The Case for Standardized and Automated Inter-Provider Business Interface

MEF White Paper

March 2020
Building the Case for Standardized Inter-Provider Interface

• Aimed at decision makers within ICT-SPs (Information and Communications Technologies Service Providers) and their wholesale data services partners that are considering adoption of standardized and automated inter-provider business interfaces.

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Market Drivers

Enterprises increasingly demanding single portal data-on-demand services that span multiple operator networks and technologies

**Enterprise Service Expectations**

- One-stop-shop for **on-demand data services**
- Integrated compute-storage-connectivity solutions
- Single interface access

**Enterprise Requirements of Service Providers and Service Provider Requirements of Wholesale Partners**

- Reach any location and end-point type
- Adapt in real-time to policy changes
- End-to-end visibility of performance and security
- Commercial and business aspects of lifecycle must be very fast

Opportunity to provide higher margin, highly differentiated, and dynamic inter-provider services that leave behind commoditized, low-margin fixed-bandwidth services.
Trends Behind High Value Data-On-Demand Services

From:
Static Services (Enterprise)

Timeline
TODAY
NEAR-MEDIUM TERM 1-2 YEARS
LONGER TERM 3+ YEARS

Service Evolution & Business Value

CLOUD

PRIVATE CONNECTIVITY

Mode of Operation for Business Negotiation
Manual/Automation Silos (portals/tools)
Automated Lifecycle (Closed/Open Loop)
Fully Autonomous (Intelligent/No Operator)

Network Slicing (5G)
PRIVATE CONNECTIVITY
INDUSTRY 4.0
IoT
AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES
...

To:
Real-time, Dynamic, On-demand converged services (Cloud/Data + Connectivity, short-life capable, machines+people) @ mega-scale
Business Functionalities
Address Qualification; Product Offering Qualification; Inventory; Quote; Order; Trouble Ticketing; Billing

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Business Outcomes for Service Providers and Wholesale Partners

- **Increased Revenues**: On-demand global data services are key component of lucrative enterprise multi-cloud IT solution
- **Faster Time to Service Revenue**: Acceleration of processes shortens time to revenue
- **Increased Customer Loyalty**: Acceleration of service delivery, service visibility and ability to apply business requirements directly – improves customer experience and loyalty
- **Reduced Operational Expenses**: Acceleration of processes improves productivity and reduces operational expenses
MEF Deliverables

- **Standards**: Broad industry consensus on architecture, business requirements and use cases, security, processes and data models.

- **Software Developer Kits (SDKs)**: Underlying standards documents, developer guides, example code and Swagger/OpenAPI specs.

- **Developer Community**: MEF-facilitated developer community on GitHub for interaction with other service providers in implementation phase.

- **Test and Certification**: Test harness and certification program accelerate testdev and position service provider as standards-conformant prior to bilateral testing.

- **Tracking Adoption**: Publication of number and names of service providers at production-level status.