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Nokia harnesses IP to drive new network solutions

Amsterdam, The Netherlands – Nokia, building on its strong position in fixed-mobile convergence, continues to give operators creative options for addressing the opportunities and challenges of an IP world. At Nokia World, the premier event of the year for the media and customers, Nokia is introducing core network solutions that leverage the possibilities of IP to expand operators' service portfolios, while keeping full control over their network usage.

"Nokia is embracing the vision of telecommunications that IP is making possible," says Roberto Loiola, Vice President, Marketing & Sales, Networks, Nokia. "Voice over IP is already a fact of life for many consumers around the world, giving them more opportunities to keep in touch in novel and economical ways. The use of broadband Internet access for voice communication is here to stay, and Nokia recognizes that traditional operators – both mobile and fixed – can swim in these waters as well. At the same time, IP gives operators better control over how their network resources are used – an important consideration as multimedia services proliferate and data traffic grows. Here in Amsterdam, we are happy to present our vision of these new IP opportunities in the world of convergence."

The Nokia Communication Suite provides consumers and business users with software that turns their PCs into softphones for accessing a wide range of "Rich Call" services over broadband connections – but with the added simplicity of using only one online identity and one billing account. The solution allows operators to offer seamless services across their fixed broadband and 3G mobile broadband networks, bridging these two domains.

Thanks to IP, Rich Calls can include Voice over IP (VoIP) calls, Video Sharing, video calls, instant messaging, presence, file sharing, and other multimedia services. With the Nokia Communication Suite, users can make and receive VoIP calls and other Rich Calls from their PCs using their existing mobile number. Calls to their mobile number can be answered with either their mobile or PC softphone.

Operators can offer both PC-PC calls, calls to mobile phones, or calls to traditional telephones at competitive rates and can bundle Rich Call services in innovative ways. Rich Calls can be charged to same account as the subscriber's fixed or mobile calls, simplifying their billing and avoiding, for example, the need to set up separate, pre-paid accounts for VoIP service. The Nokia Communication Suite can also allow travelling subscribers to avoid roaming charges for mobile calls when abroad.

The solution, which uses the Nokia Unified Core Network to process, connect and charge for the calls, will be demonstrated at Nokia World November 29 – 30 and is available for sale to operators next month.

Also on show at Nokia World is the previously announced Nokia Peer-to-peer Traffic Control, the industry's first integrated solution to allow mobile operators to profitably control the bandwidth available for peer-to-peer (P2P) traffic, and thus balance the allocation of network resources. The centralized solution is implemented as a software upgrade to the Nokia Flexi Intelligent Service Node and will be commercially available during the first half of 2007.

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Nokia is also introducing a new release of its Push to talk over Cellular solution. With Release 2.5, Nokia's PoC provides full support for network-to-network interworking, allowing PoC users to reach friends and colleagues in other operators' networks with just the push of a button. Release 2.5 also supports full blown Push-to-X communication, with attractive new Push-to-Content applications, such as weather reports, and Push-to-e-mail, for the delivery of voice messages to e-mail recipients. Release 2.5 will be available in the second quarter 2007.

Nokia is creating seamless personalized user experiences in converging networks thanks to intelligent packet core, mobile softswitching and IMS for fixed and mobile. With over 120 2G and 3G packet core references and over 50 customers for the Nokia Flexi Intelligent Service Node, Nokia is a market innovator in packet core solutions. Nokia is also clearly the most experienced mobile softswitching supplier worldwide, with over 120 mobile softswitching customers and over 50 live networks, as well as the front-runner in IMS for fixed and mobile networks, with over 130 references.

About Nokia

Nokia is a world leader in mobile communications, driving the growth and sustainability of the broader mobility industry. Nokia connects people to each other and the information that matters to them with easy-to-use and innovative products like mobile phones, devices and solutions for imaging, games, media and businesses. Nokia provides equipment, solutions and services for network operators and corporations.

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