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**Gigabit Ethernet Switches****IntraCore 35160**

"Asante has the switches of choice for the graphics market," said Pat Taylor, president of Proactive Technologies. "We supply products to customers that operate multi-million dollar presses running around the clock. Downtime is very expensive. We needed to get a good price on networking equipment, without sacrificing performance. Asante had the vision to make Gig affordable right now."



Proactive's clients typically have a Windows-based infrastructure that feeds Windows-based infrastructure and Mac machines on the creative side. Proactive purchased IntraCore 35160-T Layer 2 switches at "20% of the price of our former supplier," commented Taylor.

"Many people are under the misconception that they can't afford Gig," continued Taylor. "We want to change this. The key missing element in their current infrastructure is the switch. By investing a few thousand dollars in the appropriate Gig solution, they'll see an immediate improvement and better ROI."

"Asanté Saves Prepress with Digital Gigabit," *tech-edge*, January 2004

**GX5-2400**

As a medium-sized advertisement agency, we move files around that can range in size from 100K to 1.5 Gig. The average printer size file to our Xerox DC12 and Splash G640 printer is about 500 MB. We have been at 100BaseT until we received our new GX5-2400! Not only can we produce faster, but this switch moves files beautifully and fast. A simple and elegant purchase that has made our agency smooth as silk!



D-ZIGN S.A.B. Inc., Saint-Laurent, Quebec, Canada

## GX5-424W



Most of the news in LAN product introductions these days is coming from smaller companies, rather than the big names. Whatever the case, it seems like there have been more new products from network up-and-comers like...Asante Technologies than from others.

# NetworkWorldFusion

Asanté recently debuted a new model of its most powerful workgroup switch, which now has four ports of Gigabit Ethernet instead of two, in addition to the 24 ports of 10/100M bit/sec Ethernet. It's called the FriendlyNET GX5-424W.

"Asanté Improves Workgroup Switch," *Network World Fusion*, November 2003

I would **highly recommend** this switch to any small to medium size company. The Web interface makes it easy for an all around IT guy to use, and yet there is enough power in there for a seasoned networking professional to really set up a nice network. The management software is nice and easy to use, and will alert you when there are errors on the switch.



As you can see, this switch scales very nicely. Reaching over 169Mbps when transferring from the server to the workstation at 1000Mbps. WOW! That is the fastest performance from a Gigabit switch we have seen in our labs yet.

After spending some time configuring and running tests on this switch, I can say I really like it. Its performance is great, its price is very competitive, and its feature list is long. The GX5-424W is very easy to configure and use for someone with even basic knowledge of networking. While the web interface is easy to use, I still wish they would include a CLI (Command Line Interface). I guess us old Cisco guys don't like giving up our CLI.

Low per-port cost, easy configuration, plug-and-play ability, manageable / monitorable remotely with included free software, flexible fiber configuration and physically accessible reset switch (ease)

**Overall rating 9 / 10**

*Networks Today*, February 2004

With many Mac models now supporting gigabit speeds, it makes sense to look towards a switch that can support slower speeds, such as 10/100 Mbps, but to leave room for also attaching higher-speed devices. The GX5-424W has 24 10/100 ports, and a total of 4 gigabit ports...This device supports advanced features, such as web configuration (no proprietary software or cable required) Virtual LAN (VLAN) support, and Quality of Service (QoS) to help prioritize and manage network traffic flow. Some of these features are found in higher-end units, but are included in the GX5-424W.



*The Mac Observer*, January 2004

The FriendlyNET GX5-424W Web-managed switch contains four Gigabit Ethernet ports for running two copper and two fiber cables simultaneously, if needed. Web management allows all features to be accessible from an easy-to-use interface, without need for cryptic command-line commands or third-party network-management applications. With a network analyzer (sold separately), mirroring features allow users to look at traffic on other ports for troubleshooting.



*Communications News, January 2004*

Asanté's new Gigabit Ethernet switch has a name almost as long as its row of 28 ports: the FriendlyNET GX5-424W 24+4 WebManaged Gigabit Ethernet switch. Fortunately, its price tag is nice and short: \$399. Four of the GX5-424W's ports are Gigabit capable, supporting two copper cables and two fiber cables. The switch also has QoS features and supports VLANs.



*Processor, November 2003*

## GX5-800P



Which Macs would benefit from using Asanté's FriendlyNET™ GX5-800P 8-port Gigabit Ethernet Workgroup Switch? Both the 15" and 17" PowerBooks and all the G5s have Gigabit Ethernet connections on board. But then, don't let that stop you if you own any of the other Macs, because the GX5 also handles 100 Mbps and 10 Mbps systems as well. From experience, a faster switch means less of a strain on the network bandwidth as well for "slower" network cards. It no longer is the bottleneck on the network.



And at a price this low, straight from the manufacturer, it is a sin not to get it when compared to 10/100 Mbps switches that don't cost much less and Gigabit Ethernet competitors that cost considerably more. Asanté just turned Gigabit Ethernet into a commodity item!

