



integrated
architectures

C2: Evaluating RFPs for IPDR Compliance

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Planning

- Questions you should ask yourself
- Questions you should ask your vendor

Questions You Should Ask Yourself

- Do you have a self-contained network, or must you participate in inter-carrier clearings and settlements? (Now? Later?)
- Do you offer real-time services or are they really quasi-batch? (Now? Later?)
- Do you believe that the European trends in service offerings will migrate to the United States over time?
- Will you need to support hybrid wireless/wireline services? (Now? Later?)

Questions You Should Ask Your Vendor

- Do you participate in the IPDR organization?
- Have you performed inter-operability testing?
- What versions of the IPDR specification do you support?
- Do you have live installations and references?
- What is the largest volume of records for which you have tested? (number of records, busy hour)
- How do you support extensions to IPDR formats for unique services we will offer that have not yet been standardized?

For Billing and Mediation Components

- Do you support multi-session transactions?
- Do you support multi-party transaction distributions?
- Do you support inter-carrier billing? Do you handle disputes and settlements?
- How do you support inter-carrier naming conventions?
- Do you support OSP transaction correlation?
- Do you support mobile service customers that roam?

For Billing and Mediation Components (continued)

- How do you archive and recall IPDR records?
- How do you interface your front end IPDR capabilities with your legacy accounts receivable and collections systems?
- For ordering and service provisioning vendors: How do you handle the new fields and validation for IPDR-based services?

For Billing and Mediation Components (continued)

- Do you support end-to-end audit trail and balancing of IPDR originated items?
- Do you provide group batch balancing controls?
- How do you handle suspense items for multiple-event sessions during mediation and rating?
- How do you detect the “whirlwind” effect in defective inter-carrier exchanges?