

We are Broadband.

Here Comes the IP Transition – What's In It For You?

February 2017

U.S. Technology Transitions Policy Framework

- FCC, Emerging Wireline Networks and Services NPRM (FCC 14-185):
 - Technology transitions are already bringing innovation and improved communications services to the marketplace.
 - We are determined to ensure that the fundamental principles of competition, consumer protection, universal services, and public safety and national security are not lost merely because technology changes.



- The transitions underway are organic processes without a single starting or stopping point
- They include:
 - o TDM-to-IP
 - Copper-to-Fiber/Hybrid Coax
 - Wired-to-Wireless
- Technology transitions and innovations have largely been consumer and business market-driven



Aggressive Industry Investment Has Been A Driving Force

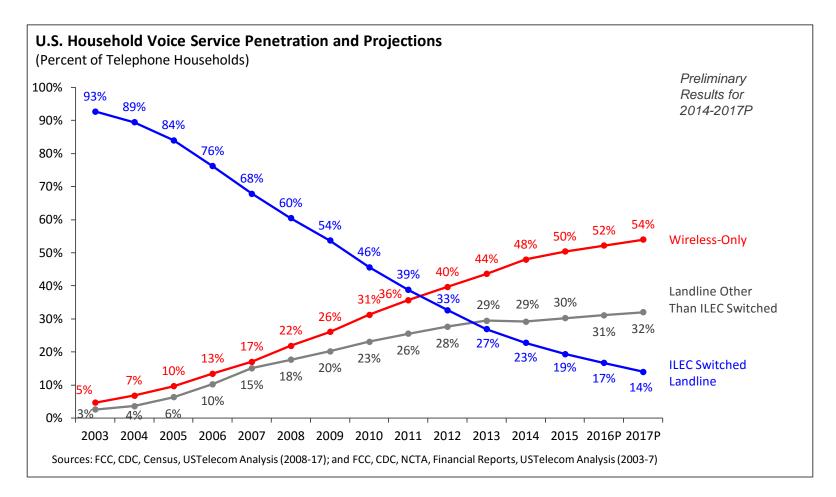


Incredible annual investment in broadband



Voice Customers Have Overwhelmingly Chosen New Technologies

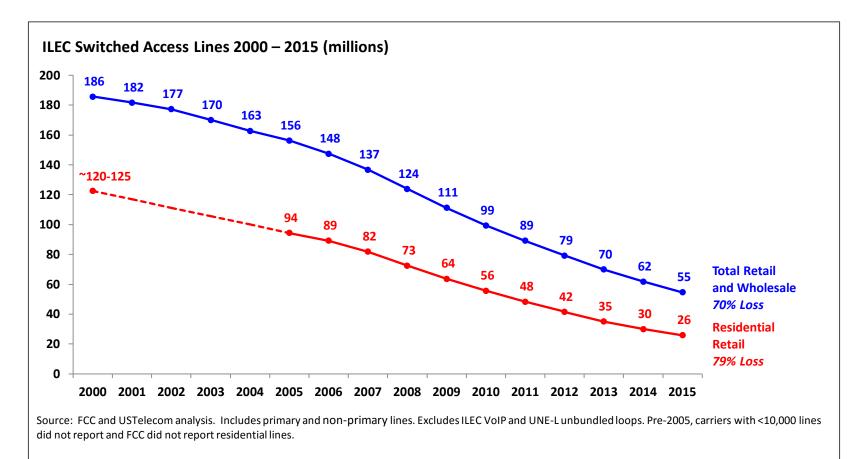
ILEC Switched vs. Wireless-Only and Interconnected VoIP Households





Voice Customers Have Overwhelmingly Chosen New Technologies

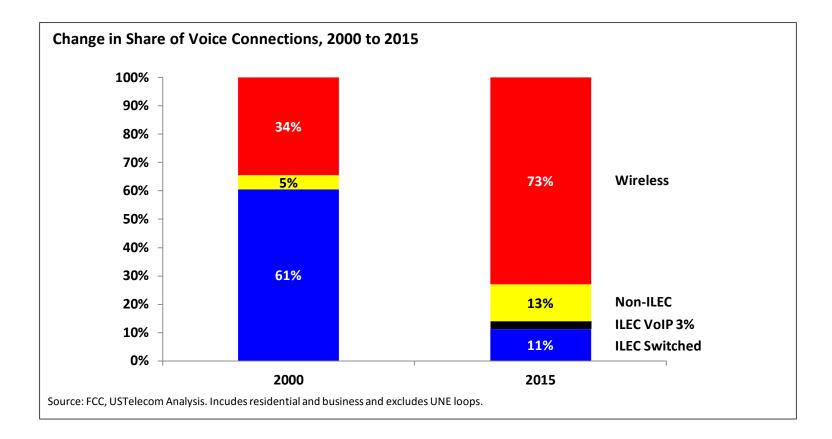
Declining Utilization of ILEC Switched Telephone Network





