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## **XConnect Launches Feature to Deliver High-Definition Voice Between Fixed and Mobile Networks**

### ***Transcoding Enhancement to HD Alliance Will Bridge HD Voice 'Islands'***

**LONDON, Aug. 23, 2011** – [XConnect](#) today announced a new transcoding technology designed to promote wider adoption and utilization of high-definition (HD) voice services. The new feature for members of XConnect's HD Alliance delivers clearer, higher-quality and more effective voice communications by enabling fixed-line and mobile operators to seamlessly exchange HD voice traffic through an IP-peering federation for the first time.

"We are solving the key challenge to widespread adoption of high-definition voice services: the need to deliver traffic across disparate networks," said XConnect CEO Eli Katz. "The enhancement to XConnect's HD Alliance extends the benefits of cross-network HD voice service to mobile operators via cloud-based transcoding, thereby enabling fixed operators to connect HD voice calls with mobile endpoints and vice versa."

Katz noted that the new transcoding feature will be increasingly useful as HD voice gains traction across all networks – fixed, mobile and over the top offerings – for consumer and enterprise markets.

To date, technology barriers have stood in the way of HD voice communication between fixed-line and mobile operators, which deploy different codecs. The new feature bridges the disparate HD "islands" by enabling transcoding in the XConnect multimedia interconnection hub. The resulting interconnection offers new revenue opportunities for fixed and mobile service providers, as well as improved call quality for more users.

The transcoding capability expands the benefits of XConnect's HD Alliance – the world's original peering federation dedicated to HD voice. Since its launch in April 2010, the HD Alliance has supported service providers using the G.722 wideband audio codec, the ITU standard for HD-enabled fixed communications networks.

Now, using the new transcoding technology, HD voice traffic can be delivered with tonal and audio quality preserved between fixed operators using the G.722 codec and mobile operators using the AMR-WB codec, which is most popular for wireless networks.

The HD Alliance, which operates within XConnect's [Global Alliance](#) worldwide peering federation, currently has [11 participating service providers](#).

After launching the HD federation for U.S. operators, XConnect in September 2010 expanded membership to include U.K. participants as part of an initiative with Polycom, BroadSoft and Dialogic to promote HD voice uptake in the U.K.

For more information on HD voice, please visit [www.xconnect.net/hd](http://www.xconnect.net/hd).

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### **About XConnect**

The global leader in network peering, XConnect is trusted by IP-based service providers in 20 countries to offer a suite of Interconnect 2.0 services, including carrier ENUM-registry and next-generation multimedia interconnection hub solutions. London-based XConnect offers the most comprehensive and reliable solutions to help service providers deliver rich multimedia IP communications across networks while reducing costs and improving service quality. Backed by Tier 1 venture capital firms, XConnect operates the largest worldwide ENUM-based IP-peering federation, the Global Alliance, and the world's first national VoIP/NGN interconnection federations, in the Netherlands, Korea and South Africa. For more information, please visit [www.xconnect.net](http://www.xconnect.net).