

PRESS RELEASE 2018-543

EU incentive scheme for setting up public Wi-Fi hotspots

LANCOM Systems offers WiFi4EU special conditions for municipalities



Aachen, May 15, 2018 – Creating public Wi-Fi connectivity for municipalities has never been so attractive: with vouchers to the value of EUR 15,000 each, the European Union’s WiFi4EU initiative will support up to 8,000 local communities in installing free Wi-Fi access points. Under the motto “Free Wi-Fi made in Europe”, the German network manufacturer LANCOM Systems is now extending this support to all municipalities in Europe by offering special conditions for selected hotspot solutions.

The EU is providing funding of EUR 120 million up until the end of 2020 for the development of municipal Wi-Fi hotspots. Its defined goal: to offer all EU citizens free access to the Internet around the main centers of public life. Up to 8,000 local communities will enjoy receiving one of the coveted WiFi4EU vouchers by the end of 2020 – but demand is much higher. More than 16,000 municipalities have registered for the first 1,000 vouchers alone, to be allocated today on May 15.

Network manufacturer LANCOM is now closing this gap with its own WiFi4EU incentive program. In a nutshell this means: attractive special conditions for LANCOM access points and hotspot solutions, which are developed and produced in Germany. Local communities can thus save up to several thousand

euros when setting up a high-performance Wi-Fi hotspot in a public building or outdoors – depending on the type and size of the installation.

The special conditions are open to all municipalities, regardless of whether they are allocated one of the EU vouchers or not. They apply to the outdoor access-point model OAP-830 and the indoor model LN-830acn. Both devices conform fully to the requirements specified by the EU for eligible infrastructure.

From Formentera to the Zugspitze: LANCOM hotspots give people all over Europe access to the Internet

People throughout Europe access the Internet in hotels, stadiums, clinics and shopping malls hundreds of thousands of times a day via hotspot solutions from LANCOM. And when it comes to creating municipal networks for the public, LANCOM is often the preferred solution, too. From Formentera's island Wi-Fi, to the South Tyrolean Val di Fleres, right through to the hotspot on the "Top of Germany", the Zugspitze: WLAN access points from LANCOM enable fast, wireless Web surfing all over Europe.

For municipalities and interested resellers, LANCOM has compiled information on our website: <https://www.lancom-systems.com/wifi4eu-for-end-customers/>

Applications for the special conditions can be made both by the municipalities and their IT system providers. All the necessary contact details can be found on the LANCOM website.

"With WiFi4EU, the EU has started a fantastic initiative to promote public Wi-Fi in Europe," says LANCOM Managing Partner Stefan Herrlich. "But the 120 million euros available are by no means enough to satisfy the demand. This is where we come in, offering all municipalities the unique opportunity to implement a European idea with infrastructure 'made in Europe'."

LANCOM Systems background:

LANCOM Systems GmbH is the leading German manufacturer of networking solutions for business customers and the public sector. LANCOM offers professional users secure, reliable and future-proof infrastructure solutions for local-area and multi-site networks (WAN, LAN, WLAN), as well as centralized network management based on software-defined networking technologies (SD-WAN, SD-LAN, SD-WLAN). The LANCOM routers, gateways and WLAN solutions are developed and manufactured in Germany, and a selection of the VPN portfolio is certified by the German Federal Office for Information Security (BSI) for the protection of particularly sensitive networks and critical infrastructures (EPCIP). LANCOM Systems has its headquarters in Würselen near Aachen, Germany. Customers include small and medium-sized enterprises, government agencies, institutions, and major corporations from Germany, Europe and, increasingly, worldwide.

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