

Source: Secretary

Title: Correspondence concerning the Open Mobile Architecture (OMA) initiative

Agenda item: 8

Document for:

Decision	
Discussion	X
Information	

1 Introduction

The attached correspondence has been received concerning the creation of the Open Mobile Architecture (OMA) initiative. Due to the close relationship between the planned work of this initiative and 3GPP it is highly likely that a close working relationship will need to be established. The Organizational Partners may wish to discuss the nature of the relationship to be established.

2 Correspondence

-----Original Message-----

From: Alan.Cox@vodafone.com [mailto:Alan.Cox@vodafone.com]
Sent: 23 April 2002 11:41
To: adrian.scrase@etsi.fr
Cc: ian.park@vf.vodafone.co.uk; kari.lang@research.nokia.com;
timo.poikolainen@nokia.com; kati.riikonen@nokia.com
Subject: OMA and 3GPP
Importance: High

Dear Adrian

Further to our recent discussions, I am pleased to pass you our ideas for the OMA initiative, which seem to be increasingly supported by a wide range of industry players, especially from North America, Europe, Japan and China.

It is clear that OMA will need a close working relationship with 3GPP since we plan that OMA will be specifying applications that will be based on 3GPP standards.

I note that you will be attending 3GPP OP and PCG meetings this week and think it might be advantageous to mention OMA at these meetings, since once OMA is formally launched, I think there will need to be serious discussions on the appropriate interface between the bodies.

I attach some unofficial notes which give a description of the plans for the OMA initiative.

My very best regards
Alan Cox

April 23, 2002

Open Mobile Architecture initiative

Introduction

The mobile industry has experienced a period of exceptional growth during the past ten years. The next wave of growth is expected to come from mobile services.

New service enablers based on open global standards, such as MMS, Java and XHTML, will enable new compelling services for mobile users and new sources of growth for the mobile industry. To ensure successful take-up of mobile services, it is very important to minimize the fragmentation of service platforms and to ensure seamless interoperability.

The mission of the Open Mobile Architecture initiative is to grow the market for the entire mobile industry by removing the barriers to global user adoption, ensuring seamless application interoperability while allowing businesses to compete through innovation and differentiation.

Scope of the initiative

The Open Mobile Architecture initiative aims to enable mobile subscribers to use interoperable mobile services across markets, operators and mobile terminals by defining an open standards based framework to permit applications and services to be built, deployed, managed efficiently and reliably in a multi-vendor environment.

The initiative drives the implementation of open service enablers and interface standards, architecture and technology enablers, through a user-centric approach to ensure fast adoption of mobile services.

Objectives

- Enable mobile subscribers to use friendly mobile services across markets, operators and mobile terminals
- Define an open standards based framework to permit applications and services to be built, deployed, managed efficiently and reliably in a multi-vendor environment
- Drive the implementation of open service enabler and interface standards, through the user centric approach to ensure fast wide adoption of mobile services

Principles

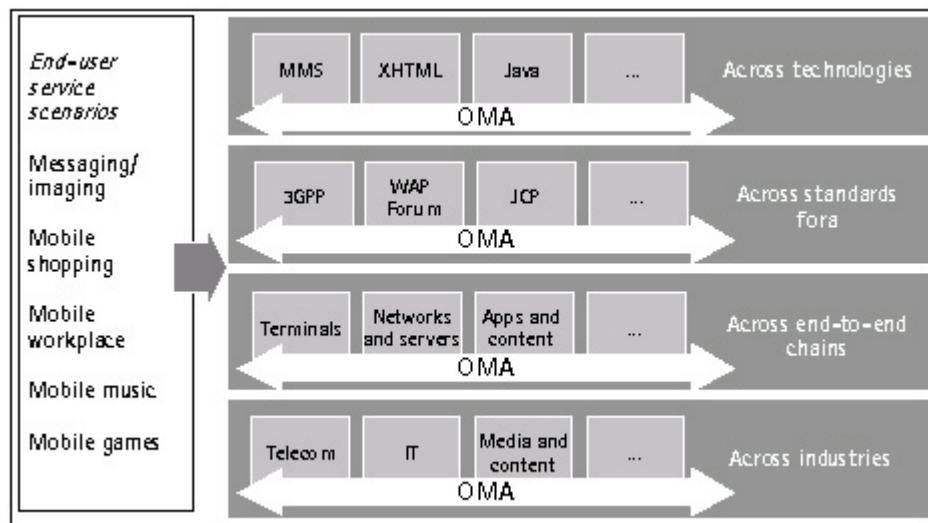
- Products and services are based on open, global standards, protocols and interfaces and are not locked to proprietary technologies
- The applications layer is bearer agnostic, such as GSM, GPRS, EDGE, UMTS, CDMA.
- The architecture framework and service enablers are independent of Operating Systems (OS)
- Support for interoperability of applications and platforms, seamless geographic and inter-generational roaming

The companies involved in the initiative will work in compliance with the specifications of the existing key industry standardisation organisations such as the 3rd Generation Partnership Project (3GPP), Java Community Process (JCP) and the European Telecommunications Standards Institute

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(ETSI). The initiative aims to complement the existing standards by making sure there is also a focus on multi-standard interoperability.

The companies involved in the initiative will decide the key enabling technologies jointly. Multimedia Messaging (MMS), Java, and WAP/XHTML browsing have been identified as the most essential ones to start off with, as they are the first critical enablers needed to boost the next generation of mobile services and because they form a good value proposal for the industry.



Picture one: Open approach required throughout the industry

Benefits of an open system

In an open system, all parties will benefit – as all rivals have an equal starting point, there is room for innovation and true state-of-the-art offerings. The initiative will offer new avenues of growth and revenue to companies in the mobile services value chain, such as mobile operators, IT and software vendors, terminal manufacturers and application developers, by enabling a multi-vendor ecosystem built on open industry standards and enablers and other open mobile operating systems. A uniform service architecture implemented by multiple vendors will result in:

- Compelling new mobile services
- Interoperability between infrastructure, devices and services
- Less market fragmentation
- Healthy competition between suppliers, operators and developers
- Lower cost of introducing new services
- Fast global service deployment
- Less confusion in user experience across service providers