# Running FirstSpot at a Central Site to Serve Multiple Hotspot Locations

#### • Requirements

- You need to turn on the Multiple Network
  Segment feature and IP-based session handling in Advanced Edition
- You need to control (or route) the traffic leaving each hotspot location back to the central site and let FirstSpot to authenticate and control the access

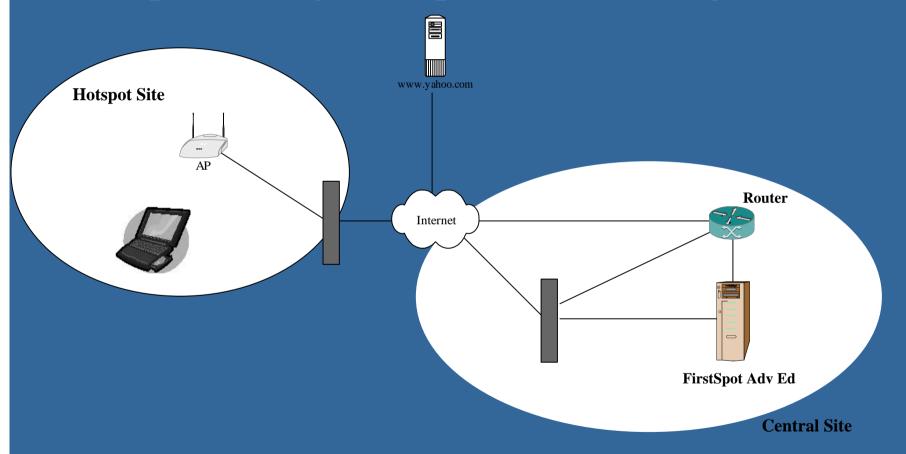


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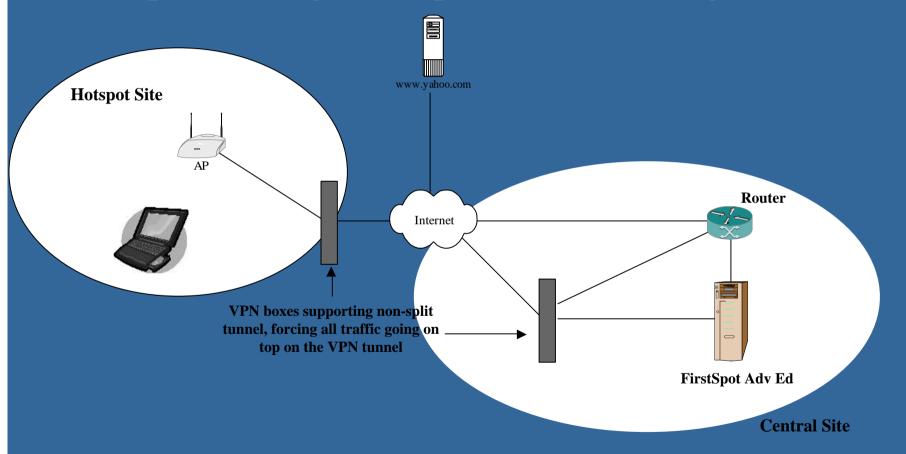
#### Challenges

- If you are an ISP: it's easy; because you have full control on the routing path of the outgoing hotspot traffic
- If you are NOT an ISP: you may need to implement VPN to mimic a private network connecting the centralized FirstSpot and all hotspot locations

