

A Use Case Example: Point-of-Sale Device Connectivity

Whether we are aware of it or not, we come across environments employing multiple peripherals and connected assets in our everyday lives, such as each time we dine out.

For example, a restaurant will often have order entry stations in one or more locations in the restaurant with multiple connected devices, such as a monitor, credit card scanner, receipt printer and other POS devices. And the kitchen crew uses another set of devices for managing orders.

Therefore a restaurant typically requires two different sets of equipment:

- One consists of an order entry station with a monitor, cash drawer, credit card reader and receipt printer. In some scenarios, the servers enter orders into mobile handheld devices.
- The other set of equipment consists of a bump bar with monitor and ticket printer in the kitchen area itself.

All of these devices must connect to a computer attached to a LAN. When a server enters an order into the system, an alpha-numeric monitor in the kitchen displays each line item, so that the kitchen staff knows what to prepare. Since the monitor receives its data from the order entry stations, the monitor must either be connected to the order entry device, or to a separate computer on the LAN.

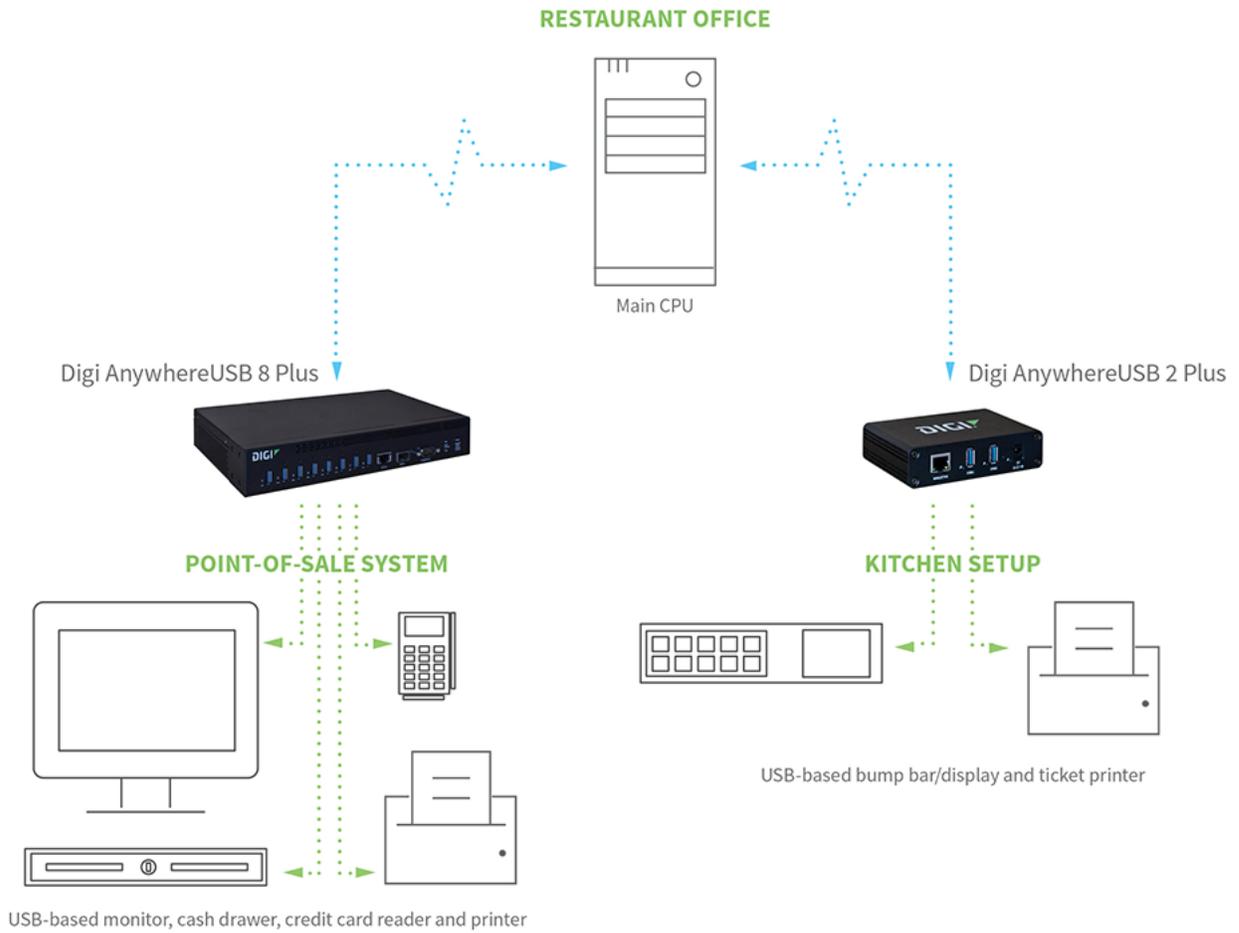
However, placing a computer in the kitchen is not desirable because of the harsh environmental conditions, and deploying multiple computers is not cost-effective.

The Solution: Digi AnywhereUSB Plus

With AnywhereUSB Plus, all of these devices can be managed from a computer that is located in a secure office or equipment rack. The business can place the right AnywhereUSB Plus device for each location within the restaurant, and connect the USB hubs to the computer wirelessly.

Because they have no fans or moving parts, the AnywhereUSB Plus devices are not susceptible to environmental challenges such as grease, heat, or bumping. Additionally, any handheld USB devices can be plugged into the AnywhereUSB Plus hub at night for charging.

And finally, in multi-device environments such as this, or in field applications, administrators can take advantage of the remote device monitoring and management capabilities of [Digi Remote Manager®](#).



The restaurant scenario is just one example, but it represents the challenges well: multiple devices – some stationary and some potentially mobile – needing to connect over the LAN. To perform their expected functions, these applications require secure connectivity, higher speed connections and port densities, and the flexibility to allow different systems to connect to USB devices.

Digi AnywhereUSB Plus addresses these issues with secure, scalable USB over IP connectivity via local, remote or virtualized hosts. This functionality enables USB peripheral devices to connect to a PC over an IP, or over an LTE network.

Form Factors for Varying Needs



AnywhereUSB Plus comes in three form factors: 2-port, 8-port and 24-port. AnywhereUSB 24 Plus is rack mountable with 24 USB 3.1 Gen 1 ports and two Gigabit/10 Gigabit Ethernet ports for failover redundancy. AnywhereUSB 8 Plus offers one Gigabit/10 Gigabit Ethernet port and is designed for desktop use, and AnywhereUSB 2 Plus offers 2 ports and Gigabit Ethernet with DIN rail or panel mounting options.

In addition to faster speeds, the new AnywhereUSB Plus products offer these enhancements over their predecessors, the original AnywhereUSB product line:

- Built-in [Digi TrustFence®](#) security framework for multi-point security management.
- Integrated [Digi Remote Manager®](#) (DRM), a comprehensive IoT device management application that provides remote monitoring, ability to perform mass updates across device deployments, and automated configuration management to thwart non-authorized configuration changes.

Together, these features provide additional levels of control over the configuration, security, monitoring and management of all the devices on your network.

There is More to Come

In the near future, Digi will be introducing SKUs that add Wi-Fi connectivity. The 8-port and 24-port versions of AnywhereUSB Plus currently provide hardware support for future deployment of Digi's suite of CORE Plug-In LTE modems. Stay tuned as we continue to enhance the capabilities of the AnywhereUSB Plus product line.