

Wireless Internet at Trade Fairs

A trade fair organiser's manual

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Dear exhibitors,

Nowadays, wireless internet access is a necessity and a matter of course. Wi-Fi has become an essential technology of the wireless data transfer and nearly every portable terminal worldwide can be connected to it.

For that reason, it is very important for us to ensure a good wireless internet coverage at the exhibition centre. With this leaflet we inform you about some basic rules which add to run wireless internet systems at trade fairs efficient and trouble-free. We invite you to familiarise yourself with those rules.

Similar to the road traffic, in Wi-Fi systems it is also necessary to establish some rules to ensure that all road users can get to their destination with maximum efficiency and unscathed. These rules refer to Access Points which you possibly intend to use in your booth. We would kindly ask you to observe these rules, also in your own best interest.

This is important because Wi-Fi Access Points use a joint medium, which is limited by physical facts – the spread of electromagnetic waves in the air. These waves can overlap and interfere each other so that none of the signals can get to the receiver with the required quality. To stay in the road traffic illustration: the Wi-Fi signals spread out like cars on a three-lane motorway. It is reasonable that different road users use different lanes and a traffic jam happens when too many cars use the motorway at the same time.

Hence following rules apply in all exhibition centres in Germany:

- 1. Wi-Fi Access Points may only send in a frequency range of 2,4 GHz, not at 5 GHz.**

This setting can be selected in the configuration menu of your Access Points.



2. Wi-Fi Access Points may only send in channels 1, 6 or 11.

This setting can be selected in the configuration menu of your Access Points.

3. The transmission power of your Wi-Fi Access Points may not be more than -80 dBm at the border of your booth.

You can adjust the transmission power in the configuration menu. The Access Point's location on your booth affects how strong the signal is at the border of the booth.

4. The SSID, which is the identification of your Access Point, has to contain your booth number in the first characters (for example H4.0 B42).

This way it is easy to check if one transmitter is configured inadequately – a principle of fairness, because you want that your booth neighbours also observe the rules, just like you. You are also allowed to configure the Access Point in a way that it does not send a visible SSID.

5. Channel Bonding is not permitted.

6. Other transmitters than your Wi-Fi Access Points are strictly not permitted, they can disrupt the data signals.

If you use other transmitters in the products you are exhibiting, please contact us in advance.

We are convinced that it is in everyone's interest to establish the same "traffic rules" for the usage of your personal Access Points at exhibition centres in Germany and to demand their adherence. Like this, time-consuming resetting or questions regarding the usage of Access Points can be avoided at an early stage.

Your trade fair organisers will gladly provide you with application forms so that you can register your Access Points. Please submit these forms in time; it helps to ensure that these rules are observed.

If you have any questions or require technical support, please do not hesitate to contact your trade fair organiser. There is also a basic advice we would like to give: the Wi-Fi infrastructure in the exhibition halls of German exhibition centres is often that well that you can use this Wi-Fi signal also for your own purposes. Your trade fair organisers will be more than glad to assist you.

Finally we would like to point out that the wireless data traffic is just as unpredictable as road traffic on motorways – it depends on the number of user as well as on how booths are constructed in the halls, none of these can be influenced during trade fairs. Should your booth or the exhibited products make a certain bandwidth necessary then a wired internet access is still the best option.

With kind regards,
your trade fair organisers in Germany