



\$550 | www.draytek.com.au

Draytek Vigor2927ac

A high performance business router with comprehensive redundancy and network management options.

Networking for small to medium businesses can be a remarkably complex affair, so Draytek aims to make life a little simpler with a range of routers and other hardware designed to be fast and easy to manage. The Vigor2927 is a feature packed, rack mountable, dual Ethernet router, with the ability to control your entire network. To try before you buy, Draytek has a very handy virtual demo of the router online at eu.draytek.com:12927.

The Vigor2927 comes in three flavours: no Wi-Fi, 802.11ac Wi-Fi, and Wi-Fi + VOIP (and a separate single Ethernet LTE model), but otherwise the rest of the featureset is the same. The router is built around dual WAN ports (though one can be reconfigured to LAN), for connecting to your internet service of choice. You also get five LAN connections, plus dual USB ports that can handle 3G/4G modems, storage, printers or temperature probes.

The key here is speed and reliability, and you can configure multiple internet sources for failover and load balancing (including from Wi-Fi and even dual USB 4G on different networks), to ensure your business always stays connected. The router

has a powerful inbuilt firewall, plus all the filtering and APP level bandwidth management options you could hope for, as well as the ability to handle 50 VPN (25 SSL) connections. Importantly, the 2927 Series has hardware acceleration available, which can be used to dramatically improve performance where needed, such as using dual WAN to more than double the 800Mbps NAT throughput to 1.8 Gbps.

For larger businesses or future upgrades, the 2927 series can also be the central hub controlling a network and can handle up to 20 Vigor Wireless Access Points, as well as 10 Vigor Switches. This can be achieved via the routers interface, or through the (free) VigorConnect or (paid) VigorACS management software.

We tested the Vigor2927 series with a range of Draytek wireless access points, a VigorSwitch P2121 switch, as well as a gaggle of NAS, IP cameras, computers and mobile devices. Our test model is the 2927ac, and we managed 653 Mbps from the Wi-Fi at close range, and up to 367 Mbps at 10m. We ran the 2927 through a battery of tests designed to simulate heavy network load, as well as internet dropouts, with and without

SPECS
2x WAN Ports; 5x RJ-45 1GbE LAN Ports; 2x USB 2.0; 802.11ac Wi-Fi; VPN Tunnels: 50 16 VLAN; NAT Throughput: 800 Mbps; VLANS: 16; Size: 241mm x 165mm x 44mm

hardware acceleration. The 2927 did an excellent job managing our network, providing failover internet, and prioritising important traffic, such as video conferencing, with no apparent bottlenecks. The hardware acceleration gave an admirable performance boost, especially when taking max VPN IPSec performance from 290 Mbps to 800 Mbps.

The in-depth feature set means getting to know the router takes significant time and effort, but between the wizards and online support there's no major stumbling points for even businesses new to larger networks. At this level the router interface or VigorConnect software is enough for network management, but the VigorACS software is well worth the cost for time savings alone for more complex networks – providing of course it's built using Draytek hardware.

The price of the 2927 is quite competitive with other dual WAN routers, especially if opting for the model without Wi-Fi.

LINDSAY HANDMER

A versatile router that offers excellent hardware accelerated performance, redundancy and management options without costing the world.

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