

## **Roaming Ecosystem in LTE**

# **PSCR 2010 Winter Conference**

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#### Agenda



- Introduction to standards bodies (3GPP etc.) and The GSM Association
  - Work items being undertaken in GSMA
- Introduction to roaming, data clearing and settlement
- Introducing IPX
- LTE roaming interfaces and scenarios



## **Introduction to Standards Bodies**

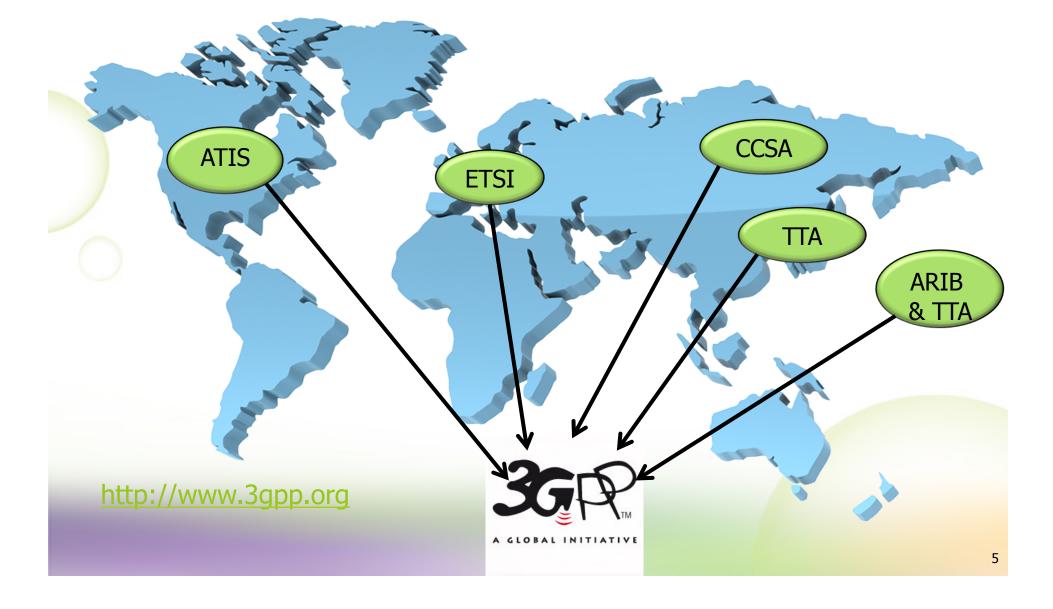
## **Introduction to Standards Bodies**



- Originally there were several regional standards bodies
- USA ATIS
- 🗧 Europe ETSI
- China CCSA
- 🔍 Korea TTA
- Japan ARIB and TTC

#### **Introduction to Standards Bodies**





#### **GSM** Association

- Headquarters in Dublin and London
- Headed by a CEO Board and Executive Management Council
  - Three categories of membership:
    - Full member (GSM operators)
    - Associate member (suppliers, vendors etc.)
    - Rapporteur member (non-GSM operators)
    - Information about membership: <u>http://www.gsmworld.com/about/membership/</u> <u>index.shtml</u>

#### Working groups

- Working groups meet regularly to address specific areas related to wireless communications and roaming
- Comprised of volunteers





#### **GSMA Working Groups**

We make mobile work.

- Billing and Accounting Roaming Group (BARG)
  - Supports international roaming, focusing on financial, administrative and procedural issues.
  - Interconnect Working Group (IWG)
    - Created by the GSMA to bridge the technology gap between the multiple incompatible technologies.
- Transferred Account Data Interchange Group (TADIG)
  - Responsible for defining data interchange procedures between operators.

- Inter-Working Roaming Expert Group (IREG)
  - Specifies technical, operational and performance issues supporting international roaming.
- Roaming and Interconnect in LTE (RiLTE)
  - Responsible for defining how roaming and interconnection will be enabled in LTE.



