LAN switch. This could be used by IT managers to apply security settings or various policies in the LAN network.
Enable Multicast	This option, when enabled, provides support of multicast and broadcast packets for the selected ESSID. Multicast and/or broadcast packets shall be transmitted from all APs.
Enable ARP Caching	This option, when enabled, provides an immediate response to ARP requests directed towards WLAN stations associated with the selected ESSID. The Switch answers on behalf of the WLAN stations.
MAC ACL	This option, when enabled, allows a user to add a MAC access list to the specific ESSID. Only clients with MAC address included in this list are allowed to access the network if the ACL mode is Whitelist. If the ACL mode is Blacklist, then these clients are not allowed to use the network. Use the MAC ACL tab to add the MC ACL list
MAC ACL Mode	Select Whitelist or Blacklist. Whitelist mode means that the MAC addresses listed can access the network. Blacklist mode means that the MAC addresses listed cannot access the network.

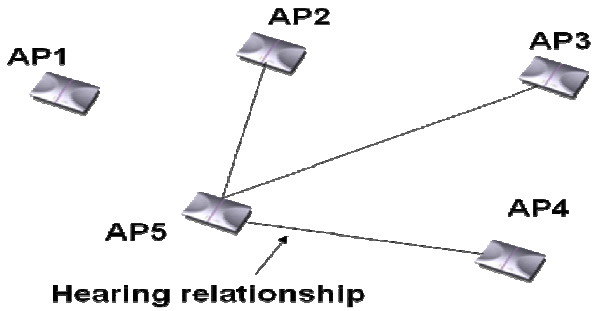
Field	Description
802.11d Support	Enables support of the 802.11d standard .The purpose of this standard is to provide regulation domains for each country in a predefined list. The regulation domains and country information are provided as part of Beacons & Probe response.
Enable AeroScout	Enable location based services based on the Aeroscout platform. Requires Aeroscout hardware.
VLAN	Enter a VLAN tag to assign to the ESSID. Assigning a VLAN to an ESSID enables you to control a wireless device's privileges through the existing wired network definitions.
MAC Authentication	Select this option if you wish to impose MAC authentication on this ESSID. MAC authentication enables a user to authenticate WLAN clients using RADIUS server, even if they do not support 802.1x authentication. Note that when using this option, the security setting does not allow you to select any 802.1x methods.
Beacon Rate Control	Use this option if you wish to tune the beacon distribution mechanism. You can tune the system to provide customized beacon coverage. The higher the rate, more beacons shall be distributed on this SSID. 5 levels are available in the pull-down menu: • Basic: 0% beacon rate control • Normal (default): 33% beacon rate control • Increased: 66% beacon rate control • High: 80% beacon rate control • Full: 100% beacon rate control
In Band Management	Select this option if you wish to allow management of the switch through the wireless media through this ESSID. In band management ESSIDs have the same VLAN as set for the switch management VLAN. Once you set this option, the VLAN setting will be automatically updated to the management VLAN as set in the **LAN Configuration** web page. In band management SSID if enabled shall only allow the following security Settings (This should be set from the **Others Tab** in the **Advanced** page): • WPA/WPA2 personal (TKIP/AES & Pre Shared Key Authentication) • WPA/WPA2 Enterprise (TKIP/AES & 802.1x Authentication)
Captive Portal	Select this option if you wish to set this ESSID to be captive portal restricted. If you set this option the ESSID VLAN id is automatically assigned with the VLAN ID specified in the **Portal** tab in the **Advanced** page.

Field	Description
Disassociation Timeout	Enter the amount of time (in seconds) a wireless device can remain inactive (no data sent to or from the wireless device) before automatically disconnecting from the network.
DTIM Period	The period of time after which broadcast and multicast packets are transmitted to mobile clients in the Active Power Management mode. Select the DTIM period for the selected ESSID. This is relevant for clients that want to utilize the power management capability. The possible values are 1-5. The default is 3. A high DTIM value may cause these clients to lose connection with the network.
EAPOL Start Only	Select this option if you want the switch to connect only clients that require the switch to wait for an EAPOL Start. When this option is selected, clients that do not send an EAPOL start will not be able to connect to this ESSID.

