



## PCI DSS: A Mandate for WirelessWall

**July 07, 2009** – TLC-Chamonix, LLC (TLC) unveils its WirelessWall POS Architecture for wireless Point of Sale Terminals. It helps retailers achieve **PCI DSS compliance** by combining AES encryption, firewall, AAA and end-to-end security in a standards compliant *software solution*. Now, WEP or even *Open* wireless POS terminals and Access Points can have WPA2-Enterprise level security without changing any terminals, firmware or replacing network gear. WirelessWall saves time, saves money, and helps makes you achieve PCI DSS 1.2 network compliance.

The award winning WirelessWall secures wireless and wired infrastructures to provide a transparent *instant upgrade* to standards compliant, certified (FIPS 140-2) strong security with access controls, allowing business applications and operations to continue undisturbed. It offers peace of mind with better protection, auditability, compliance, and loss prevention, while avoiding the cost of new equipment, new leases and downtime.

### PCI DSS: A New World Order

The Payment Card Industry (PCI) is a consortium of worldwide credit card companies (Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover and JCB International). To confront and mitigate these mounting

losses, and faced with imminent regulation by state and federal agencies plus penalties for violating existing privacy laws, they formed a Security Standards Counsel which implemented a Data Security Standard (PCI DSS) to preemptively control the problem.

### Goodbye, WEP

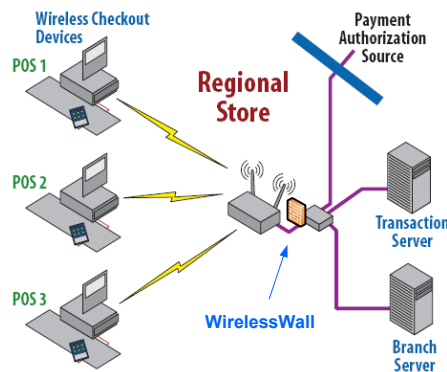
The new edition of the standard mandates improved wireless security practices and drops the broken Wired Equivalency Protocol (WEP) as an approved method, in favor of protocols using strong encryption such as AES. See: [PCI DSS 1.2](#)

PCI DSS is not merely a set of recommendations -- **non-compliance is not an option**. It is a *contractual obligation* which demands all retail merchants big and small to comply as a condition of being allowed to continue processing credit cards and consumer information via electronic Point of Sale (POS) terminals or other wireless methods.

According to mandate, retailers may not implement new wireless payment systems that use WEP after March 31, 2009. For those that already have wireless payment systems in place, they must stop using WEP for security as of June 30, 2010..

## WirelessWall Architecture

WirelessWall is a government certified (FIPS 140-2) wireless security suite used by the military and DoE. Renowned for its investment protection value, WirelessWall adds WPA2-Enterprise grade protection to the current network as a *software-only solution* instead of replacing legacy wireless hardware and firmware. The DoD 8100-2 directive is mandate for federal and state governments to provide standards based end-to-end strong security. WirelessWall satisfies this directive and was assessed by the Joint Interoperability Testing Center (JITC) for use by Coalition Forces. This high level of protection is now being used to benefit the private sector and retail to eliminate hacking or sniffing end-to-end.



Even if terminals and WiFi gear only support WEP or no security at all, WirelessWall adds a blanket of strong encryption without any reconfiguration. Because it bundles WiFi AES encryption with RADIUS, LDAP and Firewall Policies **all in one package**,

This solution allows you to meet the compliance requirements listed below.

**Table 1 – PCI DSS 1.2 Compliance**

PCI DSS Mandate	Requirements
Install and maintain a firewall configuration to protect cardholder data	1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5
Do not use vendor-supplied defaults for system passwords and other security parameters	2.1, 2.2, 2.3
Encrypt transmission of cardholder data across open, public networks	4.1, 4.2
Develop and maintain secure systems and applications	6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.5

Additionally, WirelessWall is simpler to deploy and administer, and more cost effective than having those in a separate back-end (although it will support external services if needed). WirelessWall supports all wireless gear: all 802.11 protocols, WiMax 802.16e, Mesh and 4G. Using WirelessWall gives you everything for a fraction of the cost and none of the inconvenience of alternatives.



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