# **Introduction to Roaming**



#### **Steps to Implementing Roaming Agreements**



- GSMA provides roaming agreement templates to help operators establish roaming agreements. However, operators are free to modify them or create their own
- Roaming partners negotiate the roaming agreements, then perform network testing and billing testing before going live
  - Network testing (IREG testing) test calls to ensure roamers can use the VPMN's services
  - Billing testing (TADIG testing) test TAP records to ensure billing information is captured correctly and can be processed by the HPMN's billing system

## **Roaming Agreements**



- AA.12, International Roaming Agreement
  - General terms and conditions
  - AA.13, International Roaming Agreement common annexes
    - Items specific to the roaming agreement between the two roaming partners
    - Examples:
      - Agreed settlement procedure (e.g., direct payment, netting)
      - Testing
      - Security
      - Signaling interconnection and/or IP connectivity
      - Data privacy
      - Fraud prevention procedures

## **Roaming Agreements**

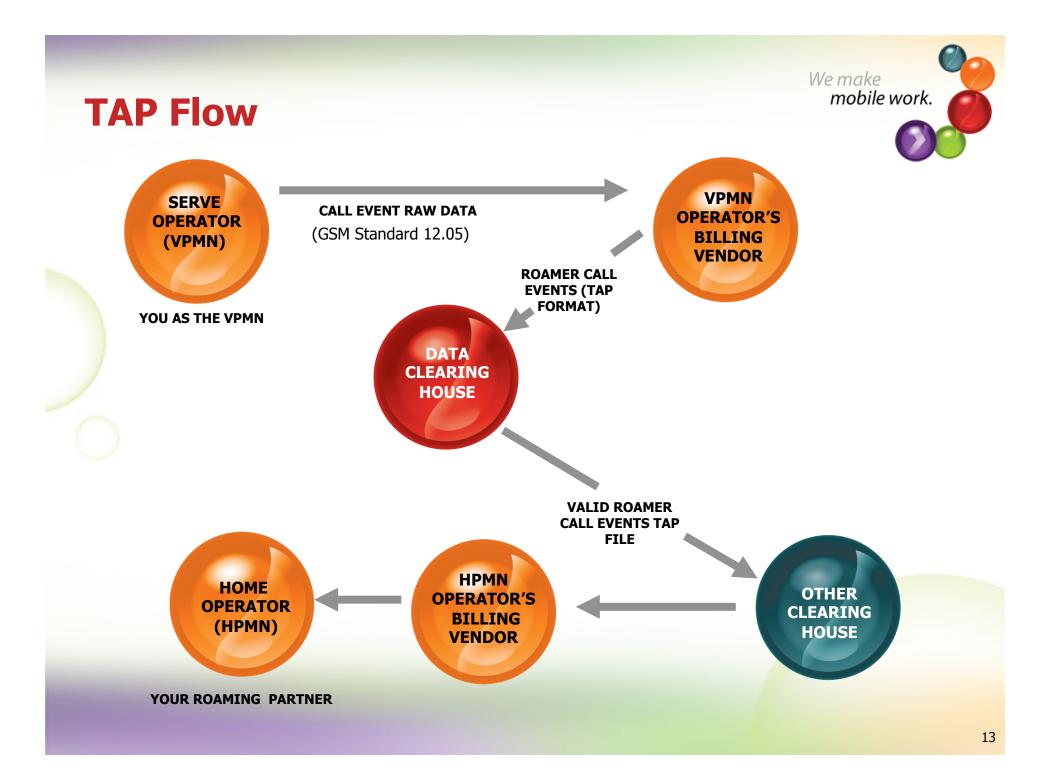


- AA.14, International Roaming Agreement individual annexes
  - Published by an operator to specify items that apply to all roaming that takes place in its network
  - Examples:
    - Contacts
    - Services available
    - Interoperator tariffs (IOT)
    - Invoicing information
    - Customer care information
    - Testing and testing contacts
    - Data privacy
    - Fraud prevention procedures
    - Billing and transfer information
    - BID annexes

## **Transfer Accounting Protocol (TAP)**



- Provides a method to exchange billing records between roaming partners
  - Defined in the Transfer Accounting Data Interest Group (TADIG) of GSMA
- Used to provide a monthly financial (MFS) statement of usage
- MFS is used to settle positions, how much do you owe, how much are you owed
- Financial settlement is based on the MFS





## Introduction to IPeXchange (IPX)

## **GSMA - IP eXchange (IPX)**



- Developed by the GSMA in cooperation with GSMA operator members
  - Evolution of GRX (GPRS Roaming Exchange)
  - The IP eXchange (IPX) provides a commercial and technical solution to manage IP traffic
- The IPX is an interconnect service that is offered by a variety of carriers on a competitive basis but with common agreed technical specifications and using consistent commercial models
- The managed network environment is traffic engineered to support specific IP services at specific quality levels
- The IPX solution is a premium quality solution that promises errorfree delivery of traffic while offering the flexibility to apply an appropriate level of quality as demanded by each different class of service

