

**AT A GLANCE**

# ENABLING A SAFER RETURN TO THE OFFICE

## Advanced Network Telemetry for Integrated Contact Tracing

The way we think about the workplace has fundamentally changed. As we consider a return to the physical office or campus, insight into who users are coming into contact with and where they are congregating is critical to understand. IT professionals are now being tasked with providing this insight on an ongoing basis and are challenged with accelerated time lines for reopening, as well as limited budgets and resources.

### KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- **Speed to Deployment**

Given aggressive timelines to return to physical locations, implementing a contact tracing framework in a limited timeframe that delivers meaningful, actionable information can be challenging. This is why Aruba is delivering two options for contact tracing using network telemetry from both Wi-Fi and Bluetooth Low

Power (BLE) telemetry. This provides a range of options to implement contact tracing that works, largely based on infrastructure and management frameworks that are already in place.

- **Leveraging What you Have**

Implementing a Contact Tracing strategy that leverages existing infrastructure ensures a quick deployment, but also addresses challenges related to ongoing manageability and hedges risks related to user behavior. Aruba provides core Contact Tracing insight without the need for large investments in incremental infrastructure, yet provides the ability to implement advanced granularity and use cases with the addition of purpose-built hardware and a vast partner ecosystem of compatible solutions

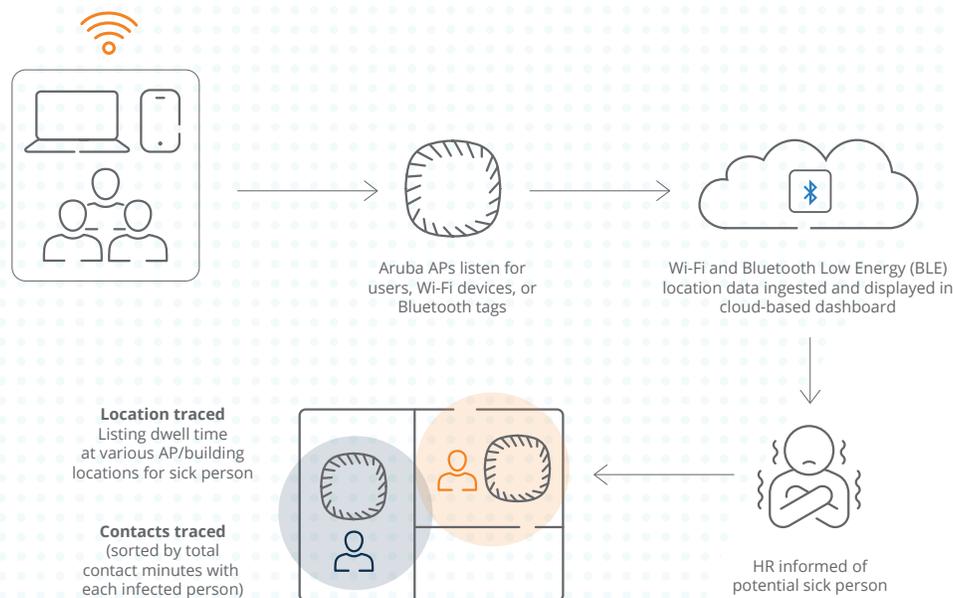


Figure 1: Aruba uses both Wi-Fi and Bluetooth Low Energy telemetry to perform contact and location tracing



## SOLUTION COMPONENTS AND DEPLOYMENT OPTIONS

### Aruba Access Points

Aruba APs use AI-powered RF optimization, rich user and app intelligence, dynamic segmentation and smart management options for improved user experiences, seamless cellular and Wi-Fi transitions, and SLA-grade application QoS. APs support IoT devices running Wi-Fi, Zigbee, Bluetooth, and third-party protocols. These capabilities make Aruba access points a powerful platform for providing contact and location-based telemetry using Wi-Fi, Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE), and sophisticated data analytics.

### Aruba Central

With the addition of “Proximity Tracing” in Aruba Central, users can run a simple query based on a username or MAC address to see who has come into contact with a specific individual. This means correlating which users were associated with the same access point including how long they were in close proximity with a particular user. This capability leverages existing Aruba wireless infrastructure and Aruba’s ability to do intelligent location triangulation and provides granularity down to approximately 10M. This provides insight into which users were on the same floor or working in the same part of a particular physical location. For customers who are using Aruba AirWave, Aruba provides the ability to export data into the Central dashboard or into popular third-party visualization tools such as PowerBI or Tableau.

### Aruba Meridian

Aruba’s leadership in location services has enabled powerful contact and proximity-oriented use cases. In addition to the integrated Wi-Fi contact tracing capabilities provided in Central, Meridian works together with Aruba 300/500 series access points and Aruba Tags to provide even higher levels of location and proximity granularity and enable advanced use cases related to heat mapping and location analytics within a physical building or campus.

### Aruba Tags

Aruba Tags are a key component of the Aruba Location Services portfolio. When used with the Meridian platform, these Tags enable granular contact and proximity tracing use cases, as well as broader physical asset tracking in both indoor and outdoor locations. Based on Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) technology (Bluetooth 4.0), Aruba Tags provide location data for each person or physical asset within the range of BLE-enabled access points within an organization’s Wi-Fi network, eliminating the need for a dedicated network of readers or observers.