

Weela.net

Free Wireless Metropolitan Network

Challenges

- How can I get to the Internet when I'm on the road?
- How can my visitors use the Internet?
- Is Helsinki a developing town in a developing country?

Wireless Networks in Helsinki 2006

- Dispersed
 - Lot of different networks
 - Not even a single list
- Unclear
 - How do you know you are allowed to use a network?
- Good Coverage
 - Central Helsinki has 2-3 access points per block
 - Every other block has an open access point

Weela.net This Far

- Initial research
 - Helsinki: dispersed, unclear, good coverage
 - Lot of media interest to Weela
- Technical demonstration
 - Automatic connection without authentication
 - Access the Internet, but not company intranet
- WeelaPurkki 0.1 firmware
 - Own Linux-based firmware for access points
- Pilots are starting

In the Media

- Weela.net and Haaga-Helia have been in Helsingin Sanomat, the biggest newspaper in Finland
- Many smaller articles, for example in Nelonen, IT-viikko and Insinöörilehti



Weela Solution

- User can just use
 - No authentication
 - Most computers connect automatically
- Cheap to offer to guests
 - Using left over network capacity
 - Offer access to internet, but not company intranets
 - Can use readymade Weela.net rules

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