ACKSYS
COMMUNICATIONS & SYSTEMS

APPLICATION NOTE

APNUS38 How to Configure External radius authentication on ACKSYS Router

February 2024

Content

1. Radius Glossary and Term

Radius – Remote Authentication Dial-In User Service.

EAP – Extensible Authentication Protocol.

NAS – Network Access Server.

MSCHAPv2- Microsoft Challenge Handshake Authentication Protocol version 2

AAA - Authentication, Authorization, Accounting.

LDAP - Lightweight Directory Access Protocol.

AP –Access Point

IPv4 – Internet Protocol Version 4.

EAPOL – Extensible Authentication Protocol Over Lan

PEAP - Protected Extensible Authentication Protocol

SSID- Service Sed Id

ICMP- Internet Control Protocol

LAN- Local Area Network

2. Introduction

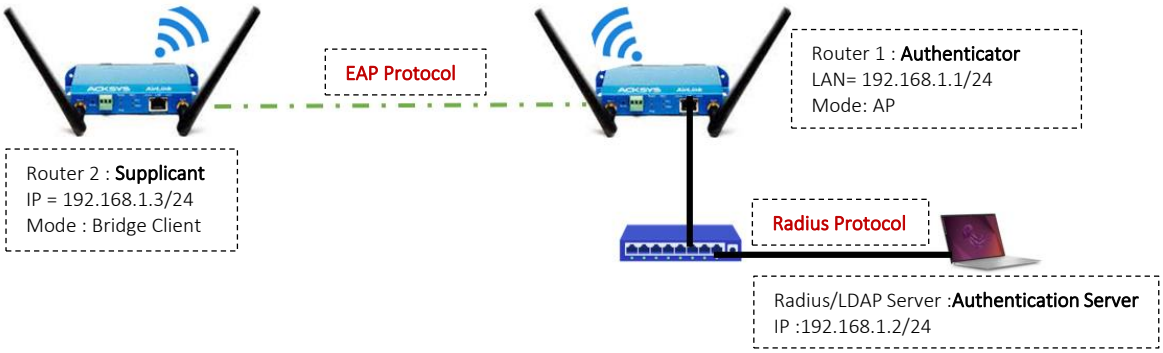
Radius stands for Remote Authentication Dial In User Service, becomes more and more important for WIFI network security. The radius is the centralized server used for the authentication, accounting, and authorization of a user in different user cases.

The Acksys Router in the AP role, can be configured as a RADIUS Client compatible with RADIUS server. Radius authentication protocol, such as EAP, can grant or deny user access, based on the responses from the server to a range of services (including Wi-Fi, VPN, and applications etc...).

In this application note, we will explain in detail the basic steps required to configure Acksys Router as Radius Authenticator (NAS) for an external radius authentication.

3. Radius Authentication Architecture

In this application note, we will use 2 Acksys Routers, one as Supplicant (Bridge Client) and other as Authenticator (AP) connected to an external radius server which embedded the Ldap Server within the same layer-2 broadcast domain to avoid routing or authentication delays.



Before we begin, let's overview the configuration that we are attempting to achieve and the prerequisites that make it possible in this application note :

- 2 AirLink routers or Any type of Acksys Router
  - 1 Airlink Router configured in WIFI AP Mode as authenticator
  - 1 Airlink Router configured in Bridge Client as Supplicant
- A switch to connected the Authenticator and the Radius server
- Laptop to configure the routers
- An external Radius Server embedding the user database and containing the credentials and user information needed for the RADIUS authentication

4. Radius Server Configuration and requirements

There are many radius server distributed on Linux and Windows with their RADIUS options which should work with ACKSYS access points if configured correctly.

In this Application note, we will use an external authentication server (radius and Ldap) solution and please refer to your RADIUS server documentation for specifics.

The key requirements for WPA2-Enterprise with Acksys are as follow:

- The server must host a certificate from a Certificate Authority (CA) trusted by clients on the network.
- All Access Points broadcasting the WPA2-Enterprise SSID must be configured as RADIUS clients/ authenticators on the radius server with a shared secret.
- The RADIUS server must have a user base or any Ldap server to authenticate against.
- The RADIUS server must support the same EAP authentication as the Wi-Fi bridged client (ex: PEAPv2 for our test)

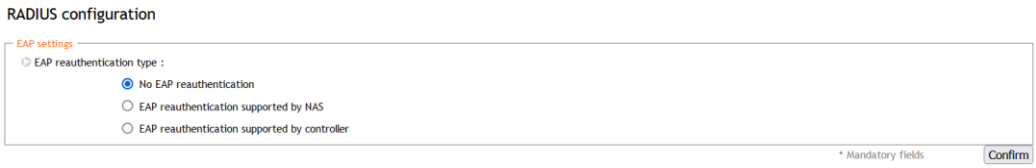
Adding AP as Radius Client(Authenticator) on Radius

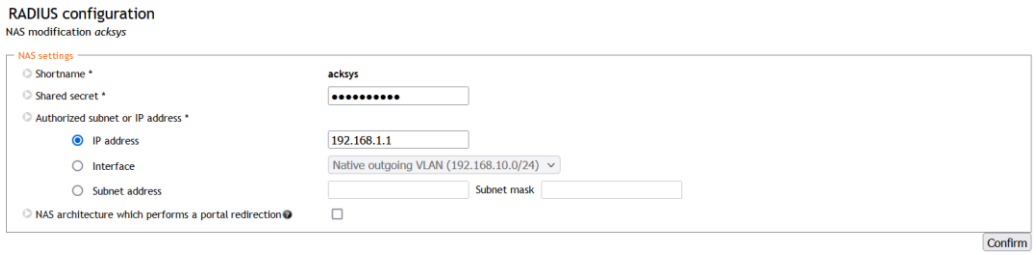
In this application note, access points communicate with bridged clients and receive their credentials. Then the access point forwards these credentials to the Radius Server.

