

Centralized, intelligent, flexible control for softswitch solutions

The Clarent Command Center is the network control component of the Clarent PSTN Access and Clarent Edge Access softswitch solutions. Its intelligent functionality supports a wide array of capabilities from traditional toll bypass via VoIP to advanced enterprise managed services. The Clarent Command Center's centralized architecture also offers extraordinarily flexible and responsive control over disparate IP networks interconnected by Clarent softswitch solutions.

ADVANCED CONTROL FOR NEXT GENERATION NETWORKS

The Command Center is an integral part of every softswitch solution: an intelligent network control application that supports both the Clarent PSTN Access (Class 4) and Clarent Edge Access (Class 5) softswitches. The Command Center provides a single, centralized point of control for entire networks, with call control for tens of thousands of simultaneous telephone calls within enterprise, wholesale, retail, and Voice over Broadband (VoBB) environments.

REAL-TIME NETWORK RECONFIGURATION

The Command Center can automatically reconfigure networks in real time based on demand conditions such as fluctuations in the price of network interconnections (least cost routing) or in reaction to network limitations such as required maintenance operations. Because of its centralized architecture, changes made in the Command Center are instantly available throughout the network and do not require network engineers to configure each affected element.

DYNAMIC CALL ROUTING

The Command Center routes each call based on the destination phone number and source attributes. It works seamlessly with both new and existing abbreviated dialing plans, eliminating the need for changes in dialing procedures. Large-scale, complex dialing plans can be implemented easily and managed through dynamic dial plan loading and phone number translation capabilities.

Routes can also be associated with specific ports or spans on media gateways, enabling routing control down to the port level. A multiple route choice capability permits as many as 10 alternate routes to be specified in the event that the primary egress gateway is unavailable. Routes can also be configured for load sharing, least cost routing, and prioritization based on Answer Seizure Ration (ASR).

FLEXIBLE CALLING PLAN AND CALL RATING MANAGEMENT

The Command Center supports an array of customer plans and types including postpaid, prepaid, single-use, and multi-use accounts.

It can specify call rates for individual telephone numbers and set different inbound and outbound charges for each route. Call rates can change by time of day or to accommodate special rates for weekends, holidays, or any other events. Free calls can be allowed for individual or group numbers, and egress charges can be applied to calls made across other networks.

SUPPORT FOR CALLS REQUIRING SPECIAL HANDLING

In conjunction with the Clarent Edge Access softswitch solution, the Command Center can provide the special handling of phone numbers and call routing required to support emergency services and carrier-based routing. It can also determine from the call origin whether special handling is required for directory assistance, operator assistance, international calling, long distance, or local calling.

AUTOMATED CALL DETAIL RECORDS (CDR) MANAGEMENT

The Command Center maintains a database of call detail records for every inbound and outbound call. Each CDR has over 30 parameters including the equipment handling the call, call statistics, call attributes, and more. Real time ASR statistics are generated from these CDRs for QOS measurements. Intermediate CDRs are also supported for long duration call management and fraud detection.

EASILY SCALABLE, ABSOLUTELY RELIABLE

The Command Center supports multiple UNIX environments. Multiple installations of the Clarent Command Center can be run on separate systems with each associated with the database and working simultaneously. This provides a high degree of scalability as well as a fault-tolerant IP telephony network with uninterrupted network uptime. In addition, the flexible nature of the softswitch distributed network architecture promotes independent sub-system expansion, allowing supported softswitches to grow without compromising the performance of the Command Center.



CLARENT COMMAND CENTER

Key Features:

» Subscriber (end-user) Management

- Pre-paid and post-paid accounts
- Class 5 subscriber services
- Class of service definition
- Association of subscribers to a particular class of service

» Endpoint/Telephone Management

- Flexible control over services (Call Forwarding, Call Transfer etc.) assigned to individual endpoints
- Restrict use of specific phone numbers or ranges (international calls, 1-900 calls, etc.)
- An ability to assign multiple phone numbers to a single endpoint
- Support for Carrier Select allowing subscribers to use preferred long distance providers

» Call Routing

- Multiple route choices based on proportion and prioritization

- Source trunk group based routing
- Source-based routing for services such as operator, directory and emergency
- Dynamic least cost routing
- Answer Seizure Ratio (ASR) based routing

» Call Rating

- Time of day and special day rating
- Drop off rates
- Rating rules
- Free call thresholds
- Flexible billing increments
- Rating plans which can be applied to groups of subscribers

» White List/Black List Phone Numbers

» Highly Flexible Ingress/Egress Dial Rule Management

» Call Detail Record Management

- Associations with Accounting Codes

- Over 30 fields in each record containing source information, destination information, call attributes, performance metrics, and release cause
- Records start, end and intermediate phases of each call
- Statistics available for ASR, average call duration and release cause codes

» 800 Number Translation

» Grouping of subscribers into private network domains with specific routes, rates, and service classes.

» Management and Monitoring

- Web-based tools
- Enterprise SNMP MIB

» Support for multiple Command Centers to provide maximum availability and redundancy

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Operating Platforms

» Solaris Platform

- SunFire T1000/T2000 platforms
- Solaris10 O/S

» Linux Platform

- Intel based single/dual CPU platform running RedHat Linux EL5 O/S

» Command Center Database

- Oracle 10g



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