

## Discovery's Wi-Fi Adaptor System

The importance of good wifi service is hard to over state when it comes to long term cruising. The system that is described below is not the biggest and very best but is the best bang for the buck or best value (a total cost of about \$80.00). The system is not permanently installed so you can take the adaptor with you when you go to shore.

Discovery's wireless wifi system is an external usb wireless adaptor that has proven itself many times and has pulled in signals when standard internal and external Linksys and other systems with a power output of 50 m-watt systems have failed. The system is conceptually the same as other external systems only uses a higher db antennae and a more powerful wireless adaptor card (at 200m-watts is 4x.'s more powerful than most systems). Credit for design of this system goes to John Peterson on the Sailing Vessel "Non Linear".

Components can be obtained on line from most computer component suppliers and on ebay. I have provided the web sites that I used when I purchased my system. Keep in mind that the components listed are designed for interior use. In the marine Environment, the components will be subject to corrosion and will have to be replaced at some point. I am on my second wireless adaptor card. The first card lasted one year and was subjected to some salt water, dew and some fresh water rinses. I will treat the second card with more care.

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The components consist of:

### **Wireless Card**

### **Wireless Adaptor Card - EnGenius Wireless USB 2.0 Adaptor**

**Model EUB 362 EXT, cost approximately \$50.00w/shipping. [www.ebay.com](http://www.ebay.com) or at <http://keenansystems.com/store/index.htm> . Keenan Systems also provides some more powerful, expensive and permanently mounted systems.**

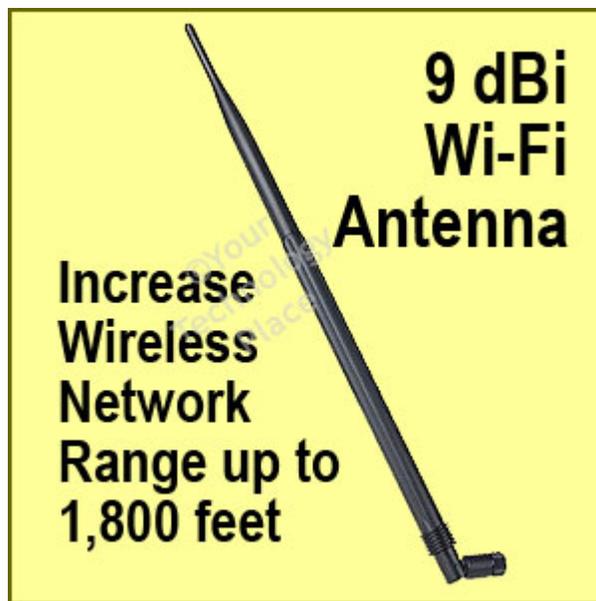


### Antenna

**Antenna- 9db Omni Directional Antenna, the more db's the better. This antenna will provide some portability and is not permanently affixed to the boat.**

**Approximant cost is \$15.00**

**(used on Discovery). The antenna may come in a pack of two for a router but will work the same as a single, you will have an extra. [www.ebay.com](http://www.ebay.com) The connector end of the antenna is an SMA end.**



### Active USB Cable – 5 meters long

**Sabrent 16feet USB Active Extension Cable – A male to A Female – Model m501-1222. [www.tigerdirect.com](http://www.tigerdirect.com)**

All components are external to the computer. The EnGenius wireless adaptor card comes with a short removable 2 db rubber ducky antenna. The short antenna is to be removed and replaced with the new 9db antenna. Make sure the antenna has a SMA connector end. The new antenna simply screws into the location of the original antenna. The 5 meter USB cable allows the antenna to be placed outside the boat while the computer remains at the nav station.

Install the driver and utility program for monitoring signals and you can start using the system. If you have an internal wireless system in you computer you should disable that system. We have found that you do not have to uninstall you existing wifi system's driver.