

Net Neutrality: view from over the top

Jean-Jacques Sahel UKNOF London, January 2012

What are we talking about?

- Net Neutrality, aka network neutrality; we say 'open Internet'
- end-to-end nature of the Internet means that:
 - companies that own the broadband pipes should not be able to configure their networks in a way that plays favorites
 - allowing them, for example, to transmit their own apps and services at faster speeds or exclude competing services and apps, or to charge Internet content and application companies a fee for similar delivery
 - <u>users</u> rather than <u>network providers</u> determine what information and content they view, what services and applications they use, and freedom of distribution and freedom of information exist.

How it is expressed in EU law

"End-users should be able to decide what content they want to send and receive, and which services, applications, hardware and software they

want to use for such purposes,

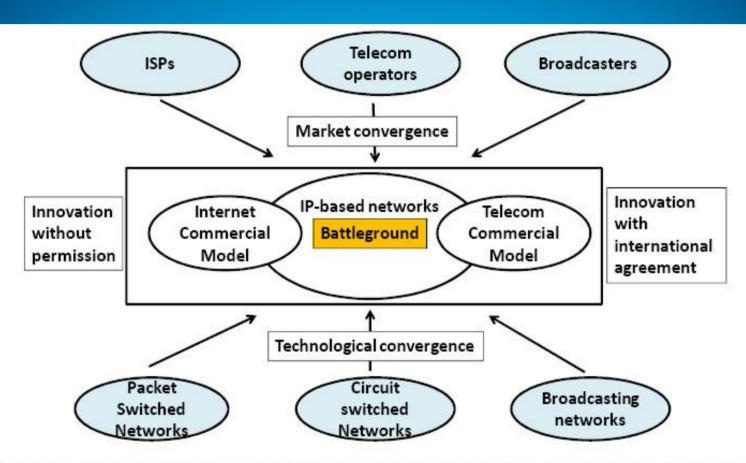
without prejudice to the need to preserve the integrity and security of networks and services."

Recital 28, EC Citizens' Rights Directive 2009

But (why) should we worry?

"First it can't possibly work, and if it did, damned if we are going to allow the creation of a competitor to ourselves."

Some see the future of the Internet as a battle



Source: J. Horrocks, "NGN and Convergence Models, Myths, and Muddle", OECD NGN Foresight Forum, 3 October 2006. See: http://www.oecd.org/document/12/0,3343,en_2649_34223_37392780_1_1_1_1_1,00.html.

And their tools are improving

Table 1. Sample of applications that can be monitored, controlled and prioritised

Peer-to-Peer	Voice over IP	Multimedia	Gaming	Messaging
Aimster Apple-iTunes AudioGalaxy Bit Torrent Blubster DirectConnect EarthStation V EDonkey Emule Gnutella Grokster Groove Hopster Hotline iMesh Limewire KaZaA KaZaA Lite Morpheus Napster Napigator + 50 others	CiscoCTI Clarent CUSeeMe Dialpad H.323 I-Phone iChat MCK Commun. Megaco Micom VIP MGCP Net2Phone RTP RTCP SIP Skinny (SCCP) Skype T.120 VDOPhone Vonage	Abacast Motion Video using DIGStream MPEG (Audio, Video) Multi-cast NetShow NetMeeting Ogg over HTTP QuickTime RadioNetscape Real (Audio, Video) RTP RTSP SHOUTcast Streamworks VideoFrame WebEx WinampStream WinMedia	Asheron's Call Battle.net Diablo II Doom EverQuest Half-Life Kali LucasArts (Jedi) MSN Zone Mythic Quake I, II, & III SonyOnline Tribes I, II Unreal Warcraft III WorldofWarcraft XboxLive Yahoo! Games	AOL (IM, Talk, Image, File, ISP) iChat ICQ IRC Lotus IM MSN Messenger Windows- POPUP Yahoo! Messenger

Source: Packeteer at http://www.packeteer.com/resources/prod-sol/ApplicationDiscovery.pdf