Before we configure our Acksys Router to use a RADIUS authentication server, we must have this information for our RADIUS server :

- **Shortname** — Name to identify your NAS (Use your custom name)
- **An external RADIUS server** — 192.168.1.2 (IP address and RADIUS port)
- **Shared secret** — acksys (Case-sensitive password that is the same on the Acksys and the RADIUS server)
- **Authentication methods** — Set your RADIUS server to allow the authentication method your device uses: ex: WPA2 Enterprise
- **Authorized subnet or IP address** — The authenticator IP address authorized to contact the radius server

Example of Radius Server configuration:

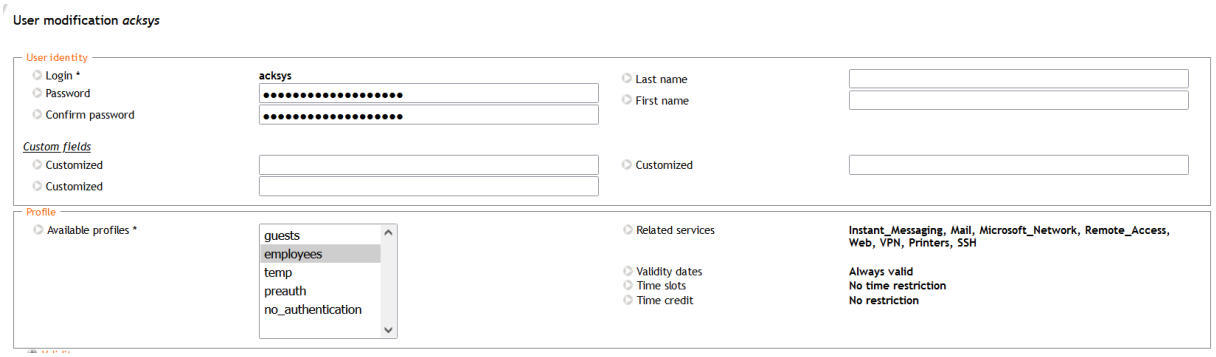




Adding User on Radius Server

The Ldap Server Is embedded on the Radius Server as explained early therefore no need to create a separated external LDAP server.

- **User Database**
  - The user database contains the credentials and user information needed for the RADIUS server to perform authentication and authorization for the user. In this test, the Ldap is embedded in the Radius server



5. ACKSYS Router configuration

Let keeping in mind that all Acksys routers are compatible with Radius Server as Authenticator and Supplicant, but are not responsible for wireless clients authentication. The AP acts only as an intermediary between clients and the RADIUS server.

Configuring Authenticator Router1 in AP role

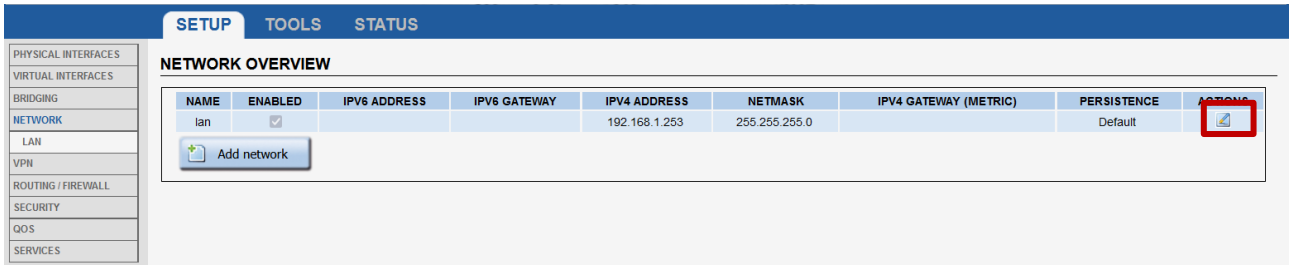
If you have familiarized yourself with the configuration scheme, we can start configuring the router using instructions provided.

Networks	AirLink Router 1: Authenticator
	IP: 192.168.1.1/24
Mode: AP	SSID:RADIUS Authentication Methods: WPA2/enterprise
Radius	IP:192.168.1.2/24 Radius Port:1812 Share Secret: Testing123

Configuring Authenticator Network Interface

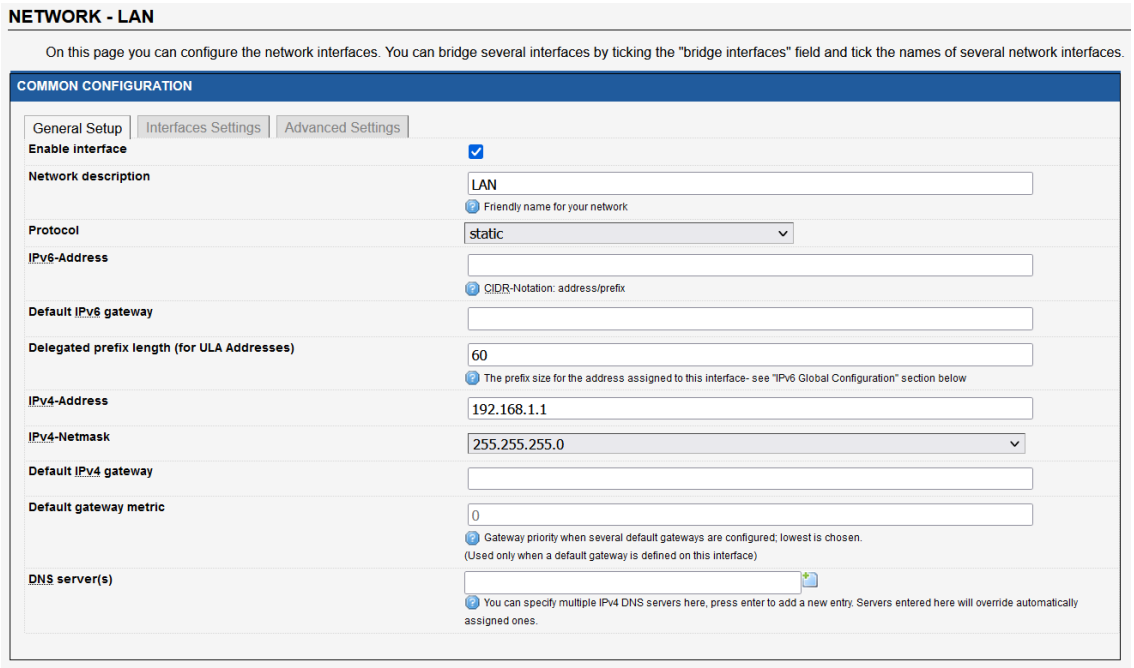
In this section, we will create modify the default Network according to our network scope in Bridged Mode.

