999 for "fixed line" VoIP

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ITSPA, 999 OFCOM/NICC W/G

What happens with a mobile?



Three Problems

• My mum at home with a secret ATA

• My office phone, which I move occasionally

• My mobile/wifi hybrid, which moves 24x7

Mobile Users

- Various work in IETF & ETSI Standards Bodies
- Enhancements to add location info to DHCP or SNMP or RADIUS
- Use of GPS
- The device must know it's position and then it registers with a central location server

Fixed VoIP Users

- VoIP used in static situations, at home or in business
- The ATA is in the cupboard
- The phone is in the kitchen
- Customer is on a fixed DSL/Cable connection in the UK
- This model *seems* to work for leased lines, cable modems and llu

3 Points of Information

- VoIP Provider has *virtual phone number* and *IP* address
- ISP has IP address and circuit reference
- Circuit provider has *circuit reference* and *address* information



How do ISPs find the circuit?

- ISPs do not currently have IP->Circuit Mappings
- Username/CBUK number is inappropriate as it changes
- FTIP/BBID Number is fixed
- BT Wholesale has a *proposal* to pass FTIP to ISP on subscriber login (at radius authentication time)

Required Databases

- ISP to permit real time lookup on their radius database (!!)
- Mobile phone technique

- BT Wholesale to provide FTIP to Address Mapping
- Could provide daily dump to call handlers
- Perhaps a daily dump to call handling system as a backup?

Emergency Call Path

• VoIP Provider connects SS7 call:

From: 01225 800 810 To: 999 88 12345 217169023071

• EA Call Handler System does lookup:





IP Address Issues

- Firewalls, VPNs, etc. all alter the IP address
- What if the IP address isn't in the database?
- Should we pass customer provided databases to 999 staff anyway?

ISP Issues

- 3000 ISPs currently in total disarray
- No incentive for an ISP to do this
- Unless they see the marketing benefit
- Potential for best practice with LINX/ISPA
- Big problems with ISP Liaison
- Likelihood is that 80/20 will apply (80% of subscribers on 20% of ISPs)

BT Wholesale Issues

- BT Wholesale only knows the address is valid when they *install* the service
- They do not attempt to keep their database up to date
- Post code/Area Code changes
- Perhaps the FTIP number maps back to a BT circuit database which is well maintained?

Other Providers Circuits

• The concept applies to LLU



- Do other LLU providers use similar circuit information (probably)
- Could they provide a similar Circuit->Location database to BT Whole Sale (probably)
- Again, administrative disarray... VoIP Provider dials 999 + IP Address

ISP Looks to Circ

Bulldog Telecoms Example

- Bulldog send out an all-in-one router
- 1 ethernet port (computer)
- 1 phone port (handset)
- Plugs into phone line on wall
- Calls actually use VoIP, across the bulldog ip network
- Bulldog knows:
 - Phone Number
 - IP Address
 - Circuit Number
 - Location of Circuit

Philosophical points

 ISPs are moving from being a "bolt-on" service to being the underlying transmission network

• Phone numbers are not good identifiers of location any more

• How bad is a customer provided address?

Questions (for you?)

- Is it realistic to support IP to Location lookups?
- How might your organisation improve it's internal databases?
- Is this useful for abuse handling too?

• Would anyone like to attend a 2 monthly meeting and join the NICC w/g?

Next Steps

- Draft a "best current practice" document
- Submit to IETF/LINX/ISPA/ITSPA/OFCOM
- Persuade ISPs to support scheme

- Remove the PSTN phone number as the "key field" in the 999 system
- Worry about database accuracy

Questions for me?!