

FRANCE 3G/EDGE NIGHTMARE - A REPORT

(CRYPTOVOIP Technologies - www.cryptovoip.in)

WHEN IT FAILS

VoIP from mobile phones can take market shares of already established operators that earn money with GSM communications, some of them don't see with a good eye that their subscribers prefer to use VoIP applications rather than the conventional GSM dialer of their phones. Due to this reason Mobile Operators or Internet Service Providers (ISPs) who provide internet services like 3G, EDGE, 2G blocks VoIP in their data networks.

Mobile Operators can block VoIP in following ways:

Mobile operators forbid their subscriber to use VoIP on their network, by explicit terms in their contract.

Mobile operators restrict ports in such a way that UDP packets are discarded (and VoIP needs UDP, at least to transport the media streams). They can even restrict to just smtp, http and https ports. What they call internet is in fact just web and mail.

One more technique to restrict UDP traffic, by trashing UDP packets when they exceed a certain bandwidth (for example 3kbit/s), which allows basically SIP requests to go through, but the media streams go through with 80% of packet losses, and so the conversation is impossible. Which more or less is a way to tell subscribers: you see, you can do VoIP but it doesn't work very well.

This is why VoIP does not work in countries like UAE, Oman, Bangladesh, etc. The mobile operators like DU Networks, Etisalat, SFR, Orange, etc has blocked VoIP in these countries. Recently France has joined such nations. At present 27 countries are having Mobile Operators which block VoIP.

HOW MOBILE OPERATORS IN FRANCE BLOCKS VOIP:

The situation in France is quite a nightmare. From our experience and the feedback we have from users, SFR and Bouygues forbid and block VoIP by restricting to a few TCP ports. But the most strange thing is about Orange. At the early times it was working (very well) but forbidden in the contracts. Then in April 2010 they decided to allow VoIP for most of their contracts, at the exception of the cheapest one, but proposing to purchase a "VoIP option" to finally allow it. Great ! But finally at the end of november 2010, they restricted the UDP traffic to a few kbit/s , which renders VoIP mostly impossible. This is very surprising and at this time we did find any reason for that. Is this a technical problem ? Is it because their network becomes saturated ? Apparently not as from what we can measure the TCP bandwidth is always very high and all

other application can work very well.

Any explanations or information will be highly appreciated !

The stories of Etisalat and Du Networks in Gulf and Oman are also same.

WHAT CAN WE DO ?

CRYTOVOIP EP TUNNEL Solution is most powerful VoIP Anti blocking system which prevents the VoIP Applications like SIP Mobile Dialers and PC Softphones to overcome such blockages and enables VoIP to work seamlessly on all such Mobile Opertors network.