In the GUI, go to Setup → Physical Interfaces → Edit LAN Interface to create the LAN Network

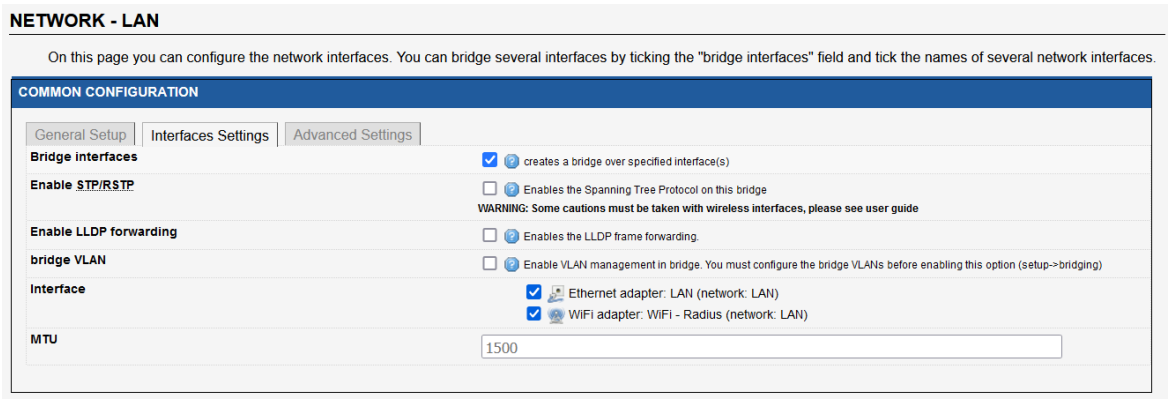


Click the "Edit" button located to the right and configure the Alias IP address used to configure the LAN Interface.

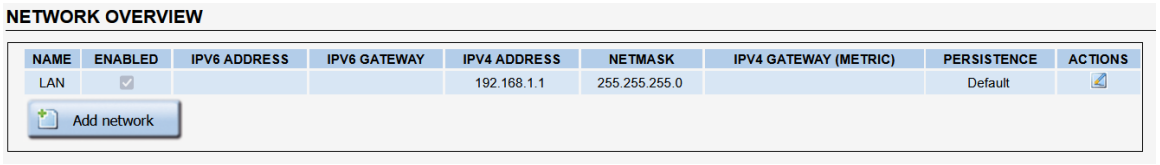
- General Setup
  - Network description :WLAN (use your custom name)
  - Protocol: Static
  - IPv4-Address : 192.168.1.1
  - IPv4 Netmask:255.255.255.0
  - Save



- Interface Settings
  - Bridge Interfaces: enable
  - Interface: Tick Ethernet Adapter and WiFI Adaptor
  - Click Save

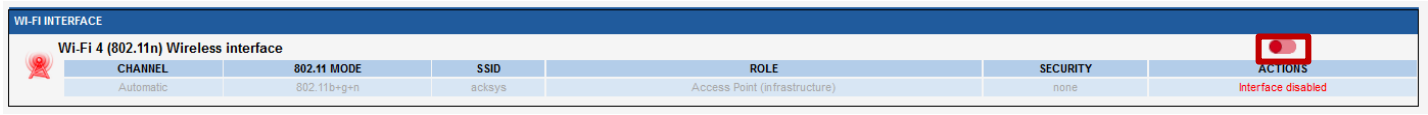


After modifying the default network, we should have the result below:

