ITU-T / ATIS Workshop "Next Generation Technology and Standardization"

Las Vegas, 19-20 March 2006

BT's perspectives for NGN and standards

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Forward-looking statement

Please note the full forward-looking statement contained at the end of this presentation

Certain statements in this presentation are forward-looking and are made in reliance on the safe harbour provisions of the US Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements include, without limitation, those concerning: transformation of BT's networks; expected increased efficiencies, cost reductions and growing cash cost savings from 21CN; benefits to customers and industry of the 21CN programme, and convergence; anticipated investment in 21CN; and timescales for implementation of 21CN.





An engineer's alternative!

"Prediction is very difficult, especially if it's about the future." -- Nils Bohr, Nobel laureate in Physics





Outline

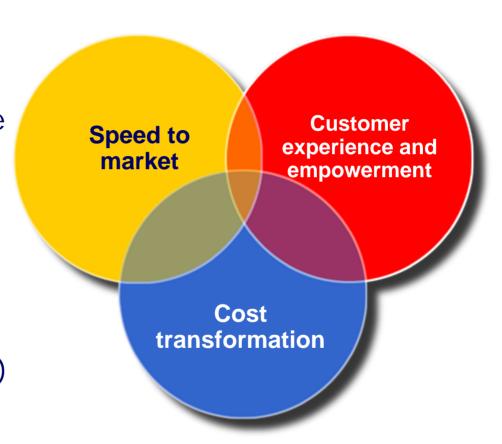
- o BT's own NGN (21st Century Network or 21CN)
- o Key drivers for 21CN
- o Implementation status
- o 21CN and Standards
- o Key issues
- o BT's future needs





21CN - three key objectives

- Empower the customer with control, choice and flexibility like never before including communications from anywhere to any device
- Offer exciting new services for customers faster than before
- Reduce costs expected to amount to £1 billion (\$1.8bn) per annum by 2008/9







Drivers for 21CN

- o Convergence
 - Fixed / Mobile
 - Service (work, home, business, bundles)
 - Computing / Telecoms
 - Voice / Data
 - Intelligence and OSS

By **convergence**, we mean the ability to bring together our **capabilities** and capacities in new ways to make life better, simpler and cheaper for customers. For customers of all kinds it means a more joined-up communications experience.

Ben Verwaayen, BT CEO June

- Pressure on traditional revenues causes Telco's to diversify²⁰⁰⁵
 - ICT
 - Mobile
 - IPTV
- The internet leads to service and pricing expectations in the users mind (online, immediate, anywhere, free)
- Pent up demand for increasing broadband speed
- Aggressive regulation and competition





21CN - it's big and bold

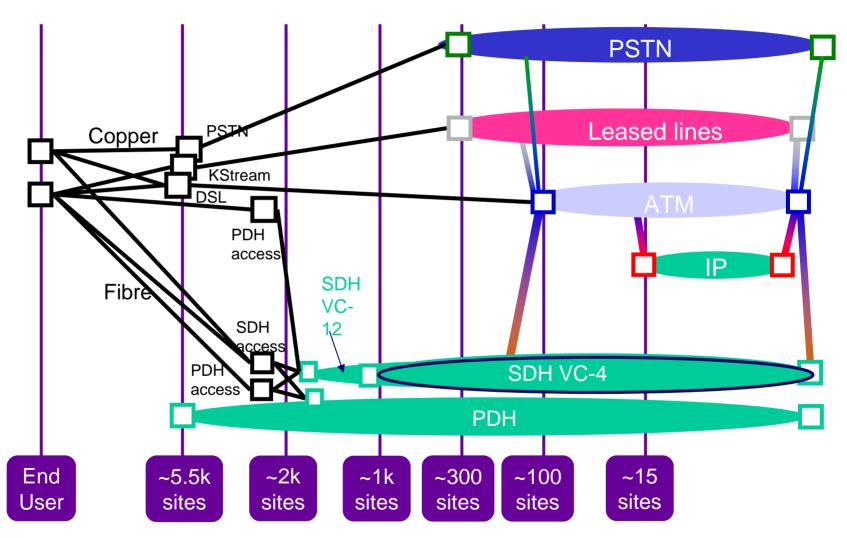


- Not simply network transformation - but a radical overhaul of products, systems, process ... of BT's business
- Bigger annual investment than is spent on UK's motorways and trunk roads
- A world first for a telecommunications company





