

Fixed Networks Migration towards NGN



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Why a Next Generation Network ?

- > Convergence between the packet-based Internet and telephony networks
 - Driven by technological evolution
 - Demand for a network capable of introducing new services
- > Take the best from each
 - Service provision of the telephony network model
 - Openness and flexibility of the Internet model
- > Possible Definition of a Next Generation Network
 - A packet transport based network where the transport, control and service layers are separated from each other and interact through open interfaces
- > The target is well defined but how to reach it ?



Migration Rationale

- > Migration of current telephony networks (2 billion users worldwide) should preserve the existing investments
- > Key investments in any network are in provisioning access for endusers to the network services (80% of the costs)
 - Any technological changes become costlier when they get closer to end-users and should be justified by added value brought with them
- > Migration must be driven by basic principles
 - Continuity of services offered to end-users
 - Inter-working between new and old technologies
 - Cost control of the migration process
- > Migration should above all be driven by economic considerations
 - Network consolidation and optimization and/or
 - New revenues driven from new services



Proposed Migration Approach

- Stepwise approach where each step is justified by new services or advantages brought from consolidation
- > The proposed migration steps are generic
 - Application of each step depends on the specific operator context
 - All are not compulsory and do not follow in the same sequence
 - There is no "one size fits all" migration scenario
- > Network views of migration steps are not exhaustive
 - Emphasis put on significant network elements needed for service provision, on signaling relations between end-users and the network and between network entities
 - Emphasis put on fixed access networks though the approach is very similar for mobile networks evolution (see tomorrow's presentation)



Access to the Internet and Converged Internet/Telephony services





Access to the Internet and Converged Internet/Telephony services

- > Basic telephony service and its associated supplementary services
 - TDM based transport
 - SS7 based signaling
- > Intelligent Network Services
 - Calling Cards, Free phone, Voice virtual private networks,...
- > Internet access
 - In dial-up mode or in broadband mode with DSL technology
- > Converged Voice/data services
 - Benefit from the simultaneous availability of a telephony access and
 Internet access in the case of broadband Internet access
 - Examples of converged services: Click-to-Dial, Internet Call Waiting, Web Augmented Calling, Unified Messaging,...



Network consolidation: evolution towards multi-service access nodes and Internet traffic optimization



Network consolidation and introduction of new multi-service access nodes

- > Switch consolidation
 - Maximize number of line, minimize number of nodes
 - Upgrade of switch fabric and processors for higher capacity and speed
- > Access Consolidation
 - Introduce NGN-ready multi-service access nodes
 - End-user can be in native packet access mode
 - DSL but also other alternative next generation local loop technologies (cable networks, wireless local loop, satellite,...)
 - Introduce Voice-over-DSL (loop emulation service) and extend voice service offer without modification of the legacy switches
- > Optimize interconnection to the data network for dial-up access
 - Interconnection at local exchanges level (offload transit level)
 - Use of ISUP and Inter Machine Trunks (IMT) instead of ISDN/PRA



Voice over Packet for Trunking



Voice over Packet for Trunking

- > Gradually offload voice trunking traffic to the packet network
- > Network consolidation by removal of an upper transit level or optimization within a transit level
 - Voice-over-Packet trunking through integrated gateways in the LEX/TEX
 - Alternative solution based on external trunking gateways controlled by
 a Switch with Media Gateway Control (MGC) function
 - Use of SS7 based BICC signaling for co-existence with PSTN/ISDN services
 - Reuse of existing IN services for business continuity
- > First mastering of voice over packet technology at aggregate level
 - Simpler Quality of Service issues
- > Service transparency of Voice over Packet use for end-users



Voice over packet up to access level



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Voice over packet for access

- > Extend use of packet transport to the access network for voice services
 - Introduction of Access Gateways
 - Integrated within next generation multi-service access nodes or
 - Standalone centralized access gateways
 - Access gateways are controlled by a switch with MGC function
 - Same services portfolio as on the PSTN/ISDN
 - Tighter integration of voice and packet services
- > Improved network consolidation
 - control of the voice traffic from fewer Switches with MGC function
 - Voice traffic gradually moved from the control of old generation switching equipment to the control of upgraded MGC switches



Multimedia Services



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Multimedia Services

- > End-users connected through next generation multi-service access nodes will adopt IP terminals for multimedia services
 - Better benefit of the high bandwidth, always-on and interactivity
 associated with such next generation access networks
- > New IP terminals will be controlled by Multimedia Softswitches through a new type of NGN signaling
 - SIP or H.323
 - Access network will focus on resource provision under the softswitch control depending on the service used
- > A multimedia softswitch offers network services but also third party services through portals and open interface
 - Network operator becomes the intermediary broker between application providers and their clients



Conclusions

- > Services are key drivers for the evolution of telecom networks
 - NGN is more than just broadband access to the Internet
 - Broadband access is a necessary but not sufficient condition ! It is above all an enabler of new services with new revenues
 - NGN must build on the strengths of the telephony service model albeit being based on technologies coming from the Internet
- > NGN emergence will happen but will take time
 - PSTN networks will continue to provide the voice telephony service for a while
 - State-of-the-art PSTN solutions of today will evolve to be part of the future NGN picture
 - Some technical issues (QoS, naming, signaling) must be matured for new NGN services to become a mass market phenomenon
 - NGN must above all bring new services to be meaningful