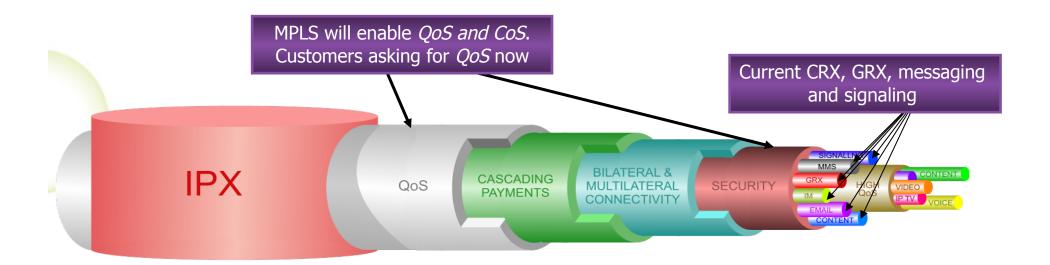
## **Value for Network Operators**



- One network multiple services reduced cost
  - Facilitating ease of use and reduce OPEX
  - Higher throughput with lower cost
  - Quicker time to market for service interworking efficient growth
  - Differentiated CoS and end-to-end QoS with SLA
    - Unlike the Internet, will ensure a level of service and security
  - Interworking between IMS and legacy systems
    - Facilitating migration to next generation networks
- Improved agreement management and cascade billing
  - Ensuring higher level of revenue assurance
- Session-aware interworking
  - Better network control

#### **IP Packet eXchange**





## Multiple services over one network

## **IPX Security**



- Commercial agreements give protection to all players
  - Those connected to the IPX agree to sign up to a security code of conduct and a trusted community is created
- The IPX is not addressable from the Internet which makes attacks much more difficult
- Individual operator traffic is segregated thus localizing any security breaches
- End user terminals have no visibility of the IPX
  - They are unable to probe the core networks involved in the management and delivery of the IP services

#### **IPX is a private backbone network**

#### **Services Enablement from Syniverse IPX**

- Signaling (Sigtran services)
- CDMA/GPRS/LTE roaming
- WLAN roaming
- Message interworking (MMS, SMS)
- IP voice telephony (VoIP) interworking
- IP video telephony interworking
- Push-to-talk over cellular
  - Advanced messaging and presence (GSMA RCS)

**IPX** is much more than a roaming network





**IPX Transport Services** 

IPX Interworking Services

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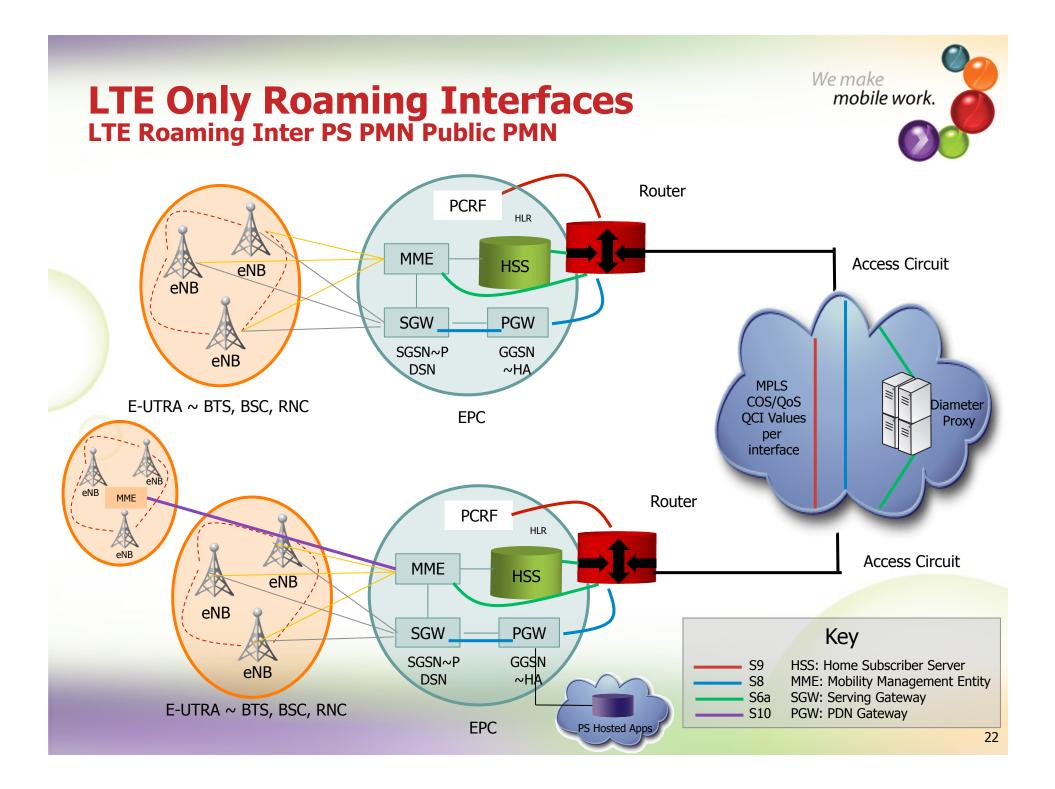