Voice Customers Have Overwhelmingly Chosen New Technologies

ILEC Switched Lines Are an Increasingly Small Portion of Voice Connections





The FCC Rejected an Equivalent Voice Service Standard

- FCC, Tech Transitions, Non-Dominant Order (FCC 16-90):
 - Automatic grant of discontinuance of legacy TDM-based voice service if adequate replacement test met
 - Replacement service must offer:
 - o <u>Substantially similar network infrastructure and service quality</u>
 - Compliance with existing standards for critical applications such as 911 and network security
 - o Interoperability and compatibility with an enumerated list of applications and functionalities
 - o If not seeking automatic grant, existing five-factor test applies
- Why?
 - o Technology transitions demand regulatory transitions
 - o Maximize opportunities for creative disruption



NTIA Petition

- Modifications could make it more complicated, timely, and costly for providers seeking to discontinue
- Proposals not necessary to safeguard federal government agencies; any supposed benefits do not outweigh burdens of delaying transitions
- NASUCA Petition
 - We agree that the technical guidance in Appendix B is problematic
 - However, we view the relief sought as outside the scope of the order



What's In It For You?

- Over \$ 70 billion in new investment per year
- All providers strive to provide quality service
 - Managed IP-based voice services are high quality; OTT, apps are good and getting better
 - Consumers have spoken, loud and clear, that they prefer the advantages of nontraditional voice service offerings
- Technology transitions bring:
 - o Better quality services
 - o More reliable services
 - o Better and more capabilities
 - o More competitive choices
 - o More eco-friendly services
 - o Lower prices



IP TRANSITION

What Is It? When Did It Start? When Will It Be Completed? What Are The Gating Factors? What's In It For You?

IP TRANSITION WHAT IS IT?

The IP Transition is the transition of the PSTN from circuit-switched, time-division multiplexing technology (TDM) to packet-switched, session multiplexing technology.

What does that mean???

Packet-switching allows communications facilities and systems to be shared, and subsequently, they operate much more efficiently than their legacy counterparts. By transitioning to IP, the PSTN will increase its ability and capacity to support all forms of REAL-TIME communications.

IP TRANSITION WHEN DID IT START AND WHEN WILL IT BE COMPLETED?

Production use of Voice over Internet Protocol technology began more than 20 years ago.



The LNPA Transition is not scheduled for completion until May of 2018. Since PSTN "systems" such as NENA's NG911 and other advanced services will require the LNPA to do some "heavy lifting" for advanced service support, the IP Transition will most likely continue deep into the 2020s.

IP TRANSITION WHAT ARE THE GATING FACTORS TO COMPLETION?

In addition to the LNPA Transition, clear direction from regulators (i.e. the FCC) regarding the IP interconnection obligations of carriers is absent. This regulatory "black hole" has done more to stagnate the IP Transition than any other factor.

Absent defined IP interconnection obligations, advanced services between subscribers of different carriers cannot be supported. Even legacy equivalents such as the ubiquitous routing of telephone calls are impossible to conduct in an IP environment without defined IP interconnection obligations.

Technology is not the gating issue of the IP Transition; the lack of regulatory direction to the technology community is.

IP TRANSITION WHAT ARE THE GATING FACTORS TO COMPLETION?

The Crux of the Matter:

"The bells & whistles may be good... But how are Network Quality, Reliability, Resiliency, and Security being addressed???"

- Cary Hinton

On the Internet...

They're Not! (being addressed)

ETC Group, LLC – David J. Malfara, Sr.

The Internet cannot provide assured...

Network Quality, Reliability, Resiliency, or Security

Because the Internet is a "best effort" network of networks governed by: No One

The Internet Engineering Task Force ("Standards Body")

"In many ways, the IETF runs on the beliefs of its members. One of the "founding beliefs" is embodied in an early quote about the IETF from David Clark: "We reject kings, presidents and voting. We believe in rough consensus and running code."

"One more thing that is important for newcomers: the IETF in no way "runs the Internet", despite what some people mistakenly might say. The IETF makes standards that are often adopted by Internet users, but it does not control, or even patrol, the Internet. If your interest in the IETF is because you want to be part of the overseers, you may be badly disappointed by the IETF."

RFC4677 – "The TAO of IETF"

"We believe in rough consensus and running code." RFC4677

In other words, Internet protocol standards (deployed on the Internet) are tested <u>until they work.</u>

Conversely, PSTN protocols, systems and network interconnections are tested <u>until they do not fail.</u>

The PSTN is a <u>deterministic</u> ecosystem that can be engineered to assure acceptable Network Quality, Reliability, Resiliency and Security. The Internet is not.

