

→ Kineto FAQs

1. WHO IS KINETO WIRELESS?

Kineto is the key innovator and leading supplier of UMA technology, the 3GPP standard for fixed-mobile convergence.

2. WHAT IS UMA?

UMA technology is the 3GPP global standard for fixed-mobile convergence. UMA enables secure, scalable access to mobile voice, data and IMS services over broadband IP access networks. By deploying UMA technology, mobile operators can deliver a number of compelling fixed-mobile convergence services. The most well known application of UMA technology is dual-mode cellular/Wi-Fi handsets, which enable subscribers to automatically roam and handover between cellular networks and public and private Wireless LANs.

3. IS UMA A RECOGNIZED STANDARD?

Yes. In September 2004, the UMA participating companies introduced the UMA specifications to 3GPP for consideration as a formal standard. In April 2005, the UMA specifications were formally incorporated into Release 6, thus making UMA the 3GPP standard for mobile/Wi-Fi convergence. Within the 3GPP specifications, UMA is referred to as Generic Access to A/Gb interfaces and contained within TS 43.318.

4. WHAT BENEFITS DOES UMA PROVIDE SUBSCRIBERS?

The benefits provided to subscribers vary based on the UMA service. For example, for a UMA-enabled dual-mode handset service, the following benefits are provided.

- Improved coverage: UMA gives subscribers the indoor coverage they demand in the places they spend most of their time, at home and the office.
- Broadband data rates: UMA enables subscribers to receive a true broadband experience for their mobile data and IMS services.
- Lower costs: Depending on the service provider, mobile voice, data and IMS services accessed via UMA will typically have a lower charge than when access via the outdoor GSM network.

5. WHAT BENEFITS DOES UMA PROVIDE MOBILE OPERATORS?

- Increased Revenue: UMA drives significant new revenues by increasing the use of mobile voice, data and IMS services where subscribers spend most of their time, at home and the office.
- Lower CapEx/OpEx: UMA lowers capital and operational expenses by offloading mobile voice, data and IMS traffic from the macro cellular network to broadband/Wi-Fi whenever subscribers are at home or the office.
- Reduced churn: UMA can reduce churn by providing subscribers with an enriched mobile experience where they spend most of their time, at home and the office.

6. WHAT IS UNIVERSAL MOBILE ACCESS?

UMA, initially recognized as the 3GPP standard for dual-mode handset services, is now viewed as a generic, universal approach for providing secure, scalable, and cost-effective access to mobile voice, data, and IMS services over the Internet. As a result, mobile operators are now leveraging UMA to support a number of developing convergence services, including femtocells, terminal adaptors and softmobiles.

7. DOES UMA SUPPORT IMS?

Yes. UMA is the 3GPP standard for enabling all mobile services to be accessed over fixed IP access networks: voice, data, and IMS. In fact, UMA expands the places where IMS services can be delivered. By adding Wi-Fi access at homes, workplaces, and hotspots to the list of cellular coverage, subscribers can use their IMS services at more places, more frequently, with full broadband functionality.

8. IS UMA BASED ON SIP? WHY OR WHY NOT?

UMA and SIP perform different functions in a mobile network. SIP is an application layer technology that facilitates the creation of new IP-based mobile services. UMA is an access layer technology that enables mobile services (included SIP-based services) to be access over broadband/Wi-Fi.

9. ARE UMA SOLUTIONS AVAILABLE TODAY?

Yes. At this point all major mobile infrastructure suppliers and handset vendors have commercially available UMA products, including Kineto, Nokia, Motorola, Samsung Ericsson, and Alcatel-Lucent.

10. DOES UMA SUPPORT STANDARD WI-FI ACCESS POINTS?

Yes. The UMA standard was specifically designed so that UMA-enabled dual-mode handsets could leverage existing, deployed Wi-Fi access points.

11. HOW DOES UMA DEAL WITH SECURITY IF TRAFFIC IS CROSSING THE INTERNET?

The 3GPP UMA standard defines the use of an IPSec tunnel originated in the handset and terminated on the UNC in an operator's core network. The UNC terminates the IPSec tunnel and handles user login and authentication to the mobile core network.

12. WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE ABOUT THE COMPANIES INVOLVED IN UMA?

Please visit the industry web site at www.UMAToday.com.

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