

Remarks for Special Issue on IT/Network Integrated Solution "UNIVERGE"

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I would like to express my sincere appreciation to you for using NEC products.

Today, IP networks are becoming increasingly popular and broadband is making rapid advancements. In offices, network connections are shifting to faster services — from 100Mbps to gigabit Ethernet. At the same time, high-speed IP-VPN services that connect companies and company group operations are rapidly expanding owing to their reduced costs. In addition, Internet services for ordinary consumers are advancing to high-speed communications represented by ADSL networks and fiber optic networks. Wireless LAN technology has also made great progress and is now embedded in cellular phones for general use as well as in almost all notebook PCs and PDAs.

With such progress in broadband and mobile technology, the advent of the ubiquitous computing era, when you can do office work whenever and wherever necessary, is becoming a reality.

At NEC, we have developed a network platform called UNIVERGE that can integrate sound, images, and data-processing by fully utilizing broadband and wireless network technologies, thereby reducing the communications costs, and at the same time significantly improving office work productivity.

UNIVERGE, a name created by combining "Universal" and "Convergence," is a platform that fuses computer technology and network technology, aiming at solutions for media integration and office work integration.

UNIVERGE features are as follows;

- 1) UNIVERGE provides integrated handling and use of telephones, images, and data. It is easy to integrate IP telephoning, videoconferencing, e-mail, the web, and specific office work.
- 2) The functions and operation compatibility with existing PBXs and multifunction telephones are maintained and combined with various new functions to expand system functions.
- 3) Even when an IP network is congested, phone quality is not affected due to the quality of service (QoS) provided.
- 4) Services for ordinary cellular phones and wireless telephones can be combined.
For cellular phones used outside the office, a significant reduction in communications costs can be achieved by changing them to wireless telephones when used inside the office, and office work can be conducted with data communications functions.
- 5) Advanced security functions such as encoding, personal authentication, and anti-virus protection are provided.

Also, the UNIVERGE platform enables the following solution packages, making system introduction and integration easy.

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- 1) Office Collaboration
 - IP telephony pack
 - Unified communications pack
 - FOMA-connected solutions
- 2) Office Security
 - Easy-to-use secure wireless LAN model
 - Easy-to-use secure remote access model
 - Easy-to-use virus quarantine VLAN model
- 3) CRM
 - IP contact center pack

UNIVERGE is expanding globally. It was born in Japan and is progressing to other parts of Asia, North America, and Oceania. As UNIVERGE grows as a major pillar of NEC, we intend to concentrate all our power on moving forward with the development of technologies and solutions.

We will continue developing and providing products that meet the needs of our customers, and kindly ask for your continued support and encouragement.

* FOMA is a trademark or a registered trademark of NTT DoCoMo, Inc.