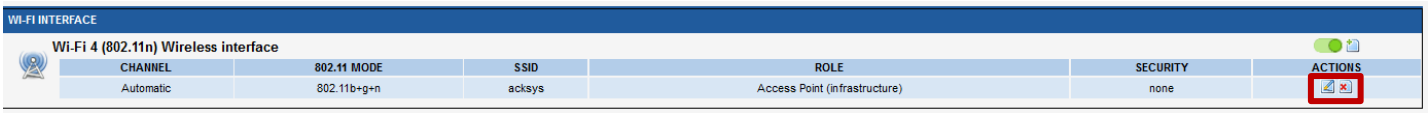


Configuring Authenticator Secure SSID

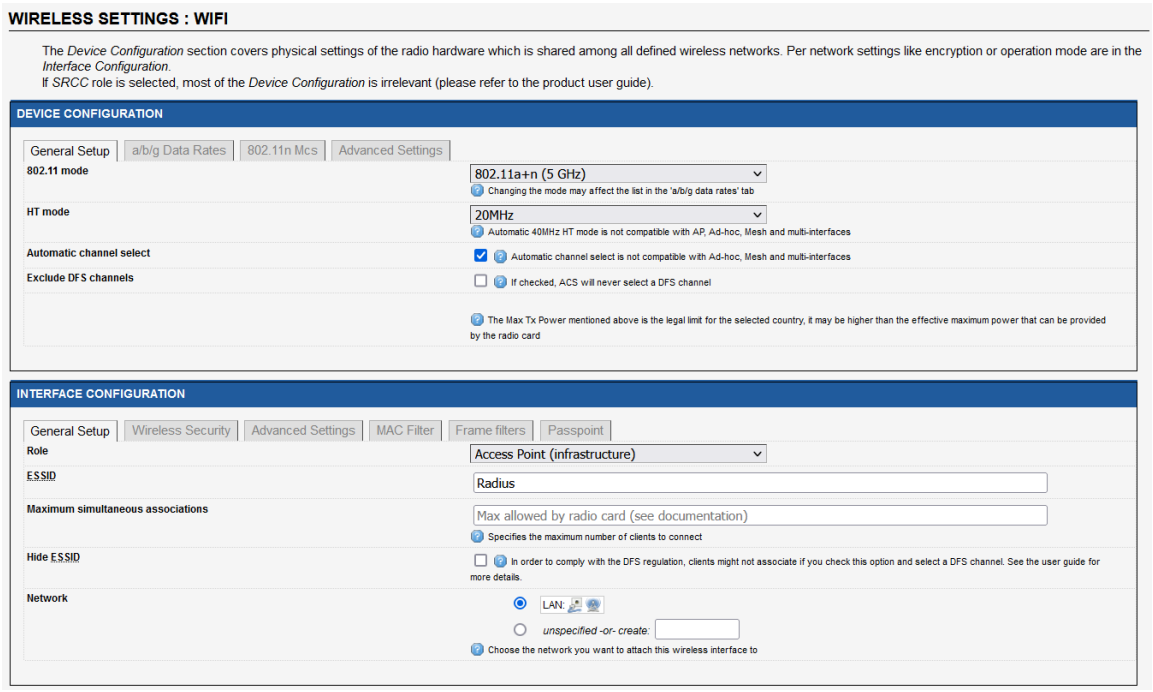
By default the WiFI Adaptor is disabled therefore in this application note, we will create an SSID to associate to the WIFI adapter to allow end device in client mode to connect on its .
In the GUI, go to Setup → Physical Interfaces → Click WiFI Adaptor to On



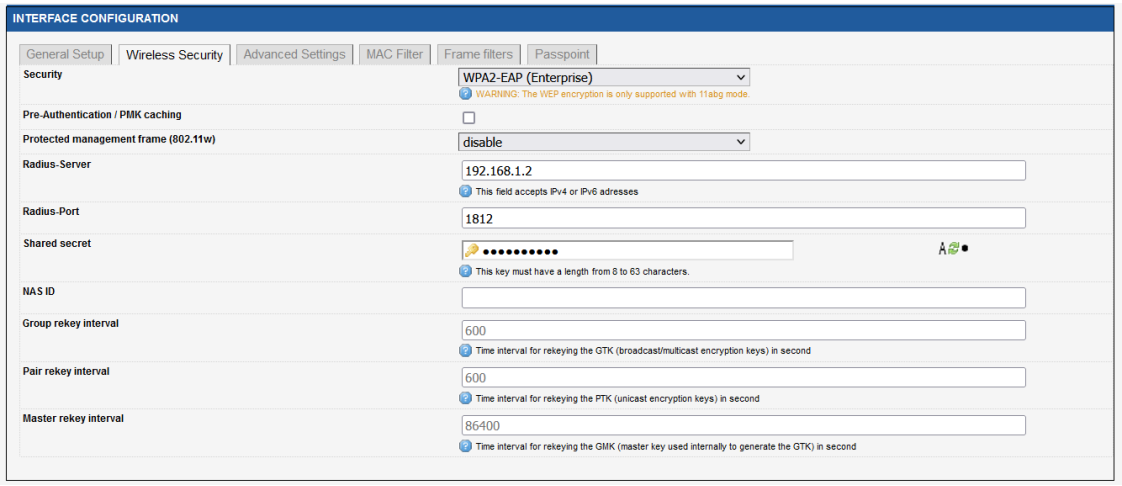
- Click the "Edit" button located to the right and your SSID configuration page:



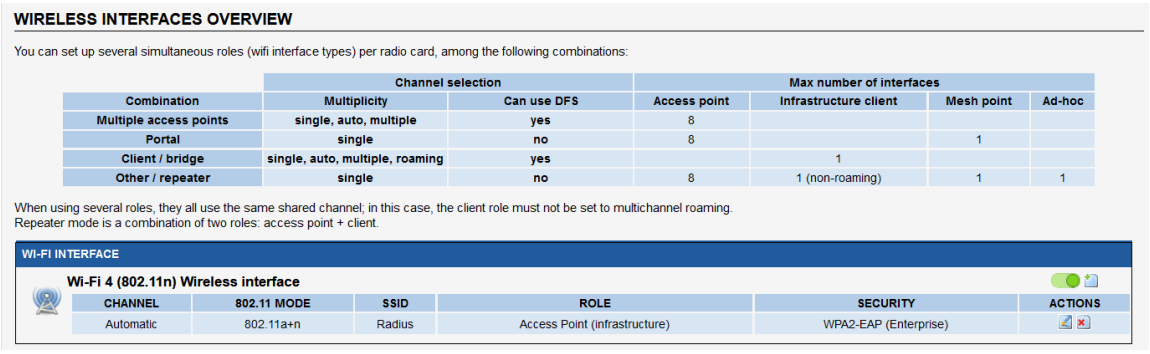
  - Role: Access Point
  - ESSID: Radius
  - Network: LAN
  - Click on Save



- Wireless Security
  - WPA2-EAP (Enterprise)
  - Radius Server: 192.168.1.2
  - Radius-Port: 1812
  - Shared secret: Use the same secret configured on Radius server
  - Click Save and Apply



After modifying the default WIFI parameter, we should have the result below:



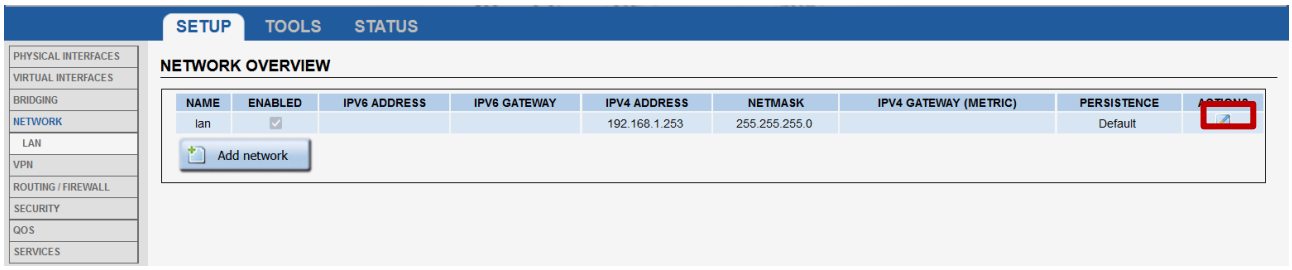
Configuring Supplicant Router1 in Bridge Client role

The Authentication configuration is similar with the supplicant with some specific with the following instructions.

