

The Netgear Cloud-Configurable Mesh Network

Written by Frederick Douglas
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Netgear announces additions to the Insight management solution, including a 4-port integrated gigabit ethernet switch wifi mesh access point, a 10-port gigabit switch with greater PoE capacity and an Instant Captive Portal for all Insight-managed wireless products.



“Insight cloud management solution, now in its 3rd year, has proven to be a powerful tool for small businesses to manage their networks remotely or for managed service providers to better keep tabs on the health of their client networks,” the company says. “The Insight platform offers support for 22 different switches, access points and security devices managed by way of a free mobile application accessible on both iOS and Android as well as multi-customer desktop solutions for service providers.”

Netgear Insight Instant Mesh combines tri-band mesh wifi and the Insight remote management platform. Instant Mesh supports the WAC540, the commercial-grade high-performance wireless access point from the company, and the WAC564 mesh wifi multi-node access point. Customers can easily expand network coverage using the Insight App and up to 5 WAC540 or WAC564 units. One unit acts as the root, while the others are expand wifi coverage.

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WAC540 and WAC564 devices can be used in a mix-and-match fashion, giving business flexibility in network design and deployment. The WAC540 is ideal for customers running on wifi networks, with a PoE feature and industrial design allowing for both ceiling or wall mounting. The WAC564 offers an integrated 4-port ethernet switch, and as such is ideal for businesses running on a mix of wifi and ethernet networks.

The Netgear Instant Captive Portal allows businesses to provide secure guest wifi access with a social media login with analytics, customisable advertising, session management and log storage. The portal solution is easily configurable and customisable with Netgear Insight, and available on all Insight managed wireless devices (WAC5xx and Orbi Pro).

Netgear also offers a couple of Insight hardware updates-- the 10-port PoE+ Smart Managed Pro Switch (GS110TPP) gets Insight management, while the GS305PP 5-port PoE+ unmanaged switch is ideal for offices in need to install 4 PoE devices.

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