# Using Telepresence to Enhance the Driving Experience



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- What is Telepresence?
- o Telepresence demo
- Driver Distraction
- Turning the vehicle into a Telepresence terminal
- o Industry trends
- o Standardization efforts
- o Conclusions





- Telepresence refers to the degree of realism created by a telecommunications system.
- A high degree of Telepresence causes users to feel like they are physically present at the far end of the connection; or that the far end is physically present in the local environment.





# "Wider Bandwidth Speech" and "Spatial Audio Telephony" create a high degree of Telepresence





**Telepresence demo** 

• Try to hear what Rod (red shirt) is saying in the following video clips:

# **Current telephony**



Video: •Standard Definition

•15 fps frame rate

Audio:

Audio.

•Narrowband (300-3400Hz)

•Mono

# **Telepresence system**



Video:

•High Definition

•30 fps frame rate

Audio:

•Super-wideband (50-14000Hz)

•Stereo



**Telepresence systems improve speech comprehension** 

# • Speech comprehension is more effortless

- Better separation of speech from noise
- More cues to identity of speech sounds





- Less *attention* used to comprehend speech
- Reduced load on *working memory*
- o Less fatigue
- One-way video can reduce talking from far end during high driver workload



#### **Turning the vehicle into a telepresence terminal**





- Orange has already started deploying wideband (50-7000Hz) on mobile networks in Europe
- WIND mobile started providing wideband service in February
  2011 in Canada
- Verizon recently announced that it will start offering wideband with VoLTE starting in 2012
- AT&T is reported to start deploying in 2013
- ...wideband speech has finally arrived on mobile networks and usage will dramatically increase over the next couple of years



## **Everyday terminals are being enabled with Telepresence**







- Experts agree that next generation networks will be IP-based
- LTE will enable VoIP over mobile carrier networks
- Broadband access to the home is another way VoIP availability is increasing
- WiFi hotspots may also increase due to demand for VoIP



## Lack of standards slowing deployment of Telepresence

- In the short-term, telepresence will often be limited to devices of the "same type"
- Challenges to be addressed through standardization
  - 1) Functions and services offered by telepresence systems
  - 2) Speech communications performance assessment
  - 3) Signalling and negotiation of connection type
  - 4) Signal capture/playback coordination (taking device and environment dependencies into account)
  - 5) Signal transport
    - Mono signal with spatial info transmitted out-of-band
    - Multiple independent channels
    - Multi-channel codec



## **Standardization efforts related to Telepresence systems**

- o ITU-T SG 16
- o ITU-T SG 12
- o ITU-R SG 6C
- o ITU-T SG 9
- Video Quality Experts Group (VQEG)
- o ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 29 WG11 (MPEG)
- o ETSI
- o 3GPP
- o 3GPP2
- o IEEE STIT
- IETF Real-time Applications and Infrastructure (RAI)
- International Multimedia Teleconferencing Consortium (IMTC)
- Unified Communications Interoperability Forum (UCIF)



### Major standardization efforts are now underway

- Question 5 (*Telepresence Systems*) of ITU-T Study Group 16 (*Multimedia coding, systems and applications*)
  - Defining interoperability of Telepresence systems
  - Several major Telepresence companies participating
- Question 18 (*Conferencing and Telemeeting assessment*) of ITU-T Study Group 12 (*Performance, QoS and QoE*)
  - Defining test methods and performance requirements for Telepresence systems
  - First meeting in January 2011 indicates this will be a very active area



## Conclusions

- There are compelling reasons for deploying Telepresence systems in an automotive environment
  - Better user experience
  - Less listening effort
  - Reduced driver distraction
- Vehicles platforms are well positioned for conversion into telepresence terminals
- VoIP terminals and IP network availability increasing
- Standards groups are starting to address roadblocks to widespread adoption of Telepresence systems