*MacCompanion, December 2003*

As further proof that Gigabit Ethernet is the new standard for desktop connectivity, Asanté Technologies last week unveiled a workgroup switch priced at \$25 per port. It's kind of funny to think of a multi-port Gigabit Ethernet switch sitting on your desktop and connecting only a few PCs in a workgroup, but that's how far down the technology has come in price, and that's how small the components have shrunk.



*Network World Newsletter, October 2003*

Asante Technologies Inc., a long time friend of Mac and PC users, has released a new desktop Gigabit Switch for home and SoHo (small office/home office) applications. The 8-port GX5-800P is the newest addition to the FriendlyNET GX5 family of Gigabit Ethernet workgroup switches.



"Asanté Offers A New SOHO Desktop Gigabit Network Workgroup Switch," *Tech-Edge*, October 2003



Internet gaming sites such as Battle.net and MSN Gaming Zone are just a few of the many sites supported. With ports only open on demand rather than always open, the chances of an intruder successfully getting into your computer network with un-authorized access has been decreased.



To test the performance of the router, we simply connected it to one of our existing LANs. The Internet operated up to par and no problems were experienced. The wireless computer also performed admirably. The computer was relocated to all different positions throughout the building and with a maximum distance of 75 feet and between a total of four walls/ceilings it continued to operate (possibly could have gone further however we had no more room to expand). The network's security was also phenomenal. All of the other features performed exceptionally also. Anywhere throughout the building, we were able to get a strong signal strength and 54.0mbps connection speed.

From what we have seen today, we have been **very impressed with this router**. Not only is it wireless but it has also integrated a 4-port switch for those of you that operate on a wired network. Its features were very nice with the security features being particularly impressive. We didn't experience any major faults at all with this device, only the fact that it may be slightly on the expensive side at \$120US, however, we feel that its many features justify the expense. From what we have seen so far from Asante, their products are very reliable. If you are looking at establishing an 802.11g (wireless) network throughout your home or small office, we strongly suggest you take a good look at the Asante FR1104-G.

**Pros:** 4-port switch, 802.11g wireless technology, ports are opened only on demand, upgradeable antenna, firewall with inbound/outbound packet filters plus keyword/URL blocking, and metal casing.

**Overall rating:** 5 stars (out of 5). Award of Excellence

*Extreme Reviews, February 2004*

## FBT100 Bluetooth Adapter



PDA & laptop users seeking a Bluetooth access point will love Asante's portable & inexpensive FBT100 USB Bluetooth adapter. This tiny & sturdy dongle measures under 2" (counting the USB plug), comes wrapped in gray smoked plastic & equipped with an almost mandatory blinky-blue LED. That's why I was excited to try out Asante's teeny Bluetooth adapter. They've got a rep in the Mac world, & I know from previous product reviews they build quality devices @ an affordable price. True to form, Asante's kept this product lean & mean: selling for \$45USD, the FriendlyNET FBT100 comes with drivers for Windows OS's above 98SE (Mac OS 10.2 & above work without drivers), the WidComm Bluetooth software suite & the adapter itself. This adapter is a USB 1.1 device with Bluetooth's standard range of 30 feet effective range (barring obstacles to signal) & 723kbps max transfer rate... the Asante FBT100 is one of the smallest around, aggressively priced so that it's usually the cheapest from big stores/sites, & comes with the WidComm (I recommend picking Widcomm software to use with Bluetooth; there are a couple other software packages you can use, but the Widcomm is attractive, uses nice wizards & explanatory captions & works seamlessly).

Pros: inexpensive, ultramobile, and easy to use Widcomm software.

Overall rating: 4 (out of 5)

*Compu2go, December 2003*

## AL5402-XG Adapter



To protect your valuable data and privacy, the AL5402-XG is equipped with the highest wireless security technology available. It supports both 64-bit and 128-bit WEP (Wired Equivalent Privacy) encryption to safeguard all wireless.

**CARIBOO COMPUTER**

The actual performance was actually about the same in all the cards for strength and distance. I did find that the Asante package had more to install and more settings to work with compared to others. These extra settings are mainly for security and can be manipulated for best advantage in the use of the card. These cards will become more and more in demand as the use of WiFi expands and Asanté's card is right up there at the top for ease of use and quality equipment.

Overall rating: 8 (of 10)

*Cariboo Computer Magazine, January 2004*

Asanté's new high-speed wireless carbus adapter transfers digital pictures, video, music, and other data files at speeds up to 5x faster than conventional 802.11b wireless connections. By taking advantage of the new IEEE 802.11g wireless standard, you'll be moving data and digital multimedia files on your wireless networks at a blazing fast 54 Mbps. The adapter is also backwards-compatible with the older IEEE 802.11b standard, which means you will be able to connect to either wireless standard to give you greater versatility and flexibility.



*Cyber Defense Magazine, January 2004*



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