

# **Convergence Towards Ubiquitous Network Societies**



Communications

# Outlook

- Market drivers
- Operator challenges
- Spectrum and regulatory

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## **Market Drivers for Ubiquitous Networks**

- Electronic customer support any time, everywhere
- Emerging bandwidth-intensive applications and services
- Continuing innovations and cost reductions of infrastructure and active equipment
- Increasingly extended capacity of traditional access networks
- Ability to use existing infrastructure to capture incremental revenues and an accelerated Rol



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# **Vision of Ubiquitous Networks**



- Transient, spontaneous "composition" of networks
- Competitive & Cooperative networking (limited sharing of resources & functions)
- Scalability & Manageability of the concept (easy to use/deploy, many networks everywhere)
- Integration of legacy technologies & networks

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### The subscriber wants ...

... it cheap, wants it now and wants to choose:

- to get one bill, one number
- to have one phone book
- to check one mailbox instead of many
- to communicate immediately in real-time
- to communicate cheaply
- to communicate with many people who are using different media at the same time

... his services anytime, anywhere, on his device:

- Personalized and highly customized
- More individual bandwidth
- Always-on
- Global roaming
- Seamless network, GSM-EDGE-UMTS-beyond IMT-2000
- Rich multimedia services: information, transaction, entertainment

 Loss
 Increase

 of subscriber loyalty
 of subscriber knowledge

 Increase
 Increase

 of subscriber knowledge
 of subscriber sovereignty

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## **Ubiquitous Networks**

### are subject to a number of opposing forces



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# **Changing lifestyles and end-user habits**



### New mobile services will have a strong impact on everyday life of end-users

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### Operators' needs: Deploying Profitable Multimedia Networks



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### Operators' Challenges: Shift of Revenues' Sources



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### Operators' Challenges: More Bandwidth = Increased Revenue ?

### Bandwidth capacity is multiplying

Deployment of xDSL, UMTS, WLANs

#### Bandwidth demand is growing even faster

Gaming and Video Services are bandwidth intensive



#### Bandwidth & Demand are both exploding

- Near real-time & real-time traffic puts more stress on the BW
- The nature of traffic is changing to more dynamic with QoS orientation

- Most European operators are loosing money on flat-rate concepts
- Peer 2 Peer is major driving force
- Each household has a limited amount of money to spend
- Adding further BW does not resolve the QoS problem, generally worsens it by attracting more QoS-sensitive applications eg. Broadcast Video
- Increased bandwidth is NOT increasing ARPU automatically!

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### Operators' Challenges: Complexities

Set Top DRM			
Encryption Piracy in Territory	Paradigm shift	Market unsure	PC or TV centric?
Network Partners	Open MPEG4 Issue	What is good video quality?	Individual "TV culture"
Commercial	60+% Hollywood margins	Young market	Proprietary solutions
Opportunity	Fixed to mobile substitution	VoIP telephony	New players as ISPs & ASPs
	Investment delays	Operator role?	Business model?

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# **Technical Challenges and Enhancements**

#### Challenges

- Higher frequencies increase processing requirements
- Coexistence of different radios requires sufficient separation
- Underlay of ultra wide band (UWB) raises the noise floor for other users
- Higher data rates require wider bandwidth and new radio principles
- Seamlessness and ubiquitous use imply multimode & multiband devices

#### Enhancements

- Microelectronics innovation (Moore's Law) delivers increased performance
- Improved filter technologies
- Radio technology improvements
- Higher order modulation schemes and smart / MIMO antenna systems
- Software configurable radio

Innovation is able to compensate many challenges but complexity and cost increase in the process

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# **Upside Potential through Fixed-Mobile Convergence**



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# **Different Categories of Convergence**

#### Service Convergence

- same service offering for fixed and mobile user access (e.g., SMS / MMS, multimedia conferencing, gaming)
- universal numbering
- one bill

#### Product Convergence

- common application server
- common service enabling solution (incl. charging)
- common session control
- common interworking functions

#### Network Convergence

- common core network (control, user and transport plane)
- common operation
- support of any access network







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### **Data Rates and Access Technologies**



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### All-IP: ...hype or necessity?

Hybrid networks rule today in for long time

- High OPEX
- > Service convergence slow
- Service evolution slowed-down by the hybrid infrastructure (physical, logical and operational)
- > Slow terminal equipment price erosion in hybrid environment

It is a must, to come to a common denominator:

- IP infrastructure
- > IP control (SIP)
- > IP-based terminals
- > IP-based services

All-IP is necessity to decrease overall communication costs

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### Radio spectrum is a precious asset



- Spectrum is <u>the</u> raw material for mobile business.
   It is of strategic importance for the entire industry.
- The largest economic value per radio spectrum unit is generated by the mobile network user
- Many new players want a piece of this billion dollar pie.
- We cannot generate new spectrum, only optimize its use and only harmonized spectrum is valuable.
- Spectrum is licensed nationally, but has global issues: radio waves do not recognize geopolitical boundaries, therefore harmonization and coordination are required.
- Major regulatory decisions in the next four years will affect the mobile industry for many years to come.



# **Spectrum for mobile telecommunication services**



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# The regulatory framework is under discussion

to increase efficiencies and take advantage of innovations

- Success of GSM and UMTS is built upon concerted industry approach.
- Today's regulators are reluctant to influence technology choices.
- "Technology Neutrality" is supposed to provide a level playing field, but endanger economies of scale.
- Spectrum Trading provides new options for underutilized frequencies, but increases risk of incompatibility and fragmentation.
- Suitable (harmonized) spectrum is hard to find, therefore very valuable and in high demand.
- New applications and usage scenarios blur the boundaries.

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# Vision of (De-)Regulation



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Source: FCC

# Harmonized environment is economically superior

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- Worldwide roaming and plug & play require consistent standards and comprehensive interoperability
- Uncontrolled system competition fragments the market and leads to wasting of economic resources
- Potential benefits of proprietary solutions are short-lived since they do not reach economies of scale
- Harmonized standards provide sufficient room for competition

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# **Summary / Conclusion**

- Telecommunication market is here to stay as growth engine of global economy
- Generating new revenues is still the major challenge
- Customers like the variety of services, but not the burden of technology details
- Harmonised standards and inter-operability of multiple interfaces provides the optimal response to the end-users needs
- Migrating towards customer centric networks: continuous process, solid performance and reliability

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# Thank You! Any Questions?

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