
Source: SBC Communications
Title: IP Based MultiMedia Services Framework Specification Proposal
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3GPP efforts are currently focused on developing UMTS standards that will enable the deployment of IP based multimedia services. A variety of mechanisms are under consideration to provide the capabilities needed to meet the requirements of envisioned services.

It would be desirable to have a high level systems engineering specification that establishes the framework for providing IP based multimedia services. From a high level end to end systems engineering perspective, it could address how the diverse mechanisms under consideration will collectively integrate to effectively meet service requirements and enable the deployment of envisioned services. Such a specification could also serve to document the collective vision of the group, help to ensure issues aren't overlooked, and focus the work initiative.

The scope of such a specification would be broader than that of the existing Stage 1, 2, or 3 specifications. It would serve as an "umbrella" specification that conceptually pulls together at a high level the work of the other specifications and indicates how the pieces fit together. It would therefore conceptually combine at a high level the contents of other specifications, and reference those specifications for detailed information. (It provides the big picture.)

It is therefore proposed that agreement be reached in principle to develop an IP Based MultiMedia Services Framework Specification. This specification would address high level end-to-end systems engineering considerations. It would document the common high level vision of how the enabling technologies being standardized would collectively enable the end to end provision of IP based Multimedia Services, and serve as an "umbrella" specification for related Stage 1, 2, and 3 specifications. It may prove valuable in ensuring issues aren't overlooked, and may help to focus the work being undertaken.

Due to the scope of the specification its development would require the collective input from many groups, including working groups in SA, CN, T, and RAN. It may be appropriate for this to be addressed by an SA level adhoc group.

If this isn't done, then risk may exist that

- No consistent vision will exist for end to end service provision,
- some standards considerations may be overlooked,
- various mechanisms providing various capabilities will be deployed by various carriers and services will not be consistently deployed in the UMTS market, and
- the UMTS market will become fragmented and subscribers will in practice not be satisfactorily provided services

(Very Draft)Contents

For information only,

A very rough potential initial draft Contents of an IMS Framework Specification,

To be further elaborated upon by an adhoc group:

Envisioned Services (Business Drivers)

Services Overview

Output from IMS adhoc work on identification of services

(Reference the appropriate Stage 1 specification(s) for more details)

Requirements Overview

Enablers

(A high level systems engineering overview)

Toolkits

Functional Entities

Network Architecture

Protocols

Deployment Considerations

(An overview of how functionality is provided with respect to the following topics)

Service Control

Charging and Billing

Consistent Delivery of Basic Services

Capability Discovery and Service Negotiation

End to End Quality of Service

Interoperability between various mechanisms

User Control

Security

2G / 3G Interworking

End to End Service Deployment

Scenarios depicting how various enablers can be combined to meet requirements and provide services, may consider interoperability and interworking scenarios