Cisco Visual Networking Index (VNI)



The Zettabyte Era — Trends and Analysis – Cisco, June 2016

IP TRANSITION



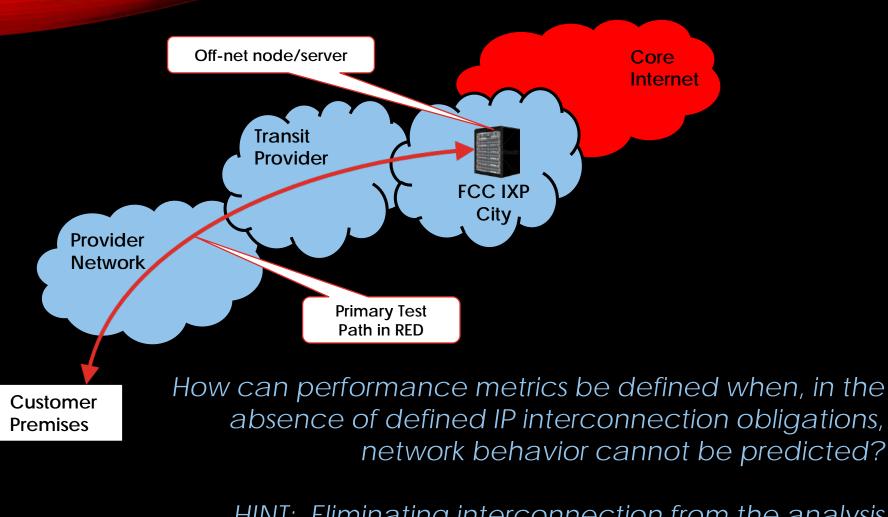
IEEE SPECTRUM – February 2017 Issue

Referencing the MIT Press 2017 edition of "FRANKENSTEIN" to be released on the 200th anniversary of the original novel by Mary W. Shelley (May, 1817)



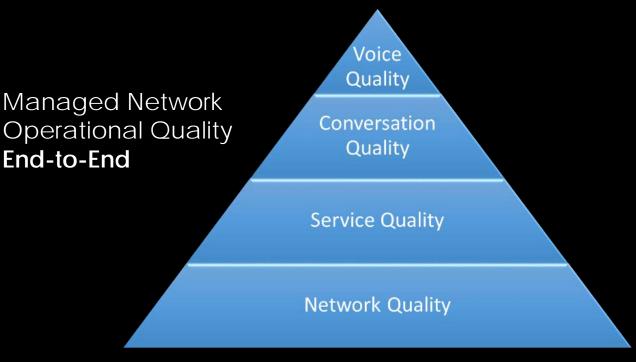
"Designing technology with the best intentions can still lead to disaster"

IP TRANSITION



HINT: Eliminating interconnection from the analysis does not solve the problem.

IP TRANSITION THE FOUR LAYERS OF PSTN OPERATIONAL QUALITY



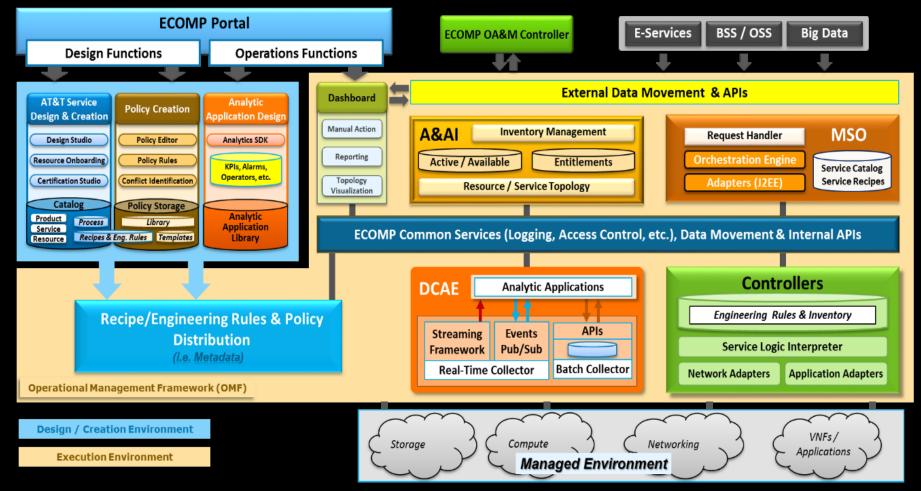
PSTN Operational Quality Reference Model

Quality standards must be maintained, end-to-end, as the PSTN transitions to a managed Public Real-Time Network (*i.e.* a PRTN) that supports the advanced services now made possible with IP technologies.

ETC Group, LLC - David J. Malfara, Sr.

IP TRANSITION WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?

AT&T's Open Source Enhanced Control, Orchestration, Management and Policy (ECOMP) platform



QUESTIONS?

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