Table 9: ESSID Parameter Descriptions

Beacon Rate Control

The EXSW creates a hearing relationship table between APs. It forms an AP Bundles group (Bundle of APs – group of APs, each bundle can include 1 or more APs). The total number of bundles is equal to the number of APs. Each bundle can send a Beacon at the same time interval. Then a transmission occurs based on round-robin between bundles (every 100msec). In order to compensate sensitive clients for a lost beacon, it is possible to set (per SSID) the Beacon rate control at a higher threshold. Although the feature minimizes the possibility of clients receiving duplicate beacons, there is no guarantee of zero duplicate/missed beacons.



*** Clients near AP1 hear only 1 beacon out of 5, therefore Hearing % is 20%.**

Figure 24: Hearing Topology Example

The following table shows the hearing % of each AP in the diagram above:

AP	Receiving APs	Hearing %
1	1	20
2	2,5	40
3	3,5	40
4	4,5	40
5	2,3,4,5	80

Table 10: Hearing %

Beacon transmission prior to switch s/w v3.4 would have followed the legacy pattern below:

Bundle/Interval	BC1	BC2	BC3	BC4	BC5
1	AP1				
2		AP2			
3			AP3		
4				AP4	
5					AP5

Table 11: Legacy Pattern

However, from v3.4 and later, a Smart Beacon mechanism was implemented, so that the beaconing in the example is actually as shown below (BC rate control of 80%):

Bundle/Interval	BC1	BC2	BC3	BC4	BC5
1	AP1,AP5				
2		AP1,AP2			
3			AP1,AP3,AP5		
4				AP5,AP4	
5					AP1,AP5

Table 12: Smart Beaconing

Configuring Security Definitions

In the *ESSID* page *Encryption* section the following security definitions can be configured:

- Type of encryption.
- Type of authentication.

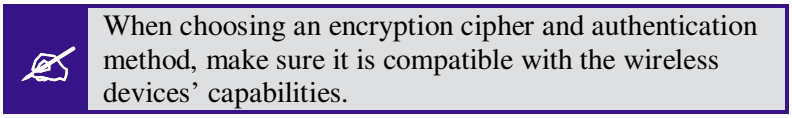
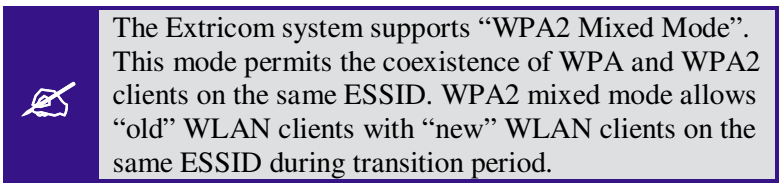
With some configurations, you can use encryption without authentication. For a higher level of security, however, it is recommended to use both encryption and authentication.

The Extricom WLAN makes configuration of ESSID security parameters easier by listing available combinations of Encryption and Authentication protocols.

Security definitions are configured for each ESSID individually.

To configure the security definitions:

1. Select the ESSID for which you want to configure the security definitions from the **ESSID** dropdown list.
2. Configure the security definitions for the selected ESSID. Refer to Table 13 for a description of Security parameters.

Field	Description
Encryption & Authentication	
Choose method	Define the method of encryption and authentication. A combination of encryption and authentication methods may be selected from the options detailed in the drop-down list. **Encryption cipher** There are three types of encryption ciphers available: • *WEP64* – Wired Equivalent Privacy (802.11 encryption protocol). This is a very basic encryption level. (AKA WEP40) • *WEP128* – This encryption is similar to WEP64, but the WEP keys are longer. (AKA WEP104) • *TKIP* – Temporal Key Integrity Protocol. This is a more secure and more advanced method of encryption as a part of the WPA standard. • *AES (CCMP)* – Advanced Encryption Standard.(Cipher Block Chaining Message Authentication Code Protocol) is currently the most advanced and secured method of Wi-Fi encryption and is part of 802.11i (WPA2) standard. **Authentication method** Authentication is used to identify if a wireless device is authorized to connect to the WLAN, and verifies the wireless device's identity. Authentication methods (such as specific EAP methods available in the *WPA/WPA2* enterprise option) also verify that the association process is secured. Authentication utilizing WPA/WPA2 (enterprise) can also support encryption key changes. The following methods are available: • *802.1x* – if the cipher is WEP or WEP104 • *WPA/WPA2 enterprise* – if the cipher is TKIP or AES • *Supported protocols: EAP, TLS, TTLS, PEAP, LEAP and MD5*  When choosing an encryption cipher and authentication method, make sure it is compatible with the wireless devices' capabilities.  The Extricom system supports "WPA2 Mixed Mode". This mode permits the coexistence of WPA and WPA2 clients on the same ESSID. WPA2 mixed mode allows "old" WLAN clients with "new" WLAN clients on the same ESSID during transition period. Any security combination (Encryption and Authentication) can be selected from the list and the check boxes.