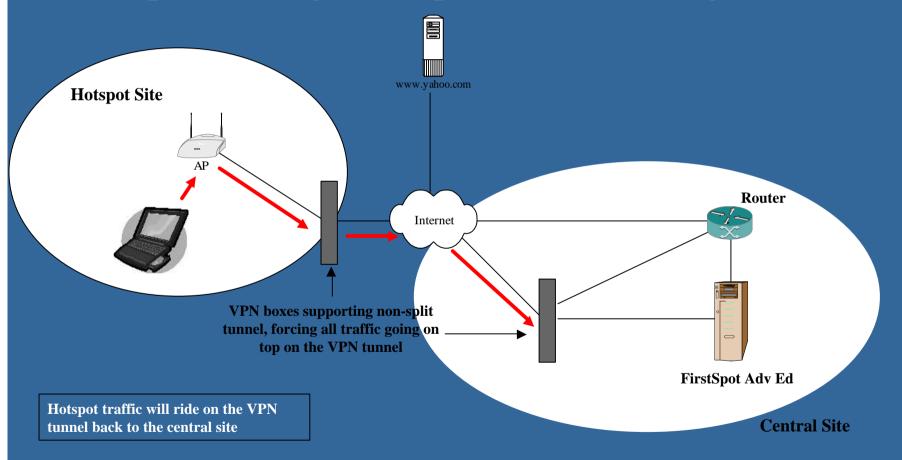




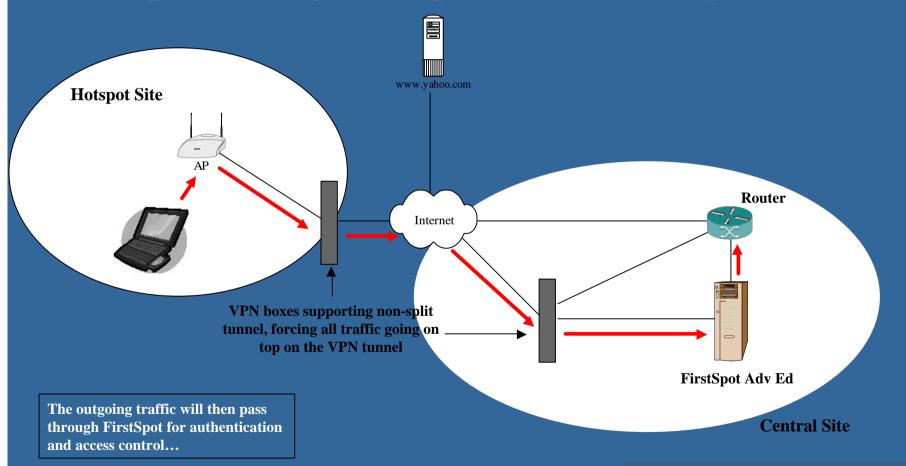




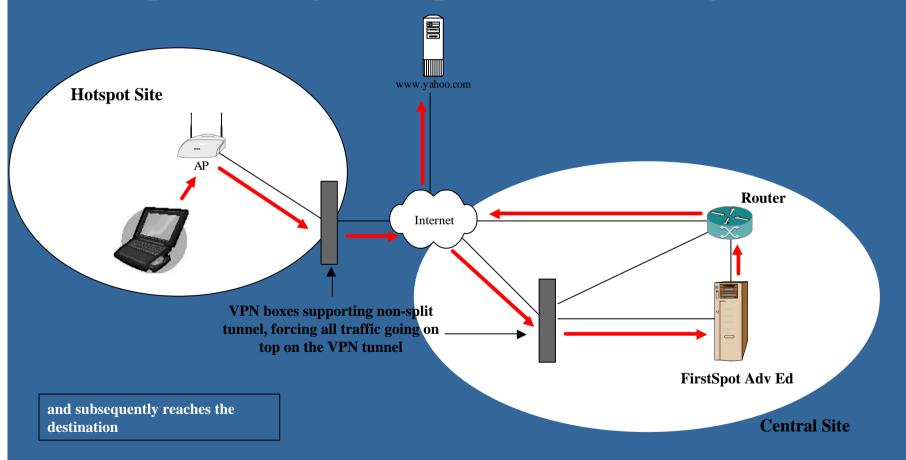




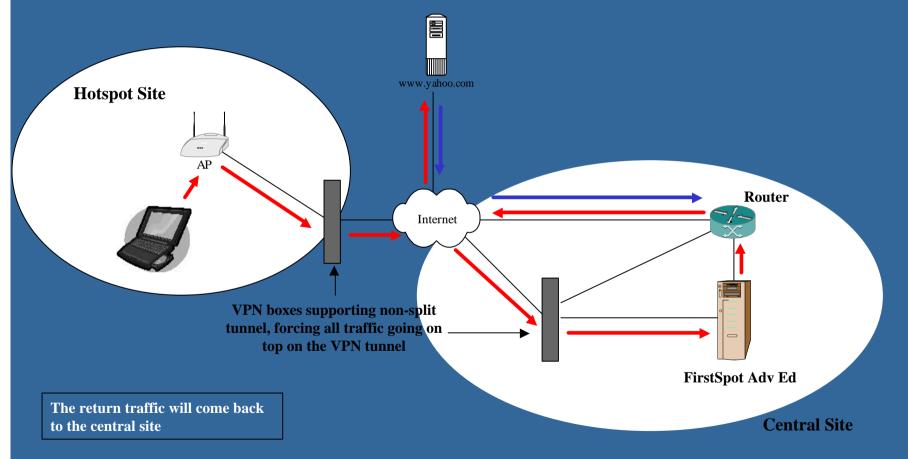




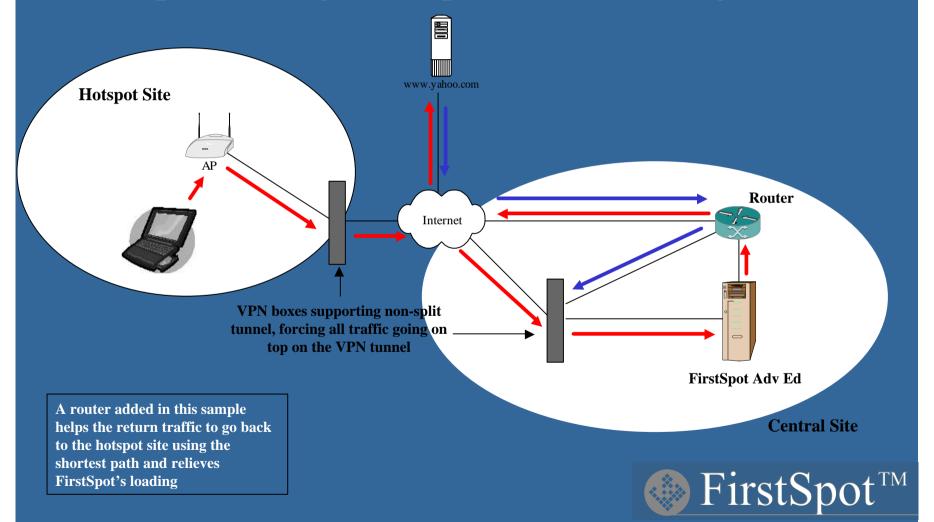
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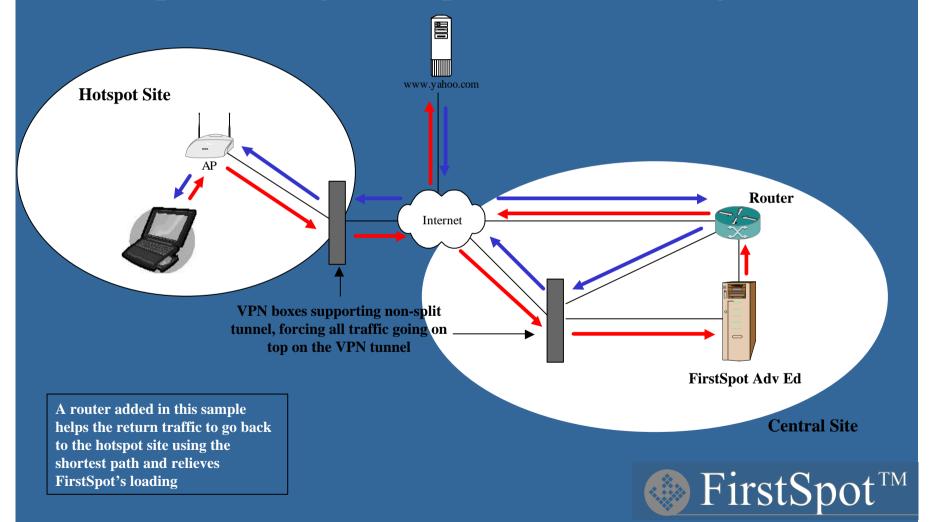












#### Pros

- Lower cost of investment saving the cost of implementing FirstSpot at EACH hotspot location
- Easy deployment after successful configuration at the central site, it only requires installing an VPN appliance box at the hotspot end when the hotspot business grows
- Easy management managing the FirstSpot server centrally

#### • Cons

 Much higher skill set of networking and routing required to set up and configure VPN tunnels



### Hardware & Software Requirements

- At each hotspot location
  - an Internet connection with a fixed IP address
  - an VPN appliance box which supports non-split tunnels\*
  - as many Wi-Fi access points as needed
  - \* The non-split tunnel feature may <u>not</u> be available from all VPN manufacturers, please check thoroughly before committing a purchase



### Hardware & Software Requirements

- At the central site
  - 2 Internet connections, 1 with fixed IP addresses
  - an VPN appliance box supporting non-split tunnels and being able to route the incoming traffic to the FirstSpot server for authentication and access control
  - 1 router supporting 3 subnets (you can easily build this with an Linux PC and 3 network cards)
  - 1 PC server running FirstSpot Advanced Edition



