



## Q&A

# Cisco BTS 10200 Softswitch

**Q.** What is a softswitch?

**A.** Softswitches (from “software switches”) provide call control and service intelligence telephony and packet networks. A softswitch also serves as a platform for interfacing applications and enhanced service platforms. Because softswitches can carry voice, video, and data traffic more efficiently than existing hardware circuit switches, softswitched networks enable service providers to support new, enhanced voice service features and to offer new types of multimedia applications that integrate existing wireline and wireless voice services with advanced data and video services.

**Q.** What kinds of customers can use the Cisco® BTS 10200 Softswitch from Cisco Systems®?

**A.** Customers include:

- Cable carriers that want to offer cable telephony
- “Greenfield” competitive local exchange carriers (CLECs)
- Resellers moving to facilities-based services
- Facilities-based CLECs
- Fixed wireless operators that bypass the wireline telecommunications infrastructure
- Internet service providers (ISPs) and Metro Ethernet providers that want to add voice applications
- Interexchange carriers that are implementing transit voice over IP (VoIP)

**Q.** What are the strengths of the Cisco BTS 10200 Softswitch?

**A.** The Cisco BTS 10200 Softswitch offers the following features:

- Designed using industry-standard protocols for all public-switched-telephone-network (PSTN) interfaces
- Designed to be implemented by service providers with or without central offices
- Interoperable with the PSTN for both local LECs and interexchange carriers (IXCs)
- Interoperable with several feature servers and flexible enough to include the customer's choice of feature server
- Scalable in both software and hardware to accommodate customer growth and performance requirements

**Q.** What are the benefits of using the Cisco BTS 10200 Softswitch?

**A.** The benefits include:

- Impressive cost savings with the highest density and lowest cost per port
- Easy migration of traditional voice services to packet networks with carrier-grade reliability
- An open platform and flexible architecture
- Easy deployment of innovative voice services
- The ability to take advantage of investments in a packet network
- Scalability to millions of subscribers

**Q.** Does the Cisco BTS 10200 Softswitch provide failover redundancy?

**A.** Yes. All Cisco BTS 10200 Softswitch equipment and paths are fully redundant with an architecture that eliminates single-point failures and provides 99.999-percent reliability. The field availability of the Cisco BTS 10200 Softswitch is 99.999 percent.

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