<table>
<tr><th>Field</th><th>Description</th></tr>
<tr><td>WEP Keys</td><td>The WEP Keys area is only enabled if the cipher selected in the Choose Method field is WEP or WEP104. In the WEP Keys area, you define the WEP Key that is used for encrypting or decrypting.
You can define all four WEP keys. For each key you define, select the input format (ASCII or HEX) and enter the key according to the following table:
<table><tr><th>Cipher</th><th>ASCII</th><th>HEX</th></tr><tr><td>WEP64
(or WEP64+802.1x)</td><td>5 characters</td><td>10 digits</td></tr><tr><td>WEP128
(or WEP128+802.1x)</td><td>13
characters</td><td>26 digits</td></tr></table></td></tr>
<tr><td>Transmission Key</td><td>Select the WEP64/WEP128 key to be used for transmitting data from the AP.</td></tr>
<tr><td>WPA</td><td>The WPA area is only enabled if the cipher selected in the Choose Method field is WPA/WPA2 personal</td></tr>
<tr><td>WPA-PSK</td><td>If WPA/WPA2 Personal with Pre-Shared key authentication is used, the WPA-PSK field is enabled. In this case, select one of the following input formats, and enter the corresponding key listed:
• For ASCII, enter 8-63 characters.
• For HEX, enter 64 digits.</td></tr>
<tr><td>WPA/RADIUS</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Re-key Interval</td><td>Enter the amount of time (in seconds) that elapses before the Group Key is changed.</td></tr>
<tr><td>RADIUS Servers</td><td>Define the RADIUS servers list if:
• The cipher is WEP64/WEP128, and the 802.1x authentication method is selected.
• The cipher is TKIP/AES, and the WPA/WPA2 Enterprise authentication method is selected.
  Use Server # 1 if only one server is used. Use consecutive servers if several servers are used.</td></tr>
<tr><td>RADIUS Server-1</td><td>Select the RADIUS server #1 from the dropdown list of RADIUS servers</td></tr>
<tr><td>RADIUS Server-2</td><td>Select the RADIUS server #2 from the dropdown list of RADIUS servers</td></tr>
<tr><td>RADIUS Server-3</td><td>Select the RADIUS server #3 from the dropdown list of RADIUS servers</td></tr>
<tr><td>RADIUS Server-4</td><td>Select the RADIUS server #4 from the dropdown list of RADIUS servers</td></tr>
</table>

Table 13: Security Definition Parameters

Encryption and Authentication methods.

The **Choose Method** dropdown list in **Encryption & Authentication** displays the following options:

- None
- WEP64 (Open)
- WEP128 (Open)
- WEP64 & 802.1x Authentication
- WEP128 & 802.1x Authentication
- WPA/WPA2 personal (TKIP/AES & Pre Shared Key Authentication)
- WPA/WPA2 Enterprise (TKIP/AES & 802.1x Authentication)

When the “WPA2 Only” is checked, only Clients with WPA2 support are allowed to access the WLAN.

When the “AES Only” is checked, only Clients with AES support are allowed to access the WLAN.

Cisco LEAP protocol (not CMIC & CKIP) is supported under “*WEPxxx & 802.1x Authentication*”.

Configuring MAC ACL

To configure a per-ESSID MAC ACL, select the MAC ACL tab. In this sub-page, select the ESSID you wish to set MAC ACL for.