Networks	AirLink Router 2: Supplicant
	IP: 192.168.1.3/24
Mode: Bridge Client	SSID:Radius Authentication Methods: PEAPv2
Radius	Share Secret:Testing123 User Identity: acksys User Password: acksys

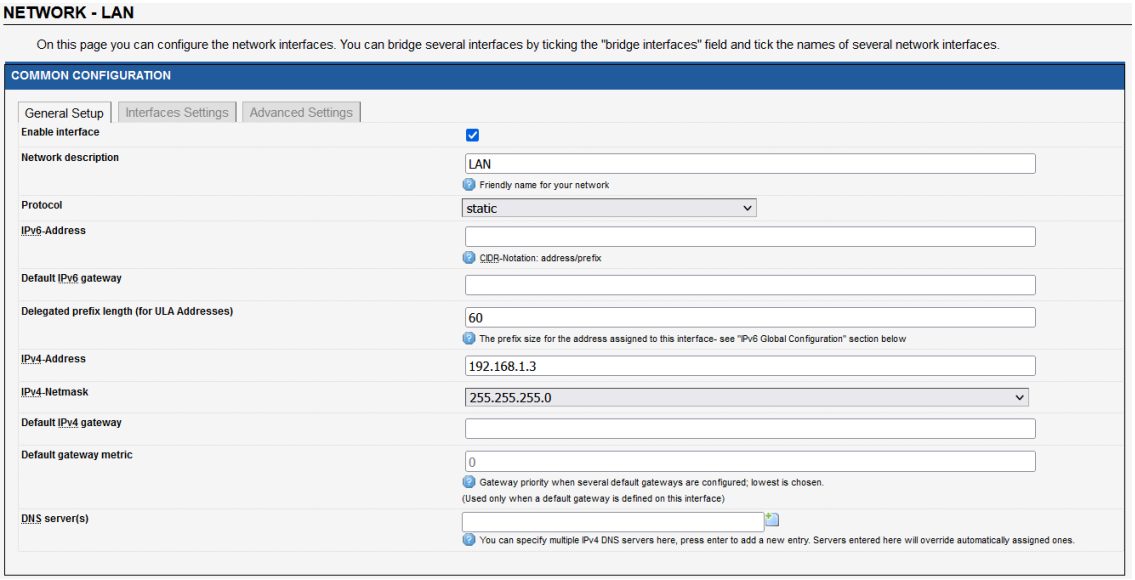
Configuring Supplicant Network Interface

In the GUI, go to Setup → Physical Interfaces → Edit LAN Interface to create the LAN Network

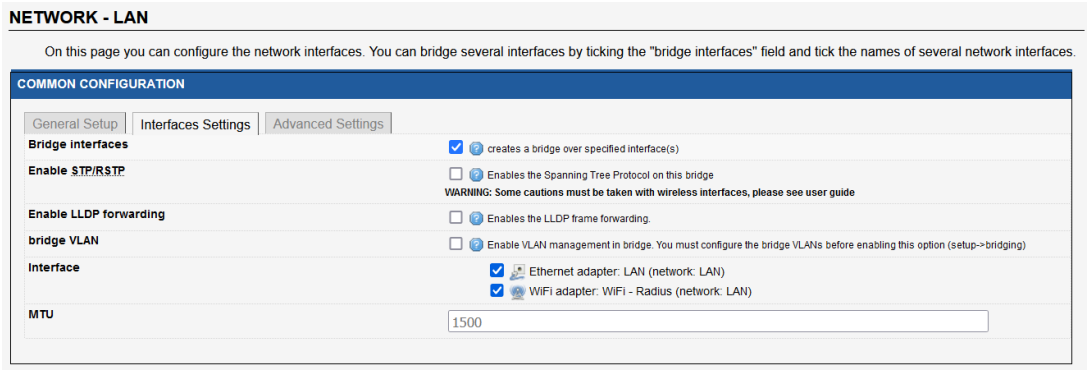


Click the "Edit" button located to the right and configure the Alias IP address used to configure the LAN Interface.

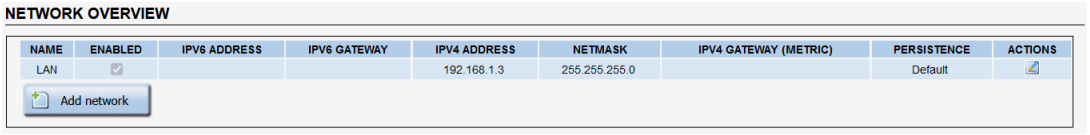
- General Setup
  - Network description :LAN (use your custom name)
  - Protocol: Static
  - IPv4-Address : 192.168.1.3
  - IPv4 Netmask:255.255.255.0
  - Save



- Interface Settings
  - Bridge Interfaces: enable
  - Interface: Tick Ethernet Adapter and WiFI Adaptor
  - Click Save

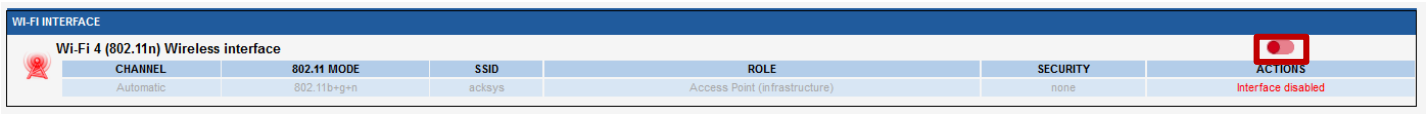


After modifying the default network, we should have the result below:

