



## solution brief

### Highlights

As companies move to digitize their business, they need an underlying network architecture that supports business agility. This New IP architecture enables the network to become a platform for innovation and for developing, delivering, and securing new applications. The combination of Brocade and Ruckus creates a new type of pure-play networking company, with solutions spanning from the heart of the data center to the wireless network edge.

- **Brocade and Ruckus** deliver access networks with world-class performance, flexibility, and security
- **Performance:** Industry-leading Wi-Fi performance enabling fewer APs to handle more traffic and deliver better coverage in challenging environments; high-performance switches with no over-subscription and PoE+ on all ports to meet ultra-demanding network requirements
- **Flexibility and scalability:** wireless architectures from on-premise to virtual to cloud to controller-less gives customers choice and near-unlimited scalability; Campus Fabric scale-out architecture, delivers ease of upgrade, ease of management and pay-as-you-grow scaling
- **Security:** Cloud-managed, certificate-based device onboarding minimizes password risk, securely connects more users and minimizes IT burden; plus core-to-edge security
- **Tested and certified** wired-wireless network interoperability

# Brocade and Ruckus:

## Wired and Wireless Networking Solutions from the Datacenter to the Edge

### A Better Network

With 3 billion people accessing the Internet, and 20 billion Wi-Fi-enabled devices predicted by 2017, network connectivity and mobility are more important than ever. The increase in Wi-Fi-connected devices has made it harder for end users to get a great wireless network experience wherever they are and from any device. Businesses, schools, and venues of all shapes and sizes are scrambling to provide reliable, high-performance wireless connectivity to every user in every corner of their premises, inside and out.

The combination of Brocade and Ruckus enables them to do all that and more. The combined company delivers solutions that span the entire network from the heart of the data center to the wireless edge, meeting escalating demand for connectivity and mobility. The company's solutions and products are open, and agile, enabling customers to build amazing networks that are platforms for business innovation.

## Brocade and Ruckus

Wired and Wireless Networking Solutions  
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### Industry-leading Performance

Both Brocade and Ruckus are known for supporting the most demanding customer requirements. Customers from large mobile operators and enterprises, to stadiums and large entertainment venues, to school districts that serve hundreds of schools all need responsive networks that keep up with mobile device density and the latest rich-media applications. With Brocade and Ruckus, they get them.

Ruckus delivers unrivaled Wi-Fi performance and coverage enabled, in part, by its patented BeamFlex+ adaptive antenna technology. BeamFlex+ adapts automatically to environmental changes, supporting more concurrent users per AP and providing more stable connections at higher data rates than traditional solutions. Customers can use fewer APs to handle more traffic and provide better coverage in challenging environments.

Brocade delivers the best-in-class wired underlay with industry-leading performance and power options. Brocade ICX Switches have a non-blocking architecture with no over-subscription, reducing application latency. Brocade is leap-frogging the 1GbE-to-10GbE transition by being the first vendor to deliver 40GbE to the edge, preparing customer networks for future growth. Brocade ICX switches can provide Power-over-Ethernet (PoE+) to all ports for even the largest, densest Wi-Fi deployments.

“We used just a little over half the number of APs with Ruckus compared to the old network.”

“[With the Brocade network] we immediately saw that everything was much faster and more stable.”

*Custer Rodriguez, Network Administrator  
Dublin Unified School District.*

### Flexible and Scalable Networking with Campus Fabric and SmartZone

Scalability is a key tenet of Brocade Campus Networks. Brocade ICX Switches provide the highest stacking density and performance, with up to 12 switches (576 ports) per stack and up to 5.76 Tbps of aggregate bandwidth. With 10/40 Gigabit Ethernet (GbE) port density, long-distance stacking, and Brocade Campus Fabric scale-out architecture, Brocade ICX Switches can flexibly expand to meet any networking challenge.

Similarly, the Ruckus SmartZone (SZ) software platform offers “Wi-Fi-as-you-grow”—the capability for your network to expand with and adapt to the changing needs of your business. It scales from one to 300,000 devices from a multi-tenant capable physical or a virtual Wireless Local Area Network (WLAN) controller that can be deployed onsite, at a central data center or in the cloud.

