CLAIMS

1. A system for enabling a captive portal using durable and non-durable device identifiers, the system comprising:

a cloud network management server configured to communicate via a computer network with a RADIUS server to authenticate user devices; and

a network management device configured to:

receive a request from a user device to access a first network resource on an external network;

transmit an access request to the RADIUS server, wherein the access request includes a durable identifier associated with the user device and a non-durable identifier associated with the user device;

receive, from the RADIUS server, a first indication that the access request has been granted and a second indication that an additional user input is requested by the cloud network management server;

forward the first indication to a wireless controller associated with the user device, without forwarding the second indication;

receive an accounting start request to forward, to the RADIUS server, an indication that network access granted to the user device has been initiated; and

without forwarding the accounting start request to the RADIUS server, cause the user device to be directed to a second network resource configured to receive the additional user input requested by the cloud network management server;

wherein:

the RADIUS server is configured to communicate, via the computer network to the cloud network management server, an authentication request having one or more requirements; and

the second indication is provided by the RADIUS server to the network management device in accordance with a determination, by the cloud network management server, that the user device meets the one or more requirements of the authentication request.

2. The system of Claim 1, wherein the network management device is further configured to:

receive, from the cloud network management server, a third indication that the additional input has been provided by the user device; and

cause the user device to be directed to the first network resource on the external network.

3. The system of Claim 2, wherein the network management device is further configured to, subsequent to receiving the third indication from the cloud network management server, transmit, to the RADIUS server, an indication that network access granted to the user device has been initiated.

4. The system of Claim 1, wherein the second network resource is a Web page, and the external network is the Internet.

5. The system of Claim 1, wherein the additional input requested by the cloud network management server comprises a user acceptance of an updated protocol associated with the network access to be granted to the user device.

6. The system of Claim 1, wherein the durable identifier associated with the user device is a parameter included in a user profile stored in the user device according to the Hotspot 2.0 Specification.

7. The system of Claim 1, wherein the non-durable identifier associated with the user device is a media access control (MAC) address of the user device.

8. A computer-implemented method comprising:

receiving a request from a user device to access a first network resource on an external network;

transmitting an access request to a RADIUS server, wherein the access request includes a durable identifier associated with the user device and a non-durable identifier associated with the user device;

receiving, from the RADIUS server, a first indication that the access request has been granted and a second indication that an additional user input is requested by a cloud network management server in communication with the RADIUS server;

forwarding the first indication to a wireless controller associated with the user device, without forwarding the second indication;

receiving an accounting start request to forward, to the RADIUS server, an indication that network access granted to the user device has been initiated; and

without forwarding the accounting start request to the RADIUS server, causing the user device to be directed to a second network resource configured to receive the additional user input requested by the cloud network management server;

wherein:

the RADIUS server is configured to communicate, via a computer network to the cloud network management server, an authentication request having one or more requirements; and

the second indication is received from the RADIUS server in accordance with a determination, by the cloud network management server, based on the non-durable identifier, that the user device meets the one or more requirements of the authentication request.

9. The computer-implemented method of Claim 8, further comprising:

receiving, from the cloud network management server, a third indication that the additional input has been provided by the user device; and

causing the user device to be directed to the first network resource on the external network.

10. The computer-implemented method of Claim 9, further comprising, subsequent to receiving the third indication from the cloud network management server, transmitting, to the RADIUS server, an indication that network access granted to the user device has been initiated.

11. The computer-implemented method of Claim 8, wherein the second network resource is a Web page, and the external network is the Internet.

12. The computer-implemented method of Claim 8, wherein the additional input requested by the cloud network management server comprises a user acceptance of an updated protocol associated with the network access to be granted to the user device.

13. The computer-implemented method of Claim 8, wherein the durable identifier associated with the user device is a parameter included in a user profile stored in the user device according to the Hotspot 2.0 Specification.

14. The computer-implemented method of Claim 8, wherein the non-durable identifier associated with the user device is a media access control (MAC) address of the user device.

15. Non-transitory computer-readable physical storage storing instructions that, when executed by a computing system, cause the computing system to at least:

receive a request from a user device to access a first network resource on an external network;

transmit an access request to a RADIUS server, wherein the access request includes a durable identifier associated with the user device and a non-durable identifier associated with the user device;

receive, from the RADIUS server, a first indication that the access request has been granted and a second indication that an additional user input is requested by a cloud network management server;

forward the first indication to a wireless controller associated with the user device, without forwarding the second indication;

receive an accounting start request to forward, to the RADIUS server, an indication that network access granted to the user device has been initiated; and

without forwarding the accounting start request to the RADIUS server, cause the user device to be directed to a second network resource configured to receive the additional user input requested by the cloud network management server;

wherein:

the RADIUS server is configured to communicate, via a computer network to the cloud network management server, an authentication request having one or more requirements; and

the second indication is received from the RADIUS server in accordance with a determination, by the cloud network management server, based on the non-durable identifier, that the user device meets the one or more requirements of the authentication request.

16. The non-transitory computer-readable physical storage of Claim 15, storing further instructions, that when executed by the computing system, cause the computing system to:

receive, from the cloud network management server, a third indication that the additional input has been provided by the user device; and

cause the user device to be directed to the first network resource on the external network.

17. The non-transitory computer-readable physical storage of Claim 16, storing further instructions, that when executed by the computing system, cause the computing system to, subsequent to receiving the third indication from the cloud network management server, transmit, to the RADIUS server, an indication that network access granted to the user device has been initiated.

18. The non-transitory computer-readable physical storage of Claim 15, wherein the additional input requested by the cloud network management server comprises a user acceptance of an updated protocol associated with the network access to be granted to the user device.

19. The non-transitory computer-readable physical storage of Claim 15, wherein the durable identifier associated with the user device is a parameter included in a user profile stored in the user device according to the Hotspot 2.0 Specification.

20. The non-transitory computer-readable physical storage of Claim 15, wherein the non-durable identifier associated with the user device is a media access control (MAC) address of the user device.

21. The system of Claim 1, wherein the determination by the cloud network management server that the user device meets the one or more requirements is based on the non-durable identifier.

22. The computer-implemented method of Claim 8, wherein the determination by the cloud network management server that the user device meets the one or more requirements is based on the non-durable identifier.

23. The non-transitory computer-readable physical storage of Claim 15, wherein the determination by the cloud network management server that the user device meets the one or more requirements is based on the non-durable identifier.