



Networking Partner



TP-Link Provides Internet Access for East European Comic Con for the Fourth Year Running

♥ CUSTOMER PROFILE

Name: East European Comic Con

Industry: Entertainment

Capacity: 200 staff, 45,000 visitors

Location: Romania

♥ CHALLENGE

As an international event that attracts thousands every year, the East European Comic Con demands fast and stable connections for both visitors and staff. Event partners and sponsors like to organize interactive activities in their booths to generate interest, requiring a high-performance network that places no limit on the fun and games.

♥ COSTUMER BACKGROUND

First held in 2013, East European Comic Con (EECC) has become one of East Europe's most hotly anticipated pop culture events. The gathering brings together lovers of comic books, sci-fi, fantasy, Japanese culture, board games, trading cards and, last but not least, technology. For the past four years the EECC has drawn in an audience of more than 100,000 enthusiasts.



This was the fourth consecutive year TP-Link have provided network solutions and technical support for the EECC. As anticipated, the number of visitors for 2017 was up significantly compared to last year which meant more bandwidth-hungry devices than ever before. To ensure visitors could stream live videos of gameplay or join the action themselves using their devices, sponsors expected a network that could not only handle a large number of clients, but could also provide fast wireless speeds to each and every one of them.

♥ SOLUTION

After detailed requirement analysis, TP-Link come up with a complete solution for both wired and wireless networks, drawing upon a wealth of experience. A JetStream switch solution was used to expand and manage the whole network, while EAP and CAP business-class access points were deployed to act as Wi-Fi hotspots for mobile devices.

• JetStream Switches for Stable Wired Network

To serve over 400 workstations and 2000 wireless devices, a secure and stable wired network is essential. Two stackable layer 3 managed T3700G-28TQ switches were employed as core switches, responsible for supplying data to the whole network via Ethernet cables. Linked to these, in the convergence layer, layer 2 managed switches and smart switches including T2600G-52TS (x7), T2600G-28TS (x12) and TL-SG5428 (x6) acted to expand the network and optimize performance. The gigabit PoE switch, TL-SG1008PE was used to provide data and power for access points.

• Free Wi-Fi from EAP and CAP Hotspots

While the wired network was designed to serve desktop

computers and workstations, a wireless network was needed for mobile devices. From the TP-Link EAP series, EAP330 (x3) and EAP320 (x3) were selected to function as free Wi-Fi hotspots. These access points deliver a smooth Wi-Fi experience through the use of technologies such as Beamforming, Band Steering and Airtime Fairness. Free EAP controller software, which can be installed on any PC, was used to configure all EAP access points and monitor network performance. The new CAP solution also featured at the event. CAP1750 (x4) access points and AC50 Wireless Controller hardware helped to further expand network coverage.



♥ RESULTS

The customer was delighted with the quality and performance of the TP-Link products utilized in this solution. TP-Link's devoted technical support team maintained a stable network throughout the event which meant uninterrupted fun for the fans.

"As I've always said, the internet is the most important resource at a gaming event. Without stable internet and a reliable network infrastructure, a gaming event simply cannot be organized. With ever higher demands for streaming (1080p), a network that can keep up with such demands was paramount. TP-Link Romania have provided a high quality service and the right equipment to meet our requirements in each of the projects we have worked on together. EECC2017 was their toughest challenge so far and they passed with flying colors." — Marius Radu, EECC Gaming Director.

The East European Comic Con 2017 Network in Figures

- **76** TP-Link devices, **10%** of which are redundant and reserved for certain eventualities
- **8** kilometers of Ethernet cables and **1,200** RJ45 connectors
- **Two 1Gbps** internet connections from separate ISPs
- **6TB** of data was transmitted via TP-Link devices
- **6** technical support staff