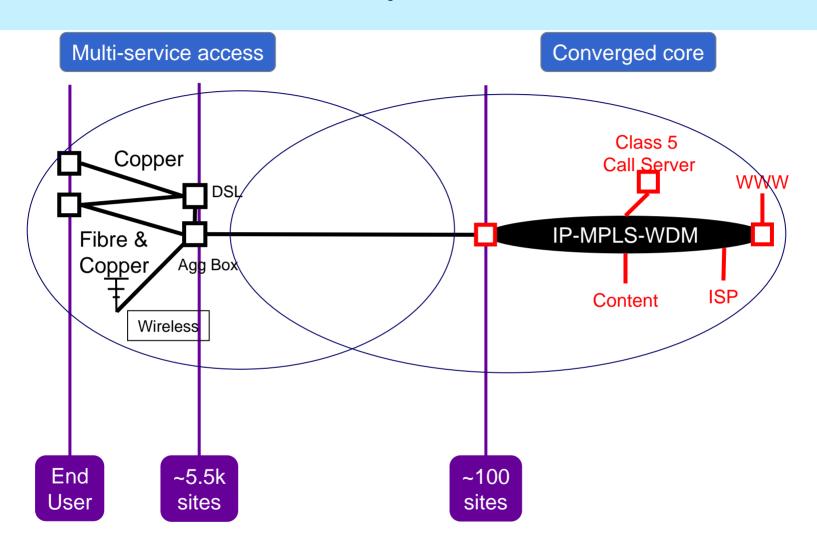
21CN - our current UK network







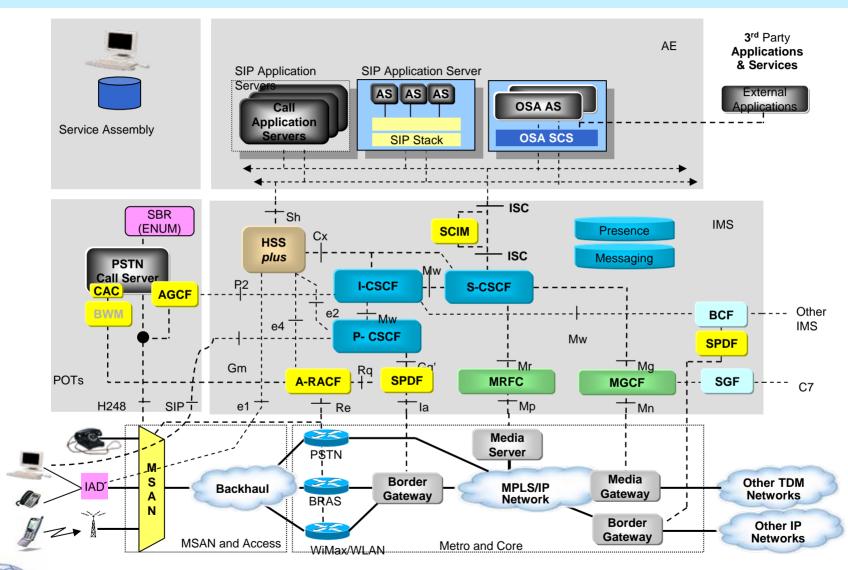
21CN - our simplified UK network







BT's 21CN architecture

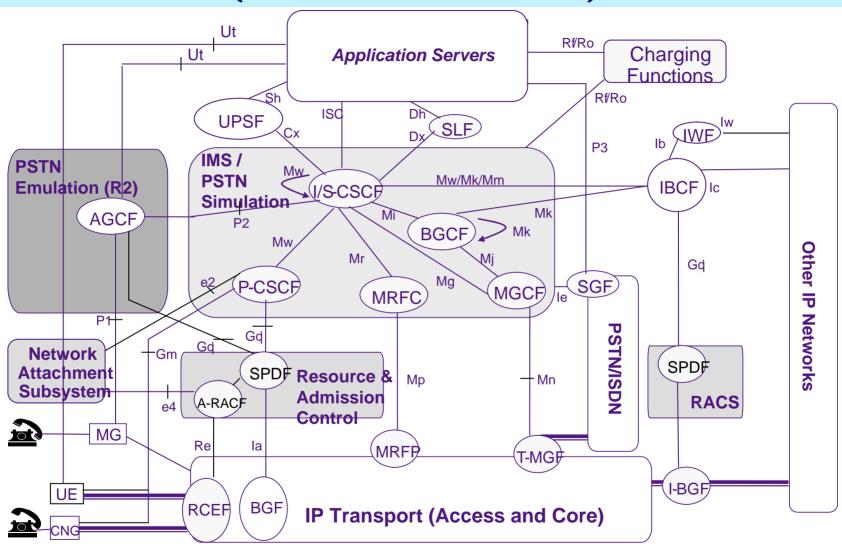






ETSI TISPAN NGN Release 1

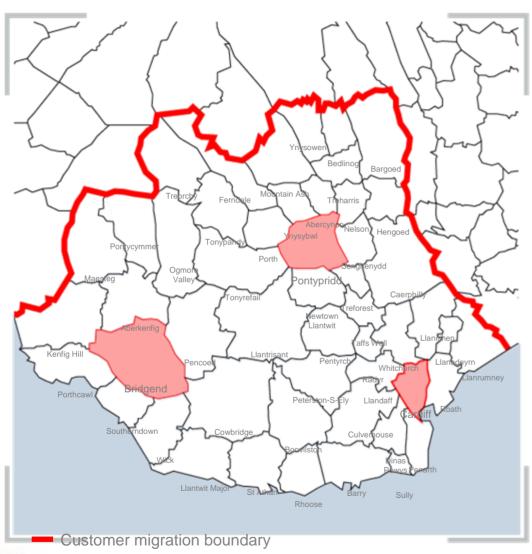
(PSTN emulation in Release 2)