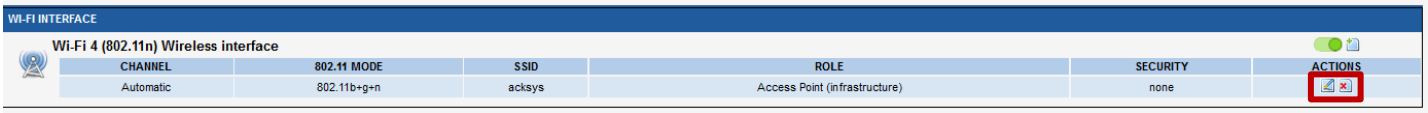


Configuring Supplicant SSID

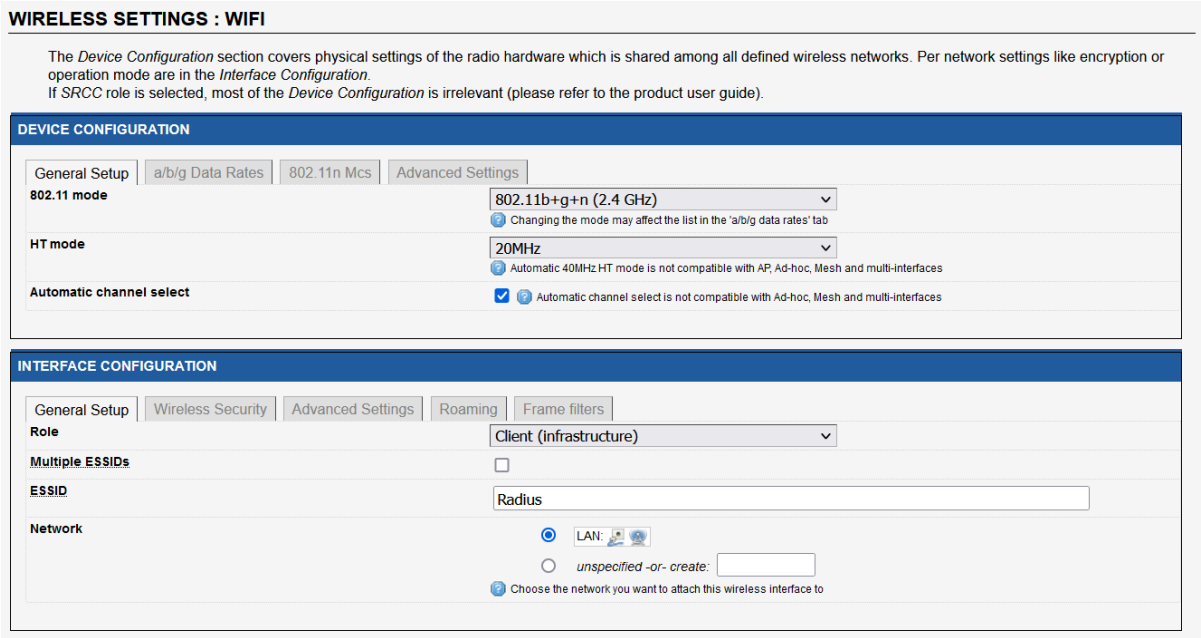
In the GUI, go to Setup → Physical Interfaces → Click WiFI Adaptor to On



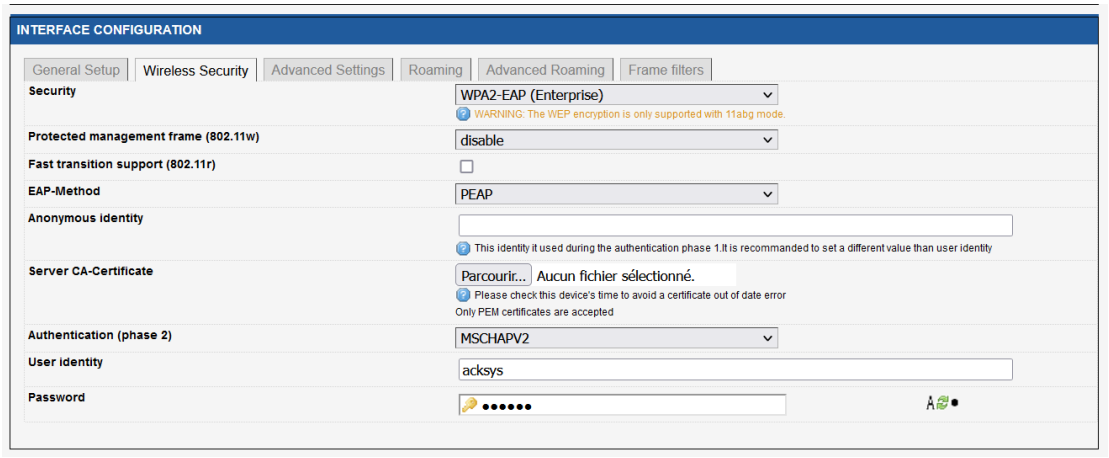
- Click the "Edit" button located to the right and your SSID configuration page:



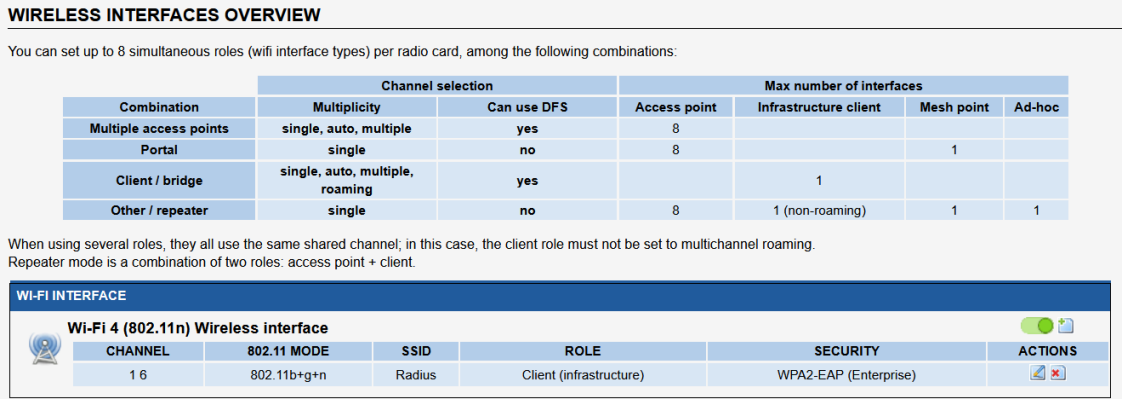
- Role: Client
- ESSID: Radius
- Network: LAN
- Click on Save



