



Clarent® Connect

Extend. Expand. Connect.

Large, small, public or private, **Clarent Connect** enables worldwide network extension by facilitating seamless gateway usage exchange between multiple independent IP telephony networks.



Extend customer reach. Expand network coverage.

Clarent Connect software is a key enabler between multiple independent IP networks for sharing traffic, least-cost routing instructions, wholesale minutes exchange, billing records and real-time settlement and clearing functionality. Clarent Connect brings disparate, independent IP telephony networks together into a mutually beneficial partnership, the result of which is wider coverage for customers, low cost worldwide extension of networks and real time account settlement.

Benefits

- Increased convenience and coverage for customers as they use partner networks to terminate calls where no direct presence exists.
- Turnkey clearinghouse package allowing network operators to create or join central clearinghouses
- Utilizing Clarent Connect, independent service providers need only establish partnership(s) with a Clearinghouse to gain access to IP telephony services worldwide
- Turnkey bilateral package for carrier-to-carrier traffic sharing
- Real-time account settlement
- Least-cost routing and traffic balancing between partner networks
- Possibility for enterprises to use "public" gateways for call origination and termination
- Increased revenues when partners' customers use your network to terminate long-distance IP telephony calls
- Scalable, dynamic server architecture supports millions of customers and hundreds of partnerships
- Security and protection for sensitive network and subscriber information

Flexibility. Functionality. Future.

The flexibility of Clarent Connect allows service providers to form partnerships in either a bilateral partner or a clearinghouse configuration. By installing Connect Proxy, an additional network element, in conjunction with a Clarent Command Center™ and a Clarent database, networks can fully utilize the power of Clarent Connect. As an IP-based network

sharing application, Clarent Connect validates your partners' networks and issues routing instructions from your database. With Clarent Connect, a Clarent network can extend partnerships and pass calls through multiple Clarent Connect networks for greater coverage, and participating networks share call detail information to allow unified billing.

Success...step by step.

- In bilateral partnership configuration, callers from a partner network enter the phone numbers they want to call
- The partner Clarent Gateway checks its home Clarent Command Center for a route
- The Command Center returns a route to the Gateway which points to a Connect Proxy in a neighboring network
- Upon receipt of the Gateway route request, the neighboring network Connect Proxy will query its Command Center for routing. The Command Center will return either an egress route for a Gateway to terminate the call, or the address of another network's Connect Proxy. This latter scenario is referred to as multi-hopping.
- Each Connect Proxy is a state machine. After the call, final billing records are created for each participating network respectively.

Clearinghouses

Similar call processes apply to Clearinghouse configurations, and Clearinghouses and partner networks may use these billing records to settle partner accounts in real time.

Clarent Connect allows a Clarent network to join a Clarent Clearinghouse where a Connect Proxy is configured as a Clearinghouse. Networks that originate calls are given a debit for the cost of the call, while networks that terminate calls are given a credit. It's all logged in real time, meaning no need for cumbersome batch settlement processes between carriers.

Scalability – Connect Proxy runs on a Windows NT platform connected to an IP network. To accommodate growth in both the number of customers as well as partners, Clarent Connect capacity is scalable, by simply adding additional Connect Proxy servers when needed.

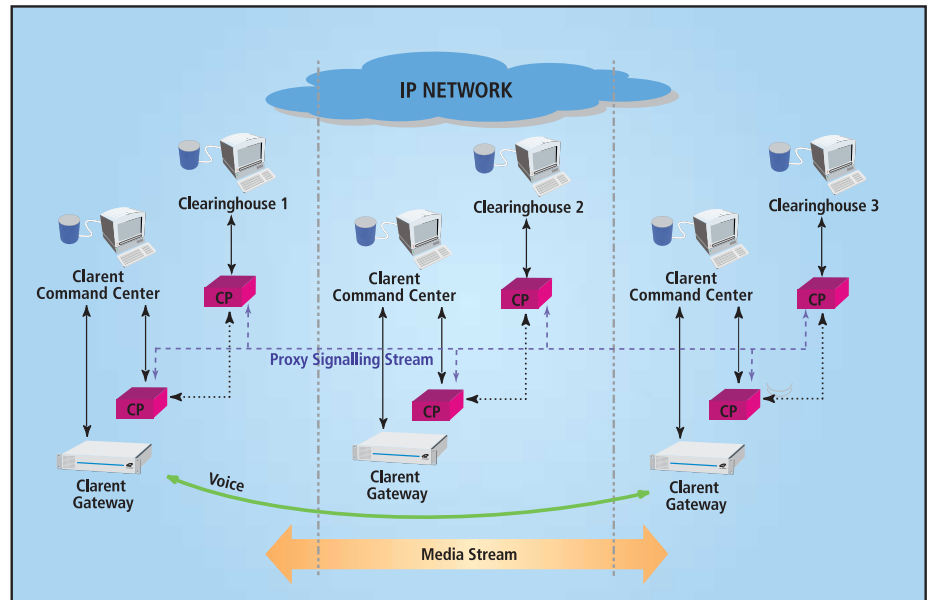
- Increased coverage with partner networks
- Turnkey clearinghouse package
- Carrier-to-carrier traffic sharing
- Real-time account settlement
- Least-cost routing
- Scalable, dynamic server architecture
- Secure subscriber information



Clarent Connect

Fault Tolerant – A fully redundant architecture ensures high reliability. Multiple Connect Proxies can be installed on individual machines attached to the Command Center, thus keeping the Clarent Connect system running even when one Connect Proxy server is unavailable.

Hardware Recommendations – Clarent Connect software runs on a variety of Windows NT platforms, from simple servers to high-speed servers with RAID drives, tape backup and hot-swappable power supplies. It is recommended that a platform running Clarent Connect software be minimally configured with a 600 MHz Pentium III CPU, 256 MB RAM and 10.6 GB EIDE hard drive.



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