Network Convergence: Services, Applications, Transport, and Operations Support

By Hu Hanrahan

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The present information age is enabled by telecommunications and information technology and the continued convergence of their services, technologies and business models. Within telecommunications, the historic separations between fixed networks, mobile telephone networks and data communications are diminishing. Similarly, information technology and enterprise communications show convergence with telecommunications. These synergies are captured in the concept of Next Generation Networks that result from evolution to new technologies, enabling new services and applications.

Network Convergence creates a framework to aid the understanding of Next Generation Networks, their potential for supporting new and enhanced applications and their relationships with legacy networks. The book identifies and explains the concepts and principles underlying standards for networks, services and applications.

Network Convergence:

- Gives comprehensive coverage of packet multimedia, enterprise networks, third generation mobile communications, OSA/Parlay and developments in fixed networks.
- Gives an integrated view of diverse information and communications systems and technology through a common NGN Framework.
- Delves into protocols, APIs and software processes for supporting services and applications in advanced networks.
- Discusses a variety of applications of telecommunications supporting IT and IT enhanced by communications.
- Follows developments in operations support systems standards and links these to next generation networks.
- Includes a wealth of examples, use cases, tables and illustrations that help reinforce the material for students and practitioners.
- Features an accompanying website with PowerPoint presentations, glossary, web references, tutorial problems, and 'learn more' pages.

This essential reference guide will prove invaluable to advanced undergraduate and graduate students, academics and researchers. It will also be of interest to professionals working for telecommunications network operators, equipment vendors, telecoms regulators, and engineers who wish to further their knowledge of next generation networks.

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Network Convergence: Services, Applications, Transport, and Operations Support By Hu Hanrahan Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #7048260 in Books
- Published on: 2007-04-02
- Original language: English

- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.92" h x 1.32" w x 6.80" l, 2.33 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 464 pages

Editorial Review

From the Back Cover

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About the Author

Hu Hanrahan is Professor of Communications Engineering and Director of the Centre for Telecommunications Access and Services at the University of the Witswatersrand. He is a graduate of the University of the Witswatersrand, from where he also received his Doctorate. He has extensive experience of teaching in the subject area and is also active as consultant for a large number of companies and public utilities. His academic publication record is extensive over many aspects of communications technology.

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