

# All-IP Migration: How Packets Killed the Circuit-Switched Star

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## Abstracts

The transition from circuit-switched to packet-switched services is a long-term trend, which has already deeply impacted electronic communications markets. Further fuelled by the roll-out of next generation fixed and mobile access networks it seems clear that PSTN services will be switched virtually entirely over by 2025. There is a mix of reasons why operators adopt all-IP. Cost savings are clearly an important part of the equation, especially in an industry that is struggling with decreasing or flat revenues. The challenges that operators need to overcome in the process are diverse. The migration as such is a hugely complex operation that will require significant resources in terms of investment and manpower. This report examines the above-mentioned drivers and challenges, explores related regulatory matters and presents a detailed state-of-play of a number of major operators' all-IP initiatives.

The circuit-switched public telephone network has served its users well for more than a century. The technology has proven reliable and provided a good quality of service to billions of users over the years. However, as electronic communications have become ever more data-centric, circuit-switched communications have become less relevant over time, as packet-switched communications have proven to deliver services more efficiently and in larger variety. The development of additional features for circuit-switched communications via the introduction of ISDN in the 1990s has not fundamentally changed this trend. In the last mile in the ground and still make all-IP a strategic priority?

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