

What's to Fear from Peer-to-Peer?

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What's to Fear from Peer-to-Peer?

- Miercom has tested:
 - Skype,
 - Nimcat (pre-Avaya, on Aastra phones) and
 - Avaya one-X Quick Edition (post-Avaya acquisition of Nimcat)

What's to Fear from Peer-to-Peer?

- Skype
 - Not really peer-to-peer.
 - Skype's VoIP is point-to-point (like most VoIP is today)
 - But call set-up is certainly server-based
 - Servers can be “appropriated,” but to us it seems there is an elaborate call-control server structure, in a distributed hierarchy

What's to Fear from Peer-to-Peer?

- Nimcat on Aastra
 - There are NO servers
 - But there's a lot of distributed intelligence on each phone – which may be inefficient, due to lack of a server
 - Elaborate fail-over mechanisms for server-like functions, like voicemail
 - Vendor claimed up to 50 stations, but we are skeptical

What's to Fear from Peer-to-Peer?

- Nimcat reincarnated: one-X Quick Edition
 - Avaya had it running on Avaya 4621 & 4610 phones (an 8.2 MB load)
 - Includes fully distributed voicemail, back-up
 - Practically, up to 20 stations
 - It IS now running, through SES, as a distributed system off of an Avaya Comm Manager

What's to Fear from Peer-to-Peer?

- Will IP-PBX vendors offer large-scale P2P products, or do they see P2P as a small niche?

What's to Fear from Peer-to-Peer?

- Do Skype and other user-driven P2P software threaten network security? If so, what can you realistically do about it?

What's to Fear from Peer-to-Peer?

- What happens to your ability to plan, architect and provision for appropriate network capacity in an environment that's heavily peer to peer?
- What are the advantages of P2P?