

Exigent Network's Spring News 2011

Introduction:

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2011!

2010 was a very successful year for Exigent with the addition of a number of new clients and significant project deployments which have allowed us to double our turnover year on year. During the second half of 2010 we completed large projects with GlaxoSmithKline, Ripplecom Broadband and Fingal County Council while also winning new service contracts with Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown and Laois County Council.

As of the start of this year, Exigent have also been invited to join Cisco's Public Sector Partner Program (PSPP) which will allow us to be more competitive when bidding for public sector opportunities involving Cisco products and technologies.

In terms of new technologies, we would like to bring your attention to the 17GHz frequency which is now license free in Ireland and our new equipment can provide you with between 30 and 100 Mbps full duplex bandwidth at distances up to 15 kilometers. This new frequency range will offer you a more reliable and cost effective upgrade path for your existing 2.4 GHz and 5.8 GHz radio links.

We have included below our company news updates, new product highlights and also a FAQ on the IPv4/IPv6 transition that has been in the technology news lately. We have also continued our newsletter competition so please don't forget to enter to be in with a chance to win. Lastly we would like to thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter, we hope the information provided will be of benefit to you and we would like to wish you all the best of luck in 2011.

Cillian McCarthy
Director



A New Look & Home for Exigent Networks:

This week, Exigent Networks announced our new modern, innovative, brand identity and launched a more intuitive, user friendly website www.exigentnetworks.ie to help us interact with our current and potential customers more effectively.

In light of our continued growth and expansion plans we have moved to a new office facility in Eastgate Business Park in Little Island. Our new address is Exigent Networks, Eastgate House, Little Island, Cork. We would like to issue an open invite to all our clients to join us at a drinks reception that we will be holding at our new offices in the next number of weeks. Once the date has been confirmed we will send out the details.



News:

Exigent deploys Major LAN upgrade at GlaxoSmithKline

We recently completed a significant upgrade of the LAN infrastructure for GlaxoSmithKline using the latest Cisco Technology at its Irish facility in Dungarvan, Co. Waterford. GlaxoSmithKline is one of the largest pharmaceutical companies in the world and has a significant presence in Dungarvan, where it produces market-leading oral care and over-the-counter medicines.

"Our facilities have a reputation for excellence, delivering quality products to our consumers and we demand the same high standards from our suppliers," said Brian Fahy, IT manager, GlaxoSmithKline. "Exigent Networks won and delivered a number of projects for us using the very latest technology and were a natural choice when it came to carrying out this upgrade, which they delivered on time and on budget."

Product Highlights:

Juniper SRX220 Series Routers



The SRX220 Services Gateway is a secure router that supports up to 950 Mbps firewall, 100 Mbps IPSec VPN, and 100 Mbps IPS. Additional security features include Unified Threat Management (UTM), which consists of: IPS, antispam, antivirus, and Web filtering. The SRX220 Services Gateway is ideally suited for securing small to medium distributed enterprise locations.

- 8 10/100/1000 Ethernet LAN ports, 2 Mini-PIM slots
- Factory option of 8 PoE ports; PoE+ 803.3at, backwards compatible with 802.3af
- Support for T1/E1, serial, ADSL2/2+, VDSL, G.SHDSL, DOCSIS3, Ethernet SFP11, and Gigabit Ethernet interfaces
- Content Security Accelerator hardware for faster performance of IPS and ExpressAV
- Full UTM2; antivirus2, antispam2, Web filtering2, intrusion prevention system2 (with high memory version)
- Unified Access Control and content filtering
- 1 GB DRAM, 1 GB flash default

SAF Tehnika – 30-108Mbps CFIP 17Ghz Unlicensed Radio Link



SAF CFIP 17 FODU - a new generation license free 17GHz ISM band radio for Ethernet packet data and E1 voice transmission. The new radio system combines excellent features like interference-free operation, high availability, carrier grade full duplex capacity with no cost of licensing and quick installation traditionally associated with ISM radios. The SAF CFIP radio also provides a user-friendly Web browser based management interface and straightforward installation process to ensure trouble-free experience for any user.

