



Internet
Usage
Manager

Customer
Reference

Vodafone
UK

Hewlett-Packard Internet Usage Manager Selected by Vodafone UK to Enable Content Billing for Mobile IP Services

Vodafone UK Limited has deployed Hewlett-Packard Internet Usage Manager, an HP Netaction product, in its new GPRS network for mobile IP services to enable customers to be billed for the particular services they use. The difficult challenge of marrying leading-edge GPRS network equipment, IP services and back-office systems such as billing over the course of just a few months was surmounted through close cooperation between the two companies to bring together their expertise in wireless and IP technologies. The system is now being expanded as Vodafone UK prepares for the launch of its GPRS services.

HP previously announced, on November 13, 2000, several extensions to HP Internet Usage Manager (IUM) to process Abstract Syntax Notation.1 (ASN.1) call detail records from various GPRS and WAP network equipment. The Vodafone UK deployment takes advantage of several of those extensions, but goes further to incorporate billing interfaces, error handling and revenue assurance processes that set the stage for telecom-grade service delivery.

"Vodafone is keen to deliver a full spectrum of mobile IP services to market in 2001," said Malcolm Mitchell, IT Director at Vodafone UK Limited. "Hewlett-Packard have been instrumental in helping us to bridge the gaps between emerging network equipment and services, existing network infrastructure and our back-office business support systems."

HP IUM meters individual customer service consumption to provide the network operators with greater flexibility to package and sell individual services. IUM aggregates usage data and correlates among services, producing the Internet Data Records (IDRs) required by billing, marketing analysis and operations management systems.

"The work between HP and Vodafone Group for GPRS solutions has not only proven the feasibility of content billing for mobile IP services, but it has also accelerated its availability," said Bill Russell, HP Vice President, Software Solutions Organization. "We are very pleased to be a part of Vodafone's advance into the new age of mobile e-services."

IUM has developed extensions to process Abstract Syntax Notation.1 (ASN.1) call detail records directly from GGSN and SGSN switches and GPRS charging gateways, which allow operators to solve complex data collection and correlation problems.

About Internet Usage Manager

HP Internet Usage Manager, formerly HP Smart Internet Usage, collects, aggregates and correlates usage data from a variety of network devices using a scalable, distributed architecture designed to meet the needs of the large scale service provider. Deploying IUM to meter wireless networks enables mobile service providers to measure packet data from both the air interfaces and WAP or IP data services. IUM offers an open, flexible plug-in architecture that is easily extended to new devices and services such as the GPRS equipment described here, as well as to existing back-office billing systems. For more information, visit <http://www.hp.com/usage>.

About Vodafone UK

Vodafone is the UK's most popular mobile phone network with more than 11.66 million customers, including 7.52 million Pay as You Talk customers. Vodafone UK Limited is part of the Vodafone Group Plc, the world's largest mobile telecommunications company, with interests in 25 countries and more than 78.7 million customers worldwide.