

>> US Robotics USR805463

\$42 | US Robotics | +971 4 2996688 | www.usr-emea.com



Deploying a wireless network has become standard in most organisations, irrelevant of its business nature. Most connected desktop and notebook PCs use wireless as their standard protocol to connect to the World Wide Web. This is where wireless access points and routers play a very significant role to get you connected. U.S. Robotics is one big name that caters this market with their out-of-the-box wireless products. This month we had our hands on their three-in-one wireless product that includes, wireless router, Ethernet router and Firewall, the USR805463.

The USR805463 is not a part of their Pre-N wireless series, but sports 802.11b and g wireless standards. While most access points feature only one WAN and LAN ports, the USR805463 allows four wired network connections using Ethernet ports and one wireless link through WAN port. The soft reset button is also integrated on the bottom of the unit for restoring the device's settings to factory defaults. All LEDs are placed on top and is properly marked that indicates the current status of the router.

On the security front, the USR805463 is equipped with a built-in firewall, 128-bit WEP encryption, 802.1x (RADIUS) support and WPA (Wireless

Protected Access). It also features port triggering and port forwarding using various protocols. Using its web based management interface you can easily track all the events occur during the course of its usage. You can also backup and restore your customised router's settings from the convenience of its web interface.

The performance of this three-in-one wireless router is very much in-line with the other wireless routers tested earlier this year, although not better than the USR815461. While it cleared all our real world tests quite comfortably, our disappointment came in the synthetic benchmarks where it really struggled. It produced an average score of 2.176 MB/s in QCheck TCP Throughput and 2.353 in QCheck UDP Throughput benchmarks. In out data transfer test this unit took 4 minutes, 36 seconds within 10 metres range. When tested from a distance of 30 metres, it finished transferring our 350MB assorted data in a good 9 minutes, 11 seconds.

We were impressed with the features of this wireless router. Its performance too, is good if not the best in its category. This three-in-one wireless device is available at an extremely affordable price tag of \$42, and that's why it bags our recommendation.

SPECIFICATIONS

- >> **Encryption and Authentication Support:** WEP, WPA, WPA2, RADIUS
- >> **Maximum Strength of Encryption Protocols (bits):** 128-bit (WEP)
- >> **NAT Support:** Yes
- >> **Firewall Support:** Yes
- >> **Logging Support:** Yes
- >> **Print Server:** No
- >> **Wireless Distribution System Support:** Yes
- >> **Firmware Upgradeable:** Yes



>> PC MAG Verdict

SCORES	
FEATURES:	●●●●●
EASE OF USE:	●●●●●
PERFORMANCE:	●●●●●
VALUE:	●●●●●

OVERALL



Pros: Compact design, excellent price **Cons:** Data transfer rate **Bottom Line:** With all the essential features and on par performance, it's a reasonably priced wireless router.