Emergency call positioning

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Content

- Definitions and introduction
- Regulatory status
- Solution description
- Impact the industry players

Definitions

- emergency call means a service, recognised as such by the Member State, that provides immediate and rapid assistance in situations where there is a direct risk to life or limb, individual or public health or safety, to private or public property, or the environment but not necessarily limited to these situations.
- **location information** means in a public mobile network the data processed indicating the geographic position of a user's mobile terminal and in a public fixed network the data about the physical address of the termination point.
- Emergency call positioning here means a mechanism to deliver user's location information to an emergence centre.

Note: First two definitions are inherited from EU's recommendation.

Regulatory status in European Union

- In July 2003 European Union released commission's recommendation on the processing of caller location in case of emergency call.
- Wireless operators are requested to forward (push) the best available location of the caller to public safety answering point.
- For the intermediate period, it is acceptable that wireless operators make location information available on request only (pull).
- This should apply to roaming users as well.
- Fixed public telephone network operators should make available the installation address of the line from which the emergency call is made.
- Location information should identify the originating network as well.
- Public safety answering points should be able to retrieve an updated location information during the call or after the call.
- European Union member states are requested to submit their implementation status by end of 2004.

Regulatory status in the United States

- Federal Communications Commission (FCC), requested already 1994 that mobile radio service providers have to provide caller's location information for emergence service providers.
- E911 First Report and Order (1996) contains two phase approach to an emergency call positioning.
 - In the phase I the location of the cell site or base station receiving a 911 call is requested to be delivered to the designated 911 Public Safety Answering Point.
 - In the phase II, more accurate automatic location information of a caller is required. The accuracy of the required location information depends on whether a handset-based location technology or Network-based Location Technology is used.
 - For network-based technologies: 100 meters for 67 percent of calls, 300 meters for 95 percent of calls
 - For handset-based technologies: 50 meters for 67 percent of calls, 150 meters for 95 percent of calls

Emergency call positioning in CS network



IMS emergency call positioning -push model



IMS emergency call positioning -pull model





Main impacts to different players

End-user

technology not visible
overall safety increases
may have impact to device price
may boost location services in general

Operator

	 No choice to avoid this
	requirement
;	 None revenue generating service
	 increases costs in terms of
	 Investment
	 Network usage

Vendor

Additional implementation efforts
Country specific implementations may be required
May boost introduction of GPS enabled terminals Emergency centre

•Upgrades to emergency centres may in several steps... (pull, push, introduction of IP based technology)