



## Case Study

# Cisco Meraki

## ABOUT THE CUSTOMER

The company is a high-end construction contractor. It has ongoing development and improvement projects in Aerospace, Healthcare, Finance, and Data Centers industries.

## CHALLENGES

The company relied on legacy wireless networking for business operations and web-based collaboration. The IT team, charged with maintaining the company's interconnected devices and wireless network, provided a comprehensive web interface and device support for the company's corporate office and satellite locations. The wireless network was a mix of unmanaged commercial segments and legacy access points. It was becoming challenging for the company to manage the day to day business operations and access due to the limited network management interface. Active access points were not reliable as it was not easy to update them regularly.

## OBJECTIVE

Most of the employees of the company use mobile and tablet-like devices to update the job site photos, manipulate designs, and collect build information. The IT team at the company wanted to have a compact, manageable, and reliable wireless connection across all its offices. The company also wanted to provide a seamless wireless network and access to its employees and clients for personal, and business applications use. In addition to the in-office wireless network, the company also wanted to have Wi-Fi at different field sites.

## TECHNICAL OVERVIEW

- ✔ Deployment, monitoring, and configuration of the Meraki devices put in place using Meraki Dashboard web interface or using APIs.
- ✔ Configuration and change requests store in cloud storage.
- ✔ Data related to configuration, monitoring, and statistics from Meraki devices to Meraki cloud flows using a secure internet connection.
- ✔ Data related to user traffic doesn't flow through Meraki Cloud rather flows directly to their destination using WAN or LAN technology.
- ✔ Meraki ensures the security of the users' information by hashing authentication information like Password, Access Points & APIs.
- ✔ The password security protocol for Wi-Fi network is WPA2 Personal.
- ✔ Guest Networks could only be used in NAT mode.
- ✔ While in NAT mode, Wi-Fi access points run a DHCP server that assigns IP addresses to devices.
- ✔ Meraki Go Wi-Fi access points have features to filter contents and block a website.

## SOLUTION

After understanding the business scenario, ISSQUARED® proposed to install Meraki technology for the company's network structure. Cisco Meraki is a leader in Cloud-enabled Wi-Fi, routing, networking, and security services.

ISSQUARED® implemented Meraki tools and components in stages. Key implementation features included security access management and a cloud-based dashboard.

After an initial deployment of Meraki's plug-and-play Access Points (APs) at the company's corporate office, ISSQUARED®'s team added new Access Points (APs) into the dashboard. It allowed for the network settings to be automatically updated to the new devices. The team then sent the new Access Points (APs) to the company's satellite offices and field site locations. After proper installations, the network got live.



### KEY BENEFITS

Cisco Meraki enables the company employees and clients to enjoy robust, secure network access across all its offices. Now employees could transfer large project files, designs, and images between all locations. Meraki also enables guest access to the company's networks. Guests could log in by clicking on the splash page but block from LAN access to maintain security. Meraki also enables the company to use Wi-Fi at field sites where mobile networks often require for a short time. Some more features and benefits are listed below:

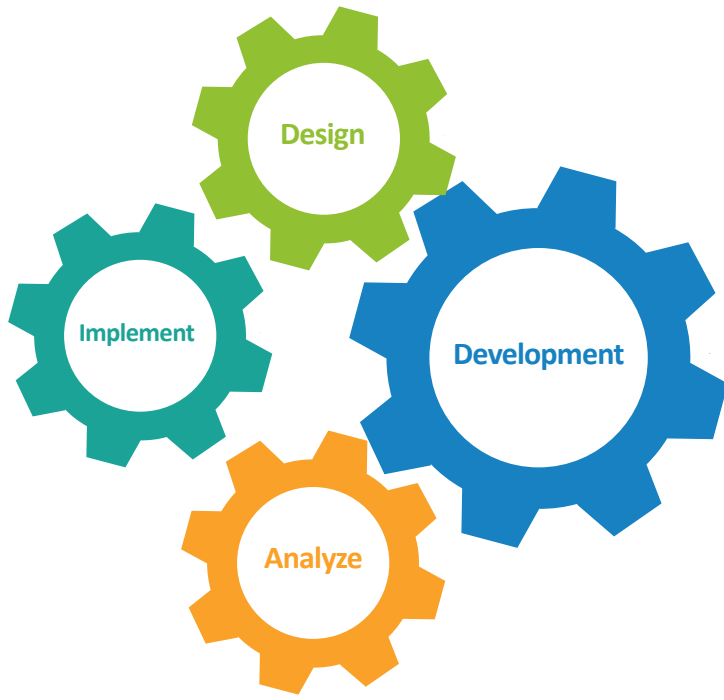
**Network Visibility:** Cisco Meraki dashboard allows the IT team to know when to take immediate action on a device and access. It enables them to allocate bandwidth to users and have an awareness about the network uses through different applications and devices.

**Simple Management:** Meraki dashboard is accessible from a mobile phone that makes it easy to set up, manage, and monitor. Any suspicious activity gets easily managed from the phone.

**Easy and Fast Configuration:** Cloud-based tools allow the company to manage internet consumption, allocate bandwidth, create guest access points, and block a website from anywhere and anytime. As Meraki is a cloud-based platform, it ensures that the IT team doesn't lose any settings and configuration during a power outage.

**Flexibility:** It allows applying settings to the clients' devices who are connected to the network and take immediate action if suspicious activity occurs.

**Future Plans:** Even though interconnected devices at the company networks have their in-build Firewalls, we have proposed the company to install the Cisco Firewall into its IT infrastructure. Cisco firewall is the crucial segment for network security of an organization as it maintains and validates the external access to the network and blocks external threats and access.





## ISSQUARED®

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ISSQUARED® is headquartered in Westlake Village, California, US. It offers global delivery capabilities with its presence across the UK, Ireland, the Middle East, India, Singapore and other parts of the US too.



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