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3Com® Ethernet Client Bridge

Fast, easy wireless LAN access for any Ethernet- or serial-enabled device

The 3Com® Ethernet client bridge acts as a wireless LAN interface for Ethernet- or serial-enabled devices. It gives you simple, flexible wireless network connections—for devices that don't have an available PC Card or PCI card slot such as printers, scanners, and Internet appliances.

Key Benefits

Ease of Use
With our Ethernet client bridge and a wireless LAN PC Card, you get effortless wired-to-wireless bridging. Simply slip an 3Com AirConnect® PC Card, or any third-party five-volt Wi-Fi™ certified PC Card, into the bridge. The Windows/Linux configuration utility walks you through the initial setup. After this one-time configuration, simply plug the client bridge into any PC or other device equipped with an RJ-45 Ethernet port or serial connector, and you're ready to go wireless.

Flexible Connections
With our client bridge, users have the flexibility to connect the way they need to. For high-performance connections, they can access the network through an RJ-45 connector—and get connection speeds up to 11 Mbps. Users can also connect computers, printers, gaming devices, or other peripheral devices to the network through a serial port if necessary. Serial connections support up to 115.2 Kbps, and typically require additional configuration.

The 3Com Ethernet client bridge offers a choice of operation modes. Choose ad hoc connections to access other connected devices wirelessly, without using an access point. Or configure this wireless bridge for infrastructure mode to get widespread network access through one or more access points. The 3Com Ethernet Client Bridge works with any Wi-Fi certified access point including the 3Com 11 Mbps Wireless LAN Access Point 6000 and the 3Com AirConnect Wireless LAN Access Point.

Standards-Based
Supports IEEE 802.11 and IEEE 802.11b Wi-Fi five-volt PC Cards, ensuring interoperability with wireless LAN products from other vendors. See **www.3com.com** for a complete listing of supported devices.

All the Benefits of an AirConnect Wireless LAN PC Card
When you equip the 3Com Ethernet client bridge with a 3Com AirConnect wireless LAN PC Card, the benefits are multiplied. Extended roaming allows users to roam seamlessly throughout their company, without losing connection. Load balancing transparently switches users to the best available

Just like you would expect, another effortless connection made possible by 3Com

access point when the current access point becomes congested or the signal weakens. And, AirConnect 11 Mbps wireless LAN PC Cards support 40- and 128-bit encryption, allowing users to exchange information privately. You also have the option to disable the encryption key with the user interface.

When to Buy
Our Ethernet client bridge works great for people and companies who want:

- Simplified, wireless data connections using an Ethernet or serial port.

- A simple alternative to a PCI card for desktop PCs, providing wireless network connections to desktops without the need to open the PC or install drivers.

- Wireless network access in public areas—airports, hotels, and more—without worrying about installation hassles.

- Wireless support for devices without an available PC or PCI slot, such as Internet appliances, printers, and scanners.

- The ability to print wirelessly—just attach this device to a print server.

- Access to the LAN for medical and retail equipment, slot machines, and more—without running wires or drilling holes—through a serial connection.

- Connections to the wireless network for non Windows-based machines (Macintosh, Linux).

One-Year Limited Warranty
3Com warrants your 3Com Ethernet client bridge to be in good working order for one year while owned by the original end consumer.

Customer Support
Quick access to support information is available on 3Com's Web site at **support.3com.com**.

Quick, Flexible Network Access in Public Areas

Jay needs to check his e-mail before his flight leaves. Unfortunately, all of the Ethernet ports in the airport's lounge are tied up. Luckily, Jay's at an airport with an AirConnect wireless LAN from 3Com.

Using our 3Com Ethernet client bridge and a Wi-Fi certified PC Card*, he can still get access while he sits down for a drink. Jay rents our wireless bridge and plugs it into the RJ-45 connector on his notebook. Thanks to zero configuration, he has instant wireless access at Ethernet speeds.

Just like you would expect, another effortless connection made possible by 3Com.

Product Features

Feature	Benefit
RJ-45 and serial port interfaces	Give users reliable, flexible connections to the network.
Windows/Linux configuration utility	Makes initial configuration simple. After that, users can connect the client bridge to Ethernet- or serial-enabled devices—and gain network access.
Fast packet transfer technology	Allows bridging speeds at full 802.11b data rates.
40- and 128-bit encryption support[†]	Allows users to exchange information in full privacy.
Load balancing support[†]	Allows our client bridge to automatically switch to the best available access point when access points become congested or the signal weakens.
Extended roaming support[†]	Lets users roam their company without losing their connection to the wireless LAN.
Infrastructure and ad-hoc mode support[†]	Allows operation in diverse networking environments.
Transparent to network protocols	Enables a wide variety of applications.

Specifications

Interfaces

Ethernet interface: RJ-45 10BASE-T

Serial interface: RS-232, up to 115.2 Kbps

LEDs

Power: green

Error: red

Radio: green when associated; yellow when transmitting/receiving

Ethernet: green when connected; yellow when activity is detected

Serial: green when RX; yellow when TX

Safety Compliance

Canada, the U.S.: UL1950/CSA 22.2

Europe: CE

Standards Conformance

EEE 80211b High Rate; IEEE 802.11 (direct sequence mode only); WECA Wi-Fi (depending on PC Card used)

Radio/Electromagnetic Conformance Compliance

Canada, the U.S.: FCC Part 15B

Physical Dimensions

Length: 251 mm (9.9 in)
Width: 157 mm (6.2 in)
Thickness: 25 mm (1 in)

Environmental Operating Ranges

Operating temperature: -20 to 55˚C

Storage temperature: -40 to 90˚C

Altitude: Up to 6.1 km

Humidity: 10 to 95% non-condensing

Service and Support

One-year limited warranty

Ordering Information

Product Name	For Use In...	Order Number
3Com Ethernet Client Bridge	Canada/U.S.	3CWE820A
3Com AirConnect 11 Mbps Wireless LAN PC Card	Canada/U.S.	3CRWE73796B

*AirConnect PC Card or any five-volt Wi-Fi PC Card.
†Depending on your PC Card.

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