

Network Advisory Services: Pre-Installation Wireless Site Survey

As part of Carousel's Network Advisory Services, the Pre-Installation Wireless Site Survey promotes an excellent user experience and optimizes wireless solutions capital investment by delivering a best-practices design for placement of wireless assets. The survey is performed on-site by Carousel engineers at the client site under consideration. After completion of the site survey, a thorough analysis is provided, along with wireless access point (AP) placements, and other site-specific wireless recommendations.

YOUR CHALLENGES

- No existing wireless access points to support new WLAN installation (or a traditional deployment exists, but will be ignored)
- Inflexibility of existing wired network for today's mobile worker
- Inability to deliver services consistently over wireless network
- Obstructions throughout site that may interfere with wireless
- Anticipation of new applications, like voice/video, location, and wireless analytics services with concern the network cannot adequately support
- Limiting CapEx while ensuring optimal wireless coverage

GOALS AND BENEFITS

- Immersive, active, on-site analysis of the proposed environment, providing the most accurate measurements for creating coverage heat maps
- Exacting detail on AP placement and positioning
- Clearly identified cable drop locations
- Tailored coverage to ensure effective management of the most demanding applications and services
- Designed with consideration of architectural features, building materials, and interference sources (RF absorption)
- Quality of experience maximized for all wireless users

APPROACH AND ACTIVITIES

Our Pre-Installation Wireless Site Survey methodology includes a combination of on-site and off-site engineering analysis and deliverables. Once the WLAN design and project requirements have been established, Carousel engineers will visit the site under consideration to perform the on-site survey. The process may contain any or all the following activities:

- AP locations will be determined by temporarily deploying a test AP in each proposed location while measuring the resultant signal strengths.
- Carousel engineers will repeat this process, moving through the site until desired wireless coverage has been met.
- Factors that influence wireless performance, such as architectural features, building materials, and interference sources will be measured and recorded.

- Once the on-site work is complete, Carousel engineers will work off-site to analyze the site survey data.

A design deliverable will be prepared, summarizing the site survey results. At a minimum, the design deliverable will include:

- Floor plans depicting AP installation locations
- Heat-map (depicts proposed wireless coverage and data rate)
- Photos of each AP installation location
- Installation notes including mounting accessories and necessary antennae
- Spectrum analysis results
- WLAN design best-practices

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