

PRESS BACKGROUND

Multimedia telephony solution MMTel: One standard, one service for fixed and mobile communication

MMTel is an IMS based, internationally standardized multimedia telephony solution: MMTel supports the introduction of standardized telephony and real-time multimedia services over fixed and mobile broadband via a common all-IP network. This allows operators to dramatically improve their service offering while saving costs through integrating fixed and mobile operations and replacing existing PSTN infrastructure.

Benefit for the consumer

MMTel combines the quality and simplicity of traditional telephony with the rich, flexible multimedia capabilities of broadband. It allows consumers to communicate using high quality real-time voice, video and text, and to share links, images, video clips or any type of files. Users can make or receive calls on either fixed or mobile devices, and they can easily add or drop media during a call. For instance, they can start a chat session, upgrade it to a voice or video call, and/or add new participants.

The standardized User-to-Network Interface ensures the same, interoperable services are available on the full range of broadband connected devices.

Thanks to the standardized Network-to-Network Interface, consumers will get access to the complete telecom subscriber community as operators now can interconnect their networks and deliver a common, global service set. This means that consumers can easily connect, chat and interact with all their friends and colleagues around the world, not just those belonging to a specific community like MSN, Facebook, Skype, etc.

Benefit for the operator

MMTel helps operators protect and grow their telephony revenues as it brings a mix of revenue generating services and helps them integrate their total service offering to reduce churn. However, MMTel is not only about revenues; operators will also reduce costs by migrating all services to a common, all-IP broadband network. For instance, operators can consolidate their fixed and mobile core networks step by step while replacing legacy wireline infrastructure. Thus, for the operator, MMTel plays an important role in the network transformation to an all-IP, Full Service Broadband architecture and the corresponding reduction in operating expenses.

For mobile operators with packet-only mobile access technologies, such as LTE and WiMAX, MMTel is needed to support traditional voice and messaging services and ensure support service delivery across both the new and established cellular networks.

About MMTel standard

The MMTel standard uses IP Multimedia Subsystem (IMS) architecture and is the only global standard offering scalable, robust, real-time multimedia communication over fixed, mobile and converged networks. The MMTel standard has been developed in a joint project between the 3rd Generation Partnership Project (3GPP) and European Telecommunications Standards Institute/Telecoms and Internet Converged Services and Protocols for Advanced Networks (ETSI/TISPAN) standardization bodies.

Since both the architecture (IMS) and the services (MMTel) are standardized, operators can offer full interoperability on the IP network level and leverage the full scale and ubiquity of the telecoms subscriber base.

The Ericsson offering

Ericsson MMTel is the world's first solution to fully comply with the MMTel standard and provide a true first-line replacement solution. It delivers seamless, next generation telephony services to both fixed and mobile devices via a converged IMS-based network. It enables the richness, flexibility and easy interactivity of internet community-based services for the range of exciting new VoIP phones and Mobile Internet Devices now hitting the market. Ericsson's solution also supports the legacy telephony service: meeting the regulatory requirements for first line replacement and supporting the most commonly used PSTN supplementary services.

Based on its 130 year telecom heritage and its unrivalled experience in IMS, Ericsson's MMTel solution delivers the scalability, functionality and proven reliability to replace traditional telephony infrastructure. The solution has been established in the laboratories of several leading operators and is currently being rolled out as a PSTN replacement in a number of networks worldwide.

Ericsson's IMS drive

Ericsson's IMS infrastructure has been in full commercial service since June 2005 and enables full Telecom Quality communications services for millions of customers worldwide. As of July 2009, Ericsson had more than 60 contracts for commercial IMS systems of which 36 were already in service. The vast majority of these systems are delivering VoIP based Telephony Services and the largest system already supports around 2M subscribers.

Ericsson, together with the major telecom operators and other vendors, is driving the IMS standard proactively in 3GPP, ETSI/TISPAN and the Open Mobile Alliance (OMA). This will ensure that IMS services function seamlessly between different fixed and mobile environments, making true convergence a reality on both the application and network levels. The aim is to have one standardized, converged platform for both fixed and mobile applications. This will enable a Full Service Broadband network where operators can integrate their multi-play service offerings to make the same communications and entertainment services accessible from all connected multimedia devices. This helps operators maximize the end user value of their service bundles and reduce competition for specific service elements.

Further reading:

Whitepaper on Multimedia Telephony (MMTel):

<http://www.ericsson.com/technology/whitepapers/mmtel.pdf>

About IMS:

http://www.ericsson.com/ericsson/press/facts_figures/doc/ims.pdf

About Ericsson Full Service Broadband:

http://www.ericsson.com/ericsson/press/facts_figures/doc/fullservicebroadband.pdf

Ericsson's standard multimedia content is available at the broadcast room:
www.ericsson.com/broadcast_room

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Ericsson is the world's leading provider of technology and services to telecom operators. Ericsson is the leader in 2G, 3G and 4G mobile technologies, and provides support for networks with over 1 billion subscribers and has a leading position in managed services. The company's portfolio comprises of mobile and fixed network infrastructure, telecom services, software, broadband and multimedia solutions for operators, enterprises and the media industry. The Sony Ericsson and ST-Ericsson joint ventures provide consumers with feature-rich personal mobile devices.

Ericsson is advancing its vision of "to be the prime driver in an all-communicating world" through innovation, technology, and sustainable business solutions. Working in 175 countries, more than 75,000 employees generated revenue of SEK 209 billion (USD 32.2 billion) in 2008. Founded in 1876 with the headquarters in Stockholm, Sweden, Ericsson is listed on NASDAQ OMX Stockholm and NASDAQ New York.

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