Internet usage restrictions are widespread in Europe



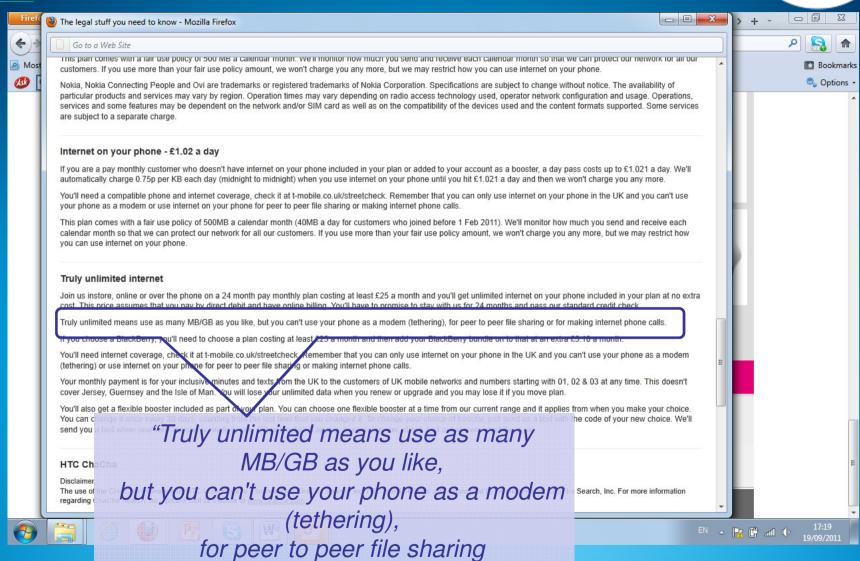
ALL mobile operators in Sweden, France or the Netherlands forbid or surcharge VoIP use

Transparency won't serve any purpose as switching ISP is not common, and more than half of Swedish people don't know that they can switch, or how to (PTS 2010)

What do you mean, "Internet"?



Go to www.t-mobile.co.uk/shop/pay-monthly/deals/_then scroll to bottom of the page to click on the link to 'legal stuff' you want to know:, which takes you to: http://www.t-mobile.co.uk/shop/terms-and-conditions/pay-monthly-deals/



or for making internet phone calls."



Is this the future of the Internet?

So what's to be done?

How the inventor of the WWW put it



Yes, regulation to keep the Internet open is regulation. And mostly, the Internet thrives on lack of regulation.

But some basic values have to be preserved. For example, the market system depends on the rule that you can't photocopy money. Democracy depends on freedom of speech.

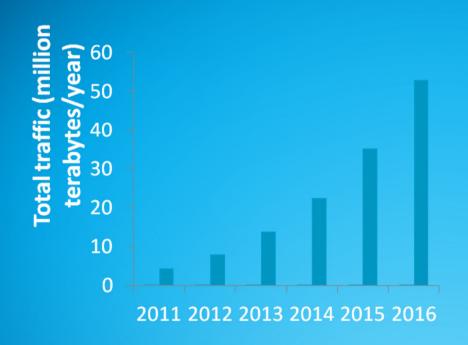
Freedom of connection, with any application, to any party, is the fundamental social basis of the Internet, and, now, the society based on it.

[...] protect net neutrality, so I can continue to innovate in the Internet space. I want to see the explosion of innovations happening out there on the Web, so diverse and so exciting, continue unabated.

Sir Tim Berners Lee's second blog entr.m4v mp4

Traffic growth is a reality – but not a bad thing

Global mobile data traffic volume, 2011-2016



- 1. LTE
- 2. Wi-Fi
- 3. Spectrum
- 4. Small cells
- 5. Pricing strategy
- 6. Optimisation & compression

Source: Informa Telecoms & Media

A few myths about net neutrality

Myth 1: Demand is bad

• Demand is good since it reflects end-user value and supports revenue growth and network investment.

Myth 2: Costs are ballooning because of data growth

Costs are not ballooning because of data growth.

Myth 3: Application providers "cause" traffic

 End users cause traffic via requests for and generation of content

Myth 4: Applications providers free ride

• Application providers do not free ride but invest in infrastructure, purchase network services and have developed bandwidth-efficient applications.

Myth 5: Charging application providers would promote investment

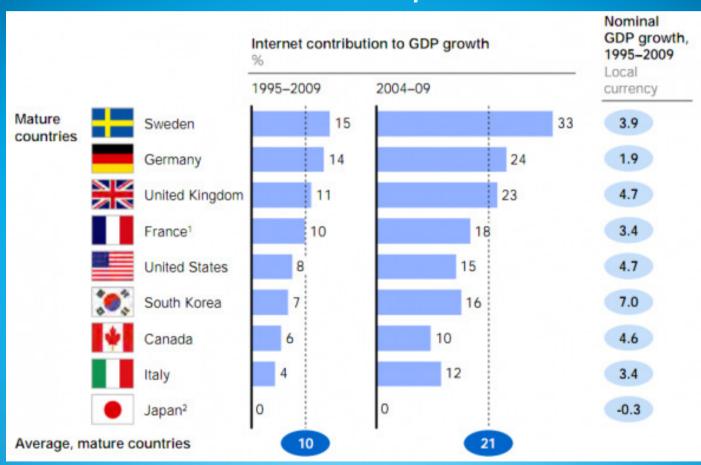
• Any revenues raised would not necessarily be invested and would discourage applications innovation, reducing demand for advanced network access.

