# IPDR.org Standardizing Next-Generation Accounting

Reducing the time and cost of usage measurement and exchange for next-generation services

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### Telecom Industry Trends



#### Market

- Desire for both flat-rate and usage-based billing
- Unrealized revenue from value-added services
- Complex content/connectivity partnerships
- Industry mergers and acquisitions
- Competitive pressures and shorter time-to-market

#### **Technology**

- Opportunity for convergent networks
- Rapid service evolution
- Diverse accounting requirements of next-generation services

#### To Collect or Not to Collect...

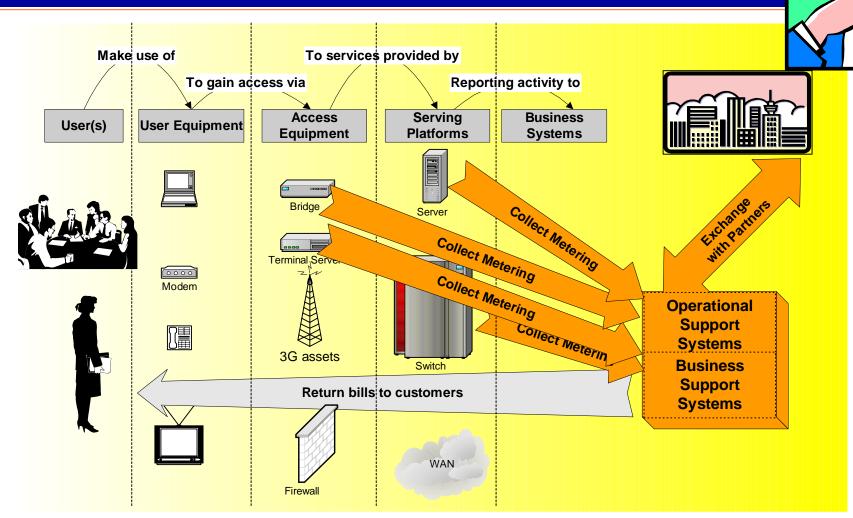
A product manager in a service provider near you...



"Wow – what a cool new offering I've thought up...
This will generate millions in new revenues!"

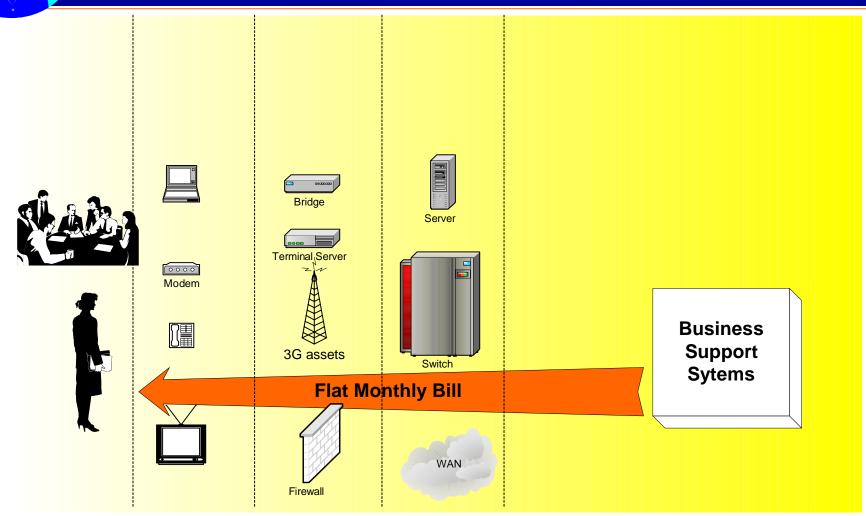








### The Solution?



# The Solution: Internet Protocol Detail Record Organization (IPDR.org)

#### Objective

To reduce the time and cost of usage measurement and exchange for next-generation services.

#### Method

Implement de-facto open standards for IP-based support system interoperability, enabling providers to deploy next-generation services profitably.

### Industry Support



#### **Board of Directors - 2003**

 ACE\*COMM, Amdocs, Billing Concepts, Cisco, Convergys, Hewlett-Packard, Sprint PCS, Telus, XACCT Technologies

