



## Comparing Transcomm's Network with GPRS

Transcomm has a proven, reliable and cost-efficient network specifically designed for business to business wireless data applications that require levels of availability and integrity exceeding those delivered by consumer oriented, voice centric GSM/GPRS networks.

*Transcomm – the ideal choice for mission-critical wireless applications requiring frequent, short bursts of data*

	<b>Transcomm</b>	<b>GPRS</b>
<b>Network</b>	<p>Packet switched 'data-only' network designed for the transmission of short, frequent data exchanges.</p> <p>Resilient B2B service – no contention with voice traffic.</p> <p>Supports IP.</p>	<p>An overlay on the consumer GSM network that allows packet-switched data transmissions to share available time slots with voice traffic.</p> <p>Cannot use both voice and data at the same time.</p> <p>IP based.</p>
<b>Guaranteed Service</b>	<p>Service Level Agreements (SLAs) As standard. Enhanced SLAs tailored to customer needs.</p> <p>No risk that other types of traffic, such as voice, may temporarily be given higher priority.</p> <p>A single channel can accommodate hundreds of terminals simultaneously.</p>	<p>SLAs not offered as standard.</p> <p>Operators decide how many time slots are allocated to data. Actual data throughput depends on slot availability at a specific time and place.</p> <p>No guarantee that data slots will be available when needed, particularly in busy locations where many people are making voice calls.</p> <p>Voice has priority over data.</p>
<b>Always on and Instantly Available</b>	<p>Terminals are always online, and the network is instantly available without the need to set-up a session.</p>	<p>User is only online after the terminal has requested a session and received acknowledgement from the network. Number of sessions per cell is limited.</p>
<b>Push Functionality</b>	<p>Data can be pushed ("send and forget") to mobile terminals at any time.</p> <p>Supports push functionality to pre-defined user groups.</p>	<p>The mobile terminal must initiate a connection and set up a session before data can be accessed.</p> <p>The host system cannot initiate a session. The host can send an SMS asking the mobile terminal to initiate a session. SMS latency can be long.</p>
<b>Roaming and Information Transfer on the Move</b>	<p>Roaming is initiated by the terminal.</p> <p>Radio coverage cells are larger, so less frequent roaming.</p>	<p>Network initiates roaming.</p> <p>Radio coverage cells are much smaller, forcing roaming to be more frequent. Handover from cell to cell is not guaranteed due to voice contention.</p> <p>Sessions can be dropped between cells.</p>

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<b>Guaranteed Delivery</b>	Intelligent network includes positive and negative acknowledgement and store-and-forward functionality plus redundancy on all network levels. 100% guaranteed packet accountability. Packets delivered or returned.	Cannot guarantee delivery or packet accountability.  Functionality to guarantee delivery must be implemented in the application.
<b>IP Addresses</b>	Each device on the network has a permanent address that can be associated with an IP address for use by the application.	IP addresses are assigned dynamically and may even change as the terminal moves between cells. Complicates application development in associating IP addresses with specific terminals and vehicles.
<b>Resilient Server Connections</b>	Unique network feature provides automatic addressing for multiple server links giving increased resilience.	Not available as standard network feature.
<b>Security</b>	High level of security built into the network. Certified for use by police and rescue services in many countries.	A PSTN service for which users are responsible for their own Internet-level security. It is not built into the network.
<b>Device Availability</b>	A wide range of user devices are available for both horizontal and vertical applications featuring high performance.  Excellent battery life and attractive prices.	Device availability problematic. A variety of telephones and PDAs are becoming available for the horizontal market, but few devices available for vertical applications.  Price/performance data still uncertain.
<b>Telemetry and Device-to-Device Communications</b>	Highly suitable for automatic devices and telemetry applications involving remote monitoring and control, and device-to-device communications.	Limited options for automatic devices and telemetry, and the lack of devices for vertical applications compounds the problem.
<b>Data Transfer Rate</b>	Over-the-air 8kbit/s	Dependent on timeslots available. CS-2 scheme 13kbit/s per timeslot = 10.4kbit/s at application level with no contention for timeslots.
<b>Pricing</b>	Pricing for public data services are based on the volume of data exchanged with no additional connection or session charges. Only charge for user data sent.	Public GPRS operators experimenting with pricing models to find the best mix for a market consisting of consumers and business users.  All IP management and control overhead packets charged at full rate.
<b>Device Battery Life</b>	Transcomm Grapevine Wireless PDA: 4 days average use.	Approximately 1 days use.
<b>Future-Proof</b>	Network technology constantly enhanced to address new market segments and opportunities.	A 2.5G technology as a step on the way to 3G. Future viability uncertain for terminal manufacturers, network operators and application developers.
<b>Typical Usage</b>	Business critical wireless data services.	Non critical consumer streaming, web access and picture messaging services.



Transcomm UK Ltd  
 Heathrow Boulevard  
 280 Bath Road  
 West Drayton  
 Middlesex  
 UB7 0DQ  
 Tel : 0208 990 9090  
 Fax : 0208 990 9110  
[info@transcomm.uk.com](mailto:info@transcomm.uk.com)  
[www.transcomm.uk.com](http://www.transcomm.uk.com)