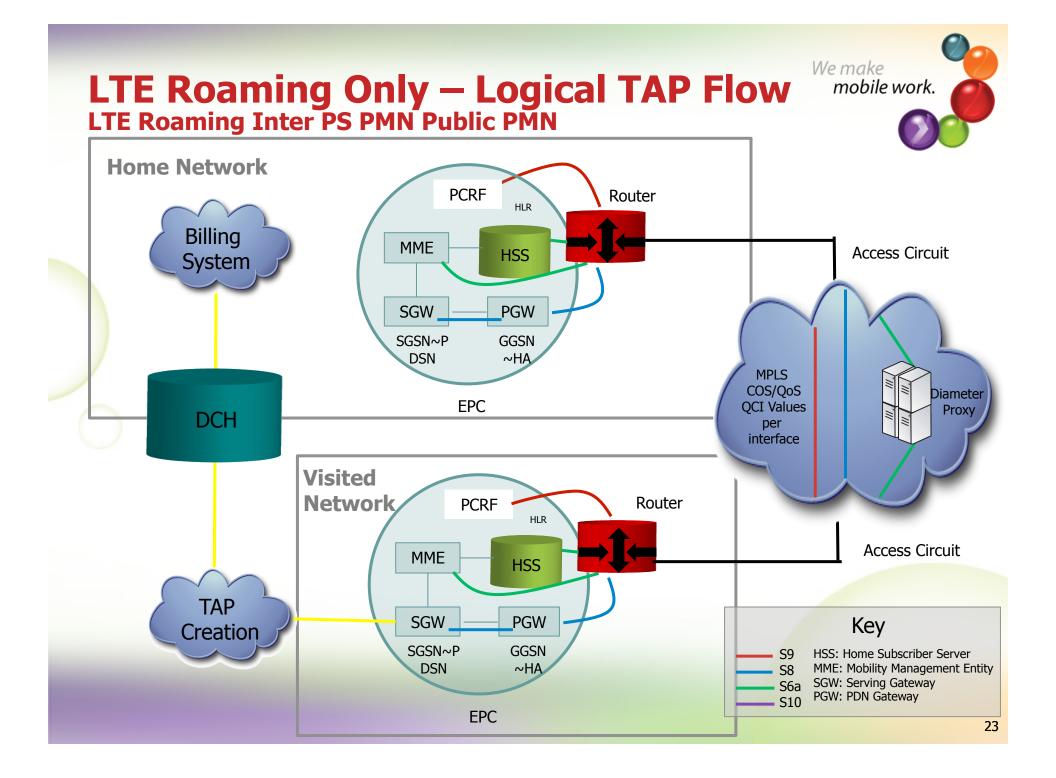
## LTE Roaming Scenarios & Interfaces

#### LTE Roaming Scenarios and Interfaces



- Signaling for registration and authentication is based on diameter interfaces
  - Our main focus is on:
    - S6a MME to HSS
    - S6d SGSN to HSS
    - S9 hPCRF to vPCRF
- LTE to LTE only roaming
- CDMA to LTE roaming
- GSM to LTE roaming





## **LTE Roaming Only – TAP Flow**



- Call flow is PS entity roaming in another PS LTE market
- CDR is generated by serving gateway
- CDR is sent to TAP creation
- CDR is turned into TAP record, rated and placed in TAP file
- TAP file is sent to Data Clearing House (DCH)
- DCH forwards the TAP file to home network billing system

