



NGN Conference Boston Nov. 2004: Future Generation ETSI: some impressions

Major Topics NGN Conference

- mainly small companies, start up, enterprises
- Major debate: Dumb networks + smart devices vs. smart networks + dumb devices
- QoS can be realized in network or terminal, QoS can be guaranteed by smart networks only
- innovation in open IP networks faster than in closed systems
- network should be smart, treat different applications differently (e.g. voice), nobody would be willing to execute a dumb network due to missing profit
- networks need to be layered, esp. for regulatory purposes
- network boarder switches are evil, are required by operators
- smart edge requires smart user, $C_k = I_u * I_n$
- presence will be underlying technology/enabler for a series of applications (IM, voice, mail, ptt, ...)
- identity: will Moogole replace ENUM, E.164, DNS? (ENUM has slow growth)

NGN as defined by ITU-T not yet recognized, lots of marketing to be done

The Bof Session on Standards

- **Title: NGN Standardisation in the ITU-T and its Eco System**
- **was well recieved, interested group took some information on status and plans**
- **major comments:**
 - all activities need to be well aligned, no duplication of work
 - what is really missing: NNI (network network interface) and UNI
 - NNI may be easier that UNI, so start here

Overall Summary

- Telecom is becoming more complex
- Increase complexity \implies more interoperability
- Interoperability needs open standards
- But, it is all about users – not technology
- Standards bodies are fast – but not fast enough
- They are good at identifying problems but not so good at providing solutions
- There is a need for rationalizing of standards bodies
- NGN (FMC) is no longer a theory but commercial reality in making
- Cost/price will be important factors for NGN success
- Cost reduction only possible by Global Standards (Economy of scale)

Source: K.H. Rosenbrook

Some conclusions (informally)

- TISPAN is on the right track, lots of support globally
 - releases now in smaller steps 1.0, 1.1, 1.2....
 - several aspects missing, where ITU could lead
 - NNI
 - nomadcity, roaming
 - non-IMS subsystems, non-DSL access
 - transport
 - requirement for globalisation, work split, partnerships
 - many stakeholders want reduction of choice to an appropriate level
- documents: www.etsi.org/future_generation