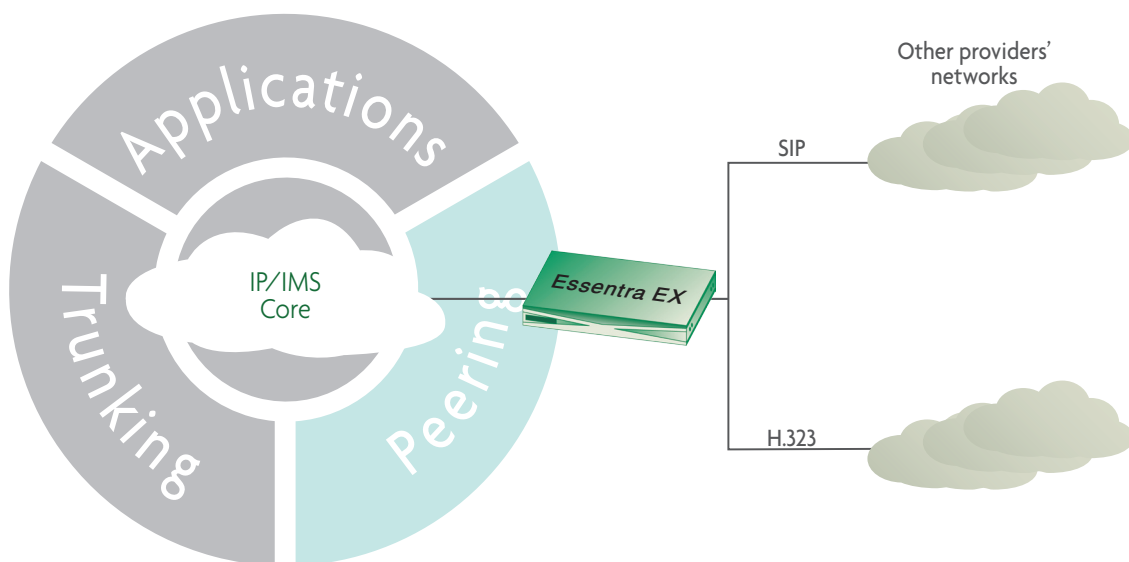


Essentra™ EX: Peering Manager and Session Controller

As an increasing number of carriers deploy VoIP networks the need for direct interconnection between these networks is becoming paramount. The Essentra EX Peering Manager provides a simple and cost-effective solution for wholesale operators, clearinghouses, bilateral traffic exchange carriers, operators of NLD/ILD networks and other service provider requiring secured interconnection between disparate VoIP networks. This border element facilitates peering between SIP and/or H.323 networks by fully addressing carriers' requirements in the areas of protocol interworking, accounting, billing, security and routing. With full support for SIP-H.323 interworking, Essentra EX can be deployed seamlessly with any VocalTec or third-party softswitch platform. Essentra EX provides enhanced call-routing capabilities enabling the support of complex routing policies that maximize network performance and reduce transport costs in both small and large voice over packet networks. A SIP-based service layer ensures that all service/routing logic and network topology is hidden from the networking layer, accelerating time to market and simplifying network management.

IMS-TISPAN Ready: I-BCF, I-BGF



Features & Benefits

- Protocol interworking and conversion enable seamless connectivity between SIP and H.323 networks
- Peering, routing and traffic flow control enable 'on-the-fly' routing changes for minimized routing costs and optimal QoS
- Multi-vendor interoperability increases global reach and traffic revenues
- SIP back-to-back user agent (B2BUA) takes appropriate action for each session in accordance with signaling state changes
- Security features provide a single point of entry to the network and mask network internals from rival carriers
- Control of SIP gateways provides registration and routing services to SIP gateways for improved traffic quality and call completion

Specifications:

VoIP Protocols

- SIP (RFC 3261, 3262, 3264, 2976, 3325, 3326, 3455), SIP-T (RFC 3372, 3204), SIP-I (Q.1912.5)
- H.323 v3 and v4, H.245 tunneling, SlowStart/FastStart
- SDP (RFC 2327)
- Fax support: T.38 fax relay
- DTMF handling: RFC 2833, in-band and out-of-band

Carrier Grade

- 1+1 high availability
- 99.999% availability
- No single point of failure
- No downtime and no call loss
- NEBS (level 3) compliant

Call Control Functionality

- SIP B2BUA
- SIP/SIP-T to H.323 interworking, and vice versa

Routing

- Policies: source, time, random, weighted random, locality, prefix, codec, ASR, ACR, quota
- Least Cost Routing (LCR), for near-real-time optimization of routing policies
- QoS-based routing in combination with Media Relay
- Alternate endpoints, for improved call completion
- Calling party and called party number analysis
- Calling party and called party number manipulation
- Routing-prefixes

Security

- Topology hiding for signaling and media
- Session admission control
- Pinhole firewall
- SIP authentication

Interoperability

- Tuning of SIP/H.323 protocol options using 'Interop toolkit'

Accounting

- Bilateral peering, clearinghouse scenario
- Successful and unsuccessful calls
- CDR files for off-line billing (through FTP)
- Radius accounting and authorization for real-time billing and prepaid peering services

Capacity

- Up to 80 Call Attempts Per Second (CAPS)
- 1000 sessions built-in media relay, scalable to 10k sessions using dedicated media blades

Management

- Standards based: HTTPS, XML, SNMPv3
- Built-in EMS, or optional Essentra OSS

Hardware Specifications

- IBM BladeCenter-T
- IBM xSeries 3550

Operating System

- Red Hat Enterprise Linux 4

About VocalTec

VocalTec Communications (Nasdaq: VOCL) is a global provider of carrier-class multimedia and voice-over-IP solutions for communication service providers. A pioneer in VoIP technology since 1994, VocalTec provides proven trunking, peering and residential/enterprise VoIP application solutions that enable the flexible deployment of next-generation networks (NGNs). Partnering with prominent system integrators and equipment manufacturers, VocalTec serves an installed base of dozens of leading carriers including Deutsche Telekom and Telecom Italia San Marino. VocalTec is led by a management team comprised of respected industry veterans.

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