“One of the reasons we purchased, Brocade, was because it allowed us to feel very comfortable that we would have the equipment for eight to 10 years. So that we could grow as we go, and that the equipment would evolve with us. We could add SDN into the mix if we needed to and that there would be sufficient power to last us well into the future.”

*Kevin F. White, Ph.D., Technology Director  
Lower Dauphin School District*

### Open Standards Ensures Compatibility and Interoperability

Both Brocade and Ruckus are committed to supporting open standards in communications protocols such as Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP), management and reporting standards such as Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP), and security standards such as 802.1x protocols, for interoperability and a consistent user experience across wired and wireless networks. Ongoing joint testing of hardware and software ensures that these standards are met and that Brocade and Ruckus products work together reliably. Independent third-party certification testing assures customers of compatibility.

“[The network] should be simple, but only Brocade and Ruckus got the approach right,

*Jim Turner, Network Manager  
Chichester High School*

### Comprehensive Value-Added Solutions

Consistent with the belief that the network is a platform for innovation, the Ruckus Smart Wireless Services (SWS) portfolio includes a set of Wi-Fi-enabled, cloud-based applications for businesses, public venues, value-added resellers (VARs), and service providers. Ruckus Smart Positioning Technology

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(SPoT) provides comprehensive location analytics and APIs that enable third-party location-based services. SmartCell Insight (SCI) network analytics provides deep insight into current and historical network performance. Cloudpath onboarding and policy management software transforms BYOD onboarding. These applications enable new customer touchpoints, better network visibility and operations, and a hassle-free, self-service secure end-user experience.

### Commitment to Deliver New SDN and NFV Capabilities

Software-Defined Networking (SDN) and Network Functions Virtualization (NFV) offer ways to increase network agility, accelerate time-to-market, and reduce both capital expenses (CapEx) and operating expenses (OpEx). As a leading proponent of SDN, Brocade is helping organizations realize the promise of collaborative development and self-service innovation from the data center to the edge. The Ruckus virtual SmartZone (vSZ) NFV architecture virtualizes control plane functionality to deliver cost reductions, improve operational efficiency, and accelerate Wi-Fi deployments.

Brocade and Ruckus will deliver a common approach to centralized control and management of access points, LTE small cells, network infrastructure, and virtual network functions. In turn, customers will benefit from unprecedented scalability and the security of flexible, easy-to-manage networking solutions.

### Unified Technical Support

In today's fast-paced, connected world, networks are mission-critical. They require fast, responsive support. Brocade and Ruckus solutions benefit from extensive interoperability testing and best practices documentation to help proactively prevent issues. In the event of a network issue, customers can call a single number for support and escalations are seamlessly managed to expedite resolutions. Unified technical support ensures that customers are not shuffled between vendors and a support ticket is not closed until the issue is resolved.

### Flexible IaaS Pay-as-You-Go Financing

Any Brocade or Ruckus customer can use Brocade Network Subscription, an open-ended financing alternative that enables organizations to acquire network infrastructure with flexible Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IAAS) pay-as-you-go flexibility, with no capital expense and no term commitments.

### About Brocade

Brocade (NASDAQ: BRCD) networking solutions help the world's leading organizations turn their networks into platforms for business innovation. With solutions spanning public and private data centers to the network edge, Brocade is leading the industry in its transition to the New IP network infrastructures required for today's era of digital business. [www.brocade.com](http://www.brocade.com)

### About Ruckus Wireless

Ruckus Wireless, a part of Brocade, delivers simply better wireless for approximately 70,000 enterprise, service provider, government and small business customers worldwide. The company is focused on technology innovation, partner ecosystems and customer service—yielding the best possible wireless experience for the most challenging indoor and outdoor environments. Its [Smart Wi-Fi](#) platform delivers scalable, high-performance Wi-Fi with simplified control and management for on-premise and cloud-based Wi-Fi deployments, along with new services for secure on-boarding, policy management, location services and analytics that enable new business opportunities. For more information, visit [ruckuswireless.com](http://ruckuswireless.com).