Task Force Enhanced Communication Services (TF-ECS)
Terms of Reference
(Draft V1.2)

1. A Task Force is established under the auspices of the TERENA Technical Programme to investigate synchronous enhanced communication and related services. The Task Force Enhanced Communication Services will explore collaboration tools and technologies that go beyond traditional voice and video conferencing.
   The focus is on real-time communication (RTC) tools and protocols that include audio (VoIP and IP-Telephony), video, instant messaging, presence, collaborative applications (shared whiteboards, group editing of documents) and desktop sharing (remote desktop) and related media.
   TF-ECS will coordinate current national activities and assist in the rollout of next-generation collaboration services. The Task Force will investigate the impact of future developments and will define an architecture and trust model for peering deployments in national research and education networks.

2. The aims of this Task Force will be:

a. to provide a forum for exchanging experiences and knowledge;
b. to promote the benefits of the new communication technologies and assist the rollout of enhanced communication services;
c. to coordinate current national activities;
d. to provide a technical-knowledge repository containing information about standards, products for communication services and best practice documents;
e. to provide an information portal listing organisations already offering enhanced communication services and giving useful hints how to contact members of the European academic community;
f. to test, update and extend the existing communication deployment among NRENs and beyond;
g. to investigate the impact of future developments in real-time communication;
h. to define a national and international architecture and propose a trust relationship model within the international NREN community to avoid abuse.

3. The Task Force will be open to any individual who can offer appropriate expertise, manpower, equipment or services.

4. The Co-Chairs of the Task Force will be Erik Dobbelsteijn and Fabio Vena who will be responsible for preparing the agenda of each meeting, and for co-ordinating the work of the Task Force. They will also be responsible for ensuring that the agreed deliverables are produced.

5. The secretary of the Task Force will be appointed by TERENA. She/He will be responsible for taking the minutes at each meeting, and for making logistical arrangements as necessary.

6. The Task Force will operate with a 2-year mandate, starting 1 October 2006. A report on the progress of the Task Force and the results achieved will be made at the TERENA Networking Conference 2007. The mandate of the Task Force may be renewed by the TERENA Technical Committee (TTC). If the mandate is not renewed, the Task Force will be dissolved. The Task Force may also be dissolved if the TTC considers that it is making insufficient progress or that its activities are no longer useful or relevant, or if the Task Force co-chairs resign and no replacement can be found.

7. The Task Force will meet approximately six times per year. In the first year, four face to face meetings will be held and in the second year there will be two. Other meetings will take place by means of videoconference. Face to face meetings will be held at various locations, taking care to reduce overall costs to participants.

8. Reports and other results of the Task Force will be placed in the public domain, with the exception of information that is subject to a commercial Non-Disclosure Agreement.

9. The Task Force will have a mailing list (tf-ecs@terena.nl) for communication between the participants. The mailing list archive will be publicly available.

List of Work Items and Deliverables

Following NRENs and research organisations have expressed their willingness to contribute to the work items and deliverables:
CESNET, FCCN, GARR, GRNET, SURFnet, SWITCH

Code	Description	Type	Deadline	Leader
A	Establishing the Task Force Information site on the TERENA server, containing links to information on communication related issues, reports and presentations	W	**done**	**PDO**
B	Update the online IP telephony Cookbook. Publish a 2nd online edition focusing more on enhanced communication services and less on telephony. Contribution from all	D	**TNC 07 / October 2008**	**Dimitris Daskopoulos (GRNET)**
C	Overview of national activities and deployments Contribution from all	D	**TNC 07 / October 2008**	**Fabio Vena (SWITCH)**
D	Requirements definitions for inter-NREN RTC peering • Regulatory issues • Security levels Contribution from all	D	**March 2007**	**Erik Dobbelsteijn (SURFnet)**
E	Architecture design for a international trusted RTC system Define a standardised architecture for NRENs in order to create trusted RTC peerings. These trusted RTC connections are fundamental in order to implement SPAM over IP-Telephony (SPIT) prevention systems, authenticated origin/destination connections, implement any legal issues forced by regulatory bodies. This architecture design focuses on: - Security - AAAI - PKI/Trust infrastructure - definition of a dialing schema based on ENUM - multi-lateral peering agreements Contribution from all	D	**October 2007**	**Jan Ruzicka (CESNET)**
F	Design of the test-bed and creation of the test-plan based on the concepts selected out of E	W	**October 2008**	**Marco Sommani (GARR)**

Type definition: W = Work item / D = Deliverable