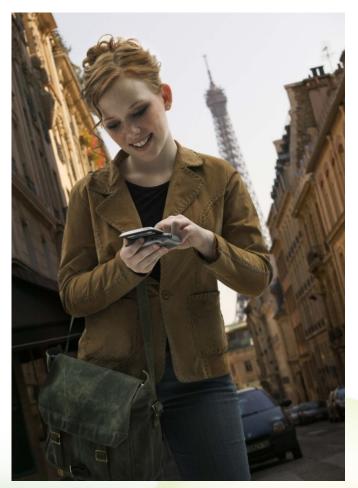
#### **Syniverse: Who We Are**



- Global provider of market-leading solutions that simplify the complexities of roaming, messaging, network interoperability and business intelligence for mobile operators, MSOs, enterprise verticals and emerging mobile providers
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Headquartered in Tampa, Florida, with offices in major cities around the globe

- Europe, Middle East & Africa headquarters: Utrecht, The Netherlands
- Caribbean and Latin America headquarters: Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Asia Pacific headquarters: Hong Kong
- More than 1,300 employees in over 25 countries around the world; about 850 in North America

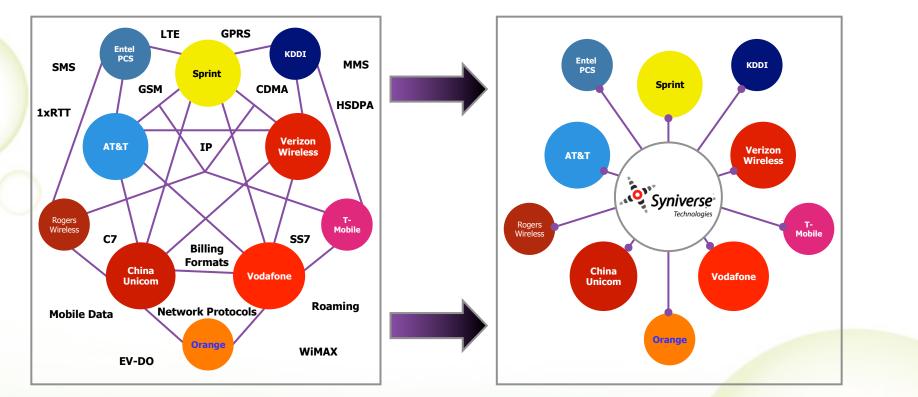


## **Simplifying Complexity**



Industry growth and proliferation of technologies has significantly increased operator complexity and cost...

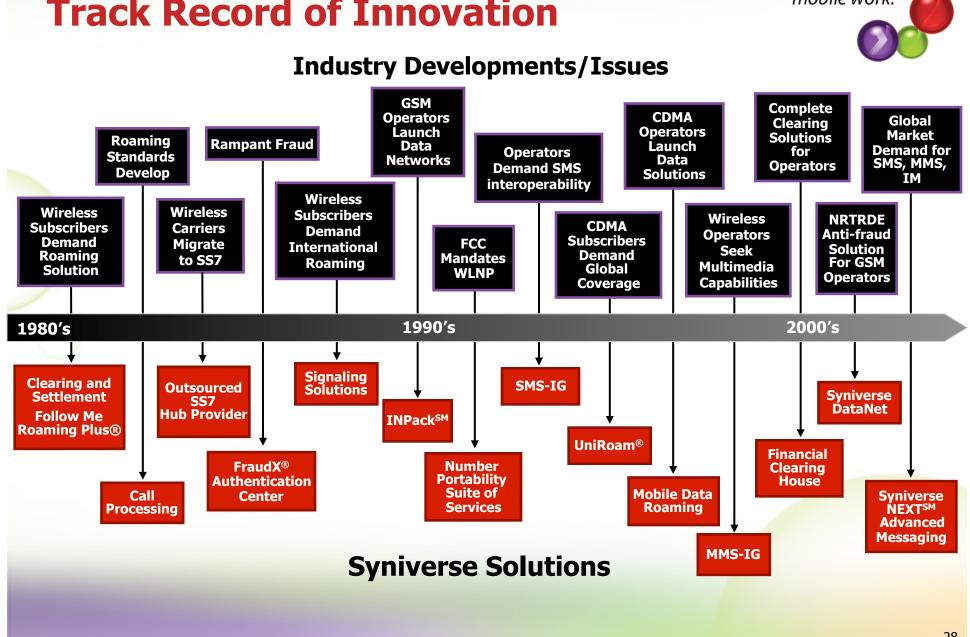
...which Syniverse simplifies.



Continued technological change drives increased complexity



More than 800 customers in over 160 countries



#### **Track Record of Innovation**

#### We make

mobile work.





# **Thank You!**

#### **Martin Guilfoyle**

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Chief Network Architect