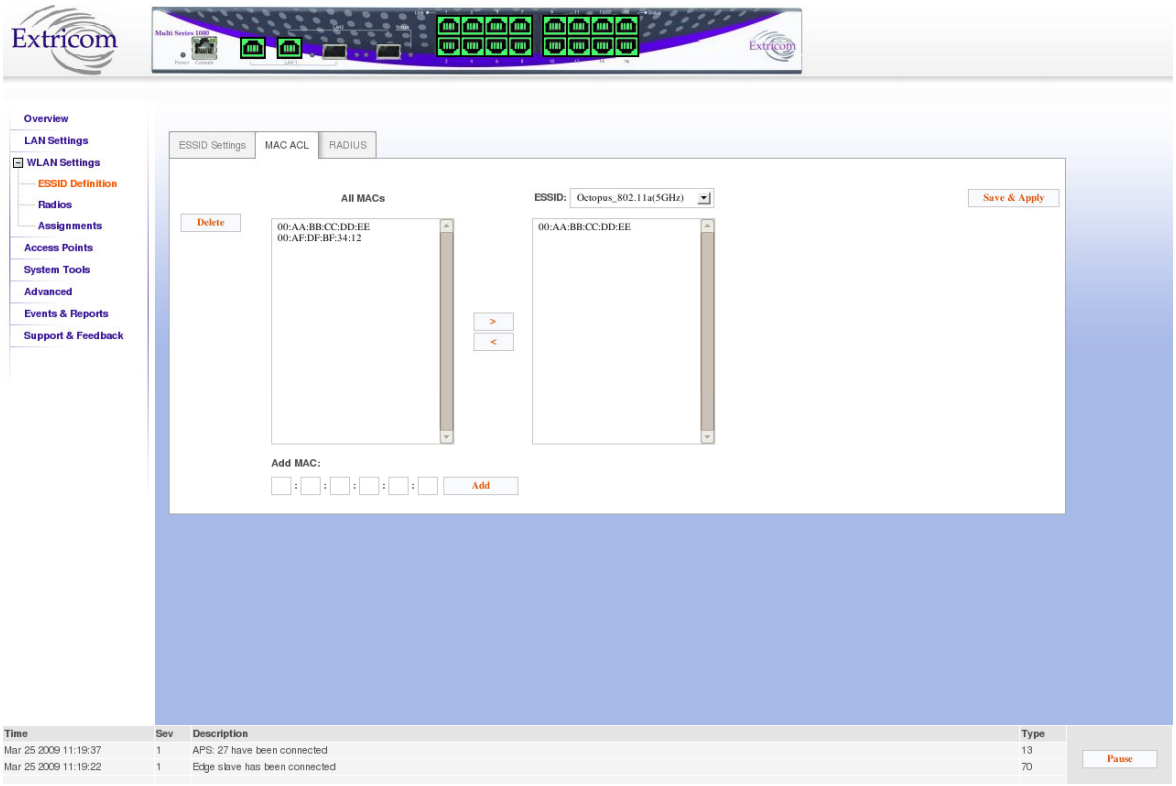


Figure 25: MAC ACL configuration Tab

To configure MAC ACL per ESSID

1. Select an ESSID from a list of configured ESSIDs by selecting it from the dropdown list.
2. Select a MAC address from the **All MACs** list.
3. Use the Right Arrow/Left Arrow to insert/remove this MAC to/from the selected ESSID.
4. You can add a new MAC address to the **All MACs** list by inserting it manually in the **Add MAC** field, then selecting **Add**. It is also possible to add a new MAC address to the **All MACs** table from the Event Menu: when a new event message notifies you of a new client , the event message will has a + sign in the **Add** field , once you press it, it is automatically added to the **All MACs** list.
5. Click **Save & Apply** to save the configuration and apply it immediately. There is no need to use the main Apply page.

Configuring RADIUS

RADIUS is a common authentication protocol utilized under the 802.1x security standard (often used in wireless networks). Although RADIUS was not initially intended to be a wireless security authentication method, it improves the WEP encryption key standard, when used in conjunction with other security methods such as EAP-PEAP.