- Wireless Security
  - WPA2-EAP (Enterprise)
  - EAP-Method: PEAP
  - Server CA-Certificate: Import the .pem certificate use on the Radius Server
  - Authentication phase2: MSCHAPv2
  - User identity: acksys
  - Password: acksys
  - Click Save and Apply



After modifying the default WIFI parameter, we should have the result below:



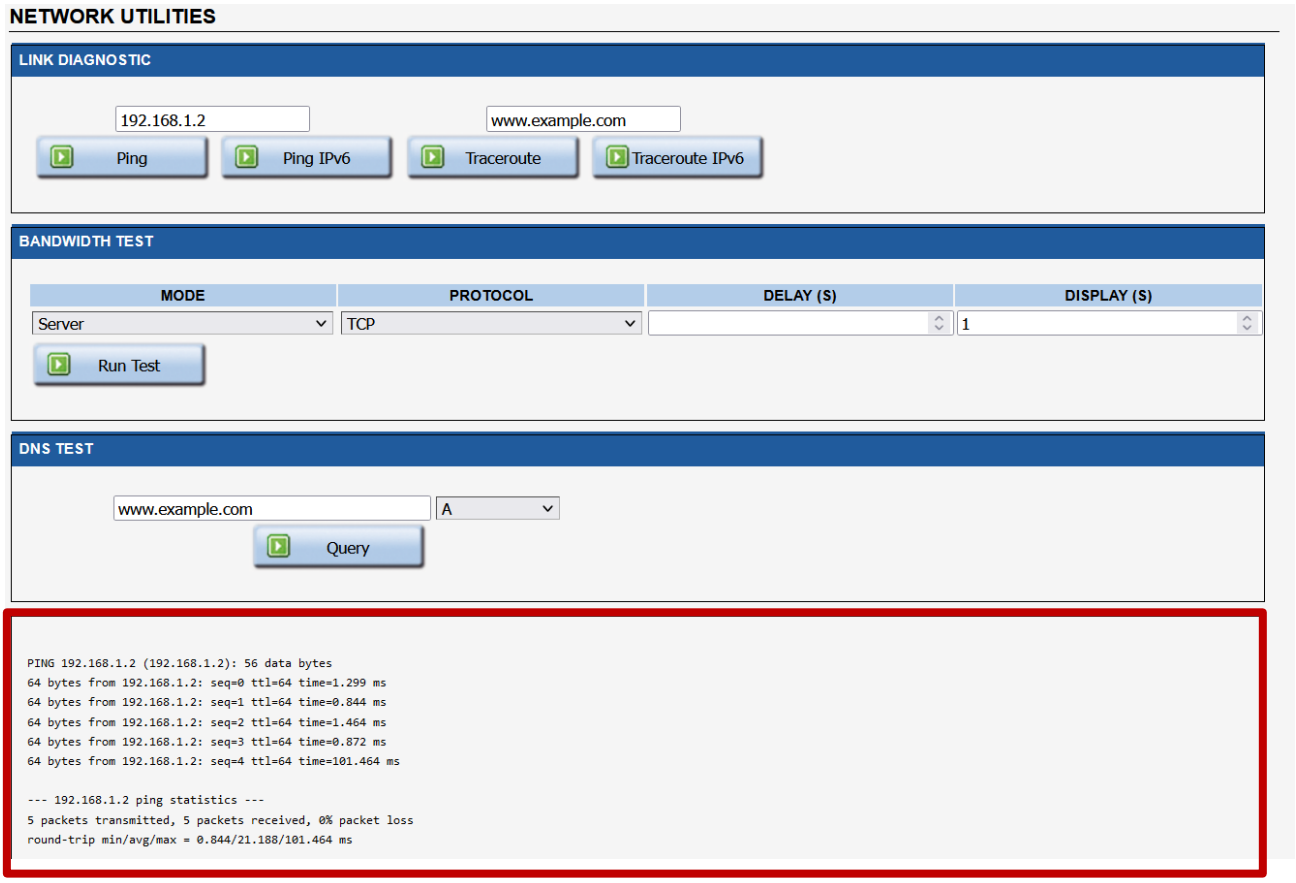
NOTE: The AP as a RADIUS client collects user information (here user name as acksys and password as acksys) and sends this information to a RADIUS server. The RADIUS server authenticates a user according to these information and then performs authorization and accounting for the user.

6. TESTING

If you've followed all the steps presented above, your configuration should be finished. But as with any other configuration, it is always wise to test the setup in order to make sure that it works properly.

In GUI Status →Wireless
The Router configured as Supplicant is well authenticated with its credential on the Radius Sever Via the AP configured as Authenticator.

