

Mobile Web Services Framework

Applications: Infomobility



"This technology is highly promising in the development and deployment of generic secure services over broadband satellite communication."
Nils Solvang, Director Network Support, Inmarsat



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PROFILE:

The mobile satellite communications market has undergone rapid changes in technology, with the introduction of the mobile user terminals using packet data services based on GPRS/UMTS technologies as the latest trend. These terminals enable users to connect their remote mobile computers as clients to the Internet, using a high-speed data connection. However, the current state of technology also enables mobile terminals to be deployed as servers, offering a specific set of web services to any client computer on the Internet.

The Mobile Web Services Framework, comprising a set of standard web services, can be deployed on any type of mobile satellite user terminal. Standard services include network performance testing, web cam services, field data acquisition services and GPS positioning. Additional web services can be created within the framework, using specific APIs for tight integration with the satellite modem and other devices deployed.

In addition, the Framework includes a Gatekeeper. The latter is a web server deployed on the terrestrial Internet. Requests from clients to the mobile server will first be directed to the Gatekeeper and processed there, before being directed to the mobile server via the satellite connection. Within the Gatekeeper, transaction management services are deployed that enable the management of user terminal IP & DNS settings, security issues, feedback in case of network unavailability, and buffering of data from the mobile terminal.

In short, the Mobile Server framework is an integrated, out-of-the-box solution set that supports rapid deployment of mobile web services for organisations and consumers using mobile PCs with broadband satellite Internet access.