



Virtual Private Network for Mobile Devices

Product comparison: anthaVPN vs. Mergic

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Both products are oriented to VPN remote connections; they are based on a different protocol that makes the radical difference between them.

- Mergic VPN is a client for PalmOS that uses authentication and encryption technologies based on PPTP (Point-to-Point Tunnelling Protocol) for a secure connection over private networks.
- Antha VPN is a client based on L2TP (Layer Two Tunnelling Protocol) protocol that is more efficient and secure than PPTP protocol.

PPTP: Point to Point Tunnelling Protocol. Developed by Microsoft and available in all Windows platforms. Easiest implementation but less secure than L2TP.

L2TP: Layer Two Tunnelling Protocol. Is an open standard and is available in the major platforms as Windows, Linux, Mac, etc. Implemented over IPsec it guarantees the highest security level. Can be used with public keys certificates (PKI) to encrypt and offer guarantee to the VPN users.

L2TP/PPTP comparative table

	PPTP (Mergic VPN)	L2TP (Antha VPN)
<b>Encryption</b>	Begins after the connection is processed (After PPP authentication).	It negotiates IPsec security association before PPP connection is established.
<b>Authentication</b>	User level authentication over PPP authentication protocol.	Allow use of digital certificates authentication over user authentication level.
<b>Connection</b>	MPPE (Microsoft Point-To-Point Encryption) uses the RSA (Rivest-Shamir-Aldeman) RC4 [3] algorithm and 40, 56 or 128 key length bits.	L2TP/IPsec uses the Data Encryption Standard (DES) developed by IBM with 64 supported bytes (56 effective key bits + 8 parity bits).  3 stages of DES with a separate key for each stage. The key length in 3DES is 168 effective bits.