

Test Summary 204144
Aruba 5000 WLAN Security System Competitive Security Evaluation
November 2004

The following statement was sent as an E-mail message to The Tolly Group's President and CEO, Kevin Tolly by Alan Cohen, VP Marketing and Product Management of Airespace on November 6, 2004 in response to Mr. Tolly's invitation for Airespace to state its official position regarding why it would not permit its Airespace 4012 to be tested by The Tolly Group in conjunction with the competitive test now documented publicly in The Tolly Group's document 204144.

Official statement supplied by Airespace Corp.

Airespace has participated in over 22 independent industry reviews over the past 20 months. However, we have declined to participate in this test, because the functions being tested have been selected solely by a competing vendor, without input from independent test organizations or other vendors.

- The proposed “secure voice” test shows only what is known as “stateful firewall” capability, which is far from sufficient to provide secure voice features. The movement of 802.11i into the VoWLAN market is coming and will play a big role here. Firewalls are a potential component, but not the only one to providing advanced security in voice.
- The proposed “man-in-the-middle attack” is designed to test encryption on a central switch in a hub-and-spoke architecture, rather than a WLAN deployment based on Ethernet switching. You won't find any WLAN chips that don't have encryption embedded on them already, so why turn that off just so you can do it on the switch?
- The proposed “blacklisting” test is over-inclusive in the types of data to be blacklisted, filtering legitimate traffic rather than preventing hijacking authentication. ACLS and Blacklisting are both functions that we support (we invented Blacklisting for WLANs, but we do not see the correlation here).
 - Blacklisting is a feature designed to keep clients detected as “hackers” off the network. Things like multiple failed 802.1x authentications, stolen IP address, etc.
 - The feature was never designed to keep “different types of traffic” off an SSID. That is what ACLs are used for.

Airespace believes that these proposed tests will not provide helpful information to anyone seeking to build a secure WLAN environment.

View the abstract/download the Test Summary:
<http://www.tolly.com/DocDetail.aspx?DocNumber=204144>