## Pricing Reference

	VPN router	Wireless AP	Router with 3 subnets	PC server	FirstSpot Adv Ed
At each hotspot location	150	50	<u></u>		-
At the central site	300		300	600	895

Note: the figures (in USD) above indicate starting prices and are for reference only  $FirstSpot^{TM}$ 

When should I start to consider using Scenario 3?

• When you have or plan to have more than 2 hotspot locations, usually it becomes financially and technically justifiable to deploy scenario 3



When do you need help from our support team?

- You probably need our support team's help if...
  - you haven't heard of or don't understand nonsplit tunnels of VPN
  - you are not comfortable at routing technology
  - you do not want to waste time in doing trialand-error work to get scenario 3 up and running
  - you do not want to leave your deployment unsupported



#### What our support team can do to help?

- A comprehensive yearly support package is there to help customers to deploy scenario 3 using VPN, which includes
  - Recommending necessary hardware (brand & model) required to get the job done
  - Configuring the equipment remotely to get the central site up and running
  - Connecting one hotspot site back to the central site and transferring this skill to your technical staff to complete the rest
  - Technical support by email, instant messaging and VNC session where appropriate FirstSpot<sup>TM</sup>
  - Free upgrade to major versions

#### Thank You

For more information, please contact firstspot@patronsoft.com