Early migration to 21CN planned for South Wales



- Migration of 350,000 customer lines expected to begin later in 2006
- Removal of 9 digital local exchanges
- Installation of 21CN equipment and capabilities
- Region chosen because of local and industry demographics
- Mass migration in UK will require 150,000 lines per week over 4 years to enable 30M lines





Early migration to NGN

- Huge logistic and technical challenges
- Full 21CN capability set not possible on day 1
- Timely down streaming of key standards is a critical issue, requiring
 - Alignment with strategic suppliers
 - Working with other Telcos
 - Key inputs to ITU-T, ETSI and ATIS standards





The ITU/ATIS Definition of NGN

- Packet-based transfer
- Separation of control functions among bearer capabilities, call/session, and application/ service
- Decoupling of service provision from network, and provision of open interfaces
- Support for a wide range of services, applications and mechanisms based on service building blocks (including real time/ streaming/ non-real time services and multi-media)
- Broadband capabilities with end-to-end QoS (Quality of Service)
- Interworking with legacy networks via open interfaces
- o Generalized mobility
- Access to different service providers, independent of any access or transport technology.
- A variety of identification schemes
- Unified service characteristics for the same service as perceived by the user
- o Converged services between Fixed/Mobile
- o Independence of service-related functions from underlying transport technologies
- Support of multiple last mile technologies
- Compliant with all Regulatory requirements, for example concerning emergency communications, security, privacy, and etc.





BT's 21st Century Network (21CN)

- o Aims to reduce cost, speed time to market for new services and give the customer more control.
- Radical plan to close down legacy networks (PSTN, Private circuit, PDH, ATM FR etc).
- MPLS core over meshed optical
- Ethernet backhaul over CWDM
- 3GPP IMS intelligence
- Multi-service access nodes (MSAN) for service access
- Provides old and new services (e.g. PSTN replacement)
- Current interconnect discussions around legacy PSTN and PSTN over IP show complexity of the new interconnect issues.

Closely aligned to the ITU and ATIS definitions





21CN and Standards

- 21CN is predicated on standards for
 - Network operators
 - Equipment providers
 - Service providers
- Global standards are vital for 21CN
 - Enhanced customer choice & experience
 - Uniting the telecoms and IT industry
 - Network Interoperability
 - Economies of scale





Progress towards NGN standards...

- ITU-T Focus Group on NGN complete and down streaming begun in SG13
- ATIS Focus Group on NGN
- ETSI TISPAN working with 3GPP on intelligence and control (IMS)
- TeleManagement Forum (TMF) focusing future OSS standards
- Widespread agreement on the key principles
 - IP services
 - IMS intelligence / fixed-mobile convergence
 - MPLS core
 - Need for multiple access technologies

High level of agreement globally





Key issues

- o Architecture
 - Top level aligned but need it at all levels
 - Need to include
 - Wireless broadband
 - IPTV
- o Quality of Service
 - How to achieve end-end, and across different NGNs?
- o Interconnection
 - Need for new business and technical models in the NGN
- o OSS
 - Still often the critical path in new service launch
 - Critical for cost savings
 - Link with TMF
- Applications
 - Will drive demand and capability





What BT needs from ATIS and ITU-T

- Uphold a common definition of NGN
 - Release strategy
 - Consistent architecture
- o Co-ordinate
 - ATIS leads for North America
 - Remove duplication
 - Identify and fill any gaps
- o ATIS
 - Take the Focus Group work forward into Working Groups
- o ITU-T
 - Global set of Recommendations
 - Built around ETSI TISPAN and ATIS standards
 - Meet the needs of all regions
- Timely delivery of quality standards that BT can procure against





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Thanks for your attention!

Kevin Foster BT





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- Factors that could cause differences between actual results and those implied by the forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to: material adverse changes in economic and financial markets conditions in the markets served by BT; future regulatory actions and conditions in BT's operating areas; technological innovations; developments in the convergence of technologies; the anticipated benefits and advantages of new technologies, products and services, including broadband, not being realised; and general financial market conditions affecting BT's performance. BT undertakes no obligation to update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.



