



## Interoperability – a Manufacturers view

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## Why is interoperability important to manufacturers

- Provides customers with more flexibility to pick and choose the correct technology.
- Reduces overall service and operation costs.
- Is considered a key customer requirement in purchasing products.



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## Testing for interoperability

- Initial testing generally is done in manufacturers interoperability or engineering labs.
- Final testing can be done at manufacturers lab, service providers lab, 3<sup>rd</sup> party lab or SDO test lab.
- Additional testing can occur at Plug Fests for interoperability
- In service providers networks.

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## Interoperability issues.

- Can be results of poorly drafted or lacking of test suites for the particular standard. (needs to be addressed by SDO)
- Miss application of the standard itself (needs to be addressed by manufacturer)
- Unclear service provider requirements for their network. (SP / manufacturer issue)
- Mismatch of technologies by customer (I cannot use my 4G phone features on a 2G network). (customer education issue)

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## How to address interoperability issues

- Plug fests to shake out issues of technical standard as well as test suites for standard.
- Interoperability issues of a specific product in a specific network or installation need to be addressed by Service provider or the manufacturer.
- For aftermarket products such as 3G / 4G mobile phones and handsets, customers need to be educated on what technology will work with their network.
- Industry has same issues as they address their own employees bringing their own devices to use on corporate networks.
- Human Capacity building and guidance documents best way to help resolve some issues.
- Issues will not be resolved by more conformity testing for interoperability or compliance
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