In an enterprise environment, several RADIUS servers may be used for backup and also for serving different geographical locations. Up to four different RADIUS servers can be defined for each ESSID. RADIUS redundancy is based on the assumption that the user database is identical in all RADIUS servers and that users are listed in all servers with the same credentials.

Switchover from one RADIUS server to another takes place after consecutive failures of the server. The order of priority is 1 to 4.

To configure the RADIUS server option, select the RADIUS tab. The RADIUS tab displays the already configured RADIUS servers and allows you to configure new RADIUS servers in the system RADIUS server bank, and also delete entries no longer needed.

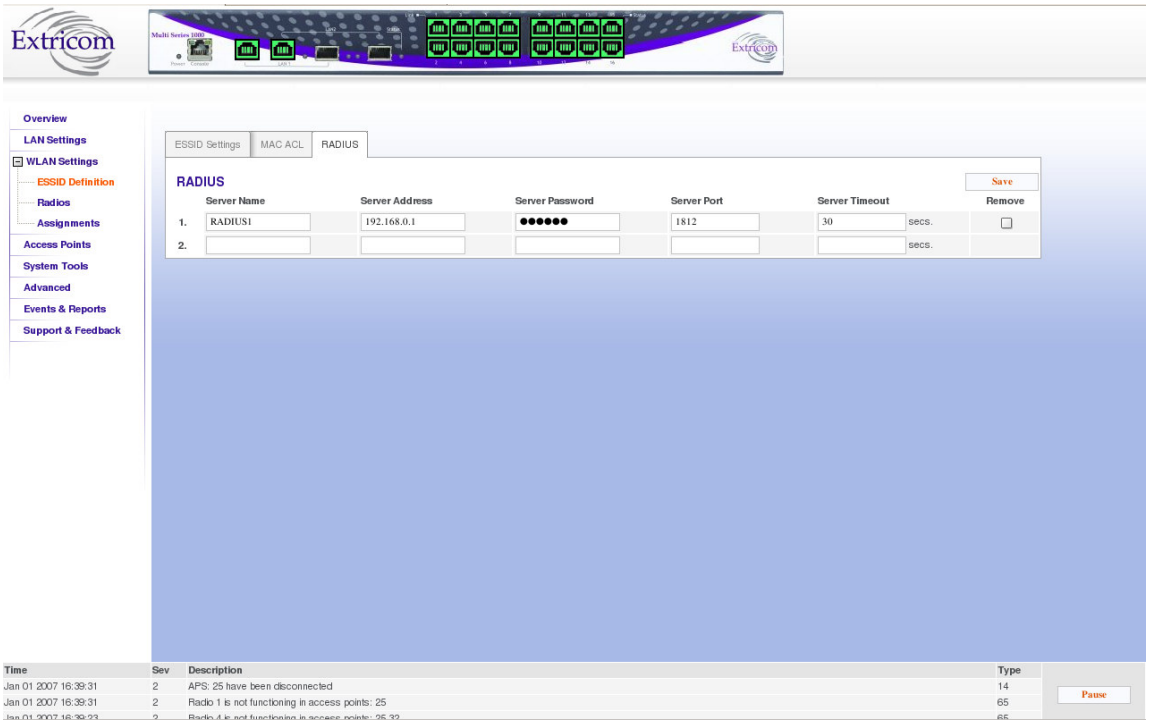


Figure 26: Radius Configuration Tab

Field	Description
Server Name	Enter the name of the RADIUS server.
Server Address	Enter the address of the RADIUS server.

Field	Description
Server Port	Enter the RADIUS server port.
Server Password	Enter the RADIUS server password.
Server Timeout	Enter the time which the Extricom switch will wait for the RADIUS server response.

Table 14: Radius Configuration Parameters

Configuring WLAN Radios

To configure the WLAN radios, use the Radios web page. The Radios web page provides the options available for configuring the radios.

When the Radios page is initially displayed, it appears in abridged form. To see all of the configuration options, you must click on the “More Options” button. Then, the window as shown in Figure 27 below appears.

Note that when configuring 802.11a/b/g radios, the 802.11n displayed parameters cannot be configured and are greyed-out.

