



Mobile Softswitching: A non-technical overview

1 - INTRODUCTION

The most well known goal of 3G Networks, like UMTS, is to offer wireless broadband to mobile devices. New radio technologies such as WCDMA have been developed to achieve that goal. However, a mobile network is not just about radio technologies. It comprises a very complex network infrastructure of switches, databases, service platforms that are connected through a vast mesh of very expensive transport equipment that carry all kinds of digital information over great distances.

The introduction of broadband radio means that mobile operators will need to modernize their network infrastructure in order to keep a cap on overall network costs (capital & operational expenditures), make the network more flexible in transporting and even blending the expected onslaught of mobile data-traffic with voice-traffic, while being able to generate revenues through the introduction of new advanced services. This new infrastructure will have to be flexible, future-proof, most probably IP-based in order to allow operators satisfy a wider variety of subscriber demands.

These modern networks are designed in layered manner in order to achieve these goals. Softswitching is a core technology in the so-called Next Generation Networks.

2 - OBJECTIVES

- To understand UMTS and the role of Softswitching technologies in a simple, enlightening and entertaining way.

3 - TARGET GROUP AND ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Tailor-made for non-technical staff as well as those who want to see the big picture of the latest trends and strategies in the telecom industry as of 2006 in a non-heady, relaxed manner.

4 - CONTENT

The course is broken up into the following 5 modules:

- Switching & Networking Concepts**
Basic concepts of circuit-switch design and signalling in the PSTN
- GSM & Reasons for Phasing out Circuit-Switching**
After an insightful overview of GSM, you will learn what squeezes the voice market, what new trends are operators fearing and why it is imperative today that their business models must change; and softswitching is at the center of all this.
- Digital Voice & Data: The Problem with TDM Transmission**
Here you will get details of how voice and data are transported over a circuit-switched network and why this is inefficient.
- The Internet & GPRS: IP Packet-Switching is the Future**
IP is at the center of Softswitching so it is necessary to understand how voice can be transported over IP and how operators can leverage IP backbones
- all-IP, all-Softswitching: The Business Landscape**
Softswitching is not only about MSC Servers and Media Gateways. It fits within a larger context of Next-Generation Networks where many non-traditional players are involved. You will learn about the main arguments for softswitching, and you will see why it makes sense within this larger and more complex business landscape

5 - PRESENTATION

This course is designed to accommodate a lot of discussion where all your questions will be answered and the most important information will be given in an easy to understand way. A Powerpoint presentation will accompany us to help illustrate all the topics. All slides will be provided in handouts.

6 - DURATION

1-day

7 - NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

No restrictions.