

TF-MSP

8 june 2009



Collaboration with 3G operators

Stefan Winter, RESTENA Foundation, LU
<stefan.winter@restena.lu>

3G collaboration: existing, deployed, ...



- Starting point: eduroam as a successful international roaming consortium
- Free!
- But only on selected places
- Users have to use different means of connectivity when off-campus
- 3G is “ubiquitous”
- Some NRENs negotiated special deals: HEANet, CARNet, ...

Customer quote



- RESTENA Trouble Ticket System:
 - “Eigendlech sinn ech jo 24/24 iwert UMTS am Netz, an deii Idee mam Eduroam ass ma komm weii ech gelies hun dat en mat dem Eduroam och am Ausland an Netz kennt wou UMTS dann mein Budget geiif iwertreffen. Desst wär en Versuch wert.”
 - “Usually, I’m on the net 24 hours a day via UMTS, and the idea with eduroam only occurred to me when I read that eduroam also gets you onto the network abroad – and that would be too much for my budget with UMTS. That would make it worth a try.”

... but not necessarily with NREN involvement!



- According to mail “Collaboration with 3G providers”: not much more to report
- ... but such special deals exist anyway (personal experience: O2 Germany and my university when I was a student)
 - present your student ID during contract enrollment
 - Archaic, but reliable
 - ... and without NREN dependency!
- Q: is the NREN superfluous? Is there a case for getting NREN involved?

3G: NREN business case



- One point: roaming in 3G... striking a Europe-wide deal would be of great benefit for users
- Other point: access to NREN data networks
 - Interesting discussion on list
 - Outcome:
 - PAP or CHAP credential exchange with 3G (shudder!)
 - Experiment with EAP for APN access
 - Explore deals with 3G operator putting users in appropriate NREN APN
 - “Our customers like to eavesdrop on everything” (N.N. about mobile operators)

A 3G roaming deal?



- Requires an operator with large European presence
- Or: “the desperate underdog” (“Mobile Challengers”)
- Need to talk to their EU headquarters
- Ideally, two NREN nation-wide initiatives already running
- Can we do this? Do we want to?