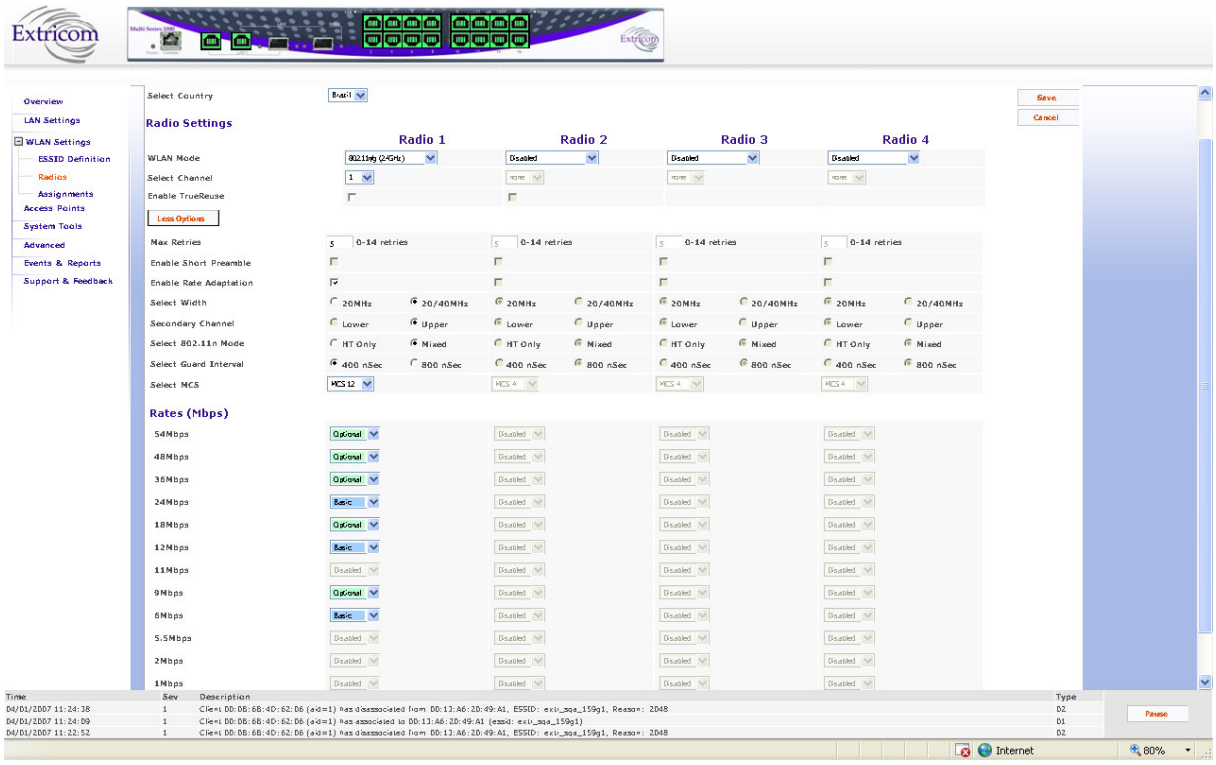


Figure 27: Radio Configuration Page

Configuring Radio Parameters

To configure specific radio parameters, select the appropriate Radio tab (Radio1-Radio4) on the **Radios** web page.

Field	Description
Channel Options	
Disable	Use the **WLAN Mode** dropdown checkbox to disable the radio.
WLAN Mode	Select the WLAN mode. Possible options are: • **Disable** - choose this option to disable the radio • 802.11a • 802.11b • 802.11g • 802.11b/g • 802.11n/a • 802.11n/g • 802.11n/g/b • Rogue detection  Not all Same Band configurations are possible, depending on type of Access point connected, the configured radio state and whether TrueReuse is configured across the switch. See the Release Notes for possible configuration scenarios.
Channel	Select the channel. The options available are based on the country and WLAN mode.
Enable TrueReuse	Enable the TrueReuse function on the selected radio.  Not all TrueReuse configuration scenarios are available. This depends on what Bands are configured on all other radios, the type of access point in use and the configured Radio state. See the Release Notes for possible configuration scenarios.
More/Less Options	Press this to maximize/minimize option display Channel Blanket