



Any-to-any connectivity

Unlike traditional VPNs (which use 'point-to-point' connections or Permanent Virtual Circuits), IP Clear runs over BT Ignite's MPLS (Multi Protocol Label Switching) network which is "connectionless." This makes it simple and cost-effective to create fully meshed networks, whereby any connected site can exchange information directly with any other connected site. This eliminates the need to pre-configure and manage routes, or to pre-determine traffic flows and bandwidth requirements.

Integrated dial access

IP Clear provides an integrated dial access option, enabling your teleworkers, mobile sales people or small branch sites to dial into the corporate network via PSTN, ISDN or a mobile device.

Unbundled

No routers included. IP Clear provides unbundled access to an IP VPN suitable for handling the complex and corporate needs of a large organisation. Because the access is unbundled, you will not be constrained by the kind of predefined router configuration often specified in a bundled offering. Instead, you can use your existing equipment to create your new network – or purchase it from your chosen supplier.

Increased cost-effectiveness

Because IP Clear is connectionless, there are no usage based PVC charges, and it is cost-effective to build a fully meshed network, whereby all sites can interact over the IP VPN.

Flexibility

IP Clear Flex gives the capability to increase bandwidth requirements within short lead-times (8 working hours (Monday to Friday)), thus removing the need for a full circuit upgrade. This product will benefit those customers whose bandwidth requirements are likely to grow over a short space of time. With IP Clear Flex you can flex between the following speeds: 256 kbit/s, 384 kbit/s, 512 kbit/s, 768 kbit/s, 1024 kbit/s, 1536 kbit/s and 1984 kbit/s, allowing you to change your bandwidth to suit your applications and users needs.

Greater scalability

IP Clear can support thousands of sites in one network, so should your business be expanding – adding new sites, or merging with other organisations, you can be sure that all sites can connect into the corporate network. And Because all IP Clear and IP-enabled CellStream, FrameStream and SMDS sites can work together seamlessly, you have scalable access to the IP VPN with a range of bandwidths from 56 kbit/s (dial) to 622 Mbit/s (IP Enabled CellStream).

International Capability

International Reach has now been achieved by the interconnection of the UK MPLS platform with the Global MPLS Platform. This allows UK customers IP connectivity to a wide range of locations throughout the world.



Improved resilience

Because traffic is routed via our MPLS network, it will reach the required destination by any possible route. So should a fault occur at any point in the network, your traffic will simply take a different path to its destination. You may also choose to host applications and content at a variety of sites there is less risk of a disaster at one location severely disrupting your organisation. In addition, applications can be switched between host systems for maintenance or upgrades, without having to reconfigure your network. Instead, the traffic will be automatically redirected. Additional access resilience options are available.

Network integration

IP Clear enables seamless integration with IP-enabled CellStream, FrameStream and SMDS. All sites can be linked to your IP VPN(s) to share IP information. Thus an IP-enabled FrameStream site can link into the same VPN as an IP-enabled SMDS CUG and a dial user: ideal for merging networks.

Migration to IP

IP Clear can form part of your migration path to IP. You can IP-enable your current network service and add new sites or upgrade sites to IP Clear. As a result, you can migrate to a full IP-service at your own pace and without fundamentally changing your existing network.

MPLS

BT MPLS (Multi-Protocol Label Switching) is a private IP VPN, combining the flexible any-to-any communication found on PSTN or Internet with the reliability, quality and security delivered via private line, frame relay or ATM services.

It offers differentiated performance levels and prioritisation of delay and non-delay sensitive traffic as well as voice and multimedia applications - all on a single network. A range of management options are available including supply and management of Customer Premise Equipment (CPE), providing the customer with a fully managed solution. Alternatively unmanaged options are also available to customers giving companies the flexibility of managing their own CPE.

BT offers integrated data and value-added services and solutions to meet the European needs of global multi-site corporate customers and the global needs of European corporate customers. We have established a strong customer base serving nearly 200,000 customers 10,000 of which are multi-site corporate clients. Please visit our customer success stories area for more of our customer successes.