

Nokia Launches Next-Generation Platform for Location Based Services in GSM and WCDMA 3G Networks

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Nokia is introducing the Nokia intelligent Gateway Mobile Location Center (iGMLC) 4.0, a new cost-efficient platform for location-based services (LBS) as part of the Nokia mPosition System. The Nokia iGMLC platform is highly flexible and simultaneously supports both GSM and WCDMA 3G location based services, giving operators a future-proof and cost-effective solution for providing mobile services based on the location of the user.

In the new GMLC platform, Nokia is also combining its competencies in positioning systems with technology from Cambridge Positioning Systems (CPS) to provide a comprehensive state-of-the-art solution. The platform support a variety of positioning technologies for both GSM and WCDMA 3G, including new support for enhanced Cell Identity and Mobile Station-based A-GPS based on the Secure User Plane (SUPL) protocol. In addition, it supports Cambridge Positioning Systems' SUPL Matrix for 2G. SUPL, which is mobile network agnostic, does not require additional investments in the core and radio network.

The new platform, including support for enhanced Cell Identity, will be available in the second quarter. Support for MS-based SUPL A-GPS and CPS' SUPL Matrix for 2G will be available as a software upgrade in the third quarter.

"The new platform offers our customer a cost-efficient means of deploying location based services, as well as excellent scalability and flexibility in terms of capacity and choice of positioning technologies," says Heikki Hemmi, General Manager, Location Business Program, Networks, Nokia. "The platform supports the entire range of complementing positioning methods, from low-accuracy to high-accuracy technologies. Also, our collaboration with Cambridge Positioning Systems enables smooth introduction of totally new position determination technologies, such as Matrix for 2G "

"Nokia and CPS both understand very clearly operator demands for choice and flexibility as they drive towards high accuracy location deployments. The integration of Matrix into a major vendor platform like the Nokia iGMLC 4.0 underlines the role our technology can play in meeting both current and future needs to support profitable location based services," said Chris Wade, CPS Chief Executive Officer. "CPS believes SUPL is the simplest and most cost-effective route to high accuracy. Matrix is particularly suited to this new open standard due to its ability to offer high and robust accuracy, all-area coverage and fast location fixes in a software-only implementation."

With the Nokia mPosition™ System, mobile operators can build a complete end-to-end system for Location Based Services, while supporting both legacy and LBS enabled handsets. The Nokia mPosition™ System offers a modular, extensible and scalable platform that operators can use to provide their mobile customers with managed access to LBS services.

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Notes to the Editor

The new LBS platform is based on a commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) computing platform, combining best-of-breed COTS hardware with Nokia's state-of-the-art LBS enabling technologies. The new LBS platform flexibly supports 2G and 3G location-based services simultaneously by using either control plane or user plane signaling in any combination. The iGMLC 4.0 platform can be used for both the Gateway Mobile Location Center (GMLC) and Serving Mobile Location Center (SMLC) simultaneously.

User plane signaling is based OMA-specified Secure User Plane Location (SUPL). Control plane signaling is based on 3GPP LCS standards. With SUPL, Nokia supports enhanced CI, MS-based A-GPS for 2G and 3G, and Matrix for 2G.