#### Members

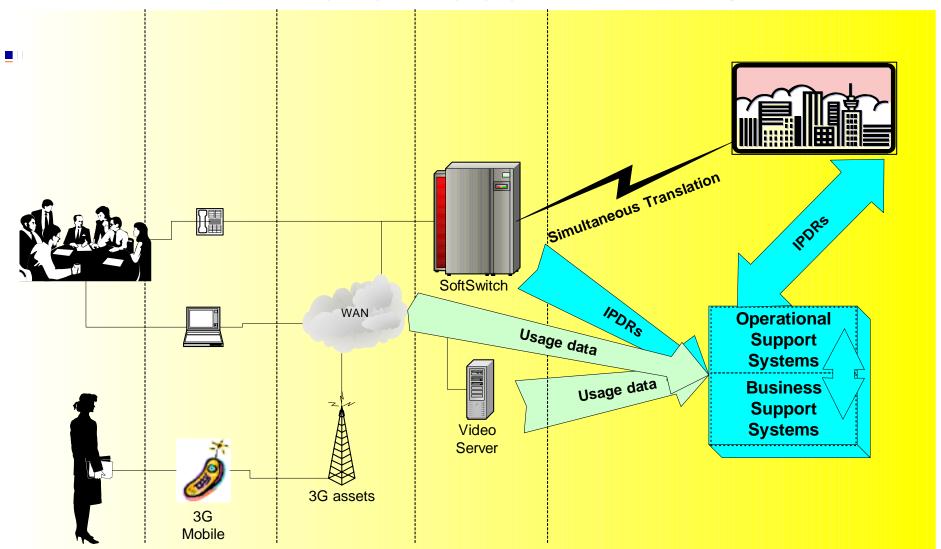
- BSS: Amdocs, AMS, Billing Concepts, Convergys, CSG Systems, etc.
- OSS: ACE\*COMM, DST Innovis, ECtel, NEC, Openet, etc.
- Equipment: Cisco, Hewlett-Packard, Marconi, etc.
- Service Providers: Infosys, Rogers AT&T Wireless, Sprint PCS, Telus, TSI Telecommunication Services, etc.

### IPDR.org Achievements

- NDM-U v3 Specification
- IPDR Compliance program & testing
- Reference Libraries in C & Java
- Major carrier deployments underway
- Joint projects with other industry associations



### Where Does IPDR Fit?



#### NDM-U 3.x



- Multiple Service Support
  - VOIP, Internet and Wireless Access, Streaming Media, WLAN...
- Stable Version Complete!
  - Forward Compatibility
- Compact Encoding 5:1 Reduction Over XML
  - Uses IETF XDR RFC 1832
  - Direct Translation To/From XML Format

#### IPDR v3 Reference Code



- Read/write IPDRs as easily as plain text
- Supports all IPDR flavors
- Available in C and Java
- Liberal license permits use and modification
- Simple API's hide complex logic:
  - Read foreign schemas to absorb custom IPDR records
  - Manage rolling log files and automatic updates to partner systems

### IPDR Compliance Program

- Provides a "buyers guide" for purchasers
  - Standard format permits apples to apples comparisons
- Evaluates results: interoperability
- Inexpensive and easy enrollment and testing for vendors





### Implementations Underway



- Major carrier deployments
  - Multiple wireless heavyweights
  - Emergency calling leader
  - Smaller VOIP & ASP projects
- Continued "Envelope-pushing" trials
  - TMF Catalyst projects
    - Service level agreements
    - Packet wireless
    - hybrid wireline/wireless
  - > EU-FORM

### Future Direction: Equipment

- IPDR just as applicable for bits as for services
- Joint projects refine and apply service specs for manufacturer communities
  - Cable Labs
  - International Softswitch Consortium
  - > 3GPP
- Streaming IPDR for real-time, reliable, unidirectional transport
- Radius accounting records

### Future Direction: Inter-Carrier Exchange



- NDM-U technology fully supports exchange scenarios. Key work today: Public WLAN Roaming
- Joint work ensures support of existing settlements networks and technologies
  - ATIS OBF EMI settlement
  - > ITU-T Study Group 3
  - CIBERNET mappings to CIBER and MXP
  - Other open dialogs: GSM TADIG TAP3, ETIS, etc.

### Recapitulation

- Usage metering is overly complex; standards provide the solution
- IPDR NDM-U v3 is tried and proven
- What can you do?
  - Review <u>www.ipdr.org</u>
  - Join IPDR.org general mailing list for updates
  - Implement & share experiences
  - > Participate in IPDR Organization



### Further Inquiries

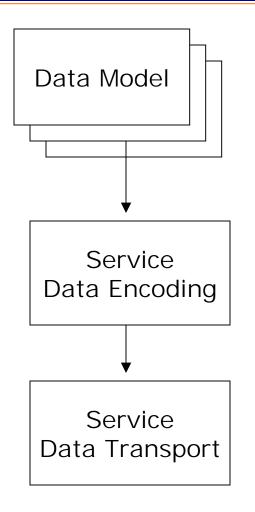
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### Addendum Slides

### The Model Driven IPDR Approach



 Service Definition (Subset of W3C XML-Schema 1.0)

#### **Alternative Encoding:**

- XML Document
- XDR based binary encoding
- Others (e.g. RADIUS, Diameter AVP)

#### **Alternative Transport**:

- File based exchange (of XML or XDR)
- Streaming (XDR only)
- Others (e.g. RADIUS UDP, Diameter TCP/SCTP)