



**Helium Foundation**

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Re: [HIP-117](#): Add MNTD as a Hotspot Vendor to the Helium MOBILE subNetwork

To the Helium Community,

The Helium Foundation, in its role as the governance and protocol steward of the Helium Network, as well as a US non-profit 501(c)(6), has a vested interest in the security, scalability, and integrity of the Network.

This letter of attestation is presented to the Helium community and for the consideration of veMOBILE voters, in conjunction with [HIP-117: Add MNTD as a Hotspot Vendor to the Helium MOBILE subNetwork](#).

### **Pretext**

[HIP-19](#), authored in late 2020 and approved in early 2021, created a framework for third-party manufacturers to support Network growth. The 'maker' application process was led by the Manufacturing Compliance Committee from May 2021 until October 2023, when the committee ceased operations. The maker program was taken on by the Foundation thereafter including a refresh of obligations for existing makers and applications from new makers.

[HIP-53](#) outlined a process for makers on the MOBILE subNetwork whereby hardware vendors:

1. Stake a minimum of 50,000,000 MOBILE
2. Obtain MOBILE subDAO governance approval

As the IOT maker process involves a hardware security audit, the Foundation requests a completed security penetration test from a reputable 3rd party for each prospective MOBILE Hotspot maker.

### **Pentest Vendor**

RAK Wireless, a well-known, longtime vendor and contributor in the Helium community, hired [VDA Labs](#) to conduct product security testing against their MOBILE Hotspot, device firmware, and API ecosystem.

The penetration test for RAK by VDA represents a point-in-time look at the security posture of RAK Wireless Helium Mobile Hotspot. The community should bear in mind that security is not a static property and the threat landscape does change over time.

### **Review and Attestation**

The Helium Foundation has reviewed the full pentest report. The scope of work described in the report covers all essential areas of review and the methodology employed by the VDA Labs team appears to match industry standards.

The report indicated that no remote exploits were found as part of the analysis and any local exploits have adequate security measures in place. Findings on other security and risk vectors were also reported to be low or reasonably sufficient for the use-case in question. Overall, VDA Labs did not identify any critical vulnerabilities during the time of testing.

The pentest report is exclusively the work of VDA Labs, produced by agreement with RAK Wireless. The Helium Foundation was not involved in the production of the pentest report and has not conducted its own independent analysis. Nonetheless, the Helium Foundation believes that the quality of the work performed is sufficient to meet the standards of the Helium Network.

With regards,

Scott Sigel  
Chief Operating Officer  
Helium Foundation