## The Metrix Box

Rob Flickenger Metrix Communication LLC

http://nocat.net/talks/metrix/rob@metrix.net











What is it good for?

# It's an access point...





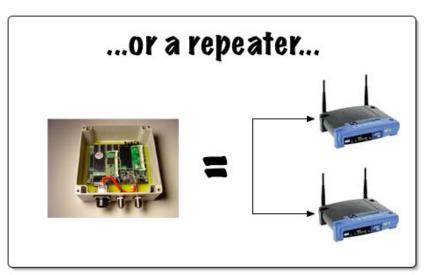


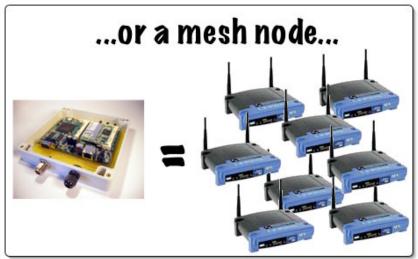
# ...or a client to an access point...

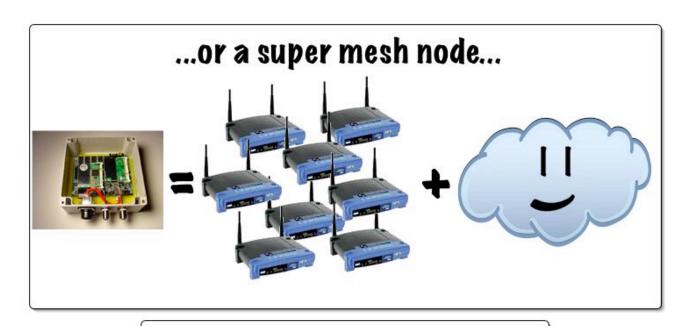












## ...or just about anything else.

NTop station Captive portal

Bandwidth throttle

RADIUS authenticator

RADIUS AUTHENTICATOR

Web server OPN node

Statistics DHCP server
VPN server WIKI

Kismet monitor Asterisk VolP Gateway Snort IDS

## How is this possible?

### Because it's OPEN.



Open hardware
Open protocols
Open Source software

### The Hardware



Soekris net4826

#### Soekris Motherboard

- \* Tiny embedded PC
- \* 133MHz 233MHz CPU
- \* 64MB Flash storage
- \* 64MB RAM
- \* Two mini-PCI + Ethernet
- \* Low power, fed by PoE

### Atheros 100mW a/b/g radio



### Prism 200mW 802.1 1b radio



#### **Built on Open Protocols**

- \* All radios speak 802.11 a, b, or g
- \* Will interoperate with 802.11 a/b/g radios from any manufacturer
- \* Standard Ethernet, TCP/IP
- \* 802.3af Power over Ethernet

#### Using Open Source Software

- \* Ships with Pebble Linux http://nycwireless.net/pebble/
- \* WiFiAdmin (with many extensions, all GPL)
- \* Drivers, system software, etc. are all open
- \* Community supported software

#### WiFiAdmin WiFiAdmin, The Free WiFi Web Interface

Main Page System Services Wireless Settings Network Interfaces Statistics Routes Users

#### **Wireless Settings**

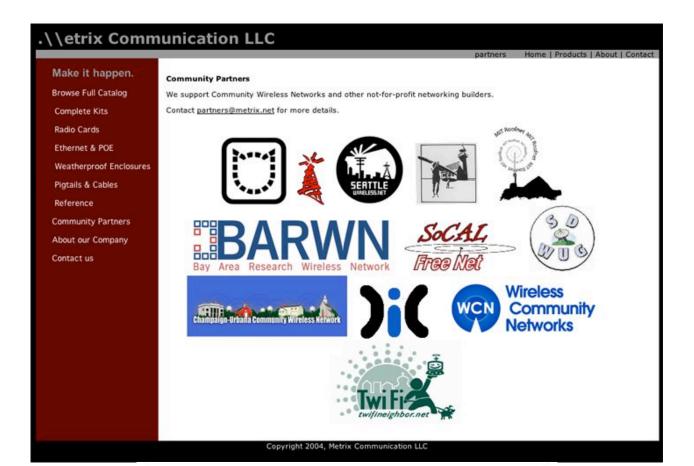
wlan0 ath0 Current settings for device ath0 [ Site Survey ] ESSID: 0 **B&O** Espresso 0 Mode: Managed (client) . Radio mode: 802.11g ‡ Frequency: Channel 01 : 2.412 GHz 💠 Bit Rate: auto 🗘 best RTS threshold: off Fragment threshold: off Max station distance: 26000 (meters) Commit Changes

#### Welcome root [logout] WiFiAdmin Main Page **Statistics** System Services wlan0 ath0 Wireless Settings Network Interfaces Associated MACs list on Master-mode device wlan0 Statistics Name Uploaded Downloaded U/D Signal Noise Routes ☐ 1 00:04:20:05:18:65 10.15.6.165 258.60MB 1.06GB 23.83% -58 Users Ban user daily associations on device wlan0 1.0 04:00 06:00 08:00 10:00 12:00 14:00 16:00 18:00 20:00 22:00 00:00 m number of users Min: 1 Max: 4 Avg: 2 Current: wlan0 daily traffic 20 k per 10 k bytes 04:00 06:00 08:00 10:00 12:00 14:00 16:00 18:00 20:00 22:00 00:00 Inbound 1.66 k Avg: 179.22 20.74 k Avg: 1.03 k Current: 1.03 k Current: Outbound 326, 44 Min: \$ Select graph daily [ View Wireless Logs ]

# Can also run almost any other embedded x86 OS

- \* OpenBSD, FreeBSD
- \* m0n0wall
- \* CUWIN Mesh
- \* MIT Mesh

Who uses Metrix?



# Champaign Urbana Wireless Network http://www.cuwireless.net/



Champaign-Urbana IL
NetBSD based mesh
Built on Metrix boxes



### MIT Roofnet Project

http://www.pdos.lcs.mit.edu/roofnet/



Huge mesh network in Cambridge, MA

Pebble Linux base

100+ Metrix nodes



# What is the Future of the Metrix Box?

You tell us.



http://metrix.net/

rob@metrix.net