Features:

- 100Mbps Full Duplex Ethernet and 2E1/T1
- Low interference comparing to links in 2.4GHz and 5.8GHz
- Hitless modulation switching (ACM) feature ensures high availability even at bad weather conditions
- Easy configuration from Web interface and up-to-date network management over SNMP protocol
- Radio polarization sensor for easier installations
- RF Spectrum analyzer

Competition:



We would like to offer you the chance to win one of 2 IPOD Touch MP3 players! All you need to do is fill out the 5 quick questions in the attached survey within 1 week of receiving this newsletter. Click on the following link to be in with a chance to win!

www.exigentnetworks.ie/survey

Accreditations:

- **Cisco** - Exigent are Premier Partners with Cisco
- **HP** - Exigent are Preferred Partners with Hewlett Packard
- **Radwin** - Exigent are Platinum Partners with Radwin Wireless
- **Ceragon** - Exigent are Irish Distributors with the fastest growing Microwave IP company in the world
- **SAF** - Exigent are the Sole Irish Distributors of SAF Tehnika PDH, SDH & IP Microwave solutions
- **Citrix** - Exigent are Silver Solution Advisors with Citrix, specialising in appliance consulting





IPv4 Exhausted? A quick FAQ:

1 - Will the Internet stop working?

No. As a matter of fact, it is unlikely that the IPv4 internet will stop any time soon. It will likely co-exist next to the IPv6 internet. There are some transition mechanisms already setup and while it is not pretty, the two "internets" can currently talk to each other via proxies and tunnels.

2 - Why do we run out of addresses?

IPv4 allows for about 4 billion addresses. There are about 6 billion people in the world and if you then add up how many addresses you need - phone, home, work, etc, it's easy to see that we don't have enough, let alone for all of the devices that we don't think about. The issue is also compounded by the fact that for efficient routing sake, we can't assign all addresses, so there would never be 100% usage of the IPv4 addresses.

3 - A lot of IPv4 space is still unused. Why don't we use it more effectively?

The problem is not just that we are running out of addresses, even though that is the major issue here. Assigning addresses more effectively would mean that assignments would become smaller and routing tables would become more complex. In order to make this work, we would have to essentially "renumber" the internet and then we would still run out of addresses at some point anyway.

4 - What about legacy space? Does Apple really need a /8?

In the beginning of the Internet, IPv4 address space was handed out very liberally. It was literally just an experiment and some of the original participants still have large IPv4 assignments which they don't use efficiently. However, even if all of them are handed back, it would postpone the problem only by 1-2 years and at great expense for the affected companies. Also many of these organisations have legal contracts giving them rights to the space they have, so it would be both difficult and expensive for everyone involved. However despite this, some organisations who had large initial allotments, have given some unused space back already.

5 - What do I need to do today?

Relax, nothing is going to happen fast. The Regional IP Controllers (RIR's) still have space left, which depending on the region can last a few months or up to a year. After that, it will get tricky. You may already find it harder to get IP address space. Eventually, your ISP may ask for some space back as they can't get new addresses from the RIR's. Over time, IPv4 will get more expensive than IPv6.

6 - So I can just wait and do nothing?

No. What you should do tomorrow (or maybe some of you are doing it today) is setup a test lab to familiarize yourself with IPv6. It is easy to get going. Ask your ISP if they support it (or when they will support it), or you can setup a tunnel with a free tunnel provider like Hurricane Electric [www.tunnelbroker.net] or Sixxs [www.sixxs.net]. You can then make a plan on how to deal with it. You will probably find that even if you don't need IPv6 on your network, maybe your business partners will start using it and you will need to connect to them via IPv6.

7 - Can't I just ignore it?

IP is the primary protocol that establishes the internet, it allows you to connect to customers, suppliers, branch offices etc. In short: It keeps you in business and communicating. There will come a point when all organisations across the world will expect IPv6 connectivity, and we will likely have to move along with it then. Think of it like any technology in that it ultimately has to support the business and organisations. So, no, unfortunately we can't ignore the issue.

8 - What will change from a security point of view?

Everything and nothing. The most important change is probably the fact that NAT does not exist in an IPv6 network. Endpoint protection and carefully configured firewalls will become critical as every device will have publicly addressable IP addresses. Passive asset detection will become more important compared to active scanning and we will need to check our existing equipment and in particular security equipment, which currently might not be up to the job of protecting us when IPv6 is widespread.