



What is BIRDLINK?

Birdlink is a wireless mesh network that strives to bring the internet to you on the wing of a bird.

How does BIRDLINK Work?

Working alongside world renowned bird migration specialists, the BIRDLINK project seeks to create a bird-wide wireless mesh network for connecting people to the internet. Outfitted with the latest microrouters operating under BIRDLINK's universal routing protocol, the species of migratory birds selected for inclusion in this project will become nodes in a living and moving network topology that connects across oceans and lands with the flap of wings.

What is a Wireless Mesh Network?

Wireless mesh infrastructure is, in effect, a network of routers minus the cabling between nodes. It is built of peer radio devices that do not have to be cabled to a wired port like traditional WLAN access points (AP) do. Mesh infrastructure carries data over large distances by splitting the distance into a series of short hops. Intermediate nodes not only boost the signal, but cooperatively pass data from point A to point B by making forwarding decisions based on their knowledge of the network. However, this kind of network is not entirely wireless, the nodes need to eventually connect to a gateway with greater connectivity power; in this case, a gateway connected to the data on the internet.

BIRDHAUS: Gateways

BIRDLINK acknowledges that birds have no incentive to help humans connect. In order to traffic information to and from the wider internet with the help of birds, we had to reimagine the gateway. Thus, BIRDLINK has developed the concept of the BIRDHAUS: it is a manmade structure that provides shelter and food for the birds, which, in turn, allows the microrouters to connect to the wider internet.

Why BIRDS?

Our competitor, STARLINK, seeks to resolve the problem of uneven internet access by sending thousands of satellites into low orbit around the earth. BIRDLINK, on the other hand, sees no reason to spend millions creating yet another manmade infrastructure. Instead, by relying on the mobility of birds, BIRDLINK is a truly cost effective solution for creating a network infrastructure that wraps around the world.

BIRDLINK: Care for Network Infrastructure

The material infrastructure of the internet (the cables, data centers) is something that the average internet user rarely thinks about let alone cares about because its location is often secret or hidden. BIRDLINK circumvents that by providing its users with an app that allows them to track the birds equipped with microrouters, thus making the agents involved in sending and receiving the information more tangible. In addition, BIRDLINK strives to create incentive for bird preservation by endowing birds with something humans value: internet connectivity.

BIRDLINK is not about optimizing the speed of internet networks. It is about losing control of that speed and allowing the flux of information to subside into the rhythms of birds.