

Title: Minimization of Drive Test (MDT) – An Innovative Methodology for Measuring Customer Performance on Mobile Network

Abstract

The presentation focuses on the innovative “Minimization of Drive Tests” (MDT) features, and their utilization by Mobile Operators, Telco and Vendors for several scopes.

MDT features enable mobile terminals to periodically send their GPS position along with a large set of radio measurements. This is a significant paradigmatic change in the concept of radio field measurements in mobile networks, and opens to new scenarios for measurements’ localization, aggregation and post-processing. In cooperation with TIM Italy, Nokia has developed a new concept, named GeoSynthesis, for MDT Big Data elaboration and management.

MDT offers a wide range of applications: coverage and quality analysis, end-user experience, single user tracking, radio channel characterization. All of them benefit from high precision, time and cost efficiency and an incomparably higher statistical relevance than in drive tests; some of them cannot be achieved at all with legacy techniques.

There’s still a great potential, in Standardization Bodies, to enrich MDT with additional measurements, even beyond the radio measurement context.