IP Connectivity for the Supplicant to the Radius Server work properly showing the User Acksys is well authenticated on the radius server as shown on the below screenshot



Example of Acksys Radius Logs during authentication

In the GUI, go to Status → Logs and look after radius logs to check the authentication logs

```
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: RX EAPOL - hexdump(len=47): 02 00 00 2b 01 0b 00 2b 19 00 17 03 01 00 20 48 dc 57 af f
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: EAPOL: Received EAP-Packet frame
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: EAPOL: SUPP_BE entering state REQUEST
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: EAPOL: getSuppRsp
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: EAP: EAP entering state RECEIVED
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: EAP: Received EAP-Request id=11 method=25 vendor=0 vendorMethod=0
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: EAP: EAP entering state METHOD
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: SSL: Received packet(len=43) - Flags 0x00
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: EAP-PEAP: received 37 bytes encrypted data for Phase 2
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: OpenSSL: RX ver=0x0 content_type=256 (TLS header info/)
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: OpenSSL: Message - hexdump(len=5): [REMOVED]
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: EAP-PEAP: Decrypted Phase 2 EAP - hexdump(len=11): 01 0b 00 0b 21 80 03 00 02 00 01
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: EAP-PEAP: received Phase 2: code=1 identifier=11 length=11
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: EAP-PEAP: Phase 2 Request: type=33
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: EAP-TLV: Received TLVs - hexdump(len=6): 80 03 00 02 00 01
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: EAP-TLV: Result TLV - hexdump(len=2): 00 01
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.notice wpa_supplicant[7426]: EAP-TLV: TLV Result - Success - EAP-TLV/Phase2 Completed
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: EAP-PEAP: Encrypting Phase 2 data - hexdump(len=11): [REMOVED]
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: OpenSSL: TX ver=0x0 content_type=256 (TLS header info/)
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: OpenSSL: Message - hexdump(len=5): [REMOVED]
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: OpenSSL: TX ver=0x0 content_type=256 (TLS header info/)
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: OpenSSL: Message - hexdump(len=5): [REMOVED]
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: SSL: 74 bytes left to be sent out (of total 74 bytes)
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: EAP: method process -> ignore=FALSE methodState=DONE decision=UNCOND_SUCC eapRespData=
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: EAP: Session-Id - hexdump(len=65): 19 7a 2a 96 a6 64 84 fd 3f ea 5f f7 e3 a2 0f 44 2b
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: EAP: EAP entering state SEND_RESPONSE
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: EAP: EAP entering state IDLE
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: EAPOL: SUPP_BE entering state RESPONSE
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: EAPOL: txSuppRsp
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: TX EAPOL: dst=c4:93:00:08:a0:76
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: TX EAPOL - hexdump(len=84): 01 00 00 50 02 0b 00 50 19 00 17 03 01 00 20 c4 a8 49 da 4
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: nl80211: Send over control port dest=c4:93:00:08:a0:76 proto=0x888e len=84 no_encrypt=
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: EAPOL: SUPP_BE entering state RECEIVE
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: EAPOL: startWhen --> 0
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: l2_packet_receive: src=c4:93:00:08:a0:76 len=22
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: wlan0: RX EAPOL from c4:93:00:08:a0:76 to c4:93:00:0c:3c:85 (bridge)
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: wlan0: RX EAPOL from c4:93:00:08:a0:76
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: RX EAPOL - hexdump(len=8): 02 00 00 04 03 0b 00 04
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: EAPOL: Received EAP-Packet frame
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: EAPOL: SUPP_BE entering state REQUEST
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: EAPOL: getSuppRsp
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: EAP: EAP entering state RECEIVED
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: EAP: Received EAP-Success
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: EAP: Status notification: completion (param=success)
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: EAP: EAP entering state SUCCESS
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.notice wpa_supplicant[7426]: wlan0: CTRL-EVENT-EAP-SUCCESS EAP authentication completed successfully
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: EAPOL: SUPP_BE entering state RECEIVE
Wed Jan 24 15:48:45 2024 daemon.debug wpa_supplicant[7426]: EAPOL: SUPP_BE entering state SUCCESS
```

Example of Radius server Logs during authentication

Let checking the authentication details logs and reply logs on the radius server:

Authentication details radius logs: Access-Accept for success authentication

```
Tue Feb  6 17:51:44 2024
        Packet-Type = Access-Accept
                Ldap-Id = "1"
                validitytype = "inherited"
                ProfileId = "3"
                Role = "3"
        Filter-Id = "3"
                Group = "3"
                Ldap-Id = "1"
                validitytype = "inherited"
                ProfileId = "3"
        Ruckus-Role = "3"
        Filter-Id = "3"
                Group = "3"
        User-Name = "acksys"
        MS-MPPE-Recv-Key = 0x8b921471761ef11dcf26d99f2f1f03fc87ac563f22729ac19f0017251bf86392
        MS-MPPE-Send-Key = 0xdb5b0f7f7b793a1795f3fa413ddfe8d88027e8c9469ad1eceed31eee043aa32d
        EAP-MSK = 0x8b921471761ef11dcf26d99f2f1f03fc87ac563f22729ac19f0017251bf86392db5b0f7f7b793a1795f3fa413ddfe8d88027e8c9469ad1eceed31eee043aa32d
        EAP-EMSK = 0x7bde907caf149ba71ae64b82b02d3b7b9a347fd76dec92d6cc70492502c04424cfa51557dfdad2c8582321eba9ced40a3fc9d6a43814f8eb0944a0e71d4afbdc
        EAP-Message = 0x030b0004
        Message-Authenticator = 0x00000000000000000000000000000000
```

Reply detail radius logs

```
Tue Feb  6 17:51:44 2024
        Packet-Type = Access-Request
        User-Name = "acksys"
        Called-Station-Id = "C4-93-00-08-A0-76:Radius"
        NAS-Port-Type = Wireless-802.11
        Service-Type = Framed-User
        NAS-Port = 1
        Calling-Station-Id = "C4-93-00-0C-3C-85"
        Connect-Info = "CONNECT 54Mbps 802.11g"
        Acct-Session-Id = "FF75B9DF1CE229F8"
        X-Ascend-Home-Agent-UDP-Port = 1027076
        X-Ascend-Multilink-ID = 1027076
        X-Ascend-Num-In-Multilink = 1027073
        Framed-MTU = 1400
        EAP-Message = 0x020b00501900170301002 0c4a849da45cf7516e7b779f57ad501d30bc023c33b7562c8340f9bf8109fc9f21703010020187 2ae8588cd6076582969379ba4ab3fe895f30fef7ec2175ae7560cc77deadc
        State = 0x22c15a072bca43a5acc4742b1618ed6a
        Message-Authenticator = 0xe89a2f251f8d74059ffd3fbc2ee354cc
        NAS-IP-Address = 192.168.1.1
```