Myth 6: Net neutraliry is a solution in search of a problem

•Discrimination against certain types of Internet content, apps and services, is widespread in Europe

The reality: the open Internet is crucial for all of us, including operators

Online content and application providers stimulate demand translating into broadband revenues of €155 billion in Europe in 2010



(source: G8 / McKinsey, 2011)

Innovation in networks

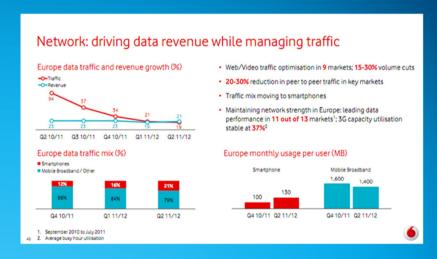
Operators increasingly confident data will grow profitably

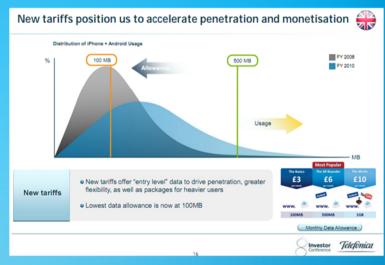
Vodafone Europe data revenue is now growing faster than data traffic

Telenor Norway has seen data revenue growth exceed data traffic for several successive quarters

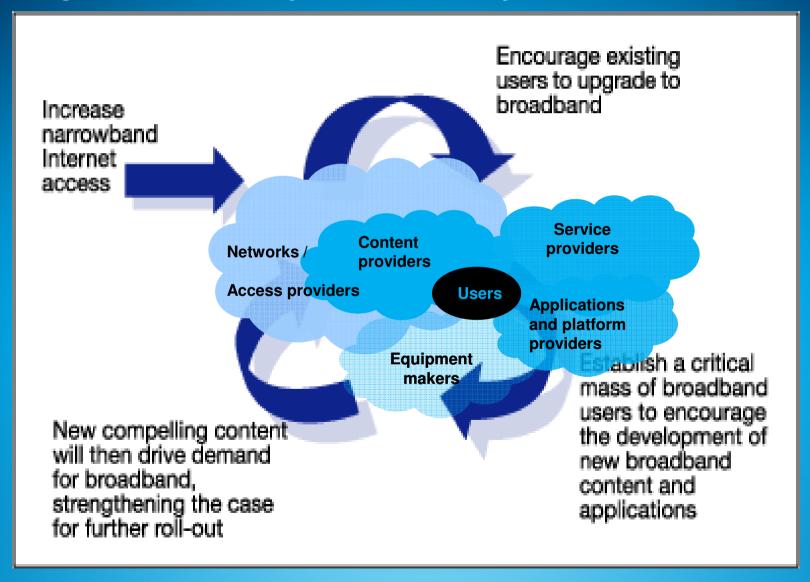
O2 UK is successfully growing customer lifetime profitability thanks to yield management techniques

Operators globally seeing an acceleration in smartphone and data adoption





The reality: the Internet value chain is not a battleground, but a symbiotic ecosystem



Moving forward

The application of the EC rules in the UK should:

- uphold clearly the principle that end-users can access the services and applications of their choice on the Internet,
- with no loophole legitimising arbitrary restrictions by operators
- with the authorities having a clear duty and the legal powers to prevent abuse

(whether you do it in law, or self-regulation, matters little – what is key is that open Internet principles are respected in reality)

Next: on 24 January, the 'Broadband Stakeholders' Group' will present a draft UK (industry) code of conduct on net neutrality

What principles should say...

- To ensure open access to the Internet, in order to prevent blocking or charging over the top services
- Offerings for Internet access providers may be differentiated in terms of bandwidth and data limits
- and limited only for purely technical, security of legal reasons
- Doesn't stop ISPs offering other services, e.g. their own VoIP / VoB, as long as that doesn't unduly impact Internet access

(from Article 7.4a, Netherlands Telecommunications Act, June 2011;

See also French regulator, Norway, Singapore, US, Canada, Chile, etc. etc.)

Thank you!