



**For Immediate Release:**

**IMS Forum<sup>®</sup> Launches BSS/OSS & Security Technical Working Group**

*To Establish Architectural Requirements for NGN BSS/OSS and Security  
in Real-time Service Environments*

Las Vegas, NV– April 14, 2009 -- The NGN and IMS Forum<sup>®</sup>, the only industry associations dedicated to interoperability and certification of IP Multimedia Subsystem (IMS) and Next Generation Network (NGN) applications and services, announced today at the Billing & OSS World Conference & Expo the creation of its BSS/OSS & Security Technical Working Group.

The working group will help guide industry momentum for an integrated BSS/OSS framework to enable cost-effective transition to IMS/NGN environments. NGN IMS Forum members have demonstrated billing interoperability in the past six Plugfests<sup>™</sup> and through commercial deployments. This new working group will focus on the billing and charging, policy control and security functions required by service providers to capture the value promised by NGN networks. HP will chair the working group with support from vice-chairs, Comverse and Mu Dynamics. Other industry leaders such as, Acision, Aricent and Tekelec are also founding members.

“We have learned through the course of our last 6 Plugfests that billing OSS and security play an integral role in the successful implementation of integrated communications services utilizing NGN and IMS,” said Michael Khalilian, Chairman and President NGN and IMS Forum. “We look forward to including the input from this Technical and Business Working Group in our Plugfest 7 interoperability test event and in future Plugfests.”

“Our goal is to accelerate service providers on the path to an integrated BSS/OSS that allows re-use of existing resources, lowers cost, and increases revenue opportunities,” said Nigel Upton, Director, Communications and Media, Solutions, HP. “With interoperability already demonstrated, our working group will strengthen the business and technical foundation that service providers need for a smooth transition to IMS and next-generation services.”

The Working Group will develop guidelines on the business and technical aspects of BSS/OSS and security in IMS and NGN services and will define the architecture and requirements for network interoperability and reliable real-time IP service application deployment. It will focus on the operational and management of converged IMS/NGN applications and services delivered over wireless (3G, LTE), wireline (DSL, optical) and cable broadband. The group will ensure that converged applications and services will have timely and complete support from provisioning, billing and management systems. A whitepaper describing BSS/OSS considerations of NGN will be the group’s first deliverable and is planned by mid-year.

“This working group underscores the importance of ‘smart monetization’ approaches in creating successful business models to leverage the full potential of Next-Generation Networks,” said Gabriel Matsliach, General Manager, Billing & Active Customer Management at Comverse, who will serve as the Group’s vice chair. “The group will draw on our experience in supporting any combination of network, service and payment types, including true quad-play offers.”

“As a two-year veteran of the IMS/NGN Forum and their Plugfest events, Mu Dynamics is pleased to see the increased industry interest in secure Next-Generation Network deployments that prevent unexpected weaknesses in real-time networked applications,” said Adam Stein, vice president of Marketing for Mu Dynamics who will also serve as the group’s vice chair. “Many of our operator and vendor clients play an integral role in this important ecosystem with a high percent of their revenue dependent upon resilient, reliable and secure product development and continuous service deployment.”

### **About Plugfest 7**

IMS OSS/BSS & Security Working Group will be an integral part of the IMS Forum’s Plugfest™ 7 interoperability test that will take place in June 1-5, 2009 at the InterOperability Lab (UNH IOL) in Durham, NH. Participation in NGN IMS Plugfest 7 is open to all companies. For online registration and info contact the forum at: [info@IMSforum.org](mailto:info@IMSforum.org) or visit event at [www.NGNforum.org](http://www.NGNforum.org).

### **About the NGN Forum™ and IMS Forum®**

The NGN and IMS Forum are the only global telecommunications associations devoted to Next Generation Networks (NGN) service delivery and interoperable IP Multimedia Subsystem (IMS) services architectures and solutions. The Forum’s mission is to enable delivery of M-play™: rich multimedia, mobility and fixed services over wireline, cable, GSM, UMTS, Wi-Fi, WiMAX, LTE and fiber broadband networks. The Forum is the creator and organizer of the IMS Plugfests™ and NGN Plugfests™, the industry’s only events focused on verification and certification of IMS and NGN service interoperability through the IMS Certified™ and NGN Certified™ programs.

Through organized Plugfests, technical working groups and other activities, Forum members develop cost-effective technical frameworks for revenue generating converged IP NGN solutions. The combined organizations include over 2000 executives and technical, business development and marketing professionals from global and emerging equipment vendors, solution providers, integrators, service providers, and governmental agencies. For additional information or to join the NGN Forum, IMS Forum the IMS Plugfest, and/or the NGN Plugfest, please visit [www.IMSforum.org](http://www.IMSforum.org) or [www.NGNforum.org](http://www.NGNforum.org).

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