

Skype Becomes The Largest Provider Of Cross-Border Communications In The World



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Skype's international phone-calling traffic has accelerated at a time when international telephone traffic has slowed, according to a new report by TeleGeography.

Skype traffic has been soaring despite the background of slowing growth by conventional phone companies, according to the report. Where [international calling](#) volumes from telephones was growing at a compounded annual rate of 15% for the past 25 years, over the past two years it has slowed down to only 8%. Skype however has seen its international [cheap calls](#) volume sky rocket.

In a press statement from TeleGeography, analyst Stephan Beckert commented, "Demand for international voice has been remarkably robust, but it's clearly not recession-proof". However the statement went on to highlight that Skype was managing to very successfully buck the trend, with on-net international Skype-to-Skype traffic growing by 51% in 2008, and a projected growth of 63% in 2009, to a massive 54 billion minutes. "The volume of traffic routed via Skype is tremendous," said Beckert.

This increase in international calling minutes experienced by Skype has brought its market share up to 12% in 2009, and made Skype the "largest provider of cross border communications in the world, by far", according to Beckert.

The success experienced by Skype can be further demonstrated by a recent company journal report which showed that on the 19th January 2010 the service experienced an all-time record number of concurrent logged on users

with over 22 and a quarter million clients signed in to Skype at the same time. This record comes only shortly after the previous record of 21.5 million concurrent users was logged the previous Monday.

Notes to editors:

About

TeleGeography

TeleGeography is a supplier of data-driven telecommunications research, analysis and consulting services to carriers, equipment makers, investors and regulators worldwide.

About

Skype

Skype is software that enables the world's conversations. Millions of individuals and businesses use Skype to make free video and [voice calls](#), send instant messages and share files with other Skype users. Everyday people everywhere also use Skype to make low-cost [internet calls](#) to landlines and mobiles.

Access to a broadband Internet connection is required. Skype is not a replacement for traditional telephone service and cannot be used for emergency calling.

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